**K-19 Task Force**

**Minutes of Meeting, 11:00, March 13, 2024**

**Online via Microsoft Teams**

**Agenda**

Setting an Agenda

Membership: Enlarging the Conversation

Strengthening the Position of the Task Force through Collaborations

**Attending**

Behar Ali, Emma Organization for Human Development

Dr. Galawezh Obaid Othman, Education Committee

Dr. Naznaz Muhamad, Education Committee

Dr. Randall Rhodes, American University of Kurdistan

Shelan Khalil, Ministry of Education

Dr. Soran Saeed, Kurdistan Technical Institute (Sulaimani)

Vida Hanna, Catholic University of Erbil (CUE)

Dr. Zana Ibrahim, University of Kurdistan, Hewler (UKH)

**Meeting was called to order at 11:03**

The completion of the booklet on the TF’s progress was mentioned. It will be going to the printing house. As suggested, 500 copies will be printed. They will be brought to the next in-person meeting of the TF for distribution. In the meanwhile, members can disseminate the digital version, which will be sent to TF members along with these minutes.

It is a good time to reassess the structure of membership and think about expanding participation to include more regional experts who can help in identifying issues of concern, formulating recommendations, and collectively lobbying on behalf of change.

Regarding the expansion of the conversation circle, comments included:

* Devise single-issue meetings where “experts” will be invited to present their research, data, and recommendations.
* Invite greater participation from representatives/administrators of universities (public, private with education and related disciplines) and NGOs active in the educational sector (Vision Education, MERI, UNESCO, etc.).
* Contact regional research centers to present their current projects, collected data, research and publications, and initiatives.
* From these inputs from experts, determine whether to continue with the current issues of concern or elect new directions.
* Once experts across all sectors are identified, send out a survey to gather contact information on those interested in partnering, as well as on their perspectives on the most pressing education-related problems in the region.
* Think broadly in regard to the definition of education-related experts; for example, if the TF is interested in early childhood and adolescent development, then experts in psychology and gender would be important for the discussion.

A draft of a survey will be developed and disseminated along with these minutes. Members are asked to edit and add questions as required. Members are also asked to share lists of the intended recipients of the survey. The more the better. The survey will be sent out after Nawroz. Recipients will have two weeks to respond. Then, the TF will have another online meeting to review and discuss the inputs.

It was agreed that the next meeting be online. At that meeting, the TF will identify the agenda for the next meeting by identifying a discussion topic, speakers, etc. Due to the holidays, that session will probably be scheduled for the latter half of April.

**Meeting adjourned: 11:35**