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February 4, 2022

Honourable Dr. Yaw Osei Adutwum
Minister
Ministry of Education
Accra.

Honourable Minister,

**Ghana Accountability for Learning Outcomes Project (GALOP) &
Additional Financing**
(Cr. No.64820-GH, TF-0B0846, TF-0B03009 and TF-0B3026)
Virtual Implementation Support Mission
Analytical and Advisory Services in Education (P175117; P176978)
Technical Discussion Mission
December 10-17, 2021

I would like to thank you and your teams for the fruitful discussions during the virtual implementation support mission held for the Ghana Accountability for Learning Outcomes Project (GALOP), the GALOP Additional Financing (AF), and technical discussion for the Ghana Human Development Public Expenditure Review (PER) and Ghana Skills for the Future Advisory Services and Analytics (ASA) from December 10 to 17, 2021. The attached Aide-Memoire summarizes discussions and agreements reached on implementation progress to date.

I acknowledge the notable progress made on project activities since the June 2021 mission. This includes successful completion of activities under the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) COVID-19 Accelerated Financing grant (TF0B3009) on November 30, 2021, with a disbursement ratio of 92 percent, and the achievement of four out of five Performance-Based Conditions (PBCs) while final PBC is pending endorsement by the Local Education Group (LEG).

However, the progress of some key project activities under the GALOP and GALOP AF remains slow, namely coaching and mentoring of teachers, Ghana Education Outcomes Program (GEOP), institutional strengthening, monitoring and research and the development of the Accountability Dashboard. I would also like to bring to your attention that there has been no disbursement under the GPE grant (TF0846) of the parent GALOP and the Global Partnership for Results-Based Approaches (GPRBA) Ghana Education Outcomes Fund (TF0B3026) of the AF. In addition, performance on project management, monitoring and evaluation, procurement, financial management and environmental and social safeguards remains moderately satisfactory.

Specifically, I would like to bring the following to your kind attention:

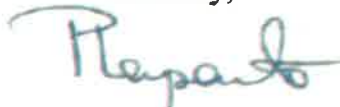
- i. accelerate the implementation of revised project activities related to GEOP, coaching and mentoring of teachers, development of a functioning Accountability Dashboard, GALOP related research;
- ii. update regularly the progress made on project development indicators and achievements in the results framework; and
- iii. strengthen relevant aspects of project management and implementation planning and budgeting (through speedy implementation of monitoring and evaluation, procurement, financial management, and safeguards activities).

I am glad to see the good progress on the preparation of the Education Public Expenditure Review (PER) which examines public spending for education and identifies a set of recommendations to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending for education. This is especially important considering the impact of COVID-19 on learning outcomes and necessary measures to address the learning loss. We look forward to receiving the requested data and information (please see Annex 4 of the Aide-Memoire) to finalize the Education PER as scheduled in February 2022.

I would like to thank you and your team for the continuous dialogue and input for the preparation of multi-sectoral Skills for the Future advisory services and analytics during the mission. Working with other relevant ministries and agencies, we look forward to identifying key reforms and interventions for the skills development and entrepreneurship for youth employment in Ghana in the coming months.

We also look forward to our continued collaboration to ensure that the GALOP and related trust fund activities are successfully implemented and contribute to improving the quality of education, and strengthening education sector equity and accountability in Ghana. We welcome your collaboration in finalizing the Education PER, the findings and the recommendations of which are expected to enhance Ghana's education service delivery and outcomes for the years to come.

Sincerely,



Pierre Laporte

Country Director for Ghana, Liberia and Sierra Leone
Western Africa and Central Region

Cc: Mr. Abdelhak Bedjaoui, Executive Director for Ghana

Cc: Ministry of Finance

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