

## NATIONAL STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

1. In today's climate of rapid global change brought about by multitudes of dynamic and continuous development and innovation, Brunei Darussalam acknowledges the urgent need for reimagining and transforming education. It is therefore imperative for the education system to become more equitable, inclusive, relevant, adaptable and resilient in addressing the current global learning crisis, in line with the Bangkok Statement 2022 adopted at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asia-Pacific Regional Education Ministers' Conference. With emphasis on this need, Brunei Darussalam organised a Stakeholders Engagement session for the Transforming Education Summit on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2022 in Bandar Seri Begawan aimed at consulting and gathering insights on identified education themes.
2. We aspire towards supporting our Brunei Vision 2035 to produce educated, highly skilled, and accomplished people while upholding our values and the national philosophy of Malay Islamic Monarchy.
3. We pledge to the following priority actions, which are to:
  - i. **ENSURE** our education system continues to put focus on providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all our students, observing gender equality, catering for a wide range of abilities and special conditions from early childhood to higher education. We strive towards maintaining an education is accessible to all learners and that they have access to quality education with the emphasis on equality and equity;
  - ii. **PRIORITISE** the implementation of remedial and learning support initiatives to ensure equity for all learners;
  - iii. **EMPHASISE** the importance of equipping our human resource especially youths with the competencies that will prepare them to be future-ready, enabling them to actively contribute to sustainable development, maintaining competitiveness and resilience, flexible and adaptable in coping with uncertainties and responding to global challenges;
  - iv. **ENDEAVOUR** to continue embarking on our whole-of-nation approach and strengthen our inter-agency cooperation and coordination to policies and initiatives for lifelong learning encompassing key stages of education and training and skills development that will meet current and future skills needs and allow occupational mobility and career development;

- v. **UNDERSCORE** the role of quality educators and school leaders in transforming education and achieving Sustainable Development Goals 4 (SDG4). Hence, developing quality teachers is vital in providing quality education that can contribute to the national vision for 2035 and beyond;
- vi. **HIGHLIGHT** the importance of developing and supporting an empowered teaching workforce through:
  - a. the improvement of selection and recruitment of teachers and school leaders;
  - b. strengthening the quality of initial teacher training’;
  - c. enhancing continuous professional development;
  - d. streamlining career progression into several pathways; as well as
  - e. prioritising the welfare of the education community.

Through these initiatives, educators are provided support in transforming education from within the system;

- vii. **HIGHLIGHT** the importance of integrating Information Communications Technology (ICT) in teaching to ensure educators are able to apply digital technology. Education Technology not only supports the delivery of education but will share knowledge with peers through digital resources and platforms. As a long-term strategy, Brunei Darussalam is embarking on the Ministry of Education Digital Transformation Plan to ensure that digital teaching and learning becomes a norm and to provide a framework to support educators in integrating ICT into teaching practice;
  - viii. **DETERMINE** to put forward a student-centered structure that has the potential to push boundaries to develop a generation of digital natives. In this regard, we are working towards formulating the Digital Literacy Standard to ensure our students will acquire the relevant digital knowledge, skills, and competencies; and
  - ix. **EMPHASISE** that strong collaboration, contribution and engagements with relevant stakeholders from other ministries, NGOs, the business sector, and the community, are vital. Multi-stakeholders’ cooperation and collaboration, were proven effective, where strategic partnerships were created such as Private Public Partnerships to help schools and institutions excel further towards quality education.
4. Looking forward, we need to stimulate shared ownership and accountability on transforming education as a nation and as a collective public good.