

## February 2010: Easy learning exercise

**72 million** children in the world are still denied access to basic education. **Over half** of them live in conflict-affected or fragile states.

Between **2004 and 2007** aid to education **fell**.

On current levels of progress, by 2015 there will still be **56 million** children out of school.

The best international mechanism for coordinating education aid is the **Fast Track Initiative**.

But the Fast Track Initiative has major problems: it has **failed to raise additional money for education** and it **does not work effectively in conflict-affected and fragile states**.

To achieve increases in aid to education, and to ensure that education can be delivered in conflict-affected and fragile states, **reform of the FTI** is essential.

At the upcoming FTI Board Meeting on the **11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February**, the UK should **push for ambitious reform** including:

- Creating a **representative and experienced ‘Transitional Working Group’** to guide the reform process; and
- Tackling the **financing question**, including setting a much **larger target for how much money the reformed initiative should attract**.