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Invest in education to promote peace, tolerance – *Italian Consul-General*

By Glory Ekwenuya

CONSUL General to Nigeria, Andrea Pompermaier has urged governments to invest more in education of their citizens, adding that education promotes peace, prosperity, progress and tolerance.

Speaking at Loving Gaze School's end of session celebration in Lagos, Andrea said: "Italy firmly believes that education promotes peace, prosperity, progress, reciprocal understanding and tolerance.

According to him, school is more precious than diamond, stressing that the experience and the knowledge gathered in school is inestimable which

accompanies us through our life's journey in our minds and in our hearts.

Meanwhile, the General Manager, Loving Gaze School, Barbara Pepoli noted that the school was founded to provide quality primary education to all the children in the community, beyond the barriers of their social or economical background.

She said: "Over 60 per cent of our students have access to primary education. Thanks to the support of local and international donors who generously contribute to their needs. This is a fundamental educational choice made by Loving Gaze since its inception.

"Education shall be a right beyond socio-economical

circumstances and the quality of education should not be compromised if we want to raise adults who can see with an open heart, understand the value of each person, the respect and care for themselves and others."

She, however noted that their students have been exposed internationally with the support of Lucia Melchiori, the School Director, and eight international volunteer teachers from France, Australia and Italy.

The event which took place at Ikate Elegushi, Lekki, Lagos offered an opportunity for students to bring on stage the "Little Prince" written by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, play together and showcase their singing and dancing prowess.