

GWU United Nation Representative Advocacy Report 2022

GWU advocacy goals

1. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to policy, legislation, budget and infrastructure to facilitate transition of girls from primary to secondary school and ensure gender parity and gender equality throughout secondary education by 2030.
2. By 2030 100% of United Nations low income Member States have increased access to tertiary education for girls and women by 50%.
3. 100% of United Nations Member States commit to and implement policies for continuing education to empower women throughout the life course, within the formal and informal economies.
4. Influence the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.
5. All 17 SDGs will include girls' education targets.

Please bear in mind these five overarching, long-term goals during any United Nations intervention that you make on behalf of GWU. Any intervention should push these five goals further.

NB: *Although these goals represent GWU's mission, our United Nations Representatives are should always promote all GWU key messages and represent GWU professionally.*

Name: Maryella Hannum

City of UN Representation: UN Headquarters, New York City, NY

Session/meeting attended: (place, date, time, name of meeting)

18 Feb 2022; Virtual Meeting/UN WebTV

2022 Transforming Education Summit – First Informal Briefing to Member States by UN Deputy Secretary-General

A briefing was held on February 18, 2022 as an opportunity for the Deputy Secretary General to update and exchange views with Member States around preparations of the Transforming Education Summit, which the Secretary General will convene in September 2022

<https://media.un.org/en/asset/k1u/k1uf9mzn2b>

Subject of session/meeting:

As the world emerges from COVID-19 crisis, the Transforming Education Summit provides an opportunity to mobilize greater political ambition, commitment, and action to reverse the slide on SDG4, reimagine education, and accelerate progress on education and the 2030 Agenda more broadly for the remainder of the Decade of Action.

The First Informal Briefing to Member States on the upcoming Transforming Education Summit was informational and impactful. The Summit will take place in September 2022 at UN Headquarters in New York. The Summit is proposed in “[Our Common Agenda](#)” as part of the focus on better representing young people and future generations. Preparations for the Summit will build on a UNESCO report on a “new social contract”, [Futures for Education](#).

The Summit is being convened around the issues of two dramatic and interconnected challenges to ensuring quality education and lifelong learning for all. The COVID-19 pandemic as a crisis and the lack of effective measures for learning risks turning the crisis into a generational catastrophe, especially for marginalized and vulnerable groups. Further, the learning crisis is part of a broader challenge relating to the ability of conventional education systems to deliver the knowledge, skills and outlooks needed for children, young people, and adults to excel in today’s world and contribute to sustainable, healthy and peaceful futures.

The undertaking of transforming education, is viewed through the lens of a global climate crisis, rapid technological change, profound changes in the world of work, lower levels of trust in public institutions, the erosion of democratic values and the rise of disinformation, intolerance and hate speech. Preparations for the 2022 Summit will be guided by the overarching principles: Country-led; Inclusive; Youth-inspired; and Building on existing efforts. Primary efforts to advance preparations include: National consultations; Action Tracks; and Public Engagement.

The Summit will focus on achieving the following outcomes:

- National and international commitments to transform education
- Greater public engagement around and support for transforming education
- A Chair’s Summary to capture the knowledge generated by the Summit and its preparatory process, inform Summit follow-up including the work of the SDG4-Education 2030 High Level Steering Committee and the proposed intergovernmental Summit of the Future in 2023

Sustainable Development Goals addressed: SDG 4;

Relevant treaties/conventions/resolutions referenced/addressed: Agenda 2030

Summary of session/meeting:

The overall objective of the Education Summit is to mobilize greater political ambition, commitment and action to reverse the slide on SDG4, reimagine education, and accelerate progress on education for the remainder of the [Decade of Action](#).

The statement below was made on behalf of the Group of 77 + China at the Informal Briefing session of 18 February:



**STATEMENT BY THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA AT THE
INFORMAL BRIEFING ON THE TRANSFORMING EDUCATION
SUMMIT (New York, 18 February 2022)**

Madam Deputy Secretary General,

1. I have the honour to make the following remarks on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.
2. The Group attaches great significance to learning opportunities to promote decent work.
3. The Group believes that access to learning opportunities including through the digital platforms and technologies have acquired special significance during the times of the Pandemic.
4. We would like to reiterate the need to avoid duplication and promote synergies within the UN system.
5. In this regard, the Group is pleased to note that the Transforming Education Summit includes UNESCO. We further encourage for increasing inter-agencies coordination to make the Summit a success.
6. The Group would once again reiterate the need for the Summit to be inclusive in terms of member states' participating. It should also be led by the member states.
7. We suggest that the summit should focus on: digital learning, access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities, closing digital divide among countries, obstacles to education ranging from poverty to lack of infrastructure, accessible and inclusive education for everyone, including the girl child, children with disabilities and children living in rural areas.

Madam Deputy Secretary General,

8. The Group emphasizes the need for equitable geographical representation for the preparation as well as convening of the Summit, especially for the proposed Summit Advisory Committee and the Steering Committee.
9. The Group also requests for further clarity with regards to the proposal for participation of core international agencies, education champions and education stakeholder in the Summit Advisory Committee.
10. In this regard, the Group would like to highlight that such multi-stakeholder participation should also maintain balance between representation from the Global North and the Global South.

How this serves GWI members:

The Transforming Education Summit 2022 and the various informal sessions and preparations throughout the year along with subsequent follow-up meetings are of critical importance to the overall work and efforts of GWI

Next steps:

Notify membership in advance of upcoming preparatory meetings, briefings and sessions as well as reporting on outcomes of sessions and briefings. Continually keep membership informed of preparation work prior to the Education Summit. Meet with Member States regarding key considerations to include as part of the Transforming Education Summit; influence Member States as to necessities and desired outcomes.