DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS MEETING

PRESS GUIDE

EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS MEETING

G7
FRANCE
BIARRITZ
2019

PARIS
4 - 5 JULY 2019
A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR EUROPE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The President of the French Republic has made fighting equality the focus of the next G7 Summit in Biarritz. To prepare this meeting, I will convene the G7 Development Ministers for a meeting on 4 July, then will co-chair with the Minister of National Education and Youth a joint meeting of the Development and Education Ministers on 5 July.

Poverty, hunger, growing vulnerability to climate risks, gender inequality, a lack of access to basic social services such as education and health care are blatant global inequalities but also factors leading to crises. The aim of development policies is to address them. France has realized the full extent of these factors and has decided to increase its official development assistance to 0.55% of its gross national income by 2022. It has also decided to update its action to make it more effective on the ground.

G7 countries provide three quarters of official development assistance. While at the helm of the G7, France wishes to set ambitious objectives for the years ahead. Our road map will be the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with a view to taking action where the needs are the greatest. By 2030, 90% of the world’s extreme poverty will be in sub-Saharan Africa and as much as 50% in vulnerable areas affected by conflicts. At the ministerial meetings on 4 and 5 July 2019 ahead of the Biarritz Summit, we will therefore work on collective initiatives to support education systems in Sahel countries and support countries giving priority to equality between girls and boys in their education policies.

The momentum launched by the G7 will only be successful if we are able to mobilize broad support from the international community through major institutions of multilateralism and if we work in close partnership with Sahel countries to speak with one voice with them about these challenges. We have therefore invited international organizations working in development and education as well as important partners, first and foremost the G5 Sahel countries and Senegal. On 4 and 5 July, [for the first time] they will be at the G7 negotiating table and together we will prepare the Biarritz Summit.

Jean-Yves LE DRIAN
Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs
In 2019, France has the honour to preside the G7 devoted to fighting inequality. Education helps fight inequality at its roots and will be one of the major themes in discussions. To prepare the Summit of Heads of State and Government which will take place on 26 August 2019 in Biarritz, all of the G7 Education and Foreign Ministers will meet in Paris on 4 and 5 July, in close collaboration with international organizations, including UNESCO and the OECD.

The fight against educational inequalities begins at an early age. That is why the challenges of early schooling, a challenge facing all countries, will be at the heart of our discussions. Improved teacher training will be another central point, as it is the essential condition for raising students’ educational level and therefore of social justice. In this vein, girls' education and vocational training are subjects on which all countries must move forward in a spirit of cooperation. Finally, the fight against all forms of harassment will be a major focus of discussions because this scourge must disappear from our schools. Schools must work towards a society of trust based on respect for others.

“Openness” will be the watchword of these meetings: openness to invited countries, strengthening cooperation with developing countries, and the mobilization of civil society and schools. This openness will allow us to create the collective intelligence necessary to progress on projects essential to our societies’ advancement.

It is through the transmission of shared knowledge and values that we will build a more human world, where everyone will be master of their own destiny. I know that the discussions that we will have during G7 2019 will allow us to progress on this path.

Jean-Michel BLANQUER
Minister of National Education and Youth
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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

G7 Members

Germany

Mr. Gerd MÜLLER
Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development

Ms. Anja KARLICZEK
Federal Minister of Education and Research

Mr. Alexander Lorz
Hessian Minister of Education and Religious Affairs

Canada

Ms. Maryam MONSEF
Minister for International Development and Minister for Women and Gender Equality

Mr. Dominic CARDY
Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development in New Brunswick

Mr. Benoît ROBIDOU
Associate Deputy Minister for Employment and Social Development, Canada

Mr. Jean-François ROBERGE
Minister for Education and Higher Education of Quebec

United States of America

Mr. Mark GREEN
USAID Administrator

Ms. Maureen MCCLAUGHLIN
Senior Advisor to U.S. Secretary of Education & Director of International Affairs

