RESOLUTION ON COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

The Fourth World Congress of Education International, meeting in Porto Alegre (Brazil) from 22 to 26 July 2004:

1. **Acknowledges** that schools are not separate from communities and should have close cooperation and harmony. Communities have exceptional abilities for appraising, analysing and planning their educational needs and schools must be able to address the needs;

2. **Believes** that sense of community alienation in education of children brings a sense of disconnection from educational process and disrupts educational socialisation or acculturation of education;

3. **Believes** that community involvement does not mean that states deviate from their responsibilities of providing education for their children;

4. **Rejects** appointment of low quality para-teachers, volunteer teachers, part time or contract teachers with lowest possible salary in the name of community involvement;

5. **Accepts** that community has a value and that it must be reflected in education in scope, content, organisation, discipline and delivery and must encourage the sense of roots, responsibility and ownership;

6. **Recommends** building community approaches and methods for supporting lifelong educational needs.

7. **Urges member organisations:**
   - to accept and acknowledge their accountability towards the objectives community approaches;
   - to build institutional ability and commitment to respond to community needs;
   - to strengthen their ability to respond to the needs of parents and local community and deal with media and social organisations with appropriate accountability and transparency.

8. **Urges EI Executive Board** to establish a policy on community education to foster community involvement in all aspects of education;

9. **Urges governments:**
   - to support local communities with knowledge, skill, resources and orientation to be involved in their children's schooling;
   - not to respond to weak and failed central authority by promoting community involvement.