



MINISTRY OF GENDER LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON CASH TRANSFER TO TEACHERS
IN PRIVATE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

JANUARY 2022

Rt. Hon. Speaker to Parliament
Hon. Colleagues,

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Following the successful implementation of the COVID-19 cash transfer to persons whose daily income was disrupted by COVID-19 lockdown in KCCA, Cities and Municipalities from July to September 2021, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) was approached by GiveDirectly (GD)- an international NGO with additional funds to support other vulnerable persons disrupted by COVID-19 containment measures. After consultations with several stakeholders including the Office of the Prime Minister and Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), a decision was reached to target teachers in private primary and secondary schools.

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Colleagues, teachers in private schools were rendered vulnerable since March 2020 when COVID-19 forced a nationwide “lockdown”. While the vast majority of sectors fully or partially reopened and many people returned to work during the period, the education sector remained closed. By the time schools started reopening on 10th January 2022, teachers in private primary and secondary schools had missed income for close to two years, which made it difficult for them to provide for their families. Even when they have returned to school, they still face challenges.

- 1.2 Rt. Hon Speaker and Honourable Members, GiveDirectly, is an international NGO that focuses on poverty alleviation and humanitarian relief through cash transfers. You may recall that operations of GiveDirectly were suspended in September 2020, following concerns that were raised by the NGO Bureau. This is to inform you that the suspension on operations of GiveDirectly was lifted by the NGO Bureau in November 2021.

2.0 THE CASH TRANSFER PROGRAM

- 2.1 Colleagues, this cash relief program will support 300,000 teachers across the Country and each teacher will receive UGX100,000 net. Government of Uganda in partnership with GiveDirectly have

earmarked UGX 30Bn for teachers and UGX 844Mn for taxes, plus sending and withdrawal fees.

2.2 The objectives of the cash transfer program to teachers in private primary and secondary schools are:

- i. to provide temporary cash relief to the teachers in private primary and secondary schools whose income sources were disrupted by COVID-19 containment measures for close to 2 years;
- ii. to support the teachers as they return to the classroom; and
- iii. to foster collaboration between the Government of Uganda and Civil Society in addressing the negative impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable people.

2.3 Colleagues, the teachers eligible for this program are those that fit the following criteria:

- i. are not on Government payroll;
- ii. are duly registered or licenced by the Ministry of Education and Sports or have proof of submission of application for registration/licencing;
- iii. were already teaching in a school **licenced or registered** by the Ministry of Education and Sports;
- iv. did not benefit from the June - September 2021 GoU COVID-19 cash relief program; and
- v. have a mobile money account registered in their name.

2.4 Process of Data Upload into the Online Data Collection System;

- i. As per the Online Data Collection System process, the Headteachers are responsible for creating the school accounts, through which the beneficiary teachers' information is submitted. Registration is done through the Online Data Collection System (<https://cashrelief.mglisd.go.ug>) by capturing the Headteacher's personal details plus the respective School information which includes; the School Name, EMIS/License Number, Physical Address, Level (Primary or Secondary) and Administrative Unit.
- ii. On completion of the school registration process, the Headteachers are then required to upload their teachers' personal details (Name, NIN, School Name, Administrative Unit Gender and Phone Number) onto the MoGLSD Online Data Collection System.

- iii. Upon upload, the data is transmitted to the Education Officers in charge of the Districts, KCCA Divisions, Cities or Municipalities for recommendation.
- iv. Upon recommendation, the data is conveyed to the Chief Administrative Officers or Town Clerks who after confirmation, forward it to the Commissioner Private Schools and Institutions, Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES).
- v. The Commissioner, MoES then endorses the data which is then conveyed to the Permanent Secretary, MoGLSD.
- vi. The Permanent Secretary, MoGLSD is responsible for final approval and payment through the mobile money (MTN and Airtel) platforms.

3.0 PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CASH TRANSFERS

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Colleagues, the following progress has been made in implementation of the program;

- i. An Inter-Ministerial Oversight Technical Committee with membership from MoGLSD, MoES, OPM, MoLG, MoIA, ISO, MoJCA, and NITA-U) was constituted and is overseeing implementation of the Program.
- ii. The MoGLSD has issued a Circular providing implementation guidelines to the KCCA Executive Director, Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) and Town Clerks;
- iii. The MoGLSD Online Data Collection System has been upgraded with support from the National Information Technology Authority- Uganda (NITA-U) to facilitate efficient collection, verification and transmission of the data required. All users such as Headteachers, Education Officers, CAOs/TCs have been trained on the use of the system and data collection has commenced;
- iv. **As at 7:20pm, 31st January 2022, one thousand four hundred thirty-three (1,433) Headteachers/schools had submitted 11,531 teachers out of the targeted 300,000 beneficiaries across the Country.**
- v. Arrangements have been concluded with the Telecoms (MTN and Airtel), through which the successfully verified beneficiaries will be paid.

- 3.1 Colleagues, information from the different Local Governments shows the following as reasons for the low submissions: -
- a. Some teachers in private schools are not registered by the Ministry of Education and Sports and therefore not eligible for the cash relief;
 - b. Also, some teachers are part-timers in various private schools, and they include some of those already on Government payroll;
 - c. The activity coincided with the school reopening program across the Country and a number of education stakeholders had split commitment to the project;
 - d. Lack of digital skills by some of the Head Teachers; and
 - e. Lack of and or poor internet connection in some remote areas.
- 3.2 In view of the above, the following recommendations have been proposed by the Technical Oversight Committee:
- a) Intensify mobilization of beneficiaries and other stakeholders;
 - i. Radio announcements on 10 regional stations have commenced, to call upon Headteachers to embrace the program and upload more beneficiary data;
 - ii. Mobilization of Headteachers, DEOs/CEOs/MEOs as well as CAOs and TCs through MoES and MoLG, Telephone Calls and emails.
 - b) Commence the payment process on Friday 28th January 2022 with beneficiary data that will have been processed through the system;
 - c) Relax some of the criteria for beneficiary selection as proposed below:
 - Teachers in Vocational Training Institutions and Health Training Institutions be added in the category of eligible beneficiaries.
 - The net amount for each beneficiary be adjusted upwards from UGX100,000 to UGX200,000.
 - The total beneficiary target number for the relief package be adjusted to 150,000 teachers and selection be on a first come, first served basis.

4.0 CONCLUSION

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Colleagues, I would like to request you to mobilize the Headteachers in your Constituencies to upload data of eligible teachers onto the Online Data Collection System, to enable them benefit from this cash relief intervention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Amongi Ongom', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amongi Betty Ongom (MP)

MINISTER OF GENDER, LABOUR, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT