



Mission Report

**3rd Meeting of the CORE GROUP of the
GLOBAL ALLIANCE For LITERACY
Within the Framework of Lifelong Learning
7 September 2017
UNESCO Paris Headquarters, France**

Prepared by

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A. SEAMEO Officials and Staff Member on Mission

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B. Background, Description and Objectives of the Activity

1. The Global Alliance for Literacy has been launched on September 8 2016 to contribute to the implementation of the EDUCATION 2030 Agenda by supporting the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4, Target 4.6. It was adopted that *“By 2030, we should ensure that all youth and a substantial portion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy through fostering and coordinating effective partnerships and concerted innovative action for a more literate world”*.
2. The GAL Working met again last Sept 7, 2017 in order to discuss and prepare the next steps in advancing the GAL work plans 2017-2018.
3. The meeting took place in UNESCO Paris Headquarters under the CORE GROUP of the Global Alliance for Literacy within the Framework of Lifelong Learning
4. The meeting is expected to:
 - a. Develop the concept note for GAL knowledge-sharing platform and implementation modalities
 - b. Develop advocacy strategy for youth and adult literacy at global, regional and national levels,
 - c. Develop a GAL brief an recommendations on requirements, and key steps to ensure integration of Target 4,6 of the SDG
 - d. Develop a plan for promoting digital resources for youth and adult literacy including Open Educational Resources; and

- e. Develop GAL recommendations in developing an inter-sectoral approach to youth and adult literacy.

C. Participants

- (1)) The Global Alliance for Literacy composed of International, regional and country representatives.
- (2) UNESCO DG at UNESCO Headquarters
- (3) UNESCO Officials
- (4) SEAMEO Secretariat (as a member of WG)

D. Organizer/s

- The UNESCO Headquarters
- UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning

E. Highlights of the Activity/Summary Points

1. **Opening Session**- The Meeting started promptly at 9:00 on Sept 7, 2017 at the Salle IV Room UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France with Opening Remarks from UNESCO DDG and Director. Her Royal Highness Princess LAURENTIENE of the Netherlands gave a keynote address
2. **Plenary Session** - The GAL working Group discussed the ROADMAP for Action – The Way Forward to Education 2030. The highlights of the roadmap that was discussed was as follows:
 - The United Nations Literacy Decade was proclaimed at the 56th Session of the UN General Assembly. The UNLD was conceived as a global framework for catalyzing intensive, focused and sustained efforts for the promotion of literacy and literate environments. It was structured around six areas of action: program modality, capacity –building, research, community participation, monitoring and evaluation.
 - THE UNLD was implemented by countries and development partners guided by their own plans as well as global framework, notably the International Plan of Action for the Decade. The UNESCO was mandated to take a coordinating role in stimulating the activities.
 - UNESCO launched the Literacy Initiative for Empowerment (LIFE).
 - Creation of GAL and the Education 2030 Goal
 - UN General Assembly recognized the importance of national programmes and measures to promote literacy worldwide and requested the importance of UNESCO to reinforce its coordinating and catalyzing role in these efforts. The UNGA also encouraged UNESCO to consult with member states and development partners in order to elaborate a literacy vision and agenda for the years following UNLD.
3. **Workshops** - The GAL working groups convened in the afternoon. The group discussed a number of recommendations addressing conceptual strategic, and operational dimensions for GAL's future work. SEAMEO is part of advocacy and communication WG. Suggestions include:
 - Refining literacy in a way human capabilities and freedom are enlarged with particular attention given to vulnerable groups and marginalized populations
 - More effective policy implementation is needed, enriched by innovative delivery modality, including the use of ICT and
 - Inter-sectoral approaches followed by monitoring processes that identify the extent to which

the outcomes have been accomplished.

4. Plenary 2- The meeting also elected Chair of the Core Group, two co-chairs and three vice-chairs representing Member states. UN DG launched officially GAL.
 - The GAL also discussed the NEW Momentum of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SDG 4 aims to ensure equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
 - GAL aimed at improving GAL stakeholders, increase resources for Member States implementation of literacy efforts and strengthen member states capacity to formulate, implement and monitor education policies for the advancement of literacy. There are 49 members of GAL comprising of Member states government representatives from UN and Multilateral organizations, bilateral donors, NGOs, private sectors, private foundations, experts and research institutes, think tanks and other civil society organizations. (The GAL Terms of Reference is in Annex 1).

F. Role/Participation of SEAMEO

- SEAMEO Secretariat (DDPD) is a member of the Advocacy and Information Working Committee. SEAMEO will help GAL Core Group to provide strategic direction to such efforts via a Road Map for Action to be revised by the group in five-year cycles until 2030.

G. Follow-up Actions Needed

- Develop SEAMEO Roadmap to help promote youth and adult literacy in Southeast Asia.

H. Appendices/Related Conference Materials and Outputs

- Annex1: GAL Roadmap for Action – The Way Forward 2030

I. Photos

