

SHE ALSO ATTENDED A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY MRS MELANIA TRUMP IN HONOUR OF THE FIRST LADIES

By Vision Reporter

While in New York on the sidelines of the 72nd United Nations General Assembly last week, the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Mrs. Janet Museveni, attended a number of meetings that focused on financing education to ensure that all children access and attain quality education.

On September 20, she held a meeting with the chairperson board of directors of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) former Austrian prime minister Julian Gillard.

According to a release from the minister's office, the two talked about the \$100m (sh350b) Global Partnership for Education (GPE) grant for Uganda that comes to an end in 2019 and the possible opportunity to trigger another partnership between the Global Partnership for Education and Uganda under the 2020-2030 Education Plan.

Mrs. Museveni appreciated the support rendered by the Global Partnership for Education towards the strengthening of education systems in Uganda and enabling the Ministry of Education and Sports to achieve its goals.

She said the current GPE grant projects in the education sector are on track and progressing smoothly and she is optimistic that they will all be coming to a beautiful conclusion by next year and the country will be ready to immediately start implementing the projects under the other \$100m (sh350b) that Uganda has been granted and which have to be completed in 2019.

Mrs. Museveni said Uganda is willing to work with any partner agency that the Global Partnership for Education will appoint. Currently, the World

First Lady attends education financing meetings in New York



Mrs. Janet Museveni (in blue jacket) listening to Gordon Brown (second-left) during a high-level meeting on Education Cannot Wait in New York. Left is the director of Education Cannot Wait, Yasmine Sherif. PPU photo

Bank is the GPE Grant Agency for Uganda.

Gillard emphasised the need for Uganda to develop a high-quality evidence-based plan which can trigger a major grant. She advised that dialogue and planning for the 2020 Education grant should start before the current grant comes to completion, so as not to lose time for implementation of projects that would have been approved.

The GPE board chair was accompanied to the meeting by Wenna Price, a specialist

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ Mrs. Museveni attended another high-level meeting about Financing the Future Education 2030.

in education at the GPE Secretariat in New York and Sally Anne Henfy the Deputy Chief of Staff and Advisor to the board chair.

Relatedly, the First Lady also attended a high-level meeting of the International Commission on Financing

Global Education Opportunity (Education Commission) that advocates for the need for greater financing for education to ensure that every child in the world is in school and learning by 2030.

The meeting chaired by UN Special Envoy for Global Education and former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown was attended by among others the prime minister of Norway Erna Solberg and former president of Tanzania Jakaya Kikwete.

the Education Commission officials that Uganda appreciates the LAB approach which identifies priorities for reform and develops focused, inclusive and realistic implementation plans that support disciplined execution with clear lines of accountability. She added that a taskforce has already been set up to oversee the preliminary activities, among which are procurement of LAB consultants, collection of data to inform the LAB approach.

documents, identification of LAB participants and drawing the LAB budget.

"Through the LAB methodology, the education sector will prioritise and ensure implementation of the interventions that will lead to fast transformation in education and achievement of the agenda 2030 targets," she said.

The Education Commission pledged continued co-operation with Uganda and support for the implementation of the Learning Generation LAB approach so as to secure every child's right to quality education in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 4 ("inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all").

While in the US, Mrs. Museveni attended another high-level meeting about Financing the Future of Education 2030 which was also addressed by the United Nations General Secretary Antonio Guterres, the presidents of France Emmanuel Macron and of Senegal Mackay Sall among others. Mrs. Museveni was also one of the delegates at the meeting on HIV/AIDS organised by Michel Sidibe executive director, UNAIDS and co-hosted by Uganda at the UN headquarters.

She also attended a luncheon hosted by Mrs Melania Trump in honour of the First Ladies at