France

Mr. Jean-Yves LE DRIAN
Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs
Mr. Jean-Michel BLANQUER  
Minister for National Education and Youth

Mr. Jean-Baptiste LEMOYNE  
Minister of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs

Italy

Ms. Emanuela Claudia DEL RE  
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Development

Mr. Lorenzo Fioramonti  
Vice-Minister for Education, University and Research

Japon

Ms. Toshiko ABE  
Minister of State attached to the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Mr. Masahiko Shibayama  
Minister for Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology

United Kingdom

M. Rory Stewart  
Minister of International Development

Ms. Harriett Baldwin  
Minister of State for Africa at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and Minister of State for International Development

Mr. Damian Hinds  
Secretary of State for Education

European Commission

Mr. Neven Mimica  
European Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development

Mr. Stefano Manservisi  
Director General for International Cooperation and Development

Ms. Themis Christophidou  
Director General for Education, Youth, Sport and Club
Members of the G5 Sahel

### Burkina Faso

**Mr. Lassané KABORE**  
Minister of Economy and Finance

**Mr. Stanislas OUARO**  
Minister for National Education and Literacy

### Chad

**M. Issa DOUBRAGNE**  
Minister of Economy, Planning and Development

**Mr. Aboubakar ASSIDICK TCHOROMA**  
Minister for National Education and Civic Promotion

### Mali

**Mme AOUA SYLLA**  
Ministre déléguée auprès du ministre de l'Economie et des Finances, chargée du Budget

**M. Témoré TIOULENTA**  
Ministre de l'Education nationale

### Mauritania

**Mr. El Moctar OULD DIAY**  
Minister of Economy and Finance

**Ms. Megboula MINT OULD BOURDID**  
Minister for National Education and Vocational Training

### Niger

**Ms. Aichatou Boulama KANE**  
Minister of Planning

**Mr. Daouda Mamadou MARTHÉ**  
Minister of Basic Education, in charge of Education

**Secrétariat permanent du G5 Sahel**

**Mr. Maman Sambo SIDIKOU**  
Permanent Secretary of the G5 Sahel
International Organisations

UNESCO
Ms. Audrey AZOULAY
Director General

African Development Bank
Mr. Khaled SHERIF
Vice President

World Bank
Ms. Kristalina GEORGIEVA
Director General

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
Mr. Ibrahim THIAW
Executive Secretary

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Mr. Gilbert HOUNGBO
President

Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)
Ms. Gabriela RAMOS
Chief of Staff at the Office of the OECD Secretary-General

World Health Organisation (WHO)
Ms. Michèle BOCCOZ
Director General Envoy for Multilateral Affairs

World Food Programme (WFP)
Ms. Ute KLAMERT
Assistant Executive Director

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Mr. Achim STEINER
Administrator
Special Guests

Argentina

Mr. Alejandro FINOCCHIARO
Minister for Education, Culture, Science and Technology

Estonia

Ms. Mailis REPS
Minister of Education and Research

Senegal

Mr. Mamadou TALLA
Minister of National Education

Singapour

Mr. Ye Kung ONG
Minister of Education

Other Participants

Ms. Alice ALBRIGHT
Chief Executive Officer of the Global Partnership for Education

Ms. Aranya JOHAR
Poet and Activist

Mr. Michael KAUFMAN
Writer, expert on education issues

Ms. Vanessa MOUNGAR
Director for Women, Gender and Civil Society at the African Development Bank
France has made the fight against inequality the focus of its G7 Presidency.

Three meetings on development and education in Paris on 4 and 5 July 2019, bringing together Ministers of G7 and European Union member countries, are among the last ministerial meetings to prepare the Biarritz Summit. In line with the French Presidency’s wish to open up the G7 to other stakeholders on the international stage, the Ministers will welcome representatives from non-G7 member countries, international organizations working in the sector and representatives of civil society.

The presence of G5 Sahel Ministers will give further clout to the priority the French Presidency has given Africa.

