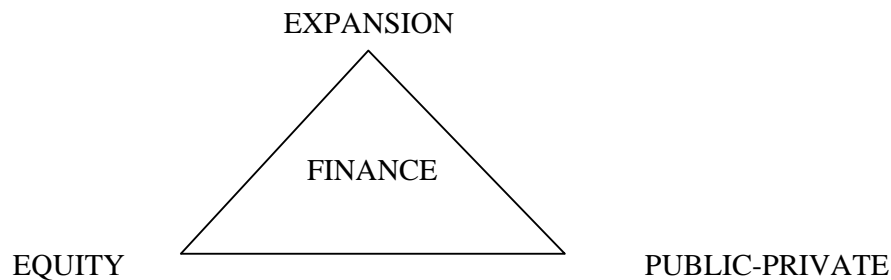


***Fulbright NCS First Meeting,***  
Draft One Page Statement

Group Three changed the former title, “The Resources and Policies that provide Greater Access to Higher Education: Sub theme of Finances as a Barrier to Access, and Reconciling Cost-Sharing and Accessibility” to “*Financial Resources and Policies that enhance Access to Higher Education*”.

Comprising Redouane Assad, Claire Callender, David Chapman, Clarissa Beta-Naeves, Abdu Kasozi, Jane Knight, Claudio Rama, Kim, Ki-Seok, Punday Pillay, Marek Kwiek, and Anthony Welch, (Team Leader) and for significant periods, Bruce Johnstone, the group framed our agenda in terms of the relationship of Financing to the following three themes: Equity; Public and Private; and Expansion:



We see our aim as the identification of policies and resources that help promote increased access and equity, without diminishing quality. Consideration of such policies and resources can no longer be limited to the national level; in a more global era, they must embrace the trans-national.

We are well aware of the challenges to enhancing access and equity, without reducing quality, at a time of stretched resources. Fuelled by credentialism, rising secondary completion rates and, in many parts of the South, a young demographic, unprecedented demand for higher education is outstripping state capacity, leading to a dramatic rise in private delivery, of distinctly uneven quality. Public HEIs, themselves under great pressure from an increasing mismatch between spiralling enrolments and limited resources, often raise fees, or implement other measures that effectively lead to internal privatisation. Many countries of the South have insufficient capacity to regulate for quality within the public sector, much less the private, including a growing trans-national component.

Often raised as a solution, we feel cost-sharing should be seen in wider terms: not just shifting the cost burden on to families, but the introduction of income-contingent loans schemes (where feasible); tax incentives for investment in higher education and R&D; remittances; cross- border (Brain Drain) tax arrangements that can inject new resources into higher education; employer sponsorship; scholarships for the disadvantaged; re-valuing TVET. (Again, many such measures demand a level of infrastructure and effective administration, notably an effective legal system, and a robust taxation system, that test the resources of many states in the South). Given our aim of enhancing equity, such policies and programmes must be tested for their equity effects, for women, indigenous minorities, and the poor, while measures to monitor quality must also be strengthened, as far as possible. Our aim is to share our wisdom and diverse experiences in the interests of developing more effective policies and enhancing available resources.

