

MINUTES OF ESC MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST HELD ON 7th AUGUST 2012
AT MoE CONFERENCE HALL

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present:

No.	Name of the participant	Location	Title	Address
1	Jamal Hassan Muse	Bossaso	Consultant	East Africa University
2	Issa Mohamed Issa	Garowe	Head of Curriculum	Ministry of Education
3	AbdiSalaam Ali Farah	Garowe	Prog. Officer	DiaKonia
4	Said Yasin Ali	Garowe	Prog. Manager	seidyasin2@yahoo.com
5	SafiaSugulle	Sanaag	NFE Director	maamasafiya@gmail.com
6	DeqaSaleh	Garowe	P.M	Adeso
7	Ahmed Hassan	Garowe	P. O	CARE
8	AbshirMohamed Adan	Garowe	P. O	CARE
9	AbdiRizak Bashir Mohamed	Garowe	Project Coordinator	sharci24@gmail.com
10	AbdiRizak M. Aden	Qardo	Academics	GTEC
11	Ahmed Ali Shire	Garowe	EDPM	SC
12	AbdulKadir Yusuf Nuh	Garowe	MOE; QA	Ministry of Education
13	Ali Maalim Hassan	Garowe	TA; Policy/Planning	MoE Puntland
14	Faduma Ali Hassan	Bossaso	P.O	fahassan@unicef.org
15	Merriall Davies	Bossaso	Educ. Specialist	UNICEF
16	M. A. Wahab	Garowe	DG	moedg.pl@gmail.com
17	M.A. Farah	Garowe	P. D	farmayeri2005@gmail.com
18	Fadumo Said Noor	Garowe	PNEB	f.neero@gmail.com
19	Sahro Ahmed	Garowe	GTA	sahro.m@gmail.com
20	FadumoShukriAbdi	Garowe	Gender Unit Head	fshukri@gmail.com
21	AbdiHakim A. Mohamed	Garowe	Manager	AET
22	Abdullahi Ahmed Ali	Garowe	Policy Officer	iidyare5@hotmail.com
23	JamaAbdiBulshale	Garowe	Planning Officer	bilaal_7@yahoo.com
24	AbdiRahman Aden	Garowe	Senior Prog. Asst.	abdirahman.aden@wfp.org
25	Osman Abdulahi Ali	Garowe	TA; Finance	ta.financepl@gmail.com
26	AbdiRahman M. Abdulle	Garowe	TA; HR & OD	jaabir19@gmail.com
27	JamilloBashiir Mohamed	Garowe	Member	jamilita-02@hotmail.com
28	AbdiHakim Farah Ali	Garowe	P. O	caruush19@gmail.com
29	Mohamed A. Artan	Garowe	P. O	qaasimjarato@gmail.com
30	AbdulKadir Mohamed	Garowe	MoE	jarka140@hotmail.com
31	Abdullahi Ali Jama	Garowe	Director; HE	hed.puntland@gmail.com
32	MohamudAbdullahi	Bossaso	NPO	mohamed.abdullahi@wfp.org
33	Amina Osman Haji	Garowe	TA; QAS	zulekhaosman.osman@gmail.com

Members absent:

No.	Name	Location	Organization	Reason
1	Zahra SaeedNur	Garowe	FAWESOM	Without apology
2	Farah	Garowe	GRT	Without apology
3	JamadMohamoud	Garowe	Islamic Relief	Without apology
4	Arial Solari/M.hashi	Bosaso	NRC	Without Apology
5	Mohamed Wali	Garowe	World Vision	Without Apology
6	A.Yusuf /A. Farah mire	Garo/Boss	TASS	Without Apology

AGENDA:

1. Opening Remarks
2. Update on National Exams (Grade 8)
3. Sharing Mid-Year review schedule with partners
4. Update on NFE curriculum review process
5. Cluster meeting update
6. AOB

AGENDA ITEM 1: Opening remarks

The Director General of MoE, Mohamed AbdiWahab, expressed happiness at the attendance of the meeting and welcomed everyone. He requested a member to give a brief opening prayer and then proceeded into the meeting Agenda.