**Development Ministers Meeting (4 July 2019)**

On 4 July, Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, will welcome in Paris the Development Ministers of G7 countries that provide 75% of the world’s official development assistance (ODA) and the European Commissioner in charge of International Cooperation and Development.

This meeting will be devoted to the major development financing issues, two months ahead of the United Nations General Assembly’s review of progress made on the 2030 Agenda in fragile areas and the Sahel region.

Fragile areas, and the Sahel region in particular, will therefore be the focus of discussions at the meeting. The feeling that it is urgent to take action in the Sahel to prevent new crises from breaking out is unanimous, but action on the ground must also be rooted in a deep understanding of the current phenomena: they include the links between the lack of economic opportunities for young people and violence, and between trust in institutions and the lack of investment in education, health and nutrition that leave new generations in despair. Building on the work that was done at the Foreign Ministers Meeting in Dinard on the political and security aspects of the Sahel situation, participants at the meeting of 4 July will establish a tangible development agenda for the Sahel region.

With a view to overhauling the G7 format and engaging all stakeholders, the French Presidency has invited the major international organizations working in development (United Nations, World Bank, African Development Bank, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, World Health Organization) as well as G5 Sahel countries that will be invited for the first time to the negotiating table to endorse a joint communiqué with the G7.
Education Ministers Meeting (4 July 2019)

On 4 July, G7 Education Ministers will meet at the Centre International d’Études Pédagogiques in Sèvres, near Paris, which will be renamed “France International Education” on the same day. Fighting inequality will be seen in the joint desire of the G7 countries to promote education from the early years and take action to train high-quality teachers.

Scientific studies have shown the positive impact of formal education starting at three years of age both for language development and the emotional, cognitive and social development of children. With this in mind and in line with the conclusions of the 2018 G20 Summit, G7 countries have set the target of curbing social and geographical inequalities as early as possible and through education. The continuous effort for high-quality professional development for teachers through initial and continued training is also an essential condition for increasing education levels and levelling out inequality at school. The G7 Education Ministers and their development partners will therefore support teachers in their key role in ensuring success for every child.

Gender equality and the fight against gender stereotypes are also at the heart of States’ work. Three non-G7 member countries – Argentina, Estonia and Singapore whose participation helps to provide continuity with recent G20 multilateral work – will also be invited to the meeting and will be able to share their experience in educational innovation with G7 members. The G7 Education Ministers Meeting will also provide the opportunity for participants to announce the launch of an international coalition against bullying at school and the organization of an international conference in Paris in 2020 with the support of UNESCO, reinforcing the role of Paris in international reflection on education.

Education and Development Ministers Meeting (5 July 2019)

For the first time ever, G7 Development Ministers and Education Ministers will meet for a joint working day at UNESCO on 5 July 2019. When the international community adopted the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it committed to achieving the goal of quality education for all. At UNESCO, the lead UN agency for education, the G7 Ministers will reaffirm their commitment to this issue.

Significant progress has been made around the world since 2000 regarding education for girls, yet over half of sub-Saharan African countries have not achieved equal access to primary education for boys and girls. Even today, some 33% of girls do not have access to middle school and 57% do not go to high school.

Girls’ access to quality education and technical and vocational training ensuring access to socio-professional opportunities is vital to fighting inequality, including for G5 Sahel countries and Senegal which were invited to take part in our work.

Organized by the G7 French Presidency in collaboration with UNESCO, the conference will help showcase innovative initiatives and solutions to improve access for girls and women to quality education.

Concrete results are expected above and beyond observations. Pledges, proposals, innovative programmes for action for girls’ and women’s education will be announced by the various participants, States, international and non-governmental organizations and representatives from the private sector. Participants will also take stock of the data available and share recommendations and best practices.

To address the challenge of the 132 million girls who are still not enrolled in school, the French G7 Presidency would like to encourage collective recognition of issues but also of solutions within our remit, in order to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda to further girls’ education, women’s empowerment and gender equality.

