

Address at the Session of “Transforming Education Together” of the Transforming Education Pre-Summit

H.E. Mr. Huai Jinpeng, Minister of Education of the People’s Republic of China

June 29, 2022

Dear Ministers and leaders of International Organizations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening!

It is my honour to join you at the Transforming Education Pre-Summit, to share the ideas on transforming education, on education recovery from the pandemic, so as to speed up our pace in achieving the Education 2030 Agenda. As Chinese President Xi Jinping pointed out, education is a cornerstone for the progress of human society, and is decisive for the well-rounded development of mankind, as well as the innovation and creativity of the society. As today’s world is undergoing profound changes unseen in a century, it is a **must** for education to transform accordingly. With the practices and explorations of Chinese government, I would like to share the following three key ideas.

First, we are committed to education priority. Education is essential for a country and the well-being of its people. We should strive to promote equity in education, eradicate poverty and improve the quality of education. Difficulties and challenges can only make our commitment to education stronger. Education and human resources development are always on the top of the

agenda, from the fiscal investment, social and economic development plan, to the public resources' allocation. All this, is to establish a more resilient, inclusive and equitable high-quality educational system, to fully leverage the value of education in underpinning, steering the economic and social development in a holistic way, and to provide strong impetus for global economic recovery and sound social development.

Second, we are dedicated to promote education for well-rounded personal development. Education is fundamentally about men and women's well-rounded development. It is expected to unlock a person's full potential, enhance their cognitive and practical competencies, and achieve sound development. With accelerated upgradation of knowledge and technical paradigms, and rapid changes in industrial development and social environment, we need to renew the education philosophy, content and methods, so as to build an education that can provide lifelong learning to everyone, that aligns knowledge to practices, and that can be more open, inclusive and proactive. In particular, we should align education closely with economic and social development, to improve the ethics, scientific and humanistic literacy, physical and mental wellness as well as the entrepreneurship and creativity of the learners, to better serve their personal development and prepare them for the future economy and society.

Third, we are devoted to making education more

adaptable for joint development.

In today's world we face great uncertainty and complexity. Climate change, public health crisis, scientific, technological, industrial revolution, and regional conflicts fueled by the Cold War mentality are among the major challenges of today's world, which put forward new huge demands for education and the world, and also test the wisdom of human beings and the development of education. We advocate the green transformation of education, to advance ecological civilization and the harmonious coexistence of man and nature. We advocate the digital transformation of education, to upgrade the education ecology, the forms of schools and the ways of teaching, so as to better equip people with new technologies needed to thrive in the digital era. We advocate strongly the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, to build the defenses of peace in the minds of men and women.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

China supports the *Freetown Declaration* initiated by Africa. Upholding the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, we stand ready to strengthen educational exchanges and cooperation with all Member States, to promote joint development and sharing of digital education resources, to mobilize our stakeholders to provide more public goods for international education, and accelerate the post-pandemic education recovery, so as to create a new future for education.

Thank you.