

National Teachers' Association of Liberia

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NTAL Response to Gold Sponsorship – NO BIA Participation

Education World Forum – Bridge International Academics to be Gold Sponsor Unbelievable

It is unbelievable that the World Education Forum will have Bridge International Academics (BIA) to serve as Gold Sponsor for this unique occasion when research in Uganda, Kenya and Liberia reveal that BIA are providing and encouraging for profit education to the poorest countries.

Our own fact finding in Liberia has proven the direct opposite of what BIA proclaims to carry out during their interactions with education stakeholders. They are providing education of poor quality employing under qualified teachers who work for long hours without extra compensation.

They are using substandard curricula and thus refused to allow anyone access to their tablets since they know that they will be exposed to public ridicule when they allow more education stakeholders to have access to their instructional materials.

Teachers in BIA Schools in Bomi, Grand Bassa and Nimba counties have to strike for days up to two weeks to draw the Government attention to the non-payment of their salaries by BIA between 3 to 6 months before some got half of their arrears. There are some that have not received a month salary since they were hired last September 2016.

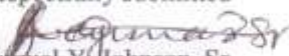
The Pilot Project in Liberia have denied several students equal access to public education and thus increasing the over-crowdedness of nearby schools. The tablets can't be charged for whole week as a result no new lesson comes from their headquarters therefore; the teachers revert to the conventional teaching method while awaiting new lessons. Students are being house in Make Shift Structures in some communities like Cinta in Margibi and Nimba counties where they compel parents to contribute towards the construction of those annexes.

With the result from Kenya and Uganda that Mr. George K. Werner used as a shining examples to imposed BIA on the Liberian education sector and now that it has proven opposite in those two countries and with their poor performance here in Liberia, we are totally opposed to their operation in our public schools encouraging the Ministry of Education to dismissed qualified trained teachers and replaced them with under qualified and newly recruited teachers.

BIA is an organization that is engaged in profiteering business in education targeting the poor in violation of our constitution and the revised education law of August 8, 2011; therefore they stand no moral ground to participate as a sponsor in an important meeting like the Education World Forum.

We at NTAL strongly condemn and opposed the participation of BIA in this forum and are asking the organizers not to accept Bridge International Academics as one of their sponsors.

Respectfully submitted


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Motto: Education Pays