Bios of Panelists

Regional Launch of the 2012 EFA Global Monitoring Report and Roundtable Discussion (Thailand)
“*Youth and Skills: Putting Education to Work*”
20 December 2012, 8:15-15:30 hrs.

**Dr. Festo Patrick Kavishe, Deputy Regional Director for UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific (UNICEF EAPRO),** is an expert in public health and nutrition, having contributed to a number of leading publications and served on the Boards of the New York Academy of Sciences, British Nutrition Society, International Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders, and the International Consultative Group on Vitamin A. He has worked as the UNICEF Country Representative in both Zimbabwe and Eritrea, as the Chief of UNICEF’s Community Action for Social Development Programme in Cambodia, and as UNICEF’s Regional Nutrition Adviser for Eastern and Southern Africa. Prior to joining UNICEF in 1993, Dr. Kavishe served as the Managing Director and Director of Medical Nutrition at the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre, having begun his career as a District Medical Officer. He has a Doctorate in Medicine, a Master’s Degree in Human Nutrition and a range of post-graduate qualifications in health, nutrition, communications, leadership and management.

**Prof. (H) Dr. Heribert Hinzen, Regional Director, DvV International Office for South and Southeast Asia,** was born in Germany, studied in Bonn and obtained his doctorate degree in Heidelberg for a comparative study on adult education in Tanzania. Since 2009, he has been directing the Regional Office for South and Southeast Asia, based Lao PDR, of *dvv international,* the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association (Deutscher Volkshochschul-Verband), in which he has been working in different positions since 1977. For 15 years, he led the Headquarters in Bonn and for a couple of years the offices in Sierra Leone and Hungary. He was Vice-President of the *European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA) and of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE).* He has been a member of the UN Literacy Decade Expert Group, the International Advisor Board of the EFA GMR as well as of the Reference Group on Higher Education for EFA. In 2000 he was part of the German delegation for the EFA World Education Forum in Dakar and in 2009 for the CONFINTEA VI in Belem. He is on the Editorial Board of Adult Education and Development as well as

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Advisory Editor of the Asia Pacific Education Review. He has been awarded an honorary professorship at the universities of Iasi and Pecs, where he additionally received the honorary doctorate. At the Royal University of Phnom Penh, he is teaching Comparative Education in the Master of Education Program.

Ms. Raquel D. Castillo, Advocacy and Campaigns Adviser, Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE), works with more than 200 member organizations and partners and with national education coalitions across 30 countries in the region around education policy advocacy, monitoring of Education for All (EFA) progress and gaps, and strategizing coordinated campaigns. Her work involves mobilizing commitment around the broad EFA agenda, but with focus on neglected EFA goals such as adult literacy, life skills for youth, and cross-cutting themes such as education financing, quality, and gender equality in education. Before joining ASPBAE, she was National Coordinator of E-Net Philippines, and before that, was Executive Director of the Philippine CSO socio-economic think tank Ibon Databank and Research.

She represents ASPBAE in the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Office Thematic Working Group for EFA, the UN Girls Education Initiative (UNGEI) Working Group in East Asia and Pacific, the UNGEI Advocacy and Communications Working Group of the Global Advisory Committee, and the Decent Learning and Decent Work Group of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE).

Mr. Haider W. Yaqub, Asia Deputy Regional Director (Programmes), Plan International - Asia Regional Office brings with him development experience of over twenty five years of integrated right based poverty alleviation programs in developing countries. He has been extensively involved in providing programmatic support to redress issues which concern children, youth and women in the areas of primary health care, adolescent reproductive health, water and sanitation, early childcare, primary and secondary education, strengthening civil society, value chain interventions as well as capacitating public sector organizations to deliver quality services for children, youth and women.

Haider holds Master’s degrees in Spatial Planning for Regions in Growing Economies, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand and postgraduate diploma in Regional Management and Development Planning from Dortmund University, Germany. He has worked for various organizations during his professional career which include local government, academic institutions and NGOs. Since 1998, Haider has been working with Plan International in various capacities and countries in Asia. His present position is Deputy Regional Director (programmes) for Asia region.

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Ms. Akiko Sakamoto is a Senior Skills and Employability Specialist at the International Labour Organization (ILO), currently based in Bangkok, Thailand. She has been working in the field of skills development, or TVET, for over 15 years, including 4 years in the Skills and Employability Department in the ILO Head-Quarter in Geneva, another 4 years as a Skills Development Policy Specialist in its Sub-Regional Office for South Asia, based in New Delhi, India and nearly 2 years in Manila, the Philippines. She has been undertaking both policy advisory and operational level work such as project formulation and implementation, covering a wide range of skills-related issues. These include: formulation of national policies on skills development; reform of skills/TVET systems; skills for enhanced productivity and employability; qualifications framework and recognition of non-formally acquired skills; as well as skills for informal economy workers and disadvantaged groups.

Mr. Gwang-Chol Chang is Chief of Education Policy and Reform Unit (EPR) at UNESCO Bangkok (Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education) since May 2010. In this capacity, he has been working to support UNESCO’s regional programmes on policy research, knowledge management and networking in the fields of education sector policy reform, planning, management, financing as well as in areas of secondary education, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), and quality of education in the Asia-Pacific region.

From 1996 to 2010, he worked at the various units of UNESCO’s Education Sector in Paris, dealing with issues of educational reconstruction, education policy analysis, planning, management and finance. He provided technical and capacity development support for dozens of developing and transition countries across all regions. He authored and co-authored numerous research papers, handbooks and articles on issues of education policy reforms, planning and financing.

Before joining UNESCO in 1996, he worked at the Planning Department of the DPR Korea Ministry of Education. He holds a Doctorate in Education (Ed.D) from Kim Hyong Jik University of Education, DPR Korea.

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