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### ✓ *UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017*

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
2 October 2017	<b>International Day of Non– Violence</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
5 October 2017	<b>World Teachers' Day</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
10 October 2017	<b>World Mental Health Day</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
13 October 2017	<b>International Day for Disaster Reduction</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
16 October 2017	<b>World Food Day</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
17 October 2017	<b>International day for the Eradication of Poverty</b>	Melaka, Malaysia
24 October 2017	<b>International Day of Non– Violence</b>	Melaka, Malaysia



### ✓ BOSTWANA: YOUTH FIRM IMPARTS KNOWLEDGE ON TAX

**Gaborone, 11 September 2017** – TAX related issues are often regarded as complex and dreadful to many taxpayers, but a young entrepreneur, Boago Victor Ratshoswane, intends to change that belief.

Through his company, Great Ant, he has taken it upon himself to start teaching people about tax and tax-related issues.

“We will be conducting 30 minutes training workshops for untrained taxpayers in companies and government departments. We provide video tutorials on taxation and its benefits to individuals for free,” he said.

According to Ratshoswane, this will benefit the country since the income tax that is paid by taxpayers is an important source of revenue for the government.

Apart from benefitting the country, he said his

company will get more exposure as he hopes that more people will enlist his company which deals with tax, payroll and advisory.

“The workshops are self-funded as part of our marketing and corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategy,” said Ratshoswane.

He further said people should not always demonise tax, stating that there are a lot of incentives in tax payment, especially in farming.

For example, he said, farmers who sell livestock for slaughter are entitled to a four percent withholding tax that will be deducted on the payments made to them.

He said the incentive was introduced to ensure that sellers or dealers in livestock comply with their tax obligations.

“A withholding tax will be deducted from the farmers,

so there will be incentives for the farmers to normalise their tax affairs with the Botswana Unified Revenue Services (BURS),” said Ratshoswane.

According to Ratshoswane, the income tax that is paid by taxpayers is an important source of revenue for the government.

He said citizens are also consumers of the country’s public infrastructure and facilities, adding that if they want these facilities and infrastructure to improve; it is also their duty and responsibility to contribute towards building and maintaining it.

“Paying income tax and filing income tax returns is one way of doing that,” he said.

He said Botswana should fulfil this duty with pride because the income tax payers form a very small part of the country’s

population.

He appealed to Botswana to come on board to be proactive and allow them to hold workshops in their businesses.

So far, Ratshoswane, whose company was named Botswana’s best youth owned firm in consulting services, said he has partnered with KDM Global Consult in Francistown to assist in covering the northern part of the country with similar workshops.

Ratshoswane also indicated that the more people understand about tax, the more the government will benefit.

“The response is very good and we hope that, with time, more people will start to understand the benefits of paying tax,” he said.

[Mmegi Online]

### ✓ MALAWI: MALAWI TO HAVE NEW YOUTH ORGANIZATION

**Lilongwe, 13 September 2017** - AMID government’s effort to reduce high unemployment levels in the country, a new organization which is to empower the youth economically is being formed.

Young Entrepreneurs Hub (YEH) is being formed with an aim of fighting poverty amongst young people in Malawi who are also suffering the consequences of high unemployment levels.

According to YEH Director of Operations Prince Elvin

Magombo, the organization is being formed after consultations on what is lacking in Malawian youths.

Magombo said young people are today undergoing different trainings and education but there is no helping hand, a development which has forced them to form the organization.

He further added that once the youths are empowered economically, they will contribute to the economic development of the country.

“We are forming YEH with an aim of fighting poverty amongst young people. This is because we saw that the biggest cause of poverty among young people is the rise in unemployment rate. “We believe that the economy of Africa, Malawi inclusive is moving slowly because the number of unemployed youths has surpassed the number of those employed. This is not to be solved by the government, so as people who love the nation we thought it wise to join hands with Government and our

development partners,” said Magombo.

He further said the organization will be equipping young people countrywide with entrepreneurial skills regardless of their education background and youths will be offered funds following a successful training.

[Malawi24]



### ✓ RWANDA: CONFERENCE TO HELP YOUTH GAIN LEADERSHIP SKILLS

**Kigali, 12 September 2017** - FOR the second time Rwanda is hosting the East Africa Pioneers Congress, an annual regional collaboration seeking to strengthen ties of five countries in different sectors.

The conference scheduled to kick off Wednesday will be responsible for developing leadership among the youth organized by AIESEC (Association Internationale des Étudiants en Sciences Économiques et Commerciales) in Rwanda.

“We will be celebrating achievements of our own people, passing on the

experience to youth and preparing them for the future,” said David Niyonsaba the country director of AIESEC.

Niyonsaba further explained that this year’s unique element is the session of ‘The world largest lesson’.

“We are taking all delegates in the conference to different high schools to speak to students about involvement of young people in achieving sustainable development goals,” he said.

According to Niyonsaba, they expect this session to open minds of young

people, inspire them and also present to them different opportunities and what role they can play for the development of the country.

