

(42)

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**BETWEEN**  
**MINISTRY OF BASIC AND SECONDARY EDUCATION (MoBSE)**  
**AND**  
**CHARITABLE ORGANISATION (CATHARINA MELLON FOUNDATION)**

**PREAMBLE**

- Whereas the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education has responsibility for the articulation and implementation of education policies and programmes;
- Realising that the present education policy requires strategies that are more global in concepts and application, and more imaginative in the mobilization of resources;
- Recognising that there are various educational programmes being promoted or implemented by various agencies in support of Government's efforts;
- Being aware that other organizations do contribute significantly to the development of education in The Gambia;
- Concerned about the existence of duplications, and contradictions in the strategies and focus of the various education programmes, being implemented by NGOs and some private operators;
- Recognising the need for the effective co-ordination of the overall educational efforts in this country;
- Being aware of the specific need to promote partnership based on an active dialogue and interaction between the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education and Partner Organizations, in the promotion and development of education;
- Therefore, this memorandum seeks to establish a co-operative relationship between the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education of the Government of The Gambia and **Catharina Mellon Foundation** working in The Gambia.

**PART II**

Based on the common desire to develop education through increased access, promotion of educational relevance and equity - the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education and the **Catharina Mellon Foundation** have agreed to establish a co-operative arrangement for the mutual benefit of both parties.



In this connection the obligations of the parties under the cooperative arrangement provided by the Memorandum shall be as follows:

#### **ON THE ONE PART**

1. The Ministry of Basic and secondary Education shall create the necessary policy environment, which will be characterised by transparency and accountability for the effective participation of **Catharina Mellon Foundation** in the development of education in The Gambia.
2. The Ministry of Basic and secondary Education through its subsidiary structures (Regional Education Directorates, school system etc.) shall identify critical needs for consideration and funding by **Catharina Mellon Foundation**.
3. The Ministry of Basic and secondary Education through its subsidiary structures system shall ensure the proper utilization of resources provided by **Catharina Mellon Foundation** and Catharina Mellon Foundation shall maintain proper records of how such resources are used for inspection.
4. The Ministry of Basic and secondary Education shall through Parent- Teacher Associations ensure that the desired community participation is maintained.
5. The Ministry of Basic and secondary Education through its Subsidiary structure and the school system shall make technical assistance available to **Catharina Mellon Foundation** whenever necessary;
6. The Ministry of Basic and secondary Education shall, through its subsidiary structures, facilitate the acquisition of such things like duty waivers and land for educational purpose, where **appropriate and possible**.

#### **B. ON THE OTHER PART**

1. The **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall cooperate with the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education through consultation with its respective directorates, Regional Offices and officers;
2. The **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall negotiate a programme of activities, which clearly indicates scope of its interventions in education ***per region*** and the ***duration of such interventions***;
3. The **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall in collaboration with the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education Regional Offices establish a transparent record system for all financial transactions relating to its inputs into the school system which shall



be made available to the authorized agents of the two collaborating partners at all times;

4. The **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall furnish the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education with a detailed report of its activities including **budget and outcome not later than end of September each year** and also upon request by the Minister for Basic and Secondary Education
5. The **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall inform the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education at least six months in advance of the premature termination of assistance to schools that have been mutually agreed and in so doing indicating reason for termination.

In particular, **CATHARINA MELLON FOUNDATION** will:

- a. PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO PUPILS IN ORDER TO ATTAIN HIGHER EDUCATION.**
- b. CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM, OR PROVIDE NEW ONES IN PLACES THAT DOESN'T HAVE BEFORE.**
- c. PROVIDE SCHOOL MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT TO PUPILS.**
- d. ESTABLISH BOREHOLES IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES FOR ACCESS TO PORTABLE DRINKING WATER.**

### **PART III - GUIDING CLAUSES**

In accordance with the spirit and obligations mutually agreed upon the following shall serve as operational guidelines to the agreed partnership.

- Clause:** 1. All applications to the **Catharina Mellon Foundation** for assistance to the school system shall be submitted through the relevant subsidiary Office for appraisal.
- Clause :** 2. **Catharina Mellon Foundation** school based activities shall be managed by the **Catharina Mellon Foundation** with assistance from Head Teachers through Parent Teacher Associations and shall be



subject to the supervision of the Regional Education Offices.

- Clause:** 3. The Relevant subsidiary Offices of the Ministry of Basic and secondary Education in collaboration with the **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall provide technical back stopping to the Parent / Teacher Associations implementing **Catharina Mellon Foundation** sponsored projects to ensure that they take rational decisions.
- Clause:** 4. Joint consultation meetings between the Relevant Education Officers and the **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall be held twice a year between November and April.
- Clause:** 5. Joint reviews / evaluation meetings between the relevant subsidiary Offices and the **Catharina Mellon Foundation** shall be held not later than one month after the submission report.
- Clause:** 6 This Agreement shall be in force for a **period of three years and is subject to review and renewal.**
- Clause:** 7 Either party may terminate this Agreement upon giving at least **180 days notice in writing to the other party.**
- Clause:** 8 Effective Date of Operation:  
This agreement shall be effective after having been duly signed by representatives of both parties.

SIGNED



**REPRESENTATIVE**  
CATHARINA MELLON FOUNDATION

DATE

06-12-2019

SIGNED:



**PERMANENT SECRETARY**  
MINISTRY OF BASIC AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

DATE

06/12/19