

B2. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE, INCLUDING REVERSING THE BRAIN DRAIN

(ii) Bridging The Education Gap

117. Objectives

- To work with donors and multilateral institutions to ensure that the IDG of achieving universal primary education by 2015 is realised;
- To work for improvements in curriculum development, quality improvements and access to ICT;
- To expand access to secondary education and improve its relevance to Africa's development;
- To promote networks of specialised research and higher education institutions.

118. Actions

- Review current initiatives jointly with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and other major international donors;
- Review levels of expenditure on education by African countries, and lead the process of developing norms and standards for government expenditure on education;
- Set up a task force to accelerate the introduction of ICT in primary schools;
- Set up a task force to review and put forward proposals for the research capacity needed in each region of the continent.

119. The key problems in education in Africa are the poor facilities and inadequate systems under which the vast majority of Africans receive their training. Africans who have had the opportunity of obtaining training elsewhere in the world have demonstrated their ability to compete successfully.

120. The plan supports the immediate strengthening of the university system across Africa, including the creation of specialised universities where needed, building on available African

teaching staff. The need to establish and strengthen institutes of technology is especially emphasised.