

# Africa Network Campaign on Education For All

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### 2013 COMMEMORATION OF GLOBAL ACTION WEEK (21-27 APRIL)

*Theme. Every Child Needs a Teacher*

#### Background

ANCEFA is an African education network bringing together national coalitions from 35 countries in Africa. This statement has been released by the Board and Management of ANCEFA as part of the activities marking the 2013 commemoration of the Global Education Action Week (21-27 April). The theme chosen for the commemoration is **“Every Child Needs a Teacher”**. ANCEFA acknowledges that quality teaching and learning cannot be achieved without sufficient qualified and motivated teachers.

#### Concerns

ANCEFA is concerned with the following challenges that have a negative effect on promotion of quality education on the continent:

- a) 132 million youth around the world, majority of whom are in Africa, don't have access to a quality education;
- b) At least 30.5 million of the 61 million children missing out from school in the world are in Africa;
- c) Africa has a shortage of 1 million new teachers, with current teaching force having to manage large class sizes of more than 40 pupils per teacher;
- d) Most countries in Africa have large numbers of untrained or under-qualified teachers;
- e) In many African countries conflicts and wars continue to have negative impact on education access and success including affecting the teachers' abilities to deliver in the classrooms;
- f) Despite their hard work, teachers still remain among the worst paid workers, in addition to limited chances for professional development, and national policy engagement;
- g) National budgets for most African countries fail to allocate enough funds for education. This limits initiatives for promoting children's access to quality education, such as teacher training, recruitment and decent teacher remuneration.

## Call to Action.

ANCEFA makes the following policy change recommendations:

1. National Governments should mobilize internal and external resources to increase funding for the education sector to address programmes related to teacher development.
2. Finance Ministries should ensure allocation of at least 20% of the national budget or 6% of the GDP to education.
3. Education Ministries in various countries should enhance programmes for teacher training, recruitment and professional development to address shortages of qualified teachers.
4. Non Governmental organizations working in the education sector should collaborate with Teacher Unions and teachers in advocating for improvements in teachers' welfare in their respective countries.
5. ANCEFA members should continue to put priority focus on quality education programmes and implement projects that will help improve children's access to quality learning in schools by 2015 and beyond.

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*For further information, please contact ANCEFA Secretariat through the following details.*

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