**Asia Pacific Regional Dialogue on Education Financing**  
**Monday, 26 April 2021**

**Objective**
The objective of the Asia Pacific Regional Dialogue on Education Financing is to encourage governments to mobilise national resources that can ensure inclusive education systems and programmes that prioritise the most marginalised.

**Rationale:**
Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a huge gap between education spending, and what was actually needed to achieve SDG4. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly exacerbated this gap, and has led to a curtailment of funding by donors and governments for the education of its people. More than ever, it is important for governments to step up and protect national education budgets, and even better, to increase them, especially to enable education access to rural and remote communities, people with disabilities, those that are missing out on school, unemployed youth, and those that have no access to online learning opportunities.

This online event is part of the Global Action Week for Education (GAWE), an annual international week of campaigning for improved national education policies and increased national education budgets. The theme of GAWE this year is education financing towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG4). GAWE is part of a year-long campaign organised by the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) called One Billion Voices.

**Name:** Asia Regional Dialogue on Education Financing

**Rallying Call:** 'Protect Education Budgets: reach the most marginalised'

**Date and Time:** Monday, 26 April 2021, 1:00 pm Manila time.

**Main speakers**
1. Dr. António Guterres, Vice Minister for Education, Youth and Sport, Timor-Leste
2. Senator Sherwin Gatchalian, Chair, Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture
3. Mr. Md. Mahbub Hossain, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education in Bangladesh.

GPE presentation: recorded message from Ms Margarita Focas Licht, Chief, Effective Partnership.
Asia Regional Dialogue on Education Financing - Programme

Facilitator, Mr Bernie Lovegrove, Regional Coordinator, Education Out Loud Programme, ASPBAE

1:00 pm  Welcome by Ms Nani Zulminani, ASPBAE’s President

1:05 pm  Asia Pacific overview regarding financing equity for education, Mr Rene Raya, Lead Policy Analyst, ASPBAE.

1:15 pm  Brief presentation from a youth leader, Ms Shradha Koirala, providing youth perspectives and recommendations for education financing that can target Marginalised youth. The presentation will include a 3-minute video of Youth -led Action Research (YAR) work.

1:25 pm  Honorable Dr. António Guterres, Vice Minister for Education, Youth and Sport, Timor Leste

1:35 pm  Honorable Senator Sherwin Gatchalian, Chair, Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture, the Philippines

1:45 pm  Mr. Md. Mahbub Hossain, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education in Bangladesh.

1:55 pm  Ms Margarita Focas Licht, Chief, Effective Partnership, Global Partnership for Education (GPE)

Facilitator Ms Cecilia (Thea) Soriano, Programmes and Operations Coordinator, ASPBAE

2:05 pm  Dialogue, questions to the speakers and responses

2:25 pm  Closing comments – Atty. Maria Helen Dabu, ASPBAE Secretary General

2:30 pm  Close

END