Basically, they target to speak to 2500 students in duration of two hours.

They will speak to students from 10 schools including Green Hills Academy, Lycee de Kigali, SOS, New Vision High School, and Agahozo Shalom Village among others.

The 11th East African Pioneers Congress will be a 5-day Conference that seeks to create a rigorous learning environment through

dialogues and exchange sessions on leadership development.

The conference and all events will take place from September 13th to 17th at the Kigali Conference and Exhibition Village (KCEV).

Unlike in the past decade, the purpose of this 11th congress will be dedicated to celebrating life changing experiences and enhance young leadership through regional collaborations.

[KT Press]

### ✓ UGANDA: BITATURE FOUNDATION AIMS TO EMPOWER 500,000 UGANDAN YOUTH

**Kampala, 12 September 2017** - A new youth empowerment programme called Project 500K has started its mission of empowering young Ugandans, aged 18 – 35, as they begin their careers.

Project 500K plans to empower youth to change their mindset and build the skills needed to be employable or run a successful business.

The programme started this month in Ibanda District on and is set to expand across Uganda in the months to come.

“Project 500K is working to set up the next generation of business leaders to succeed and grow Uganda’s economy,” explained Project 500K Director, Nataliy Bitature.

“A lot of young Ugandans are looking for a way to get rich quickly, but what they

need is management skills, financial literacy, and a more productive mindset.

That is what we are offering through Project 500K the insight needed to help people help themselves.” Project 500K was created by the Patrick and Carol Bitature Foundation with the mission to empower 500,000 Ugandan youth to be employable or run a successful business.

The foundation is running its pilot project in Ibanda District through the months of September and October, 2017, with over 2000 members already signed up.

Project 500K then plans to expand to Western Uganda by the year’s end, reach Kampala in early 2018, and expand to the rest of Uganda in the months and years to come.

Project 500K delivers this programme through three

channels, weekly youth camps, daily SMS messages and a programme on Rwenzori FM Eiraka Radio at 9pm Monday to Friday. Each week covers a different theme, from self-assessment and goal setting, to budgeting, investment, long term planning, problem solving and generating creative ideas.

Project 500K is actively building partnerships with other organizations that work on youth empowerment in Uganda.

Following the eight-week programme, Project 500K encourages participants to access a catalogue of partners and resources.

It creates an alumni network to encourage further learning, collaboration, mentorship, hiring and investment. Ultimately, Project 500K emboldens members to become change

agents in their communities.

[Independent]



### ✓ ZAMBIA: NEW PARTNERSHIP TO GROW FINANCIAL SKILLS OF YOUTH IN ZAMBIA

Lusaka, 6 September 2017 - MWABU is partnering with Financial Sector Deepening Zambia (FSDZ) to develop a financial education curriculum for both school learners and young women in Zambia.

The educational technology company is creating a blended learning and certification programme that combines face-to-face and virtual education.

Leveraging existing relationships in rural communities together with cutting-edge technology and world-class content, the programme will impact a significant number of learners in the country.

Mwabu has already been active in developing bespoke learning content and resources for a range of organisations across sectors in Zambia, such as conservation and healthcare.

Through its bespoke offering the company creates interactive, enquiry-based learning content across a wide range of topics, with public or private sector organisations.

To date, Mwabu is the only organisation that has digitised a curriculum in multiple African languages, and as such, is recognised as a leader in African content creation.

“Our mission is to create educational opportunities for learners across Africa such that they develop the means, not only to improve their own lives, but also the lives of others in their communities,” says Justin

Reilly, CEO of Mwabu.

Head of WIN at FSDZ, Veyrl Adell says, “Financial education is crucial for youth to successfully enter into adulthood.

Our work with Mwabu provides an opportunity to educate young Zambians using emerging digital tools, in order to empower them to manage their money and live better lives.”

Initially, content will be rolled out to learners from grades one to twelve in the Eastern Province of Zambia, along with the NetGirls group in the region.

NetGirls caters for women between the ages of 15 and 22, most of who are not enrolled in formal education. Thereafter, the project will be extended to another two provinces within the country.

The project, which is already underway, will be implemented in phases and is expected to reach completion in December 2019.

*[Zambia Daily Mail]*

MWABU



### ✓ ARGENTINA: SPORTS MINISTER TASKS YOUTHS ON TALENT DEVELOPMENT

**Buenos Aires, 9 September 2017** - MINISTER of Sports and Youth Development, Solomon Dalong has advised youths in the country to develop their potentials in sports for them to represent the nation

in future sports competitions. The minister gave the advice on Saturday in Ilorin while declaring open the third edition of the National Youths Games.

He said one of the cardinal objectives of the Millennium Development Goal was to empower the youths to achieve their dreams.

the reason why his ministry endorsed the Youths games as a driving force to achieve the set goals and stem the tide of youth restiveness.

