

October 2005

## OECD WORK ON EDUCATION WITH NON-MEMBER ECONOMIES

Reform of education, training and human resource development is an integral part of the transition to a democratic society and market economy. Work on education in emerging and transition economies follows the objectives of the work programme of the OECD's Directorate for Education. These include evaluating strategies for lifelong learning, early childhood education and care, gaps in access to information and communication technology, transition from education to the workforce, mobilising resources and improving sharing of roles and responsibilities.

The work of the OECD offers general directions and specific recommendations for policies to address key issues of access, quality and standards in teaching at all levels, new directions to diversify and deliver tertiary education, the quality of research in academic and research establishments and reforms in the governance, management and financing of teaching and research.

In its work with non-member economies, the Directorate for Education has carried out reviews of national policies of education in central and eastern European countries, the Russian Federation, China and Latin America and is beginning a series of reviews of sub-Saharan countries in partnership with the Association for the Development of Education in Africa. The upcoming review of the Dominican Republic will focus on the role of education in economic development. The volume on Chile, published in 2004, examined the country's education system from pre-school through tertiary education and lifelong learning, analysing its economic, social and political impact.

This collaboration with Chile led to the first Forum on the Challenges for Education in a Global Economy (Santiago, 24-25 October 2005) being co-hosted with the Chilean Ministry of Education. Issues on the Forum agenda include:

- assuring access to lifelong learning for all
- quality and equity: challenges for education and training in a global perspective
- special education needs: towards inclusive education
- quality in education in an open society
- challenges to higher education in a globalised world
- attracting, developing and retaining effective teachers
- adjusting to a changing world

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