

REPORT

13TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE

YOUTH MIGRATION: A STEP FROM HAVEN

**12TH - 14TH SEPTEMBER 2013
HANG TUAH WORLD HERITAGE HOTEL
MELAKA, MALAYSIA**

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This report details the presentations, discussions and conclusions held at the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue attended by selected stakeholders consisting of youth and youth leaders from the respective National Youth Councils, Youth Organizations, Ministries of Youth and Sports, Ministries of Home and Foreign Affairs, migration related organizations, International Organizations and other institutions.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes discussions and recommendations from the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue held from 12th to 14th September 2013.

The dialogue was organized by the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) and supported by the Melaka State Government, the Ministry of Youth and Sports (Malaysia), and the Malaysia Youth Council. Among the youth and youth leader participants, in attendance were; former WAY President, Hon. Datuk Seri Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam; the Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports (Malaysia), Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh; the Melaka State Executive Councilor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGO, Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sancy; Deputy Chairman of Youth and Heritage Melaka, Hon. Datuk Hj. Norpipah Binti Abdol; the Chief Servant of Niger State (Nigeria), Dr. Alh. Muazu Babangida Aliyu; High Commissioner of the High Commission of Mauritius, H.E Premdut Doongoor; Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, H.E Idris Konjari; the Minister of Plenipotentiary, Deputy Chief Minister of Mission, Embassy of Egypt, H.E Yasser Hashem; Minister Counsellor of Social and Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E Akhmad DH Irfan; Chief Police Officer, Polis Diraja Malaysia, Hon. Dato' Chuah Ghee Lye; as well as members of the WAY Bureau and Executive Committee.

WAY firmly believes that increasing youth connectivity and harnessing the potential of the right to migration is key to stimulating social and economic benefits for the millions unconnected around the world. However, the public and private sectors must develop solid mutual understanding and operational partnerships, so that real benefits can be felt by both administrations and the citizens alike. The Melaka International Youth Dialogue is designed to provide an international platform for youth and youth leaders around the world, to increase collaboration between stakeholders and also to improve youth connectivity.

This report provides details of the presentations and discussions that took place at the dialogue in Melaka, Malaysia. These covered several crucial topics, including:

- Brain Waving Youth Migration
- Challenges and Opportunities on Youth Migration
- Sketching Prospects of Youth Migration

TABLE OF CONTENT

INTRODUCTION.....	4
OBJECTIVES.....	5
PRE-EVENT STRUCTURE.....	6
DIALOGUE PROGRAM.....	7
1. OPENING CEREMONY.....	8
2. PLENARY SESSIONS.....	10
A. SESSION I: BRAIN WAVING YOUTH MIGRATION	10
B. SESSION II: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES ON YOUTH MIGRATION....	12
C. SESSION III: SKETCHING PROSPECTS OF YOUTH MIGRATION.....	14
3. WORKSHOPS.....	16
4. DECLARATION.....	16
5. TOUR.....	16
6. CLOSING CEREMONY.....	17
DELEGATES	18
FINANCIAL REPORT.....	18
APPENDICES	
- DECLARATION	
- PICTURES	
- PRESS RELEASES	

INTRODUCTION

The Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) is an annual programme of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) which brings together young people and youth leaders from around the world to discuss relevant youth issues. Since 2001, the MIYD has convened on a wide range of issues. The MIYD has witnessed an escalating number of youth participants over the years, willing to participate in the decision making process. With the view of building a stronger partnership between the youth and the society, the MIYD produces a declaration which serves as a guideline for youth to address the selected issues.

By recognizing the human right to migration and considering the carried out research, WAY made it an obligation that this year, the 13th MIYD would encompass migration as an enduring youth concern with the theme: **‘Youth Migration: A Step from Haven’** This theme had been recognized to fulfil the predominant opinions of young people. An interactive dialogue on this topic will be of significance to form, educate, increase awareness on the adversities and prerogatives of youth migration in the different levels of society that we represent.

The focal point of this year’s dialogue was migration as a right for young people. Essentially for those youth limited to opportunity as a direct result of barriers to migration including such factors as; economic, cultural and political barriers.

According to article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ...“Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Additionally, everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country”...

Migration among the young people has been related to a variety of reasons and factors. They consider the advantages and disadvantages of staying versus moving, as well as factors such as distance, travel costs, travel time, modes of transportation, terrain, and cultural barriers.

Human migration is still affecting population patterns and characteristics, social and cultural patterns and processes, economies, and physical environments. As people move, their cultural traits and ideas diffuse along with them, creating and modifying their and other cultural landscapes.

Rarely considered as a stand-alone group in migration debates, young people comprise a growing percentage of the total number of migrants around the world. According to the United Nations, young people make up about an eight of the total number of migrants worldwide. As the total number of international migrants increases, so does the number of children and youth that are affected by this global phenomenon.

