



## **Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP)**

*A coalition of civil society organizations, networks, peace movements, human rights activists, peasants, Labourers, workers, teachers and students alliances etc.*

**GCAP coalition in Pakistan focuses upon issues related to Education and Health sectors to address poverty & inequality**

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Date: 25 March 2009

## **Press Conference**

**Subject: Suggestions for improvement in Draft National Education Policy -09**

Honorable Representatives of Press & Electronic Media,

We, on behalf of GCAP-Pakistan, appreciate Ministry of Education's recent public statements, commitments and efforts for allocation 4% of GDP in the development and promotion of education in Pakistan till 2010. (Press statements attached)

Here, we would also like to emphasize that **Pakistan is one of the 164 signatories of Dakar Education for All- EFA**, which clearly identifies State's responsibility to ensure education for all. Further, **Pakistan is also one of the 189 signatories of the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)** – signed in September 2000 during UN Millennium Summit at New York. The MDG-2 demands ensuring every child, boy and girl alike is able to complete a full course of primary schooling by 2015. However, the National Education Policy- 2009 (*Draft*) also accepts this as a challenge and has gained greater momentum in the intervening years and demand fresh considerations. (Introduction P-1)

Following the Draft Policy 2009, we, the representatives of civil society organizations, networks and coalition like GCAP-Pakistan seek your support to include clear indicators in the relevant sections of the draft policy to address challenges described therein regarding plight of education in the country.

- Realizing the dismaying situation of education in the country “ Education Emergency” be introduced for taking up education related issues at highest priority,
- Allocation of 4% of GDP by 2010 and 7% of GDP by 2015 should be mentioned clearly at Page –21,
- 50% reduction in under-spending of allocated resources for education by 2010 and 100% by 2015 should be stated clearly in the document,
- Ensure that no midway budgetary cuts will be done in allocated resources for education,
- Improvement in retention rate in primary education, (20% retention by 2010 and 60% by 2015),
- Reduction in dropout rate in primary education, (20% reduction by 2010 and 60% by 2015),
- Improvement in physical infrastructure of primary schools by provision of Basic facilities like water, toilet, furniture (20% schools by 2010 and 60% by 2015),
- Enhancement in primary school teachers' capacity and behavioural change for ensuring quality primary education.

### **National Secretariat (Interim) at:**

H. No. 2440/N/8A, D-Block, Shamasabad Colony, Multan – Pakistan  
P.O Box No. 141, GPO 60000- Multan – Pakistan



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Currently many organizations, networks, alliances and coalitions including GCAP-Pakistan, are working in Pakistan for promotion and development of education sector and sharing the

State's responsibility. The suggestions and recommendations appended above are based on a series of discussions held through various dialogues and forums.

Pakistan's obligations towards international commitment to provide *Quality Education for All* calls inclusion of above mentioned suggestions in the Education Policy - 2009 (draft). We are confident and trust that you being the head of the education ministry would play a key role to meet this commitment.

**Mohammad Zia-ur-Regman**  
**National Coordinator**  
**GCAP-Pakistan**  
ae

**Professor Sajid Mahmood Awan**  
**Press Secretary**  
**Pakistan Teachers Forum**

**Raja Kauser Saeedi**  
**President**  
**Punjab Teachers Union Itehad**

**Jahangir Ahmed Ansari**  
**President**  
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**Coordinator**  
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**Ms. Shaista Bukhari**  
**Member GCAP-Pakistan**

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