



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ABUJA PRESS RELEASE

FME COLLABORATES WITH ONE.ORG TO CURB OUT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN MENACE

Federal Ministry of Education and Civil Society Action Coalition on Education otherwise known as 'One.Org' are joining efforts to curb the menace of out of school children in Nigeria, especially the girl-child.

Speaking during an interactive meeting with "One. Org" officials who paid him a courtesy visit in his Office on Monday, March 6, 2017, said that every supportive effort to end the menace will be welcomed. He added that efforts had always been made to put an end to this menace.

Such initiatives include School Feeding programmes, establishment of almajiri schools, capacity building for Mothers on the need to educate their wards, Safe School Initiative, amongst others.

The Minister, who was represented by the Director, Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jonathan Mbaakaa, stated that government cannot do it alone; and all hands must be on deck to end the menace.

The leader of the delegation and Deputy Director, Africa, Ms Nachilala Nkombo commended the various efforts by the government to curtail out-of-school children, especially the girl-child.

She said her organization is willing to collaborate with the Ministry to fight the menace, saying that their aim is to get more girls back to school.

She further stated that accurate Data are needed to be able to know the number of out of school children in the conflicts zones and others. This according to her will help to create more support and interventions to get more girls to school.

Ms. Nkombo noted that Out of School Children is partly as a result of poverty. This is even as she added that advocacy should be targeted more at the state level to make education work for every girl child by 2030.

She challenged all female staff of the Ministry, especially those at the Directorate Cadre to be role model to the girl-child.

"You couldn't be where you are today without a good education. But because poverty is sexist, 130 million girls across the world are denied this basic right. Indeed, if the number of girls out of schools formed a country, it would be the largest on the planet bigger than Japan or Germany," she noted.

