

May 4, 2018

**Od:** Omar Arias <oarias@worldbank.org>  
**Do:** p.griffin@unimelb.edu.au <p.griffin@unimelb.edu.au>, bethking1818@gmail.com <bethking1818@gmail.com>, hladd@duke.edu <hladd@duke.edu>, zbimar@mimuw.edu.pl <zbimar@mimuw.edu.pl>, Silvia Montoya <s.montoya@unesco.org>, Karen Mundy <kmundy@globalpartnership.org>, Richard Murnane@harvard.edu <Richard\_Murnane@harvard.edu>, richard\_murnane@gse.harvard.edu <richard\_murnane@gse.harvard.edu>, mszekely@prodigy.net.mx <mszekely@prodigy.net.mx>, caine.rolleston@qeh.ox.ac.uk <caine.rolleston@qeh.ox.ac.uk>, sruto@palnetwork.org <sruto@palnetwork.org>, TAN Oon Seng (DIR) <oonseng.tan@nie.edu.sg>  
**DW:** Jung-Hwan Choi <jchoi@worldbank.org>, Cassia C. Miranda <cmiranda@worldbank.org>, Jaime Saavedra Chanduvi <jsaavedra@worldbank.org>, Luis Benveniste <lbenveniste@worldbank.org>, Marcela Gutierrez Bernal <mgutierrezb@worldbankgroup.org>

Dear Members of the SABER Technical Advisory Board,

For those I haven't had the pleasure to meet yet – I'm Omar Arias, the new manager for Knowledge and Innovation of the Education Global Practice at the World Bank. I took over the job from Luis Benveniste, who is now our Director, a few months ago.

I am pleased to invite you to the second Annual Meeting of the Education Systems Technical Advisory Board, which will bring together, both virtually and in-person, board members and key partner agencies to discuss the ongoing innovations under the [Systems Approach for Better Education Results \(SABER\)](#) program.

It has been nearly one year since the inaugural Annual Meeting of the World Bank Group Education Systems Technical Advisory Board, which was convened to guide the work of the World Bank Group's education systems initiatives. The last year has been especially important for the SABER program, with significant progress on a number of new diagnostic tools, namely the development and country applications of the SABER Service Delivery survey -built on the Bank's Service Delivery Indicators initiative- including TEACH (a new Classroom Observation Instrument)-, the In-service Teacher Training Survey Instrument (ITTSI), and the Education Systems Snapshot work. The purpose of this meeting is to seek your advice, suggestions, and feedback on this ongoing work as well as existing work plans, future priorities, potential gaps, and synergies of the SABER work program with other policy research initiatives. Please find attached the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Board and notes from the last meeting.

We would love to optimize the participation of all of you in the meeting. We ask that you kindly let us know your availability on either **April 26 or 27, May 1<sup>st</sup> or May 4** (please *mark down all days you are available*). The meeting will take place in the morning from 8:30a to 1p. **Please kindly indicate your availability using this doodle poll by March 21, 2018:** <https://doodle.com/poll/4yn3pkuaudtwmmww> (earlier responses most appreciated). We will make available a webex connection to enable participation through video. For those of you in a different time zone and able/willing to travel, we would very gladly make arrangements to host you in DC.

Once a date is set, we will share the agenda and supporting documents along with other relevant details for the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact myself or Jung-Hwan Choi via email ([jchoi@worldbank.org](mailto:jchoi@worldbank.org)).

We look forward to your participation and contributions to continue improving our SABER program.

Sincerely,

Omar