



إيسيسكو
ICESCO

ICESCO Education Ministers Conference

ICESCO EMC 3

Beyond Transforming
Education Summit:
from Commitments to Actions

Concept Note

Muscat,
Sultanate of Oman

2-3
October

2024



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Introduction

The world faces significant challenges in creating educational systems that are equitable, inclusive, high-quality, and relevant. Hundreds of millions of people, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, still lack access to quality, fair, and equitable education. This issue has been worsened by ongoing political, economic, social, and climate crises, including pandemics, wars, and natural disasters. These crises have profoundly affected the education sector, resulting in setbacks in achieving the fourth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG4).

Additionally, there is a widening gap between educational outcomes and the labor market, as well as the demands and challenges of life in a rapidly changing world. This gap is particularly evident in fields undergoing major and accelerated transformations, such as information and communication technology and artificial intelligence.

To advance education and elevate its status as a powerful driving force for our shared future, as well as a foundation for peace, tolerance, human rights, and sustainable development, there is an urgent need to transform education. This entails reimagining and reshaping education to build a brighter and more distinguished future. Furthermore, there is a need to renew international political and financial commitments to education, recognizing it as a global public good.

In response to this need, the global community convened the Transforming Education Summit (TES) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from September 17 to 19, 2022. This summit marked an unprecedented milestone in the global education journey, focusing on formulating a Global Compact for Transforming Education supported by national commitment documents, in which each country, including most ICESCO Member States, outlined the policies and measures they intend to implement across various pathways for transforming education, as stipulated in the summit's reference documents.

At this stage, the critical task is to actualize the vision of transforming education and fulfill commitments through the implementation of best practices. In this regard, the Islamic World Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), in line with its mission, responsibility, and new vision, and in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Sultanate Oman, plans to organize the third Conference of Ministers of Education under the theme “Transforming Education: from Commitment to Practice,” in Muscat, the Sultanate of Oman, from October 2 to 3, 2024. The organizers have mobilized decision-makers from the Member States, alongside the UN System Organizations, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society organizations, youth and women, activists and influencers, the private sector, donors, and funding entities, among others.



Conference Objectives

- 1. Ensuring the renewal of commitment, readiness, and preparedness of the Member States** to fulfill their commitments towards transforming education through effective practices.
- 2. Establishing effective mechanisms** to disseminate best practices that have proven successful in accelerating the implementation of commitments across various aspects of transforming education.
- 3. Encouraging and facilitating cooperation** among the Member States in transforming education and supporting their joint action programs.
- 4. Building a strong network of multi-dimensional** coalitions and partnerships that also include various funding and donor entities.
- 5. Developing effective mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the outcomes** of the Transforming Education Summit in the Member States.
- 6. Introducing a multi-dimensional** program to support the efforts of less fortunate countries in their pursuit of transforming education.
- 7. Highlighting the ethical and moral references** of the various contents of education transformation within the civilizational heritage of the Islamic world.



The Conference will culminate in the Muscat Declaration on Transforming Education in the Islamic World


Conference organization

Sessions will be allocated to give heads of delegations the opportunity to deliver their countries' statements regarding the Conference theme. Conference guests will also have the opportunity to present their statements in the sessions based on the nature of their contributions. ICESCO will present reports and documents, including a comprehensive analytical report on the efforts of the Member States in implementing their commitments to transform education into action. This report will highlight successes, innovations, challenges, and obstacles encountered.

The program will feature a special session dedicated to presenting the youth's forward-looking perspective on the future of education. The closing session will be reserved for the adoption of the Muscat Declaration, outlining the roadmap for implementing the outcomes of the Transforming Education Summit in the Member States, followed by the endorsement of the Conference recommendations.

Given the special nature of this Ministerial Conference, high-level scientific sessions have been organized, each addressing a specific topic from the education transformation agenda that is particularly relevant to ICESCO Member States. Each session will be organized in collaboration with prestigious global institutions specializing in the session's theme.

During these sessions, a select group of experts will deliver technical presentations, showcasing their outstanding contributions in the field, followed by discussions and opportunities for the Member States to share their most innovative and relevant initiatives related to the session's theme. Participation in these sessions will be both in-person and virtual, with live broadcasts. ICESCO will publish the proceedings of these sessions in a special report after the Conference concludes.



These sessions will address the following themes

1. **Transforming Education in the Islamic World.**
2. **Greening Education.**
3. **The Role of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Transformation in Accelerating the Transformation of Education.**
4. **Education in Times of Crises and Emergencies.**

Parallel Events

Opportunities will be available to organize exhibitions on the sidelines of the Conference in areas related to the themes discussed in the scientific sessions, as well as opportunities to organize workshops or other activities for Special Interest Groups (SIGs).

Participants

Due to the unique nature of the Conference, ICESCO has sought to attract an unprecedented and diverse global and regional audience, including:

- ♦ Ministers of Education of the ICESCO Member States
- ♦ Ministers of Education of the non-Member States of ICESCO
- ♦ Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)
- ♦ Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)
- ♦ United Nations (UN)
- ♦ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- ♦ Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO)
- ♦ World Bank (WB)
- ♦ Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)



- ◆ African Development Bank (AfDB)
- ◆ UNESCO Regional Center for Quality and Excellence in Education / Saudi Arabia (RCQE)
- ◆ International Islamic Charitable Organization (IICO)
- ◆ Dubai Cares Foundation
- ◆ Qatar Fund for Development (QFFD)
- ◆ United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)
- ◆ Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- ◆ World Health Organization (WHO)
- ◆ Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection
- ◆ World Innovation Summit for Education - Qatar Foundation (WISE)
- ◆ Education Transformation Summit Secretariat
- ◆ Global Partnership for Education (GPE)
- ◆ Teach for All
- ◆ Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States (ABEGS)
- ◆ Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA)
- ◆ Education Cannot Wait Initiative (ECW)
- ◆ Malala Fund
- ◆ NewGlobe Education
- ◆ Arab Women Organization (AWO)
- ◆ Student and Youth Organizations
- ◆ Regional and Global Civil Society Organizations
- ◆ Nobel Laureates
- ◆ Scientists, Thinkers, Academicians, and Experts







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