[Vanguard]

Dalong added that this was

### ✓ BOLIVIA: YOUTH INITIATIVE ADOPTED AT UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE

**Sucre, 8 September 2017** - AN initiative calling on global youth to combat desertification was adopted Friday in north China.

Global Youth Initiative for Combating Desertification was adopted at the Youth Forum of the United Nations desertification conference in Ordos City, in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region.

The initiative defined young people's specific responsibilities and proposed strengthening young people's engagement in combatting desertification.

"We are the new forces to drive change with fresh

ideas, innovative technology, inventive methods and means that can eradicate poverty and pave the way to a new sustainable economy," said the initiative.

It also suggested that young people should join online and offline platforms for national and international dialogue, consultations, social media campaigns and volunteering in supporting land degradation neutrality.

The one-day forum was held during the 13th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) that opened on Wednesday.

Monique Barbut, Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, said that young people will be the next generation in combatting desertification, which takes courage, hard work and vision.

Youth representatives from 25 countries and more than ten international organizations discussed about the challenges and opportunities of young people engaging in sustainable land management.

"Young people should work with each other from different organizations and projects, and integrate desertification work with climate change and biodiversity," said Lorena

Terrazas from Bolivia.

Oliver Gardner from Britain, suggested that good story-telling is needed to get young people in non-affected countries interested.

The UN desertification conference will last about two weeks, and its main task is to seek solutions for the UN sustainable goal of "achieving a land degradation neutral world by 2030" and to develop a new UNCCD strategy framework for the 2018-2030 periods.

[Xinhua]

### ✓ CANADA: GOVERNMENT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH IN EDMONTON

**Edmonton, 14 September 2017** - Building a strong middle class means giving Canada's youth the tools they need to find and keep good jobs.

Today, the Honourable Amarjeet Sohi, Member of Parliament for Edmonton-Mill Woods and Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, on behalf of the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Labour, announced a new project that will give youth in Edmonton job skills

training and hands-on work experience. Randy Boissonnault, Member of Parliament for Edmonton Centre, joined Minister Sohi in making the announcement.

Up to 84 recent immigrant youth will participate in the project, which will be delivered by the Africa Centre thanks to more than \$1.3 million in Government of Canada funding through the Skills Link program.

The youth will develop skills to help them find and keep jobs, such as job search techniques and

interview preparation, and will receive tips from guest speakers.

They will also gain valuable work experience in such fields as accommodations, food services and tourism, business and the trades.

Skills Link supports projects that help young people who face more barriers to employment than others develop basic employability skills and gain valuable job experience, which, in turn, assists them in making a successful transition into the workforce or to return to

school.

These youth could include those who have not completed high school, single parents, Indigenous youth, young persons with disabilities, youth living in rural or remote areas or newcomers.

[Canada NewsWire]



### ✓ JAMAICA: FOOD FOR THE POOR AWARDS GRANTS TO JAMAICAN YOUTH

**Kingston, 14 September 2017** - FOOD For the Poor (FFTP) - Jamaica continues its commitment to the education of Jamaica's youth by awarding educational grants to 299 students who are studying from basic to tertiary levels.

FFTP made the grant resresentation at its Ellerslie Pen, St Catherine office recently.

The grants awarded will ensure that back-to-school expenses, such as textbooks and/or tuition fees, are covered or are paid in part.

David Mair, executive director of FFTP Jamaica, lauded the donors who offered their support and made it possible to equip students with much-needed resources to go back to school.

"Close to 300 students from basic to tertiary institutions will benefit from the

disbursement of educational grants this year. None of this would have been possible without the consistent generosity of our donors, sourced through our head office, FFTP Incorporated," Mair said.

In his welcome remarks, Mair urged the awarded students to be good stewards of the gift. "Study hard, stay focused, and make us proud by maintaining an A or B average at all times," he said.

He also challenged parents to encourage their children and become actively involved in their lives.

The importance and the impact of this educational grant was not lost on the students, who were all appreciative of the gesture. Their faces lit up with joy, optimism, and gratitude as they collected their cheques from Mair and Craig

Moss-Solomon, a director at FFTP Jamaica.

Chante Williams, a student at Wolmer's High School for Girls, expressed her gratitude.

"This programme has helped me a lot to acquire most necessities for back-to-school, such as to purchase books," she said.

"This is very important for a student. You need your books to analyse and really comprehend the subjects you are being taught, so, I would like to say thank you to Food For The Poor and its donors for creating this programme to aid children, such as myself, to succeed," she added.

Parents of the awardees were also grateful for the donation. Samantha Barrett, who has two children benefiting from the back-to-school programme, was one of those parents.

"The day when I got my children's book lists, I waved it in the air and I said, 'God, you are their heavenly father, so I am looking to you to provide for them.'

In the afternoon, I got a call from Food For The Poor about the back-to-school programme and what I needed to provide," Barrett said.

FFTP Jamaica has been administering its back-to-school programme for more than 20 years and has seen great academic achievements from awardees, up to the tertiary level.

The organisation has pledged to remain committed to the educational development of children across Jamaica.

