

Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education

Brussels, 11 April 2024

INDICATIVE AGENDA

9.00-9.20 **Keynote address by Jutta Urpilainen**, Commissioner for International Partnerships, **Caroline Gennez**, Minister of Development Cooperation and Major Cities, Belgium, and **Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Opening the Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education, Commissioner Jutta Urpilainen, Minister Caroline Gennez and UN DSG Amina J. Mohammed will welcome participants emphasising the importance of collective effort to foster the transformation of education on a global scale.

9.20-10.00 **“Fireside chat” – Testimonies and exchange among beneficiaries and Commissioner Jutta Urpilainen, and Belgian Minister Caroline Gennez**

Moderator: **Doris Mwikali**, Lawyer and Education Champion

10.00-11.15 **Teachers and the teaching profession**

Including launch of the Recommendation of the High-Level Panel on Teaching Profession

Moderator: **Indra Dewitte**, Journalist, presenter

Speakers:

- **Jutta Urpilainen**, Commissioner for International Partnerships
 - **Stefania Giannini**, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
 - **Manuela Tomei**, Assistant Director-General for Governance, Rights and Dialogue, ILO
 - **Farah Sheikh Abdulqadir**, Minister of Education, Somalia
 - **Anna-Maja Henriksson**, Minister of Education, Finland
 - **Johanna Jaara Åstrand**, Vice-President for the European region, Education International
 - **Sebastian Berger**, Global Student Forum member of the High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession
- 

The session will spotlight the transformative role of teachers and the teaching profession in addressing the global learning crisis and enhancing the quality of education. The dialogues will underline the critical need for increased investments in teachers to equip our societies and economies for the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly evolving world. The panellists will refer to the 2024 Global Report on Teachers and launch the High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession's Recommendations. Teachers being also at the heart of the Global Gateway strategy, the panel will show how the EU and its partners take up the recommendations and respond to the call for action, notably through the Regional Teacher Initiative for Africa.

11.15-11.45 **Networking Coffee**

11.45-13.00 **Financing the education transformation**

Moderator: **Heidy Rombouts**, Director-General for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, Belgium

Speakers:

- **Jutta Urpilainen**, Commissioner for International Partnerships
- **Kristalina Georgieva**, Managing Director, International Monetary Fund (video message)
- **Nadia Calviño**, President, European Investment Bank (video message)
- **Douglas M. Syakalima**, Minister of Education, Zambia
- **Laura Frigenti**, CEO, Global Partnership for Education
- **Luis Benveniste**, Global Education, Director, World Bank
- **Carmen Burbano**, Director of School-Based Programmes, World Food Programme
- **David Archer**, Head of Programmes and Influencing, ActionAid

Underscoring the critical need for intensified investment in education, the panel will illustrate how the EU, Team Europe, partner countries and international partners lead by example through political commitment and practical solutions for more and better education financing. The panel will take stock of progress since the UN Transforming Education Summit and its call for action, and galvanise high level political engagement ahead of the forthcoming Summit of the Future. Panellists will also discuss good practices and scalable financing opportunities under the Global Gateway strategy and advocate for urgent, actionable solutions for education financing that guarantee quality education and skills development across the world.

13.00-14.30 **Networking Lunch**

14.00-15.00 **Signatures**



14.30-15.45

Parallel
sessions I

I. Equity and inclusion in and through education

Venue: **Studio 4**

Moderator: **Eniola Harrison**, Communications-&-business-development professional

Speakers:

- **Janez Lenarčič**, European Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management
- **Dorothy Gwajima**, Minister of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Tanzania
- **György Hölvenyi**, Member of the European Parliament
- **Catherine Russell**, Executive Director (Video message)
- **Yasmine Sherif**, Executive Director, Education Cannot Wait
- **Chido Mpemba**, African Union Youth Envoy
- **Kathleen Sherwin**, Plan International, Chief Strategy and Engagement Officer

Addressing the critical role of education in advancing equity and inclusion, the panel will highlight how the EU and its partners are promoting equality, including gender equality and inclusion, through strategic investments. It will showcase efforts under the Global Gateway strategy to enhance inclusive education for all, illustrate global, regional and country partnerships combating inequalities, and present forms of engagement with civil society and empowerment of young people with the overall goal of driving progress towards a more equitable and sustainable development.

