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Ministry of Finance, Planning &
Economic Development,
P.O Box 8147
Kampala, Uganda

7th December, 2021

The Permanent Secretary,
Ministry of Education and Sports,
KAMPALA.

FUNDING THE PLAN FOR SAFE RE-OPENING OF SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS AFTER COVID-19 LOCKDOWN

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter Ref. ED192/335/01 dated 30th November 2021 in which you requested this Ministry to release UShs. 62.7bn to paint classrooms and administrative blocks as well as UShs. 2.1bn to develop an abridged curriculum, as part of the preparations for re-opening of schools.

Whereas the need for painting and development of an abridged curriculum is appreciated, as part of the preparations for safe reopening of schools, it may not be possible to provide any additional funding in form of a supplementary in the remaining period before the schools open. This is because we have already surpassed the 3% supplementary budget limit allowable under the PFMA, 2015. In this circumstance, therefore, any additional funding, in form of a supplementary, must be approved by Cabinet and Parliament.

In view of the above, you are advised as follows:

- i) Consider advising Local Government Accounting Officers to use part of the **UShs. 113.64bn** which was earlier released for capitation grant. As you are aware, the funds have not yet been utilized because the schools were closed. Furthermore, your Ministry advised Local Government Accounting Officers, in a circular letter Ref. EPD 192/335/01 dated 7th October, 2021, not to spend the money until they are advised otherwise. This is the appropriate time for you to advise all Local Government Accounting Officers to utilize these funds for preparing schools to re-open next month;
- ii) Given that the funds already released for Capitation Grant constitute a conditional grant, you are advised to issue a circular to all Local Government Accounting Officers, providing an

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adjustment to the Education Capitation Grant Guidelines, to enable them use the funds for this purpose in line with Section 83(3) of the Local Governments Act Cap 243;

- iii) This Ministry will expedite the release of additional funds to Local Governments, which had been prepared for release in January 2022, within the Capitation Grant Budget already appropriated by Parliament for FY 2021/22. Please urgently advise of any additional Capitation Grant Release, you may require, to facilitate urgent release; and
- iv) With respect to the funding requirement of US\$ 2.1bn to cater for the development of an abridged curriculum to pave way for safe re-opening of schools, you are advised to finance this obligation, through reallocation, under your budget clearly observing the provisions of the law. We await your urgent action on this as well.

The purpose of this letter, therefore, is to advise you as above and to request you to expedite the advise on the Education Capitation requirement for the reopening. This Ministry is ready to provide the necessary support that you may require, to accomplish these transactions in time for a safe re-opening of schools.



Ramathan Ggoobi

PERMANENT SECRETARY/SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY

- C.C : The First Lady and Hon. Minister of Education and Sports.
: The Hon. Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.
: All Hon. Ministers of State, MOFPED.
: The Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister.
: The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government.

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