*[The Cleaner]*

### ✓ TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: YTC YOUTHS WELCOME SECOND CHANCE AT MATH

**Port of Spain, 15 September 2017** - TWENTY-NINE young men attached to the Youth Training Centre (YTC) have embraced "a second opportunity" to study mathematics as a formal subject as they graduated from the 2017 bpTT Young Adult Math Experience workshop at the facility at Arouca recently.

"I didn't like mathematics in the past and never really put my mind to it when I was in school. But this workshop has been very interesting.

Our tutor used practical examples to teach us the

subject and made it really simple to understand. I hope to be an electrical engineer in the future and I know, for sure, that I have to pass math to achieve this goal," said 16-year old Joel Rambally.

A release said the Annual bpTT Young Adult Math Experience offers young men and women a second chance to study mathematics, a taxing subject for many, in a relaxed and fun environment.

Now in its seventh year, the initiative started off with students from the Civilian

Conservation Corps (CCC) it covered training at five locations this year, Port of Spain, Diego Martin, Mayaro, YTC (Arouca) and Tobago. The workshops are facilitated by training agency, Cross and Associates, with tutor Nicole Lord overseeing the YTC session.

This year marks the second edition of the annual math experience at the YTC, with Acting Assistant Superintendent of Prisons, Avellina Augustine-Kanhai, lauding BPTT for giving the youths a second opportunity to revive their interest in the subject.

"It is always a pleasure to see learning taking place, especially among youths. Within the service, we have a programme of education and skills training and we ensure that everyone is afforded the opportunity to learn and improve themselves.

"We thank BpTT wholeheartedly for enhancing our learning activity and providing these young men with this chance to move forward in life.



I also want to thank all the coordinators of the programme, parents and the facilitators, for partnering with us to make a real difference in the lives of these young men.

Joel Primus, Community Sustainability and Stakeholder relations Advisor, bpTT, told the graduates that while some people tend to have a negative view of YTC youths, their participation in the workshop demonstrated that something positive and heartening was taking place at the institution.

“Your graduation this morning shows that you have already embarked on a new life for yourselves which will usher great hope for your future.

Irrespective of what happened in your past, it is important to look ahead and plan for the future. Use this math experience as a building block for your new life,” Primus urged the young graduates.

He gave the assurance that bpTT would continue to support the math experience at the YTC “and will support this initiative in other ways to help in your development for life”.

Also addressing the graduates was Andrew Cross, Principal/Consultant, Cross and Associates, who told them that their graduation celebrated the end of a programme and heralded the celebration of a new beginning.

“Mathematics is a vehicle for positive change in your life.

Whenever you make

mistakes, you need to correct them.

That is the objective of math and this opportunity should serve to change your life for the better,” Cross advised the graduates.

*[Trinidad Guardian]*

NEWS



### ✓ CAMBODIA: NEW WEBSITE AIMS TO EDUCATE YOUTH ON KHMER ROUGE REGIME

**Phnom Penh, 1 September 2017** - THE Documentation Center of Cambodia (DC-Cam) launched its new multimedia website on Friday, specifically aimed at educating and informing Cambodia's youth about the Khmer Rouge regime.

The website is aimed at shedding light on Cambodia's darkest period of history, drawing from DC-Cam's extensive photographic, audiovisual and witness testimony archive to paint a vivid picture young Cambodians can explore on their smart phones.

"Cambodia will never escape its history, but it does not need to be enslaved by it," Youk Chhang, executive director of DC-Cam said in a statement.

"A society cannot know itself if it does not have an accurate memory of its own

history." The site (khmerrougehistory.org) and its Facebook page were officially opened by the Under-Secretary of State for the Ministry of Education Youth and Sport, Ton Sa-Im, who said the wide access to the internet Cambodians enjoy meant the site, would be a boon to education efforts surrounding the Khmer Rouge.

"Facebook launch is a very good initiative because right now we have millions of people using mobile phones, even people looking after the cow, so they will get the information more quickly," she said.

"This website will benefit everyone who is curious about the regime and wants to get more information."

The website features a timeline spanning the 1920s to 2015, an encyclopaedia

section with more than 30 entries on topics including Tuol Sleng prison, the Khmer Rouge Tribunal and the forced marriage ceremonies that took place during Pol Pot's rule. Kyle James, consultant with German media development organisation DW Akademie, which worked with DC-Cam to develop the website, said the Facebook page launched in tandem with the website was a crucial tool in order spread the website's awareness.

"The idea of the website and Facebook page is to create a deeper understanding of this part of Cambodian history and encourages dialogue about how the period still resonates in the country today," he said.

The website at this stage only exists in Khmer with the designers yet to announce if an

English-language version of the site will be launched. DC-Cam was launched to keep history alive and relevant to all Cambodians. With nearly 70 percent of the population under the age of 30, most are too young to have to experience what the older generations went through.

