Permanent Mission of Italy
UN - New York

PERMANENT MISSION OF NIGERIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS,
NEW YORK

GPE Transforming Education

MULTIPLY POSSIBILITY HIGH LEVEL EVENT: A NEW ERA FOR EDUCATION FINANCING

September 23, 2026, at 1:15-2:30 pm
ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters

Context

Education multiplies possibilities. From improving health and earning potential to driving economic growth and stability, investing in education yields enormous returns. Yet today, 270 million children remain out of school globally, and in lower-income countries, 70 percent of school children cannot read a simple text by age ten. As the largest generation of children and youth come of age in a world being rapidly reshaped by technological change, delivering quality education for all has never been more urgent.

Meeting this moment and accelerating progress towards the SDGs requires a global effort to finance and deliver quality education so that no child is left behind. This is why Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni of Italy and President Bola Ahmed Tinubu of Nigeria are leading an ambitious financing campaign for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the world's leading multilateral fund dedicated exclusively to education. A fully funded GPE would improve education quality for 750 million children and young people in more than 90 low- and lower-middle-income countries.

The Event

At the culmination of *Multiply Possibility* GPE financing campaign, the Permanent Missions of Italy and Nigeria to the United Nations, along with GPE, will co-host a high-level event at UNGA81 bringing together global leaders and partners to mark a new era of bold commitments towards sustainable education financing.

Objectives:

- Showcase strong political will to finance education from countries and partners around the world.
- Spotlight commitments from donors, private sector, philanthropies, MDBs and other financing partners to GPE.
- Highlight partner countries' domestic financing commitments to education.
- Advance commitments to education already made through the G7, the African Union, the UN's Pact for the Future, and the Compromiso de Sevilla.
- Convene stakeholders across the partnership and highlight their commitments to keep education at the top of the global agenda and to deliver quality education for all children.

Format and Run of Show

Moderator: Larry Madowo, International Correspondent, CNN International

Time	Segment
1:15 pm – 1:25 pm	**Welcome** › **H.E. Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations › Video Address: **H.E. Bola Ahmed Tinubu**, President of Nigeria › Video Address: **H.E. Giorgia Meloni**, President of the Council of Ministers of Italy › **H.E. Jakaya Kikwete**, Chair of the GPE Board of Directors and Former President of Tanzania
1:26 pm – 1:34 pm	**Opening Remarks by the co-hosts** › **H.E. Kashim Shettima**, Vice President of Nigeria › **H.E. Antonio Tajani**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy
1:35 pm – 1:52 pm	**Voices for Education** **Opening of the Voices of Education segment: Malala Yousafzai**, Nobel Prize laureate and co-founder, Malala Fund › **The Hon. Aren B. Palik,** Vice President of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) › **H.E. Salah Ahmed Jama,** Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia › **Hon. David Moinina Sengeh**, Chief Minister and Chief Innovation Officer, Sierra Leone › **H.E. Jozef Síkela**, Commissioner for International Partnerships, European Commission › **Jannik Sinner**, Professional Tennis Player and Founder, Jannik Sinner Foundation (Video Message)
1:53 pm – 2:15 pm	**Pledges and Announcements** › **H.E. Lars Løkke Rasmussen**, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Denmark › **H.E. Sheikh Jarrah Jaber AlAhmad AlSabah**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kuwait › **H.E. Éléonore Caroit**, Minister Delegate for Francophonie, International Partnerships and French Nationals Abroad, France › **H.E. Reem Alabali Radovan**, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany › **H.E. Neale Richmond**, Minister for International Development and Diaspora, Ireland

	› **H.E. Reem bint Ebrahim Al Hashimy**, Minister of State for International Cooperation, United Arab Emirates › **Hon. Kirsty McNeill MP**, Minister for International Development and Africa, United Kingdom › **Hon. Randeep Sarai,** Secretary of State for International Development, Canada › **Senator Dorinda Cox**, Senator for Western Australia, Representative of the Government of Australia › **Ms. Victoria Tur**, CEO, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain › **Mr. Masatoshi Sugiura**, Director-General for Global Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan › **Ms. Camilla Nevstad Bruzelius**, Director-General for International Development Cooperation, Sweden
2:16 pm – 2:23 pm	**Cofinancing Announcements & Pledges of Support** › **H.E. Dr. Abdulhamid Alkhalifa**, President, OPEC Fund For International Development › **H.E. Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser**, Chairman, Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) Group (Video Message) › **Maya Ziswiler**, CEO, Federer Foundation › **Reena Ghelani**, CEO, Plan International
2:24 pm – 2:30 pm	**Closing Remarks** › **H.E. Giuseppe Valditara**, Minister of Education and Merit of Italy › **Hon. Dr. Tunji Alausa**, Minister of Education of Nigeria › **Laura Frigenti**, CEO, Global Partnership for Education