

TO ALL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Brussels, 3 December 2015

Re: Membership of the Global Response Network.

Dear Colleagues,

As you are aware, the increasing commercialisation and privatisation in and of education was a topic that attracted significant attention at the 7th World Congress of Education International (EI), which took place between 21-26 July in Ottawa, Canada.

Noting the dimension and the threat to students, teachers, education support personnel and quality public education for all posed by the ongoing commercialisation and privatisation in and of education, the World Congress resolved that we need a global response.

Whilst this carries on from EI's existing work on privatisation and Member Organisation national campaigns focused on privatisation, the *Global Response to the Commercialisation and Privatisation in and of Education* aims to draw these efforts together with a view to delivering a stronger more focused response by harnessing our collective energy and influence.

The *Global Response*, aims to put the spotlight on the engagement of education corporations in various aspects of education governance as well as the sale and provision of for-profit education and education services, such as standardised testing, curricula and teacher evaluation tools and support for the introduction and expansion of *Low Fee For-Profit Schools*.

It seeks specifically to advocate against the expansion of profit-making in education where it undermines the right of all students to free quality education, creates and entrenches inequalities in education, undermines the working conditions and rights of teachers and other education workers, and erodes democratic decision-making and public accountability in relation to education governance.

At its meeting in November 2015, the Executive Board of Education International established the **Global Response Network**.

The aim of the Global Response Network is to inform the further development and implementation of the *Global Response* through a better understanding of and solidarity across Member Organisations in the implementation of national and global campaigns.

The Global Response Network will be predominantly an online forum. It will meet face-to-face at least once a year for as long as it exists.

Should you wish to join the Global Response Network please respond by forwarding to globalresponse@ei-ie.org the contact details (including email) of a representative from your organisation along with a brief description of your current campaign efforts aimed at tackling the commercialisation and privatisation in and of education.

Yours sincerely,

Fred van Leeuwen

General Secretary