The organisation was integral in introducing the Khmer Rouge into the country's national high-school curriculum to ensure young Cambodians understand what led to the genocidal regime that resulted in the deaths of at least 1.7 million people.

"I hope the institute can spread awareness and the lessons and understanding of the Khmer Rouge regime," Ms Sa-Im said.

[Deutsche Welle]

### ✓ INDIA: JNU UNION EX-CHIEF SEEKS JOBS FOR YOUTH

**New Delhi, 13 September 2017** - FEROPZEPUR Kanhaiya Kumar, former president of the JNU students' union, on Tuesday demanded the government should provide jobs to all

youth and ensure free-of-cost education.

He said this at the congregation of the All-India Student Federation and All-India

Youth Federation at National Martyrs' Memorial, Hussaniwala.

Educated youths are looking for jobs, while several 'uneducated' leaders are

flying in choppers at the public expense," he said.

[The Tribune]

### ✓ KUWAIT: KUWAIT LAUNCHES ARAB YOUTH AWARD

**Kuna, 9 September 2017** - THE Public Authority for Youth (PAY) announced on Saturday launch of the Humanitarian Action Center for Arab Youth Award, aimed at encouraging young people in the Arab countries to be engaged in leading and effective actions for serving their communities.

PAY General Director and Chairman of the Award Steering Committee, Abdulrahman Al-Mutairi, said at a news conference, held at the local UN headquarters, that the award was launched as part of activities marking Kuwait Capital of Arab Youth 2017 festival.

The ongoing festivity is patronized by His Highness

the Amir, Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah.

Elaborating, Al-Mutairi said the award is designed to promote the youth capacities for launching social and humanitarian programs.

It coincides with the third anniversary of the UN

designation of Kuwait as Humanitarian Center and honoring of His Highness the Amir as Humanitarian Leader.



The PAY General Director indicated that the award was also proclaimed, in implementation of instructions by His Highness the Amir to make the young be engaged in building their country's future, empowering them for production, creativity and innovation.

Such an approach, outlined by His Highness, is designed to boost sustainable development in

the Arab communities and countries.

Indicating that the award will be granted to excellent projects in humanitarian, development, irrigation, agriculture, energy, transports and communications, Al-Mutairi has noted that it is in line with the UN sustainable development objectives for youth of creativity and interaction potentials.

More than half of the Arab population are aged fewer than 25, thus these young people constitute the driving force for development.

The award is supported by several departments, authorities and associations, namely Kuwait Red Crescent Society, which has allotted USD 100,000 to execute one of the award 10 ventures.

The award is presented to

Arabs aged between 18 and 34.

Groups of no more than three persons are allowed to partake in the competitions. A participant must present a video showing some aspects of his (her) contenting project.

[Kuwait News Agency]

### ✓ QATAR: 'RIGHT TIME FOR YOUTH TO START BUSINESS IN QATAR'

**Doha, 1 September 2017** - THERE are more opportunities for young entrepreneurs after the Saudi-led blockade against Qatar, Zakir Naqvi, owner of a transport company, said yesterday.

Speaking on Qatar Urdu Radio's live show Haqeeqat, he encouraged

young entrepreneurs to start their own businesses, while pointing out that Qatar has already facilitated and eased the process in this regard.

"You can get your company registered and even get land and other facilities within 72 hours now whereas before it used to take a lot of time," added Naqvi.

Haqeeqat aims to engage and interact with the large South Asian expatriate community in Qatar.

A joint venture of the Gulf Times and Qatar Media Corporation Urdu Radio, the show is broadcast from Sunday to Thursday on FM107.

Log on to Qatar Urdu Radio on Facebook and '@QatarUrduRadio' on Twitter for feedback and comments about the show.

[Gulf Times]

### ✓ SINGAPORE: YOUTH TO PLAY A BIGGER ROLE IN INCREASING WORKPLACE SAFETY

**Singapore city, 7 September 2017** - YOUNG workers entering the labour force today are the most vulnerable to accidents and injuries in the workplace.

According to recent data from the International Labour Organisation, workers aged 15 to 24 are 40% more likely to get injured at work than their older co-workers.

This is the statistic Second Minister for Manpower Josephine Teo cited as she addressed the first international youth congress at the 21st World Congress on Safety and Health at Work.

But according to Teo, it's precisely this vulnerability that makes tomorrow's

workers the perfect sector to champion the fight for safer workplaces today.

This they can do by playing key roles in raising awareness of safety and health at the workplace after being educated on the issue, she said.

Many young workers today are temporary or part-time employees, part of the increasing contingent workforce taking over Singapore's labour sector.

Due to their general lack of workplace experience, they are often the most likely to get into accidents.

Teo explained that this problem is further compounded by the fact that many firms fail to both brief

workers on safety on their first day of work and establish risk assessment procedures.

But efforts are underway to ingrain a strong culture of safety among students poised to join the labour force, she said.

Teo shared that the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) has incorporated 12 workplace safety and health (WSH) courses into its curriculum.

