

United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization

Republic of Ghana

Delegates of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

With a pandemic that no one could have seen coming, came the closing of educational institutions across the globe. This greatly affected the learning process of students from the primary level to the university level. At its height Covid-19 affected about 1.6 billion learners, according to The World Bank. The World Bank also estimates that \$10 trillion dollars in future earnings will be lost (WBG). The sudden loss and change of education is predicted to cause almost 7 million students to drop out of school, as well as leading to 0.6 years of schooling being lost from their basic education (UNESCO). These dire consequences of the Coronavirus push UNESCO to help countries that are unable to prioritise the restarting of school.

Ghana has taken a hard stance against putting Ghanaian children at risk of getting Covid-19. On Monday 16th, March, 2020 President Nana Akufo-Addo ordered all schools to be closed. The challenge of how to educate students became a hard one; however, Ghana was up to the challenge. Ghana's Ministry of Education quickly with the help of Ghana Education Service(GES) set up an online education hub called iCampus Ghana (Otchere). This has provided access for 1.2 million students to content of all of the core subjects, like math and English. Learners also have access to the Ghana Library App which gives students extra educational content and resources to improve their reading (MyJoyOnline). Moreover, with a joint effort of the government and the private sector, Ghana has been able to zero the rates on

these online schooling platforms. This effort has made it increasingly easier for pupils to access these online platforms with smart devices that have no data; this helps low-income or in poverty students that can't afford a telephone bill. Another cooperation between the private sector and the government is a nationwide 24-hour channel on television that only broadcasts educational material in the core subjects as well. Currently, the Ministry of Education is working on establishing a radio station that airs only educational content (Othere).

With a second spike coming with the colder weather all over the world, it is even more apparent that measures need to be taken to keep the children of the world safe, while simultaneously providing an education. One of the main objectives of this committee is "Attaining quality education for all and lifelong learning." To stay true to this mission the UN has already created the Covid-19 Global Education Coalition, which is a collection of about 140 private sector companies and some other private institutions. However, this isn't enough; this committee must stand with all of the students of the world by growing the Covid-19 Global Education Coalition. UNESCO must actively seek for more partners in educating the world during these trying times and must give funding to the Coalition. Additionally, another focus should be added to this organization's main objectives, and that is to promote and find solutions to get students back into classrooms safely.

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