

**PUNTLAND STATE OF SOMALIA
EDUCATION COORDINATION MEETING**

**Minutes of the Puntland Education Coordination Meeting
Held on
7th April 2007 at the Ministry of Education at 9am**

ATTENDANCE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
1. Abdi Mohamoud	Vice Minister	gobbeelder@hotmail.com
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6. Abdiwahab	EDC	aguled@edc.org
7. Bahsan Ahmed	CARE	Bahsan21@yahoo.co.uk
8. Youri Sandallah	NRC	ho_pl@som.nrc.no
9. Osman Ismail Ahmed	NRC	Educationassistant_pl@som.nrc.no
10. Benjamin Bett	UNESCO	Benjamin.bett@unesco.unon.org
11. Marcelino Benet	ECLO	Marcelino.benet@ec.europa.eu
12. Said Farah	TEU – MoE	inasanweine@gmail.com
14. Abdirisak Ali	UNICEF	amali@unicef.org
15. Mahdi Ali Osman	Islamic Relief	faahiye@gmail.com
16. Shihat Babiker	Islamic Relief	shihababikir@yahoo.com
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18. Ahmed Abbas Ali	SC-UK	Dahab121@yahoo.com
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21. Abdihakim Mohamed	AET	Abdihakim77@hotmail.com
22. Abdisalam Ali Farah	Diakonia Sweden	Biligsey2005@yahoo.com
23. Louise Sowe Holdbrook	WFP	louisesowe@wfp.org
24. Grace Syongoh	SC-UK Consultant
25. Stephen Ndichu	SC – Denmark	S_ndichu@hotmail.com
26. Mohamed Ismail	Director Formal Education – MoE	746921
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AGENDA

1. Welcoming Address, Objective of the Meeting by Minister of Education (Chair) –
9am -9.05am
2. Introduction among agencies and MoE Officials 9.05 – 9.15am
3. Remarks from Aminata – UNOCHA (Co-chair) on importance of meeting 9.15-
9.20am
4. Presentation from agencies – progress, achievements, constraints and gaps
- UNESCO-PEER (9.20-9.30am)

- UNICEF (9.30-9.45am)
 - SC-UK (9.45-10.00am)
 - ADRA (10.00-10.10am)
 - Diakonia Sweden (10.10-10.20am)
 - SC Denmark – PETT Project (10.20-10.40am)
 - AET (10.40-10.50am)
 - NRC (10.50-11.00am)
 - Islamic Relief (11.00-11.10am)
 - EDC (11.10-11.20am)
 - CARE (11.20-11.30am)
 - WFP (11.30-11.40am)
5. Questions, Answer, Clarification and Remarks (11.40-12.00)
 6. Conclusions/Recommendations/Fix date for next coordination meeting (12.00-12.10pm)
 7. Official Course (12.10-12.15pm)

Minute 1/07Apr07 – Welcoming Address, Objective of the Meeting

- The Minister of Education, who is the chair of the meeting welcomed the participants to the meeting. Two rapporteurs were appointed, one from the Ministry of Education (Said Farah – TEU) and one from agencies (Stephen Ndichu – Save the Children Denmark).
- The Minister pointed out that the objective of the meeting was information sharing, within the stakeholders in order to foster better coordination and collaboration and to reduce duplication.
- It was noted that the coordination meeting will be held once every quarter by the Ministry of Education.

Minute 2/07Apr07 – Introduction among Agencies

- All agencies and MoE participants introduced themselves.

Minute 3/07Apr07 – Remarks from Co-Chair on importance of meeting

- The European Commission Liaison Officer congratulated the ministry on the initiative of making the meeting a reality. He emphasised the need for coordination between the agencies themselves and with the ministry.
- UNICEF recommended the addition of the Regional Education Offices (REO) in the meeting.
- UNESCO informed the meeting that they are the designated Education Sector Committee (ESC) chair at the Somalia Support Secretariat (SSS) at the Nairobi level, with ADRA being the co-chair. They suggested that the minutes of this meeting are fed into the ESC.
- Minister informed the meeting he had requested for the ESC meeting to be held in the field (Hargeisa, Garowe and Mogadishu) once every so often.
- The Ministry of Education website (<http://education.puntlandgovt.com>) was seen to be a tool that can be used in electronic networking and information sharing between stakeholders. It was noted that there was challenge in frequent updating of the website, since the Ministry did not have a website administrator.