A pioneer batch of 40 WSH Youth Champions were also appointed to be trained in similar safety and health courses, which they will be tasked to bring into their future workplaces and impart upon their peers at seminars.

"You can do your part by practicing good safety and health behaviors," Teo said, addressing the council.

"Share your knowledge with those around you and speak up if you see poor practices at workplaces and even in school laboratories."

[HRD Singapore]



### ✓ AMERNIA: ONLY 35.4% OF ARMENIAN YOUTH PURSUE PROFESSION

**Yerevan, 25 September 2017** - GENERATION of Independence: Research Among Young People” found out that Armenia’s youth today is “vulnerable and incomplete”.

The study was carried out by the Armenian branch of Friedrich Ebert Foundation in cooperation with Faculty of Sociology of YSU.

They surveyed 1200 people aged 14-29 from Yerevan and 10 marzes of Armenia.

According to the research, young Armenians have uncertainty in public life, and social activity is more characteristic for the males.

The youth don’t trust state agencies and display minimal political involvement.

“We initiated the research to understand young people in Armenia, as they are the sector of society that starts changes, moves forward and succeeds.

Our goal was to stress the importance of young people’s role in the society and political decision making,” Director of the FES South Caucasus Office Julia Blazius told the press today.

She noted that the research outlined main problems and

stressed certain points in education and employment.

The research discovered that one of serious problems is lack of financial resources for acquiring professional education. 24.3% of young people in Armenia don’t want to continue their education for that reason exactly.

On the other hand, professional knowledge doesn’t guarantee a job, and only 35.4% of the youth pursue their respective profession.

Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Armenia Karine

Harutyunyan attached importance to such researches.

“They raise awareness in the ministry about young people’s problems, help us plan the efforts and make targeted decisions,” Deputy Minister said.

According to her, those problems aren’t new, and the research contains important issues and stresses, such as lack of state funding for higher education and resulting low quality of education, etc.

*[Armenian Weekly]*

### ✓ AZERBAIJAN: AZERCELL DECLARES FURTHER SUPPORT OF YOUTH

**Baku, 25 September 2017** - AZERCELL CEO Vahid Mursaliyev met with the students who had obtained the title of Azercell scholars.

The operator reports that Mursaliyev stated at the meeting that in addition to monthly stipend from Azercell, the program will also provide the students an opportunity to enrich their knowledge about telecommunications, participate in Azercell’s

corporate events and social activities, receive various trainings, as well as take internship at the company. “Azercell has supported the youth and students since the company started its business activity. A number of student programs, internships and other projects have been carried out so far.

We also concluded cooperation agreements with the universities you study in. All these steps are

aimed to develop our education”, he stated.

The stipend winners currently study in Baku State University, Azerbaijan State Economic University, ADA University, Public Administration Academy under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Khazar University, Gafqaz University, Ganja State University, Nakhchivan State University, Baku High Oil School, State Oil and Industry University,

Azerbaijan Technical University, Mingachevir State University, Azerbaijan University of Architecture and Construction and Ganja Agrarian University. Azercell has conducted the Student Bursary Program annually since 2008. Over 130 students from various universities in Azerbaijan have benefited from the Program.

*[Azerbaijan Business Center]*

### ✓ BAHAMAS: 300 JOBS AVAILABLE FOR YOUTH, SAYS FARQUHARSON

**Nassau, 15 September 2017** - NEARLY 300 jobs are expected to be made available to young persons in the country during the third and fourth quarters of this year.

This was revealed by Labour Director Robert Farquharson during an interview with The Bahama Journal over the weekend.

The Department of Statistics Labour Survey revealed that while there was a decline in the unemployment rate among youth (15-24) (From 25.1 percent to 24.1 percent) it was still considerably higher than any other age group.

“Department of Labour in conjunction with the

Ministry of National Security has embarked on the Citizens Security and Justice Program and the employability aspect of that program is about to kick in during the third and fourth quarter of 2017,” Mr. Farquharson said.

“This will involve the training and employment of 200-300 young people between the ages of 16-29.

We expect it to have a direct impact on those numbers.

“It’s a four-year program and over the four years we are expected to train about 1,600 persons and have all these persons employed.”



The Citizens Security and Justice Program was launched in May 2016 by the previous administration.

The Progressive Liberal Party quickly moved to capitalize on the survey results, with PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts saying Friday that the statistics from 2012 to 2017 show

that 39,505 jobs were added to the economy, 7,770 of which were added in the final six months of the Christie administration.

“Regardless of what is said about the PLP government under Mr. Christie, those are the objective numbers and the unvarnished facts,” Mr. Roberts said.

The program focuses on non-violent conflict resolution, youth employment training, the strengthening of the Public Employment Services, the continuation of the successful work of the Swift Justice Initiative, and the rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders. The program, funded by a

\$20 million loan from the Inter-American Bank (IDB), represents the “single largest investment in a coordinated and comprehensive policy to address crime” in The Bahamas.

