



AYEN Statement on UN High Level Panel Recommendations on the Teaching Profession

We, the members of the African Young Educators Network (AYEN), attending the Webinar on the recent Recommendations of the United Nations High-Level Panel (HLP) on the Teaching Profession on Tuesday, 11th June 2024;

1. Reaffirm that Education is the cornerstone of development that empowers individuals, protects the planet, fosters innovation, and builds societies that are resilient, equitable, and prosperous;
2. Note that at the heart of this transformative process lies the teaching profession and that teachers are the architects of our future, shaping the minds and aspirations of the next generation;
3. Welcome and fully endorse the recent Recommendations of the United Nations High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession;
4. Reassured that these recommendations provide a timely and comprehensive framework to address the multifaceted challenges faced by educators globally and to enhance the quality of education for all;
5. Noting that they conform with AYEN's mission to empower African youth through education and leadership development, recognising the crucial role that a robust and well-supported teaching profession plays in shaping our continent's future;
6. Applauding the UN HLP's call to elevate the status of teachers, promote professional development and training, ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, leveraging technology, encourage teacher leadership and empowerment, and advance policy and advocacy;

The Africa Young Educators Network, therefore:

7. Commits to advocating for policies that uplift teachers and ensure that they receive the respect and support they deserve; access to professional development programmes that empower educators to excel in their roles; educational practices that address disparities and foster inclusivity, ensuring that every child can succeed; initiatives that equip schools and teachers with the necessary technological tools to enhance the learning experience; leadership skills among teachers, enabling them to influence educational policies and practices positively; and policy reforms that support the teaching profession and enhance educational outcomes;
8. AYEN calls upon governments, policymakers, and educational leaders to take decisive action in implementing these recommendations, including through the establishment of national teacher commissions or task forces; and,
9. Calls upon the African Union and Regional Economic Communities to prioritise teachers in their policies and programmes, including the post-2025 education strategy for Africa.