Three major themes will be addressed: links between education, school infrastructure and nutrition and health; strengthening skills and access to employment through science and digital technology; and innovation to combat stereotypes.

Alongside G7 Ministers, African Education Ministers, heads of international organizations working in education, representatives of civil society, the private sector and young people will participate. Ms. Malala Yousafzai, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, will also speak.
PROGRAMME

Thursday 4 July

Development Ministers Meeting
Ministerial Conference Center (CCM)
27, rue de la Convention, Paris 75015

11h45 Official welcome of G7 delegations by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs at the entrance of the Ministerial Conference Centre (CCM) (Officials, visual media pool)

12h00 Working lunch: Innovation and financing for development (closed to the press)

14h00 Session 1 : Responding to fragilities and preventing crises (Photo spray : officials, visual media pool)

16h00 Press conference by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs (All accredited press)

16h30 Official welcome of G5 Sahel delegations by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs (Officials, visual media pool)

Family Photo (All accredited visual media)

17h00 Session 2 : G7 and G5 Sahel meeting on the major challenges to be raised in the Sahel region (Photo spray : officials, visual media pool)

19h30 Working dinner – Decent work for young people in rural areas of the Sahel (closed to the press)
Hôtel du ministre
Education Ministers Meeting

Centre International d’études pédagogiques (CIEP)

12h00  Welcome of Ministers by Mr Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister for National Education and Youth (All accredited visual media)

12h45  Opening – G7 Format (Photo spray)

13h30  Announcement of the coalition against bullying at school – Expanded G7 format (Closed to the press)

14h00  Family Photo – G7, then expanded G7 format (All accredited press)

14h15  Buffet lunch, opened by a student choir (Closed to the press)

14h45  Mock negotiations in G7 format by winning students (All accredited press)

15h15  Tour of the Digital Education Laboratory for Ministers (Open to press during the day)

15h45  Adoption of the joint declaration – Expanded G7 format (Closed to the press)

16h00  Family photo of competition winners (All accredited press)

17h00  Award ceremony organized by school districts “7 measures for fighting inequality”;

Press conference (All accredited press)
Friday 5 July

Education and Development Ministers Meeting

UNESCO

8h15 Official welcome of G7 delegations by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister for National Education and Youth, and Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO (*Officials, visual media pool, host broadcast*)

8h45 Session 1 : Fighting inequality through access to education and vocational training for girls (*Photo Spray : Officials, visual media pool*)

10h30 Official welcome of G5 Sahel Education Ministers, the Education Minister of Senegal, and the G5 Sahel Permanent Secretary by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister for National Education and Youth, and Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO (*Officials, visual media pool, host broadcast*)

10h45 Session 2 : Enhancing support for education in the Sahel (*Photo Spray : Officials, visual media pool*)

12h10 Family photos of G7, then G7 + G5 (*All accredited visual media, host broadcast*)

12h45 Press conference by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister for National Education and Youth (*All accredited press, host broadcast*)

13h15 Working lunch with young representatives from the Sahel and Senegal on the issues of education, vocational training, and girls’ access to education (*closed to the press*)
### International Conference « Innovating for Girls’ and Women’s Empowerment Through Education »

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>14h30</td>
<td>Opening remarks by Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister for National Education and Youth, and Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director General of UNESCO (all accredited press)</td>
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<td>15h15</td>
<td>Setting the scene: Evidence-based action</td>
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<td>15h30</td>
<td>Ensuring girls’ education by linking education, infrastructure, health and nutrition issues</td>
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<td>16h10</td>
<td>Enhancing life and work skills through science and technology</td>
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<td>16h30</td>
<td>Special guest: Ms. Malala YOUSAFZAI, Nobel Peace Prize Recipient</td>
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<td>16h40</td>
<td>Innovating to break stereotypes and educate young women as agents of change</td>
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<td>17h05</td>
<td>Unveiling of the fresco</td>
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Development Ministers Meeting (4 July 2019)