*[The Bahamas journal]*

### ✓ ROMANIA: YOUNG PEOPLE SET TO MAKE LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEY TO ROMANIA

**Bucharest, 17 September 2017** - A GROUP of young people from North Belfast are gearing up for a potentially life-changing trip to Romania.

Twenty youths, aged between 15 and 18, who are part of the Romania Project in the New Lodge area, are to travel to the country in just a few weeks.

The New Lodge Youth Project, as part of Ashton Community Trust, started back in 2015 and enabled young people to get involved in an extensive programme which involved personal development,

supporting young people with disabilities at the 174 Trust, volunteering to help Belfast’s homeless and intergenerational work with the local elderly.

Youth worker Sean McMullan, who is in charge of the project, said the project was much more than just a trip abroad. “The young people learn so much throughout the year within the programme which benefits them whilst out in Romania,” he said.

“The young people volunteer weekly in the 174 Trust with young people with disability, taking part

in homeless work and also learning a lot about themselves.

“Whilst in Romania the young people work in a local disability centre, orphanages, family homes and engage with young people their age to experience the culture of a young person living in Romania.

“The young people are a credit to us at the youth centre, to themselves and to their families as well. The Romania Project experience is one that is life-changing and it is a privilege to be a part of this experience with all of these dedicated young

people.

“Whilst already making a big impact in their community I know that these young people will be great role models for other young people in their youth centre and community for a long time to come.”

The project has won two awards for positive change and continues to impact positively on young people’s lives in the New Lodge district.

*[Belfast Media Group]*

### ✓ JAMAICA: MAJOR YOUTH IN AGRICULTURE SHOWCASE FOR DAY ONE AT DENBIGH

**Kingston, 4 September 2017** - THE village is to be the venue for students who are currently engaged in agriculture studies from Manchester, St Ann and St Catherine, to apply for the Rio tinto alcan scholarship fund, which is managed by the development bank of Jamaica and the applicable programme executed by the Jamaica 4-h clubs.

Youth in agriculture day on Saturday is to involve close to 200 youth between the ages of 18 and 35 years, competing in events including agricultural jingle, business model/

plan, agri-animation, agro-processing and the agri-quiz competitions.

Under the theme, ‘youth farmers: budding nation builders,’ the village will be open daily throughout the show, between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm. The village is one of the main focuses of the national youth in agriculture programme that is led by the Jamaica 4-h clubs, the youth training arm of the ministry of industry, commerce, agriculture and fisheries.

The 4-h clubs have been at

the helm of the youth in agriculture programme since 2008, when it was mandated by the government to lead the multi-agency planning committee which is geared at, among other things, stimulating youth involvement in agriculture, and preserving fostering national food security.

*[Jamaica Observer]*



### ✓ AUSTRALIA: CITI BROADENS YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT SCHEME

**Canberra, 2 September 2017** - CITI Australia plans to help 1800 young people find jobs by spending an extra \$1.5 million on its Pathway to Progress program, which runs globally but kicked off locally in 2015.

The money will be distributed to various organisations as grants to help them to run employment initiatives, with the Brotherhood of

Saint Laurence, Foundation for Young Australians and The Smith Family among recipients.

Through the program, some Citi employees also voluntarily act as mentors, coaches and role models to young people.

Australia's youth unemployment rate is around 13 per cent - based on 15 to 24-year-olds compared to the general

unemployment rate of 5.6 per cent.

Launching the program, Treasurer Scott Morrison said mentors are vital to helping more unemployed young Australians find jobs and remain employed.

Mr Morrison stressed the importance of mentors while launching the expansion of a program run by global financial services group Citi to help disadvantaged young people

find work.

Mr Morrison said growing the economy will help bring that figure down.

"We are seeing the economy grow, we are seeing improved signs coming through, particularly most recently," he said.

*[The Sydney Morning Herald]*

### ✓ FIJI: YOUTHS ATTEND LEADERSHIP AND INTEGRITY WORKSHOP

**Suva, 15 September 2017** - AN innovative workshop on leadership and integrity was organized by the Pacific Youth Council and supported by the United Nations Pacific Regional Anti - Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project this week.

Workshop participant Broderick Mervyn thanked the Pacific Youth Council and the United Nations Pacific Regional Anti Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project for organizing an

amazing workshop and that the knowledge and skills learnt will be shared amongst family, friends and community at large.

"Innovation point toward thinking outside the box, and taking risks, and we need to learn from our challenges every day," Mr Broderick said.

"It connotes a deep commitment to do the right thing for the right reason, regardless of the circumstances," he said.

He said the project aims to support Pacific Island Countries (PICs) to strengthen their national integrity systems to promote good governments and create an enabling environment for trade, business, investment and sustainable development to increase in the region. Meanwhile workshop facilitator Miliana Iga, stated that the forum was an eye opening experience as a facilitator and that she was impressed with the number of youths that turned up and

discussing with the participants the issues that they may not understand.

A total of 31 youths from CSOs, NGOs, faith based organisations as well as WWF Volunteers were part of the one day workshop which was held at the Ministry of Youth and Sports Headquarters.

