## **Memorandum of Understanding**

#### between

### the Government of Uganda

#### and

### the Education Development Partners

- 1. Whereas the Government of Uganda and the Education Development Partners are jointly committed to achieving the objectives of the National Development Plan (NDP), the Millennium Development and the Education for All (EFA) goals;
- 2. Whereas the Government of Uganda represented by the Ministry of Education and Sports (hereinafter referred to as 'the Government') has requested the support of the Education Development Partners (bilateral and multilateral donors, including their implementing agencies, hereafter referred to as Development Partners) to contribute towards its strategic goals for expanding access and improving the quality and efficiency of

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education; the Government and the Development Partners together are hereafter referred to as 'the Signatories';

- 3. Whereas the Government of Uganda and Development Partners recognize that at present, support modalities may differ among the Development Partners and that the variety and complexity associated with various instruments tends to put substantial burdens on Government management capacities; therefore, the Development Partners will, to the extent possible, and in the spirit of the Partnership Principles and the Paris Declaration, channel assistance using, and thereby strengthening, the governmental structures and systems;
- 4. Whereas economic development, respect for human rights, democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance, including the fight against corruption, which govern the policies of the Signatories, are the fundamental principles on which the cooperation between the Signatories rests and which constitute essential elements of this Memorandum of Understanding (this 'MoU');
- 5. Whereas the present document does not create any rights or obligations under international law and is not a legally binding document but serves as guidelines to improve the Partnership between the Government and the Development Partners as well as the internal coordination between the Development Partners;

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# Therefore, the Signatories have come to the following arrangements:

# Paragraph 1 Scope of the MoU

- 6. The overall objective of cooperation between the Government and the Development Partners under this MoU is to implement the national Education policy through an holistic and coordinated approach to the Education sector in policy development, planning, allocation of resources, implementation, monitoring and review;
- 7. In case of any inconsistency or contradiction between the provisions of this MoU and any bilateral agreements signed between the Government and the Development Partners or is inconsistent with the laws or policies of any Signatory, or with its respective Paris Declaration commitments, such bilateral agreements, laws, policies and commitments will prevail.
- 8. The Development Partners will base their support on the satisfactory progress attained in the implementation of the Education sector goals, as reviewed from time to time and in any other bilateral or multilateral agreement and/or programme that may be in effect at the time.

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#### Paragraph 2

#### **Responsibilities of the Government**

- 9. The Government undertakes, where practically possible and in line with the general Government policy, to:
  - Provide overall leadership for administration, implementation and monitoring of the Education strategic goals;
  - The Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development will ensure that all the resources required for operationalizing of its education sector strategy are adequately reflected in the Medium and Long Term Expenditure Framework and that the resources are provided and released in a timely manner for the approved annual work plan at all levels;
  - Ensure that all lower level plans are consistent with the sector strategic plan;
  - Ensure that accurate financial and education management information data is provided on regular basis;
  - Engage in dialogue with the Development Partners and other stakeholders in order to ensure the technical and financial viability of any changes in Education policy;
  - The Office of the Auditor General, Inspector General of Government (IGG), the Public Procurement and Disposal Authority (PPDA) and Internal Audit Units of Government, in their own capacities, will ensure that financial information on grants and credits, including information on procurement and technical assistance are provided in a

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timely manner to the Government and reflected in the plans and budgets of the Government;

#### Paragraph 3

## **Responsibilities of the Development Partners**

- 10. Within the scope of this MoU, the Development Partners will:
  - Synchronize their own planning, review and monitoring processes as far as possible with those established for the purpose by the Government;
  - Adopt the use of the Government systems to the extent possible;
  - To the extent possible endeavour that all assistance provided to the Education sector, either directly or through entities, will be aligned with the overall resource requirements for operationalization of the education strategic goals.
  - Closely monitor the financial information on all grants and credits, including information on procurement and technical assistance to be sure that they are adequately reflected in the plans and budgets of the Government

#### Paragraph 4

# Responsibilities of both Government and Development Partners

- 11. Within the scope of this MoU, all Signatories will:
  - Endeavour to fund activities that support the strategy for the Education sector development;

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- Aim at meeting decided disbursement commitments in a timely manner and as detailed in the agreed work plan and budget, to the extent possible;
- Bring to the attention of all Signatories any cases of noncompliance with the Government rules and regulations;
- Ensure that :
  - policies pertaining to Gender, Governance, HIV/AIDS and Environment are included in the planning, service delivery and evaluation of all supported activities;
  - issues related to the poor and other marginalized groups of society are specifically addressed.

