**Position Paper of Ethiopia**
**SOCHUM**
Enhancing Access to Educational Opportunities and Reducing Inequalities in Access to Education

Ethiopia recognizes that education is a vital tool for improving lives and driving sustainable development. Despite progress in recent years, many barriers still prevent equal access to education, particularly in rural and marginalized communities. Tackling these challenges is essential for achieving global education goals and ensuring every child has a fair chance to succeed.

Ethiopia has made significant strides in expanding access to education. Government initiatives such as the General Education Quality Improvement Program (GEQIP) have increased enrollment rates and improved infrastructure. However, challenges persist. Poverty, gender inequality, and a lack of resources hinder many children, especially girls and children from rural areas, from accessing quality education. Displacement due to conflicts and climate change has also disrupted education for many students.

Ethiopia believes that international cooperation plays a crucial role in addressing these issues. As a member of the African Union and the United Nations, Ethiopia actively participates in discussions and programs aimed at reducing educational inequality. Collaborative efforts such as the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) provide vital resources and technical assistance, but more support is needed to address the unique challenges faced by developing countries.

To enhance access to education, Ethiopia suggests prioritizing actions that address the root causes of inequality. Governments and international organizations should focus on increasing investments in education systems, particularly in underserved areas. Providing targeted support for girls' education and improving school infrastructure can help reduce disparities. Leveraging technology to deliver remote learning opportunities can bridge gaps for students in rural and conflict-affected regions. Finally, fostering partnerships between governments, NGOs, and private organizations is essential for mobilizing resources and implementing effective solutions.

Ethiopia remains committed to working with the international community to create a future where education is accessible to all. By addressing inequalities and expanding opportunities, we can empower the next generation to achieve their full potential and contribute to global progress.

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