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19TH JANUARY, 2016

Press Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUBJECT: Minister for Education attends Education World Forum

The Honourable Minister for Education, Professor Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang is in London, the United Kingdom to attend and speak at this year's sessions of the Education World Forum at the invitation of the British Council which takes place from 17th to 21st January, 2016. Over 90 Ministers for Education from around the world are attending this forum. The event which is the world's largest gathering of education and skills ministers as well as their senior advisors, representing over 80 per cent of the world's population will also debate on future education policy. It is supported by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the Department of Education, the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the Department for International Development, the British Council and the EWF industry.

On Monday January 18, Prof. Naana Opoku-Agyemang gave a keynote address on the topic: "New Policies, Actions, and Solutions for Basic Knowledge, Literacies and Understanding" in which she called on the world to take advantage of the Sustainable Development Goals to rethink Education in order to find the most cost effective ways of fulfilling Goal 4 which specifically deals with education. She drew attention to the fact that each of the 17 goals has something to do with education. On Tuesday January 19, she participated in a ministerial Exchange on Early Childhood Development and explained the need for inter-ministerial action in advancing this important area of human development, given its direct implications on the future of any nation. Her final speaking engagement is planned for Thursday January 21, where she will participate in a policy dialogue titled "The Journey from School to Work." At this session is expected to provide increased understanding of how education systems, in partnership with employers, can tackle the challenges of equipping young people with the skills they need to get valuable employment after schooling. Professor Opoku-Agyemang will stress the central role of technical/vocational education and share strategies for collaboration between training institutions and industry to make the journey fruitful for the employer and employee, in order to lay good grounds for improved outputs. She will also give an insight on the importance of life long skills and their potential for national and world economies.

The minister was accompanied by the Deputy Minister for Education in-charge of pre-tertiary, Honourable Alex Kyeremeh and will return on Friday, January 22, 2016.

Signed

Dan Osman Mwin

Director of Public Relations