Minute 4/07Apr07 – Presentations from the Agencies – Progress, Achievements, Constraints and Gaps

Minute 4.1 – UNESCO PEER Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Textbooks, Teacher guides for Primary and Secondary education distributed
- ICT Teacher Training pilot project started
- Handover of IPSOS project to MoE
- TVE Syllabi, reference books distributed
- TVE assessment guides developed
- Enterprise based Training (EBT) pilot project started
- Chair of Education Sector Committee at Somalia Support Secretariat
- Designated United Nation Transition Plan organisation

Comments and Questions

- MoE sees the ICT pilot project as important project
- Secondary education data should be updated
- Coordination between UNESCO and AET to be established
- Coordination between UNESCO and PETT project on TVET issues
- Capacity building activities should be coordinated to avoid duplication and to foster structured strengthening of the MoE.

ACTION POINTS

- UNICEF will fund and call for a meeting to discuss other forms of education strategies, to reduce the confusion brought about by the many terminologies given to the non formal basic education.
- The next meeting will have capacity building of the MoE as an agenda item

Minute 4.2 – UNICEF Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Water and Sanitation project in 15 schools
- Health project in 50 schools
- Koranic Schools Studys completed
- Nomadic Education Forum I completed
- Phase I infrastructure assessment of education facilities completed
- Emergency project in Galkayo and Tsunami areas
- Child to Child (CtC) approach in 15 schools
- IPEP final evaluation on-going

Comments and Questions

- It was suggested the targeting of back to school campaign should be holistically approached to avoid sidelining some communities.
- UNICEF clarified that their IDP headcount only included school age children on 6-14years as opposed to a full IDP profiling that is carried out by other organisations.
- The Ministry indicated that it is important to have their involvement in the targeting of communities requiring assistance in order to structure the interventions.

ACTION POINTS

- There will be some bilateral meetings between organisations involved in IDP interventions to consolidate and better coordinate their activities. The date and venue of the meeting will be decided at a later date.
- UNICEF will share the findings of the Koranic Schools Study via email.

Minute 4.3 – SC-UK Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Primary Education Project targeting 6000 pupils in Karkar Region
- SCOTT project with 600 in-service teachers, 42 trained rural teachers' mentors, 22 female teacher trained at GTEC and 5 regional vehicle purchased for the MoE
- SCOTT Phase II with ADRA and SC-UK to commence in future
- Re-write the Future funding for Karkar Region secured

Comments and Questions

- It was clearly noted that girls participation in education was limited. Haafun specifically had poor girls enrolment.
- It was recommended that the Gender Ministry is invited for these meetings, to assist in the gender issues
- It was noted that the poor participation of women (at teacher level) could be due to the fact that there are few women who get into education and finish their courses all the way to secondary school.

ACTION POINTS

- The Gender Ministry will be invited to the next education coordination meeting

Minute 4.4 – ADRA Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Just concluded Basic Education Development (BED) project
- Targeting 5 schools in Hiran and 16 schools in Nugal
- 544 pupils trained, 154 teachers utilised
- 16 schools started profitable income generating projects
- 13 FAL facilitators identified
- 18 FAL classes started with class 1 (492 learners) and class 2 (215 learners)

Comments and Questions

The Ministry of Education viewed the just concluded Basic Education Development (BED) project as a success and hoped it could be replicated in other areas.

