



# CHILD FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

## GOVERNMENT VOICES ON CHILD-FRIENDLY SCHOOLS (CFS)

"I am launching a worldwide fundraising Campaign for Schools in Africa led by the Nelson Mandela Foundation, UNICEF and the Hamburg Society for the Promotion of Democracy and International Law. The funds raised will support the creation of child-friendly schools in South Africa, Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda and Zimbabwe. The schools will focus on improving access specifically for girls, orphans and vulnerable children. So much is already being done to improve the life opportunities for children in Africa. This campaign will enhance and strengthen those efforts."

*Nelson Mandela, Nobel Peace Laureate and former President of South Africa, December 2004*

"The education methods of child-friendly schools are a form of quality education in China, designed to empower children and allow them to develop in a well-rounded and holistic manner."

*Zheng Zengyi, Senior Official, Chinese Ministry of Education, September 2006*

"Following the successful practices and experiences derived from child-friendly schools, we have realized their great potential in addressing key challenges within our education system. The government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Education, is planning to scale up the model and transform all nine-year basic education schools into child-friendly schools."

*Theoneste Mutsindashaka, State Minister of Education of Rwanda and CFS Champion, May 2009*

"The child-friendly school model encompasses a number of initiatives that the Ministry is pursuing under the Transformation Programme and we are pleased with the high level of support that UNICEF continues to provide as we seek to realize our vision for education in Jamaica."

*Andrew M. Holness, MP, Minister of Education of Jamaica and CFS Champion, February 2009*

"Indeed the concept of child-friendly schools is of great importance, particularly in developing countries, which are still struggling with the provision of quality and adequate infrastructure to create conducive learning environments. The concept was introduced in Kenya in 2002 in sampled districts. Recent evaluation has shown that child-friendly schools have had a positive impact in schools in these districts. As a result, Kenya is now implementing the initiative countrywide."

*Sam K. Onger, Minister of Education of Kenya and CFS Champion, May 2009*

"UNICEF and the Department of Education should now work together on integrating the key elements of the child-friendly school approaches into the school system, particularly in the regular teacher in-service training programmes of the Department, as teachers hold an important role in the holistic development of a child."

*Jesli Lopus, Secretary of the Department of Education in the Philippines, March 2009*