# Paragraph 5 Cooperation among the Partners

- 12. Regular consultations and engagement among the Signatories are considered critical to effective implementation of the strategy for the Education sector development.
- 13. The Education Sector Consultative Committee (ESCC):
  - is the highest level committee for coordination between the Signatories;
  - provides technical and strategic advice for the sector;
  - meets every two months under the chairmanship of the Permanent Secretary of Education and Sports;
  - reports to the top management of the Ministry.

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 The frameworks and structures for the Partnership may be reviewed by all Signatories during the annual joint review meeting.

#### Paragraph 6

#### **Technical Assistance**

15. Development Partners will ensure that all technical assistance is provided in consultation with the Government and other Development Partners to avoid duplication and to ensure relevance and complementarity, as possible.

#### Paragraph 7

#### Consultation, Monitoring and Reporting

- 16. The Development Partners will regularly participate in reviews carried out by the Government.
- 17. In case an independent review/evaluation is considered necessary by any Development Partner of any programme supported by it, such review/evaluation will be carried out in consultation with the Government and the results will be shared with all the Signatories within a reasonable period of time.
- 18. During the annual review, progress in the sector will be measured against a set of indicators attached to the strategic plan and undertakings will be formulated for the following fiscal year. These indicators will to the extent possible be aligned with those in other frameworks and agreements in effect at the time.

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19. The Government will share in a timely manner all particular documents of importance to sector planning, implementation and review to support the Education sector strategy.

# Paragraph 8

# Corruption, Audit, Procurement

- 20. The Signatories will cooperate on supporting the government's efforts on good governance and preventing corruption in order to ensure that resources are used in an effective and efficient way to improve education service delivery.
- 21. The Government will ensure timely audits as mandated and will furnish Development Partners with copies of the annual report of the Auditor General promptly after its submission to the Parliament.
- 22. The Public Accounts Committee and MOES will take follow-up action in case the audit report has negative observations on the Education sector. In case adequate follow up action is not taken the Development Partners will endeavour to arrive at a common position before communicating the appropriate action in the ESCC.
- 23. All procurements will be conducted in accordance with Public Procurement and disposal of assets authority (PPDA) guidelines. However, in case of any contradiction with the Development Partners' requirements, the provision of the latter will prevail, as already provided under the PPDA guidelines.

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#### Paragraph 9

### Modification, donor accession and withdrawal

- 24. The Signatories will annually review the implementation, application and effectiveness of the procedures outlined in this MoU, preferably in the context of the Education Sector Review and any amendment of its provisions may only be approved if decided in writing by all Signatories.
- 25. The Government will ensure that any new Development Partner who is not a Signatory of this MoU and who nonetheless wishes to support the Education sector endeavours to act in a manner compatible with the principles of the present MoU.

### Paragraph 10

#### Interpretation

- 26. The Government and the Development Partners will engage in regular dialogue in a spirit of openness, transparency and effective coordination.
- 27. This MoU is not a legally binding agreement. Any differences arising out of interpretation and application of this MoU will be settled amicably after due consultation and dialogue.

# Paragraph 11 Entry into effect

28. This MoU will become effective upon signature by the

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Government and at least half of the duly authorized representatives of the Development Partners.

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# Signatories of this Memorandum of Understanding

Signed this day 26 th November 2009 in Kampala

For Government of the Republic of Uganda

Francis X.K. Lubanga

Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education and Sports

And the following Education Development Partners

The Kingdom of the Netherlands

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African Development Bank

World Bank

USAID

The government of Ireland

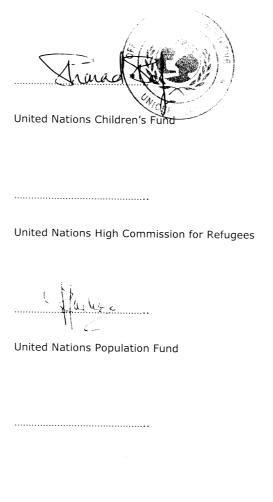
The government of Japan

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)

World Food Programme

The Delegation of the European Union

The Belgian Technical Cooperation



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