Working Lunch: Innovating and Financing for Development

There is a significant financial shortfall when it comes to meeting the sustainable development goals set out in the 2030 Agenda in developing countries. The aim of this first session will be to take an essential step towards each G7 country’s commitments to official development assistance (ODA), but also to explore how to mobilize additional funds for development, including by:

- Promoting methods to measure financial flows and make them more transparent, beyond the ODA figures, including those from emerging countries;
- Supporting the creation of standards to align public and private financial flows with the Sustainable Development Goals in order to create an incentive;
- Seeking innovative forms of financing which stress the importance of results and the impact of assistance, and which develop partnership approaches, such as a project for a development impact contract on the management of menstrual hygiene.

Session 1: Responding to Fragilities and Preventing Crises

The goal of this session will be to have the G7 and major partner international organizations (World Bank, UNDP, African Development Bank) commit to prioritizing their work in areas affected by structural fragilities in order to channel funds strategically to better prevent instability, social and community conflict, and even the outbreak of crises, including security crises.

This new model requires:

- Geographically re-allocating funds to the most fragile areas, including at infra-state level;
- Strengthening prevention and risk-analysis tools in fragile areas;
- Renewing methods, with the goal of building quicker and more targeted response capabilities but also of starting to genuinely share analyses and strategies among donors;
- Specific efforts from donors in building the institutional capacities of partner countries.

Session 2: G7 and G5 Sahel meeting on the major challenges to be raised in the Sahel region

At the heart of the 4 July agenda, this session will deal with specific issues of the Sahel, with the aim of building a new partnership between the G7 and the G5 Sahel, whose Ministers for the economy and cooperation (“Sahel Alliance focal points”) will be invited to the negotiating table. A joint communiqué will be endorsed, dealing with the following:
The consolidation of the Sahel Alliance which began in 2017 in order to coordinate the work of donors;

A shared assessment of the long-term trends which feed instability and insecurity in the region, including climate change and demographic pressures;

The renewal of Sahel partnerships between the G5 Sahel, the G7, whose countries provide 75% of global ODA, and major international organizations (United Nations Development Programme, African Development Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development, OECD, World Bank);

The expression of an ambition with a view to the upcoming replenishment of major multilateral funds (International Development Association, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria), with a call to increase the funds allocated to the most fragile countries, including those in the Sahel;

A commitment from G5 Sahel countries to enact essential reforms – particularly as regards mobilizing domestic resources and capacity building;

A commitment to increase investment in human development, which will be presented as an essential condition for growth and stability.

**Working Dinner: Decent work for young people in rural areas of the Sahel**

The G7 Ministers will complete their meeting on 4 July with a discussion on the theme of decent jobs for young people in rural areas, an essential issue for the Sahel region, where job opportunities for young people is a key issue with regard to demographic pressures in the African continent:

- It is essential to offer concrete alternatives to the young people of Africa, who sometimes have few prospects apart from the paths towards trafficking or extremism;
- Creating jobs in rural areas is also a key response to the issue of food insecurity.

A shared framework for G7 donors in this sector was drawn up with the three Rome-based organizations (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme) and will be presented at this working dinner.
The Education Ministers meeting will focus on two issues at the heart of the declaration to be adopted by the Ministers after the meeting:

- The importance of early schooling as a means of combating educational inequality from the earliest age, which is a major issue facing all States. In this context, the key challenge is to address the emotional security, fulfilment and language development needs of very young children in school, in order to foster learning and prepare the acquisition of fundamental knowledge: how to read, write, count and respect others;
- The quality of teacher training, which is an essential condition to improve education levels and combat inequality. In this area, the key is to provide high-quality initial and continued training and to address the new challenges of society (educating informed citizens, getting pupils more involved with new technologies, successfully educating special-needs children).

