

**10<sup>th</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE**

**“Youth Leadership Power and its Influence to the Society”**

**24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2010**

**MITC Ancasa Hotel, Melaka, Malaysia**

**DECLARATION**

**1 PREAMBLE**

- 1.1 We, the participants of the 10<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) convened in Melaka from 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> June 2010 an annual program organized by the World Assembly of Youth which brings together young people and youth leaders from around the world to discuss pertinent and topical youth issues.
- 1.2 The theme selected for MIYD 2010 is “Youth Leadership Power and its Influence to the Society”. This theme was selected in the realization of the need to educate, increase awareness and promote youth leadership among youth. All countries are affected by the consequences brought up by the lack of youth leadership amongst the youth.
- 1.3 However, with this selected theme all the young people, youth leaders, government and organization officers are gathered here to call for action in areas such as: assessing the problems, tackling the problems, forging partnerships, focusing on special needs, sending the right messages and building experiences.
- 1.4 After thorough deliberations through plenary sessions, workshops and other events, we the participants have put together this document with the following recommendations that we strongly feel ought to be implemented to empower youth effectively to participate and achieve the role of youth leadership and its influence to the society.

The guiding principles for this declaration were based on the following objectives:

- To achieve a behavior modification and equal access to decision making amongst youth;
- To comprehend the role of leadership in different societal, cultural and religious contexts
- To identify good leadership traits and skills

- To promote leadership responsibilities between young women and young men in all its functions
- To eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment on ground of sex amongst youth
- To provide and create leadership-positive media messages amongst youth;
- To improve the national and international policies that deal with leadership and its effects on society;
- To recommend improvements to the current systems of education for youth worldwide on leadership and its role to the society;
- To improve corporation between governments, civil society and private sector to address the issue of leadership;
- To have stronger, more effective national youth councils with leading roles with leadership and its influence to the society;

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **2.1 Education**

As education encompasses all the sectors, we recommend the need to:

- 2.1.1 Establish formal and informal learning to extra curricular activities to elevate the leadership potential among young people.
- 2.3.2 Remove the taboos and stereotypes placed on the weaknesses of youth leadership characteristics by the older generations in society.
- 2.1.3 Empower parents to recognize, nurture and facilitate the leadership traits among their children and the youth to enhance moral values and family bonds within their communities.
- 2.1.4 Acknowledge current role models among the youth leaders in order to generate and inspire youth to rise up in leadership.

We further recommend to;

### **2.2 Government**

- 2.2.1 Develop policies that promote the role of youth leadership in ministries;

- 2.2.2 Develop national legal instruments that would create and maintain a conducive, sustainable and nurturing environment which enhances the role of youth leadership.
- 2.2.3 Implement sustainable action plans that provide equal opportunities for both genders in urban and rural areas to function in youth leadership.
- 2.2.4 Provide necessary resources to facilitate the collaboration of NGOs and other stake holders dealing with youth on issues of leadership and its influence to the society.
- 2.2.5 Ensure an efficient and functional budgetary provision for the youth leadership programmes.
- 2.2.6 Establish training and mentoring centres that will create a platform for youth to develop their leadership skills.

### **2.3 International, Regional and National NGOs**

- 2.3.1 Create policies to advance youth leadership power and its influence to the society.
- 2.3.2 Embark upon programmes and activities aimed at unleashing leadership potentials of youth.
- 2.3.3 Provide structural leadership platforms with tools that will involve the youth in the decision making process to enable them to be heard.
- 2.3.4 Equip young people with the knowledge and skills through global programmes to assist in addressing the potential growth of youth leadership qualities.
- 2.3.5 Unify local, regional and international networking channels as an avenue to distribute information on the role of youth leadership in the rural and urban areas.
- 2.3.6 Increase preferential treatment of communities towards the NGOs working with youth leadership programmes.
- 2.3.7 Encourage young people to become proactive and bring awareness towards the needs of the society in including them in leadership roles.
- 2.3.8 Increase leadership accountability within and among NGOs to the youth and society at large.

## **2.4 Media**

- 2.4.1 Create a channel of communication and publication to showcase the achievements and potentials of the youth leaders to society.
- 2.4.2 Maximize the usage of information technology to inform and to educate communities in the benefits on the influence and impact of youth leadership.
- 2.4.3 Establish an unbiased perception towards youth leadership in all media forms of communication.
- 2.4.4 Intensify greater social responsibility towards the young people in areas of youth leadership.
- 2.4.5 Dedicate regular programmes that focus on traits and qualities of youth leadership, e.g. inspirational stories of past and present youth leaders.
- 2.4.6 Provide information, education and communication resources and services to the youth in order to educate them on the impact of youth leadership.
- 2.4.7 Publish educational and communicational materials that will facilitate the awareness of youth leadership power and its influence to the society.

## **2.5 Private sector**

- 2.5.1 Establish collaboration with the private sector to support programmes in promoting youth leadership.
- 2.5.2 Create suitable programmes through which leadership can be acquired and enhanced.
- 2.5.3 Allocate annual grants to equip young people with the skills and positive attitude reinforcement to further develop youth leadership.
- 2.5.4 Strengthen corporate and social responsibilities to develop leadership skills among the youth to influence society.

## **3 GENERAL COMMENTS**

- 3.1 Strengthen partnership between the private sectors, societies, governments NGOs and media.

- 3.2 Motivate and encourage all decision makers in the process towards the promotion of youth leadership roles in society.
- 3.3 Identify and display role models to influence positive behavioral change in societies.
- 3.4 Grant opportunities that would allow the youth to participate, create, develop and stand for the empowerment of youth in leadership.
- 3.5 Encourage policy formulation towards the enhancement of youth leadership in the society.

#### **4 CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 We, the participants of the 10<sup>th</sup> MIYD, realize and recognize the importance of youth leadership power and its influence to the society in the lives of young people. We shall seek to create youth dialogues for the lobbying and advocating of legislations, policies and declare at all levels of society the positive influence that exists in the lives of the young people worldwide.

#### **Appendix**

## **COUNTRIES REPRESENTED**

ALBANIA

AUSTRALIA

BOTSWANA

CANADA

CHINA

ERITERIA

GHANA

INDIA

INDONESIA

IRAN

KENYA

KOSOVO

LEBANON

LIBYA

MALAYSIA

MAURITIUS

NAMIBIA

NIGERIA

OMAN

PAKISTAN

PHILIPPINES

SAUDI ARABIA

SENEGAL

SRI LANKA

SUDAN

THANILAND

TIMOR LESTE

UGANDA

UNITED KINGDOM

USA

YEMEN