The DG requested members to introduce themselves and afterwards requested that the last meeting minutes are confirmed and the agreed action points are reviewed. Since the minutes had been previously distributed, the DG suggested that the meeting move directly to comments.

One member noted that it was previously agreed that the meeting minutes would reflect the absentees and apologies so as to indicate consistency of certain partners in attending the meeting. MoE expressed that this is important, but since the previous meeting minutes were recorded by MercyCorps, they did not include this point. However, it would be reflected in further meeting minutes as such.

There were no further comments, and the minutes were confirmed as a record of the proceedings of that meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 2: Update of National Exams (Grade Eight)

DG informed the meeting that for two months, MoE was actively engaged in grading of Form Four and Grade Eight final exams. The DG expressed happiness that for the first time and with the support of AET and UNICEF, local expertise was exclusively utilized in marking the exams.

There were nearly 5000 learners for Grade Eight, and the results were released officially last week. DG invited the Deputy of the Exam Board Vice Chairperson to update the meeting. He underlined that the first three students were all female, and this is quite an achievement in Puntland this year.

The Vice Chairperson of the Exam Board expressed that of the total 5200 learners in Primary last year, 5000 learners participated in the examinations. Of this number, 4913 passed, and of these 3 girls excelled as the top learners in Puntland. These girls were from Eyl, Bossaso and Garowe respectively. She expressed that it was a busy process for the 22 panelists and 70 markers who were supported by 8 data processing officials from the Exam Board. The process began on 21st June and concluded on 4th of August. This process included marking, recording results and making follow-up to ensure that all results were in place and accurately recorded.

The Vice Chairperson expressed that this was the best marking process that the exam board has ever administered, because each exam script was marked by three examiners of different levels to ensure that the results were accurate and that all learners had been fairly marked. There was a 13% failure rate and this was unfortunate but the majority of the learners performed well.

Co-chair asks whether the Ministry has followed up on why 200 learners did not participate in the exams so as to put in place measures to ensure participation. Vice Chairperson expressed that it was an issue of access because parts of the regions of Ayn and Sool declined to participate in the examinations due to political differences between the administrations.

Policy and Planning Advisor expressed that thanks to AET, there is a higher quality of Education in secondary schools in comparison to Primary. He encourages UNICEF who are focal in supporting Primary to step up their efforts so as to bring Primary to the same level as the Secondary schools

because it is not possible to have a good Secondary education without a good Primary basis.

Member asked regarding the invigilation of the exams and whether the results corresponded with the process. MoE responded that there was a strong checking process to ensure that the Ministry are confident that after checking and comparing the performance per subject and learner, that the exams were well invigilated.

Member requests comparisons in number of learners and also difference in performance as per the grading system. MoE responded that the grading system was changed this year and strengthened to ensure fairness and uniformity. MoE representative shared some statistical data with the meeting regarding approximate grades per level.

Co-chair thanks all who were involved in producing these results but encourages Ministry to provide an analysis of the exam so as to give the partners an idea of where to strengthen and where absent, provide support. Another member from UNICEF also requests MoE to put in place a reward system to encourage more learners to engage in a spirit of competition.

DG agrees that this analysis was prepared, but that it shall be presented at the next ESC meeting because there is no room on the Agenda of this meeting for the presentation of that analysis. MoE respond that for the top ten learners in Secondary and top ten schools, there is a ceremony planned next month- once the Minister returns- to reward those learners, schools, and the regions they come from especially those schools and learners from remote areas. MoE also express that the Ministry is preparing an award system to reward different participants in the process, and also these learners are highly considered for the scholarships which are currently being sought from Sudan and Ethiopia among others, especially for medicine and science related disciplines.

Member advises that MoE uplift national higher education by awarding scholarships to local universities as well; MoE responds that request letters have been sent off to the local Universities.

