

## ONLINE FORUM ON TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS FOR THE WORLD TEACHERS DAY

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### I. Introduction

**5 October 1994 – 5 October 2014.** Twenty years we celebrate teachers' day of worldwide. This year, for the 20th anniversary of the World Teachers' Day, the International Task Force on Teachers for Education for All, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Education International, International Labour Organization, United Nations Fund for Children and United Nations Development Programme launched an online discussion forum on the topic of teachers' *professional development and working conditions*.

The exchange will focus on the four themes on the agenda of the open discussions of these celebrations. The exchange of the online forum will focus on these following questions:

*Question 1:* How to improve working conditions and living standards of teachers despite the crisis' financial constraints? :

*Question 2:* How working conditions can influence teaching quality?

*Question 3:* How the institutions (schools and universities) as a place of training contribute to the professional development of teachers in your country?

*Question 4:* How educational innovations such as the integration of information and communication technology (ICT) can become an asset in teaching, what factors can motivate teachers to integrate them in their practice?

#### II. Objective

The objective of this online forum is to provide a forum for participants to review the thoughts, trends, policies and current practices regarding teachers' professional development and working conditions. More broadly, this forum is intended as a tool to highlight relevant contributions to initiate discussions to be taken into account in the 4 participatory workshops to be held 6-7 October 2014 at UNESCO House in the framework of the World Teachers' Day.

#### III. Expected results

Contributions and recommendations collected from this online forum will be resumed and used in the workshops of the World Teachers' Day celebrations, October 6-7, 2014 at UNESCO House and will contribute to achieve the objectives of the celebration<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Refer to the concept note « Teaching today: an international overview of professional development and conditions of work » and World Teachers' Day celebration, UNESCO House, 6-7 October 2014.

#### IV. Participants

This online forum is open to all education stakeholders (teachers, school administrators, researchers, experts, Ministry representatives, international, national and local organizations and teachers' unions interested in teachers' professional development and working conditions. The views expressed in this forum are those of the participants and do not commit UNESCO nor the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA. We remind you to respect the views of all participants. In this sense, if posts are not conform to the spirit of the online forum they will not be published. For efficiency and safety, participants are asked to identify themselves when they contribute. Finally, to facilitate the understanding of all, it is recommended not to use abbreviations and to be clear and concise.

#### V. Facilitation

The facilitators will ensure the proper conduct of discussions in a spirit of sharing experiences and fruitful dialogue. In this perspective, they will perform the following tasks:

- Initiate discussions;
- Facilitate discussions;
- Write a periodic summary of contributions;
- Write a short summary of the most relevant contributions in term of the expected results

#### VI. Moderation

Moderation of the online forum will be conducted by the Secretariat of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA.

Moderators will ensure the proper conduct of discussions in a spirit of sharing experiences and fruitful dialogue. In this perspective, they will perform the following tasks:

- Facilitate the registration of participants;
- Facilitate discussions;
- Interact with participants if needed.

#### VII. Technical work

The technical design of the online forum is made by the Secretariat of the International Task Force on Teachers for EFA.

#### VIII. Languages

Participants are invited to speak either French or English.

#### IX. Time

The online forum will be held from 08 to 19 September 2014.