Mr. Jean-Michel Blanquer, Minister for National Education and Youth, will announce the launch of a coalition against bullying at school. A project for a common commitment from the G7 countries identifying 10 steps to combat bullying at school will be submitted for the approval of Ministers. UNESCO could be invited to organize an international conference on this issue in Paris in 2020.

Furthermore, two projects will be proposed to the G7 countries:

- A large-scale assessment of teaching practices
- Interconnecting social groups to include the entire educational community (teachers, administrative personnel), which could be entrusted to the OECD.

In line with the G7’s efforts to include civil society, the Ministry of National Education and Youth offered to organize mock G7 negotiations in schools centred on the theme of fighting inequality. Over 60 meetings have been held in school districts in recent weeks and seven projects will be presented to the Ministers on 4 July in Sèvres.
Session 1: Fighting inequality through access to education and vocational training for girls

With the aim of encouraging equal access to education for girls and boys and equal opportunities for all, the G7 will adopt the “Gender at the Centre” initiative, to support all actors from national education systems helping to achieve this goal. This initiative will help improve and entrench consideration for gender equality in educational policies and practices in sub-Saharan African countries.

In Africa, over 10 million young people enter the labour market each year. This number is estimated to increase to 30 million by 2030. The development of high-quality technical and vocational training is an effective way to help youth employment in line with the needs of the individuals, economies and territories concerned. The G7 members will draw up a charter to better include the issue of technical and vocational training in their cooperation strategies and will commit to providing a response to these challenges by drawing on the expertise of civil society and international partners. On both these issues, the assessments and approaches of the G7 will be shared with the G5 Sahel countries and Senegal.

Session 2: Enhancing support for education in the Sahel

During a joint G7 - G5 Sahel working session, the Ministers of the G5 Sahel and Senegal will present the challenges which they generally have in common and which their educational systems must tackle: teacher recruitment and training to meet the demands of ever-increasing numbers of young people, improving the quality of teaching so that children will learn the basics, providing educational services in conflict-affected areas, equality between girls and boys at school and consideration of this issue in educational policies, then strengthening of technical and vocational education and developing innovative, including digital solutions.

Ministers from the G7, G5 Sahel and Senegal will discuss solutions to be implemented.

Working Lunch with young representatives from the Sahel and Senegal to discuss challenges in education, vocational training, and girl access to education

G7 and African Ministers will also have the opportunity to share their analyses and talk with young people from the six invited countries to voice the expectations of young people during a working lunch.
This international meeting will allow the G7 countries and the invited countries, international organizations and civil society representatives to highlight concrete and innovative initiatives to bring to the fore governments and organizations which promote equal access for girls to a full and high-quality schooling. It will lead to strong commitments to promote genuine gender equality throughout their lives. Within the framework of the priorities for the French Presidency of the G7, this conference will enable States, international organizations, civil society and private stakeholders to collaborate to increase the equality between girls and boys through education and to continue doing so through fairer and more inclusive development.
Environmental and social responsibility is a key priority for the French G7 Presidency.

The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs has worked to obtain the AFNOR “Equality at a major event” label and comply with the ISO 20121 standard for the G7 Development and Education Ministers Meetings on 4 and 5 July, having been granted these certifications for the G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting in April 2019.

Where sustainable development is concerned, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs commits to combating all forms of inequality, limiting the environmental impact of the event, and creating sustainable momentum, while seeking to ensure lasting implementation of the best practices put in place by the Ministry and its contractors. These three priorities, with the central value of sustainability, will be achieved through tangible efforts during the event: reduced use of single-use plastic items, better waste management, accessibility to people with disabilities, and offsetting of greenhouse gas emissions.

The certification demonstrates the effort made to incorporate the gender equality dimension into the overall organization of the event (content of work, involvement of high-level female figures, human and material organization and communication).

It is also a major commitment by this Ministry, which received the AFNOR “Occupational equality” certification on 23 October 2017.

As such, all stakeholders at this event may send any remarks or observations to the following email address: egalite.sg.g7@elysee.fr