Member from DiaKonia advises Ministry to follow-up on teachers who were trained with support from DiaKonia so as to give an accurate picture of the teachers' contribution so as to encourage partners to provide more support or

strengthen where weak. Another member advises Ministry to use excelling schools as models so as to support other schools to scale up on performance and teaching.

The DG remarks in response to suggestions on strengthening teacher training and retention that MoE is trying different approaches to ensure that there is a good quality of teachers in schools and to encourage more graduates to join education as a profession.

The Director of Teacher Training remarked that even though that there were a good number of teacher trainees provided through SCOTT programme, there is a challenge in retention in schools because teachers, especially female teachers are attracted to more lucrative jobs. Regarding a TWG for teacher training, he mentions that there is a SCOTT steering committee and they currently conducted a study whose analysis shall be presented at the next ESC. He invites Gender TA to share results of study on situation of female teachers in Puntland. She remarked that after meeting and interviewing both female and male teachers and administration of 10 schools in Nugaal, it emerged that the schools are not sensitive to the needs of female teachers in terms of technical support, facilities and equipment. There shall be a meeting next week where the results of this analysis shall be presented along with recommendations on addressing the challenges of these teachers.

DG emphasizes that the Ministry is committed to improving the situation of teacher training and requests that members volunteer membership to a teacher training TWG. Members volunteered participation as follows:

- **GTEC**
- **UNICEF**
- **EAU**
- **DiaKonia**
- **MercyCorps**

These members were confirmed and confirmation was pending from ADRA and Save the Children.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Sharing Mid-Year review schedule with partners

DG expresses that as we are approaching the middle of the year it is important to have updated information on projects in education so as to review progress

and plan for the next half of the year and the coming year as well. Director of Programs shall share a schedule tomorrow for the upcoming review meetings that shall focus on specific projects and their outcome. So far, UNICEF has confirmed their participation, and the rest of the partners were requested to share their possible meeting dates as well.

AGENDA ITEM 4: Update on NFE curriculum development

DG reminds members that MoE, in collaboration with partners is engaged in the process of harmonizing the NFE curriculum, and this process began on 3rd July with a team of 18 subject experts under the guardianship of two lead consultants. He invited the Lead Consultant Jamal to give a brief presentation on progress.

Lead Consultant made a brief presentation on progress against work-plan so far, and the challenges they faced. Afterwards, he invited members' comments and questions regarding the presentation.

Members asked questions and clarifications were made on particular issues.

The Director of Programs and Projects thanked those NGOs who have so far shown commitment in supporting the process and encouraged those members who have not yet followed through on the commitments to meet with the Ministry in a timely manner so that the process may conclude successfully.

AGENDA ITEM 5: Cluster meeting update

DG invited UNICEF to update the meeting on Cluster Meeting deliberations from the previous day.

UNICEF updated the meeting that among the issues that were discussed were humanitarian response in specific locations following the findings of the Inter-Agency assessment; the Garowe floods and the support pledged towards addressing these issues.

GTEC have also appealed to partners to support, as a supplement to their contribution of 5000USD, the rehabilitation of their roof that was blown away

during the heavy rains. UNICEF suggest that modality for the support mobilization and coordination process shall better be addressed with the presence of UNOCHA who are mandated to address crises, and also with the support of a TWG of NGOs who work in emergencies in education- formed from the cluster meeting. UNICEF also mentioned that there is insufficient information shared via the 4W tool that was shared and that there is a complaint from the Nairobi cluster regarding this. They remarked that members are doing a lot of work in emergencies, but that some members are not a part of the Cluster nor is this information of their contribution reflected on the map.

The DG proposes that in future cluster meetings that UNICEF take the lead in ensuring UNOCHA participation for appropriate and timely action and also to ensure that information is shared with the Head Offices in Nairobi in a more timely manner for timely responses.

AGENDA ITEM 6: AOB

Co-chair mentioned that Puntland has qualified for the GPE and thanked the DG in particular and Ali Moalim and all the members who participated in the process.

As there were no further agenda items, the DG thanked the members for their participation and support and the meeting was officially closed at 11:37am.