

VIDEO MESSAGGIO DEL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO IN OCCASIONE DEL GLOBAL EDUCATION MEETING 2020

(22 ottobre 2020)

Excellencies,
Distinguished guests,

I am honoured to join you today in this “extraordinary session” of the Global Education Meeting.

“Extra- ordinary” as unfortunately has been the disruption in the access to education caused by the pandemic all over the world.

“Extra-ordinary” as has to be the response of the global community to the risk of a “generational catastrophe” and the commitment we all shall undertake not to miss the opportunity of a “new beginning”: let’s build back better – also, and especially, in the interest of our youth and of our children.

Italy wishes to express its gratitude to UNESCO’s leadership for reacting in the earliest phase of the pandemic to keep the international attention high on education and to remind all of the key goal to preserve continuity in learning activities worldwide.

The global educational crisis calls now more than ever for strengthened international coordination.

We fully share the priorities for our collective action in the education sector as outlined in the GEM 2020 Declaration. They are indeed in line with the policies recently enacted by the Italian Government. Schools and education will be a key element of our National recovery plan, in coherence with the main objectives of the Next Generation EU.

By focusing on People, Planet and Prosperity, the upcoming Italian G20 Presidency will support the development of innovative, effective solutions for a sustainable and inclusive economic recovery from the pandemic.

Quality education will be also one of the pillars of our Presidency: we intend to promote the global right to access to quality education as a way to bridge the divides and reduce inequalities, building more prosperous and just societies.

We look forward to working with UNESCO to achieve these goals and to continue our endeavor to implement the Agenda 2030. We all need to support countries where poverty, conflicts and natural catastrophes continue to deprive hundreds of millions of the right to education. We should reactivate a virtuous circle where education is the key to economic progress, sustainable development and lasting peace.

Let's work together and take bold steps now, to create inclusive, resilient, quality education systems fit for the future of our next generations.

Thank you.