Minute 4.5 – DIAKONIA Highlights

- On-going Literacy and Numeracy project in all regions
- Democracy project restructured
- 30 schools rehabilitated (1 secondary school)
- Qardho secondary girls' boarding school in construction
- GTEC training of teachers – hostel to be built
- SCOTT project collaboration in training female teachers
- Collaboration with Forum for Africa Women Educationist (FAWE) in female teachers scholarships
- PETT project with Save the Children CARE and Gotenborg Initiative

Comments and Questions

- Diakonia was requested to speed up the finalisation of the Qardho Girls' Secondary Boarding School.
- The Ministry did not have the complete data on the adult literacy (NFE) projects and requested for the same as soon as possible.

- The Ministry also requested for the information on the selection of partners implementing activities with Diakonia.
- The Minister reiterated that his Ministry was resolving the issue of Galkayo REO and hoped to give a positive report in the next meeting.

ACTION POINTS

- The ministry will update the next meeting with the decision reached on the Galkayo REO issue

Minute 4.6 – SC Denmark Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- 1st batch of 774 trainees graduated
- 2nd batch in training
- Tracer study – 42% of the 1st batch employed
- Local Economic Development (LED) information produced and disseminated
- Training of Trainers (ToT)
- Cost-Recovery system development for IBTVET centers
- Examination and Certification guideline development on-going

Comments and Questions

- The Ministry felt that the funding available and the mandate of the project were not at par and appealed to the EU to for more funds for the project, to cover the gaps identified.
- The Minister requested that SC Denmark and UNESCO have bilateral meetings on TVET issues to foster information sharing and collaboration.

ACTION POINTS

- There will be some bilateral meetings between UNESCO and SC Denmark on TVET collaboration and information sharing. The date and venue of the meeting will be decided at a later date.

Minute 4.7 – AET Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Support to Integrated Secondary Education Development – just started, with DRC and BBC World Service Trust
- Secondary Schools Libraries – 6 schools targeted
- SOMDEL (Radio Literacy), with BBC WST targeting teachers
- Working the People with Disabilities – 250 trained in Bosaso and 100 given micro-grants
- DARET (Developing Appropriate and Relevant Education and Training) – pilot for young people in Somalia, targeting the nomadic communities.
- BBC Livestock – highlighting issues in livestock sector

Comments and Questions

- Since AET was working with secondary schools, it was suggested that UNESCO and AET have bilateral meetings to gather secondary schools information from the past project which was implemented by UNESCO.

ACTION POINTS

- There will be some bilateral meetings between AET and UNESCO and with CfBT (if possible) to gather past information on the secondary schools' projects.

Minute 4.8 –NRC Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Recent establishment in Puntland
- Mandate targets IDPs
- Linking Shelter and protection
- Provision of non formal education
- Capacity building activities
- Linking to sanitation

Comments and Questions

- The Ministry welcomed NRC's new projects.

Minute 4.9 – Islamic Relief Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Construction of Baadweyn Secondary school
- Extension of Dhahar primary school
- Fencing of Dangorayo Primary school
- Furniture provision to 8 schools

Comments and Questions

- The Ministry noted that the furniture provided by the organisation consisted of table only and requested for chairs to complete the furnishing.
- The Ministry reiterated their continued collaboration with the organisation in furniture distribution.

Minute 4.10 – EDC Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Somali Interactive Radio Instruction Program – targeting to reach an approximate 400,000 pupils using radio
- Working with 6 local radio stations and two international radio stations
- Adopting local learning modules for grade 1 to 6
- 932 teachers trained (707 female)
- 191 radios distributed to 99 schools
- 764 teacher guide distributed

Comments and Questions

- UNICEF informed EDC that some frequencies had poor signals, in which EDC promised to provide other signals that would have better quality signals
- HADMA requested that EDC explore the possibility of wholly transmitting the signal from a local radio station, since this way the local radio capacity will be improved.
- EDC had just finished carrying out an evaluation of the Grade 1 and 2 and would share the findings with the participants.

ACTION POINTS

- EDC will provide members with other frequencies for better signal reception. EDC will do this by emailing the frequencies to the participants.
- EDC will share the findings (via email) of the Grade 1 and 2 evaluation

Minute 4.11 – CARE Highlights (See attached PowerPoint Presentation)

- Ambassador Girls Scholarship project
- Located in Jariban, Butinle, Dangorayo and Benderbeila
- Targeting 400 girls in 15 rural communities in 3 regions

Comments and Questions

- CARE was requested to improve its contact with the Ministry.
- CARE will share the baseline assessment carried out on girl-child school dropout.
- Ministry called for empowerment of the Women's Section in the NFE department.
- It was suggested that the MoE prepares a database of interventions for information sharing purposes.
- It was noted that to avoid future conflict in Puntland it was important to integrate ALL communities without sidelining any. Attitudinal change was seen to start at the school level and impacting the future of Puntland.

ACTION POINTS

- CARE will share the baseline assessment on girl-child dropout with the participants via email

Minute 4.12 – WFP Highlights

- WFP started its operations in Somalia in 1968
- Currently involved in School Feeding Programme and Food for Training
- Current programme has 10000 students in 21 schools, with the projection to extend to 60 schools as advised by the Ministry of Education and other stakeholders
- WFP has signed an MoU with the MoE on the modalities and scope of their involvement in the education sector

Comments and Questions

- Since AET was working with secondary schools, it was suggested that UNESCO and AET have bilateral meetings to gather secondary schools information from the past project which was implemented by UNESCO.

ACTION POINTS

- There will be some bilateral meetings between AET and UNESCO and with CfBT (if possible) to gather past information on the secondary schools' projects.

Minute 5/07Apr07 – Questions, Clarifications and Remarks

- UNOCHA invited all stakeholders working in Sool and Sanaag to a Joint Assessment meeting for Sool and Sanaag to be held at Ministry of Planning on 8th April 2007 (same day) at 4pm.
- UNICEF mentioned that there was a lot of terminology going around on the non formal education which was causing confusion. UNICEF indicated that they would be will to call and fund a meeting to discuss other non formal basic education approaches.
- UNESCO indicated that there was a need to source funding and initiate interventions for the higher education, which it felt has been neglected.
- It was indicated that all and other donors should be given their due credit in what they have contributed in Puntland.

Minute 6/07Apr07 – Conclusions/Recommendations/Next Meeting

Minute 6.1 – Conclusions and Recommendations

- Coordination between agencies carrying out similar activities is vital and crucial to structured development of Puntland.
- Bilateral meeting between agencies working in the same area should be held as frequently as possible.
- Capacity building activities of the Ministry of Education required a concerted effort at coordination – this is the area with the highest level of duplication.
- The Ministry of Education will be a focal point of information sharing and linkage for agencies carrying out similar activities.
- The Minutes of the Puntland Education Coordination meeting will be shared out in the Education Sector Committee at the Somalia Support Secretariat.
- The Gender Ministry will be invited to the Education Coordination meetings to participate in the addressing of the gender disparity in schools.
- All agencies should involve the Ministry in the selection of local partners and communities benefiting in their interventions
- Terminologies referring to the non formal basic education approaches require harmonising to reduce confusion
- Technical Vocational Education and Training requires better donor emphasis in terms of funds allocation.
- There is a need to source for funds and initiate interventions for the higher education sector.
- Re-integration of communities should cater for all communities, without sidelining any, in order to secure Puntland’s future.
- The Ministry of Education should have a database of each agency’s intervention and use this for information sharing in their website.

Minute 6.2 – Next Meeting

- The next education coordination meeting will be held on **Saturday, 9th of June 2007** at the Ministry of Education offices, starting 9am. The Ministry will send out the agenda and confirmation 2 weeks prior to the meeting date.

The meeting adjourned at 1.10pm

SIGNED	Name	Signature	Date
Chair (Minister of Education)			
Co-Chair (UNOCHA)			
MoE Rapporteur (TEU Director)			
Agencies Rapporteur (Save the Children Denmark)			