Background

1. The 2022 Transforming Education Summit (TES) – a United Nations Summit at the level of Heads of State – was the first of its kind. It was convened by the UN Secretary General in recognition of the alarming backslide in progress towards achieving SDG 4, with education budgets having been cut in two thirds of low- and lower-middle income countries and a third of upper-middle and high-income countries, a global teacher shortage, and many education systems in need of reform to ensure students have equitable access to relevant education for a just and sustainable society.

2. While the outcomes of the Summit fell short of expectations and tangible financial commitments, a majority of governments as well as the UN system have pledged to step up their efforts to ensure quality education for all. Commitments were made across the five action tracks of the Summit, and a number of so-called spotlight initiatives were launched.

3. There is a need to ensure that TES commitments towards achieving SDG4 and supporting its processes are followed up and governments are held to account. GCE has a crucial role to play as the global education movement for the right to education to secure further progress.

Resolution

The World Assembly therefore commits the GCE to:

1. Asserting its role as the global education movement required to lead the way and hold governments to account for their promises. Uniting civil society organizations committed to the right to education at national, regional and global level, youth organizations and student as well as teacher unions, the GCE represents the main constituencies from all
education advocates across the globe. It should therefore actively challenge the notion that any new movement would be needed to follow up on the TES commitments.

2. Undertaking proactive efforts to engage with the TES follow-up across all thematic action tracks and spotlight initiatives, putting specific emphasis on action track 5 - financing of education, as the foundation for the successful implementation of commitments made in the different thematic areas.

3. Involving by means of joint campaigns, capacity building and consultations, its membership in advocacy and tangible action on the ground to further the objectives of the TES towards achieving SDG4 and supporting its processes and sustain the moment created in preparation of the 2023 SDG Summit, the 2024 Summit of the Future and the 2025 Social Summit.

4. Ensure in this endeavor, the meaningful participation of children, youth and student representatives.