

Early childhood education at top of agenda of high-level EFA meeting in Cairo ^[1]

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Excerpts from the press release:

Education ministers from 15 countries along with senior officials from the main donor nations, multilateral agencies, civil society and the private sector will meet next week in Cairo, Egypt (14-16 November) to discuss ways of accelerating progress towards the six Education for All (EFA) goals set by over 160 countries at the World Education Forum in Dakar, Senegal, in 2000. The Prime Minister of Egypt, Ahmed Mohamed Nazif, and UNESCO Director-General Koichiro Matsuura will open the meeting, which will be chaired by Egypt's Minister for Education, Yousri El Gamal.

This sixth meeting of the EFA High-Level Group, which has met annually since the Dakar Forum, will pay special attention to the goal of expanding early childhood care and education (ECCE). According to the recently released Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2007, ECCE lays strong foundations for future learning and all forms of personal development. However, half the world's countries have no early childhood care and education policy for children under three years of age despite ECCE's well-documented benefits for all children, especially for the poorest and most disadvantaged.

Related link: CRRU Issue File: Early learning and child care and Education for All ^[3]

Tags: children's rights ^[4]

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