

**Vernor Muñoz Statement on occasion of the UN Virtual Consultation of the revised draft  
(Rev. 2) of the Pact for the Future  
31 July 2024**

Thank you chair,

The Education & Academia Stakeholder Group and the Global Campaign for Education would like to thank you for this opportunity. At the same time, we would like to congratulate the co-facilitators for their work and dedication.

Our comments cannot ignore some perceptions about the process that has brought us here and the decisions that supported it.

It is, first of all, paradoxical that the draft Pact for the Future considers inclusion as the path to a brighter future, while in the preparatory process of the Summit, the participation of civil society frequently encountered barriers.

We must all make an effort to overcome tokenistic approaches and take steps to ensure the meaningful participation of civil society in all relevant and pertinent UN processes, so that in the end, we will have a tool with the necessary acumen to call for the implementation of public policies in all member states.

We regret that the new draft has failed to incorporate the right to education and lifelong learning in a substantive manner in all actions. We have insisted on this matter not out of useless vanity, but because we are convinced that no development process can be achieved without education from early childhood.

The weakening of educational obligations in the document may have a regressive effect, as the sustainability of the development agenda can only be ensured by building knowledge and values offered by lifelong learning in inclusive contexts.

It will be very difficult to transform global governance and, even more so, to achieve international peace and security if the structural causes are not addressed through education.

Revision 2 of the Pact for the Future contains elements of enormous importance. We particularly highlight the call for tax justice, which aligns with the process of adopting the UN Tax Convention, hopefully in the coming months.

Finally, we call for reforms of the UN and the international financial architecture not to succumb to corporate greed but instead to strengthen the responsibilities of states in all policy and political spaces. We must raise the alarm against the ongoing corporate takeover of international governance spaces and demand a courageous and vigilant attitude from political and diplomatic representatives. We will be pleased to stand with you in this fight.