*[Fiji Times]*

### ✓ NEW ZEALAND: MORE NEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN ROTORUA

**Wellington, 8 September 2017** - MORE new youth development opportunities in Rotorua and Bay of Plenty

New partnerships to support the 'Youth Spaces Plus' programme in Rotorua and Priority One's 'Instep - Ngā Wahine o Mereaira' programme in the Bay of Plenty will create at least 590 new youth development opportunities, Youth Minister Nikki Kaye announced today.

"More than \$334,000, including Government and partner contributions, will be invested to make these new opportunities available," says Ms Kaye.

The investments are being made under the Partnership Fund, which sees the Government co-invest with business, philanthropic, iwi and other partners to grow youth development opportunities in New Zealand.

"Along with the Ministry of Youth Development,

partners supporting the Youth Spaces Plus initiative includes Rotorua Lakes Council, the Department of Internal Affairs, BayTrust, Rotorua Energy Charitable Trust and community supporters," says Ms Kaye.

"Youth Spaces Plus builds on other local initiatives that support communities to take a holistic approach to meeting needs such as health, education and employment, and provide recreational facilities where young people can safely

socialise and be active.

"The partnership's support will enable Youth Spaces Plus to target young people living in Rotorua's Western Heights, Fordlands and Te Koutu communities.

"Up to 120 young people will be supported to develop their own leadership skills, while providing leadership, mentoring and volunteering opportunities for around 400 other young people in their communities.



“This is about growing the next generation of young leaders, and also helping to build greater community cohesiveness and wellbeing at the same time.”

“Partners involved in Priority One’s Instep Ngā Wahine o Mereaira programme include the Ministry of Youth Development, the New Zealand Lotteries Grant Board, Tauranga Girls College, Ngai Te Rangi Iwi and Ngati Ranginui Iwi,” says Ms Kaye.

“The goal of this programme is to help young Maori develop their own strengths and in turn empower others.

“The partnership’s investment will enable around 70 young people to receive leadership and mentoring opportunities. “It will also support a one-day youth summit, bringing together students from 11 high schools in the region, along with representatives of local businesses, iwi and other community stakeholders.

This will provide an opportunity for students to learn about each other’s challenges and successes, and also build connections with others in their community.

“It’s great to be supporting the development of more young leaders, who will go on to be positive role models in their communities,” says Ms Kaye.

“These new partnerships are made possible by the Government’s investment of around \$1.7 million in the Partnership Fund for

2017/18.

“Over 7000 new leadership, mentoring and volunteering opportunities have been created since the fund was set up in 2016.

“The 2017/18 funding will enable more new partnerships and support more talented young people to grow their skills and resilience, and take their aspirations to the next level.”

[Scoop.co.nz]

### ✓ SAMOA: SAMOA CALLS ON OLDER GENERATION TO LISTEN TO YOUTH VOICE

**Apia, 16 September 2017** - SAMOA's deputy prime minister has called on the older generation to listen to the voices of the youth and support their initiatives as they will be the leaders of tomorrow.

Speaking at the opening of Youth Week in Apia, Fiaame Naomi Mata'afa acknowledged many young people's achievements and contributions to Samoa's development.

Youth make up 64-percent

of Samoa's population.

She also encouraged the youth to utilize their talents and skills to develop their families, villages and the country and acknowledged those who have excelled in sports on the world stage.

Fiaame made particular reference to Samoa's recent gold medal won at last month's Commonwealth Youth Games rugby sevens tournament.

[Radio New Zealand]

### ✓ VANUATU: VANUATU PIN HOPES OF BATTLING YOUTH CRIME ON NATIONAL IDS

**Port Vila, 13 September 2017** - Vanuatu is cracking down on underage drinking and youth crime by introducing national identification cards.

The minister for Internal Affairs Alfred Maoh says the number of violent incidents and criminal activities in and around Port Vila has increased.

Mr Maoh told Koro Vaka'uta a lot of the crime and misbehaviour can be attributed to young people having easy access to alcohol.

[Radio New Zealand]

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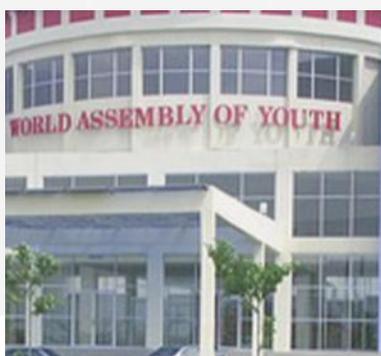
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MR. MOESTAPA M. RADJA  
(Indonesia)



World Assembly of Youth  
World Youth Complex  
Jalan Lebu Ayer Keroh  
Ayer Keroh 75450  
Melaka, MALAYSIA

Phone: +606 2322711/1871  
Fax: +606 2327271  
E-mail: [office@way.org.my](mailto:office@way.org.my)  
Website: <http://www.way.org.my>