II. Gearing up VET and higher education for the future

Venue: **Studio 1**

Moderator: **Olaf Bruns**, Journalist

Speakers:

- **Pia Ahrenkilde Hansen**, Director-General, DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission
- **Ingrid-Gabriela Hoven**, Managing Director, GIZ
- **Nader-Iman Imani**, Vice President Digital Business, Festo Didactic
- **Yesenia Olaya**, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Colombia (tbc)
- **Olusola Bandele Oyewole**, Secretary General of the Association of African Universities (AAU)
- **Roos Hogenkamp**, Member of the Board/ Manager Global, Nuffic

The panel will showcase investments in higher education and vocational education and training (VET) in support of major social and economic transformations as the world seeks to achieve an equitable twin transition. Through practical examples, speakers will discuss how these investments are key to achieve Global Gateway's objectives and the SDGs by providing skills that match the needs of societies and



of adjusting labour markets. They will also illustrate the role of higher education and VET in supporting progress across various economic sectors and boosting resilience to shocks, mitigating local and global threats, and anticipating future trends. Through advancing skills and knowledge, higher education and VET help economies create decent jobs, cope with major challenges and risks, and navigate socio-economic transformations.

15.45-16.15 **Networking Coffee**

16.15-17.30 **III. The green transition, greening education, and green skills**

Parallel
sessions II

Venue: **Studio 4**

Moderator: **Olaf Bruns**, Journalist

Speakers:

- **Dubravka Šuica**, Vice-President of the European Commission, Democracy and Demography (video message)
- **Kitty van der Heijden**, Deputy Executive Director for Partnerships, UNICEF
- **Jurriaan Middelhoff**, Ambassador for Youth, Education and Work, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
- **Phout Simmalavong**, Minister of Education and Sports, Laos
- **Lise Korsten**, President, African Academy of Sciences
- **Samuel Mue**, Youth and SDG Leader, Kenya, African Youth Climate Assembly
- **Sven Rooms**, General Director, VVOB

This panel will present EU's commitment to partnerships around future-proof education systems, advancing quality and inclusive green education and skills, while leaving no one behind. It will discuss the enabling role of learning ecosystems for Global Gateway green investments and value chains through education at all levels, including higher education and research. By showcasing exemplary practices of strengthening education system resilience in the face of learning loss due to climate change and environmental disasters, the panel will discuss opportunities for EU partnerships in education as a response to climate change, environment, and the green transition. Youth voices will highlight their involvement in developing climate-smart education systems, for inclusive growth and a more sustainable future.

IV. The digital transition, digital education, and digital skills

Venue: **Studio 1**

Moderator: **Jean Van Wetter**, CEO of Enabel, Belgian Development Agency

Speakers:

- **Martin Seychell**, Deputy Director-General, DG International Partnerships, European Commission



- **Mariin Ratnik**, Undersecretary for Economic and Development Affairs, Estonia
- **Esther Walson-Jack**, Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Education, Nigeria
- **Lorna Akoacha Enow**, Youth Sounding Board, Cameroon
- **Erik Huizer**, CEO of GÉANT
- **Magdalena Brier**, Managing Director, ProFuturo

The major transformative impact of digital technologies on societies and work has emphasised the critical need for investments in digital education and skills. These investments are crucial to overcoming socio-economic divides, promoting digital rights, and unlocking the potential of digital technologies for human, economic and democratic progress. The EU, as a global education partner and digital pioneer, and its partnerships play an important role in promoting progress and best practices in digital education and skills under the Global Gateway strategy. The panel will show examples of how inclusive and high-quality digital learning can support a human-centric transformation leaving no one behind and explores opportunities and future partnerships through investment in digital education.

17.45-18.15

Closing session

Youth representative – recap from the day

Closing Remarks by Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner for International Partnerships and **Caroline Gennez**, Minister of Development Cooperation and Major Cities

The closing session will conclude the journey through the Global Gateway High-Level Event on Education and reflect on the insights gained, celebrate the achievements showcased and chart a forward-looking path for the transformative next steps in international partnerships in education, with a special focus on the 2024 UN Summit for the Future.

18.15-19.30

Reception

