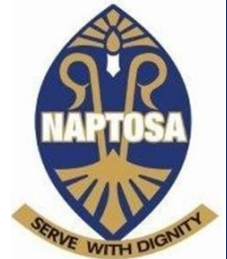


NATIONAL NEWS FLASH



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The United Nations High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession launches landmark recommendations to end the global teacher shortage and strengthen the profession

February 26, 2024, is a historic day for the teaching profession in South Africa and across the Globe. For the first time in over fifty years, the United Nations is putting a spotlight on teachers' rights, status and working conditions.

The [United Nations High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession](#) has just published [a set of recommendations](#) to governments globally to strengthen the profession and ensure that teachers are valued and respected. The [recommendations were launched in Johannesburg, South Africa](#) during a high-level event featuring Education International (EI) president Susan Hopgood. The Minister of Basic Education, Mrs. Angelina M Motshekga, is a member of the panel.

The High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession was convened by the United Nations Secretary General António Guterres in response to the growing and alarming global teacher shortage. It brought together former presidents, academics, ministers, students, teachers and their unions to provide governments with policy advice on fulfilling every child's right to a qualified, trained and supported teacher.

Education International (EI) was on the Panel, represented by our President Susan Hopgood and by our colleagues, Manal Hdaife, Chair of the EI's Arab Countries Cross Regional Structure Standing Committee, and Mike Thiruman, General Secretary of the Singapore Teachers Union. The teacher's voice was heard loud and clear throughout the deliberations, and this is evident in the recommendations.

Every EI member organisation reading the Panel's 59 recommendations will recognise our longstanding demands on a broad range of issues, from teacher qualifications, pay and working conditions, to professional respect.

Our tireless advocacy has brought us to this moment. With the Panel's recommendations, we now have a new set of tools to truly transform education and effect real change for millions of teachers and students around the world. We must now take the next steps and make sure our governments answer the call.

Education International stands ready to support you. We are putting together a set of tools to help you make the most of the recommendations and to help your advocacy for the right to education and the rights of teachers everywhere.

We invite you to regularly visit [the section of our website dedicated to the Recommendations](#) to obtain the latest information.

Essential to the implementation of every recommendation is funding. That is why Education International's [Go Public: Fund Education](#) campaign calls on all governments to fully fund education and invest in the profession. The [campaign's one year anniversary event last month](#) showcased the campaign efforts of member organisations, and discussed how the Panel's recommendations can support union demands.

By mobilising as a union movement, Teacher Unions have the power to make sure that every government funds and implements the UN High Level Panel's recommendations. Let's make it happen.

In solidarity, David Edwards – Education International – General Secretary
(Information Sourced from Education International – <https://www.ei-ie.org/en>)

NAPTOSA, is a member of Education International (EI)

Mr BL Manuel [Executive Director]