OBJECTIVES

Throughout the dialogue all participants gathered to call for action based on the following objectives:

- To raise an informative generation on the current situation of youth migration with anticipated behaviour adaptation and consequently admission to decision making amongst youth;
- To foster youth action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the societies;
- To address the challenges and determinants of migration faced by youth today;
- To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
- To formulate the environmental, political, economic and cultural factors that are associated with migration;
- To ascertain the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfil the right to freedom of movement for/among the young people;
- To classify the role and the contribution of the national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining resourceful migration factors as a human rights issue;
- To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing youth migration for the present and future;
- To integrate networking, collaboration and cooperation between public and private sectors, civil societies and other stakeholders to address the issue of youth migration;

PRE-EVENT STRUCTURE

Mindful of the importance of ensuring an orderly transition towards the MIYD and the efficient operation of the Dialogue, the already established preparatory committee, comprising of various institutions, organizations and departments was chaired by the Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron, President of the World Assembly of Youth. The committee in their capacity met on three separate preparatory meetings to discuss the delegation of tasks and duties which led to requests on various aids thereby making all its decisions based on consensus. The Secretariat subsequently made follow ups before convening into the second and final meeting.

The WAY Secretariat, headed by the Secretary General, performed the following functions as was necessary to ensure the efficient preparation of the dialogue including the functions set out below:

a. *Administrative, budgetary and financial matters:*

- Preparation of proposals from the Secretariat on the relevant documentations for accommodation, equipment, transportation, protocol requirements, that was provided to all organizing committee, participants, volunteers and the Secretariat;
- Preparation of the estimated budget for the operation of the MIYD;
- Introduction and provision of rules, training, tasks and duties was given to the selected Youth Volunteers that joined the Organizing Committee;

Steering the involvement and participation of partners towards the success of the event.

b. *Institutional, procedural and legal matters:*

- Assessment of proposals and approbation of the papers submitted by interested experts to be in accordance with the theme and satisfying "The Millennium Plan of Action(MPAC-3) 2010 to 2014";
- Preparation of recommendations to the Preparatory Committee concerning the appropriate arrangements with respect to relations with other organizations participating and/or organizing;
- Preparation and submission of a report on its activities to the institutions, organizations and government bodies involved in the MIYD;

c. *Matters related to the activities of the MIYD within its scope and functions:*

- Convocation and preparation towards the implementation of a successful Dialogue;
- Initiation of the work programme arising from discussions at the WAY Executive Committee meetings and also undertaking the work resulting from decisions of the Preparatory Committee meetings;
- Discussions on the suggestions for the inclusion of additional items on the agenda of the MIYD's work programme; and
- Preparation of proposals concerning the composition of a Draft Declaration Committee in accordance with the criteria set out in the MIYD Documents and Agenda.

DIALOGUE PROGRAM

The Dialogue agenda included plenary sessions, workshops and exhibitions, networking, working dinners, tourism and cultural visit.

Plenary sessions composed of introductory speeches and paper presentations from national, regional and international views of today, and also personal experience sharing from youth with relevance to the theme.

Workshops were brainstorming sessions and exhibitions for participants. In these sessions emphasis was made that there was no debate, no criticism, and no cross talk. Instead moderators called for suggestions and noted them, all of them, and later prioritized the list of suggestions to come up with a long term based declaration. The "brainstorm" was very structured and focused and the participants were asked to learn and practice the ground rules.

1. OPENING CEREMONY:

To commence the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue in attendance were; Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh, Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia, Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy, Melaka State Executive Councillor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGOs, Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia cum Vice President of the World Assembly of Youth, Hon. Datuk Hj. Norpipah Binti Abdol, Deputy State Executive Councilor for Youth and Heritage Melaka, and Ms. Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General to WAY. Also in attendance were several renowned WAY Vice Presidents, WAY Executive Committee members and various other government representatives from all over the world.

The welcoming remarks were delivered by the Secretary General of the World Assembly of Youth, Ms. Ediola Pashollari, who explored the theme behind MIYD "Youth Migration: A Step from Haven" and recapped the journey of the dialogue. On behalf of WAY, Ms. Ediola extended gratitude to all the youth organizations, government bodies, donors, speakers, delegates and dignitaries for having taken their time to be part of the dialogue.

Following the opening remarks, a video address was given by Ms. Masiela Lusha, WAY's first Goodwill Ambassador, who expressed her support and reaffirmed her dedication to the movement for change. She reiterated the importance of migration to the youth and for future generations. She encouraged the participants to share the passions they have towards youth migration and to listen with open hearts and ears to their esteemed acquaintances.

Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy on behalf of the President of WAY, Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron, confirmed the implementation of youth actions towards impacting the world by bringing reformation to policies in existence through Youth Organizations and National Youth Councils.

The delegates were graced by a speech from another guest of honour, Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh, Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia who acknowledged the dangers that young people encounter during migration process and declared that he will ensure that injustices faced by young migrants will be addressed, that the young migrants rights are fought for and each of their voices are heard.

The opening ceremony was brought to conclusion with the presentation of tokens of appreciation to the guest of honours and dignitaries present and took photos with representatives from different countries.

2. PLENARY SESSIONS:

A. SESSION I: BRAIN WAVING YOUTH MIGRATION

Speaker Topic: **“The Role of IOM towards the Well-Being of Youth Migrants”**



By **Ms. Elisabeth Tsakiri**, Head of International Organization for Migration (IOM) Office in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Ms. Tsakiri, in her presentation, spoke about the role of the International Organization of Migration, towards the well-being of youth migrants. She elaborated on how the IOM works to help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration, to promote international cooperation on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems and to provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people.

The IOM Constitution recognizes the link between migration and economic, social and cultural development, as well as to the right of freedom of movement.

IOM activities that cut across these areas include the promotion of international migration law, policy debate and guidance, protection of migrants' rights, migration health and the gender dimension of migration.

Speaker Topic: **“Migration And Development: What Can We Learn From Youth?”**



By **Mr. Michael Boampong**, Founder and Advisor of Young People We Care (YPWC), USA

Mr Boampong in his presentation on migration and development discussed the obstacles to change and what needs to be done to promote youth migration. Central to his discussion were 6 key points;

- Migration is part of human life – the desire to have better opportunities and security elsewhere
- Mainstreaming migration into development planning strategies is instrumental to enhancing the positive impacts of migration while mitigating risk.
- Ensuring the social, economic and cultural rights of young migrants, regardless of their migration status can enhance their human development outcomes
- Traditional and new media tools can play an active role in shaping public opinion about migration
- Empowering young people with reliable information is key to reducing their risks in the migration process (pre-migration, in transit, destination, and choosing to return)
- Migration is not a substitute to comprehensive national development agenda

Speaker Topic: **“Youth Contribution towards Sustainable Development”**



By **Dr. Balan Rathakrishnan**, Associate Professor at the National University of Malaysia (UKM), Malaysia

Dr. Balan in his discussion, focused on the push and pull factors of youth migration particularly, rural-urban migration in Malaysia, the impact of rural-urban migration on the youth, the relationship between the standard of living, national development, the influence of electronic media and the migration patterns and trends among the youth.

The discussion on youth contribution towards sustainable development encompassed;

- The reasons for youth migration from Sabah to the main city
- The social problems associated with youth migration
- The influence of electronic media on migration
- Development as a result of youth migration
- The influence of poverty as a driving factor of youth migration
- Job opportunities driving and as a result of migration.

Dr. Balan concluded his discussion with an examination of the implications of the discussed factors, laying emphasis to education as the key to achieving sustainable development

Speaker Topic: **“Youth Contribution towards Sustainable Development”**

By **Mr. Pradip Pariyar**, President, Nepal Youth Forum



As the president of the Nepal Youth Forum, Mr Pariyar initiated his presentation, by establishing the context of the youth situation of Nepal, highlighting the types of youth led organizations and defining the issues faced by the migrating Nepalese youth, key to which were; conflict, war, and violence.

He also highlighted the youth efforts to overcome these difficulties including peace rallies in Kathmandu with one of the pinnacle moments being peace agreement signing in 2006.

Mr Pariyar, went ahead to describe the youth situation in general and tried to draw better understanding to the migrating youth particularly in characteristics and expert understanding to them. He then went ahead to address the stigmatism of youth as a threat and rather show them as victims of global inaction to their plight. In conclusion, Mr Pariyar attempted to bring better understanding to why the youth migrate, and the impact of migration, all of which were supported by some interesting statistics.

B. SESSION II: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES ON YOUTH MIGRATION

Speaker Topic: ***“Climate Change Induced Migration”***



By **Hon. Pohamba Shifeta**, *Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia*

Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism (Namibia) and member of the WAY executive committee Hon. Pohamba Shifeta presented a rather stimulating and intriguing discussion on youth migration and a result of climate change with detailed reference to Namibia.

Hon. Shifeta identified climate change as a major threat to development in the 21st century and in the case of Namibia, highlighted the vulnerability to climate change due to dependency on climate sensitive sectors such as; agriculture, tourism, fisheries and so on. In response to the threat, he highlighted the Namibian government's efforts through the Ministry of Environment and Tourism with various climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives.

The honourable speaker, went ahead to underline the relevance of climate change trends to migration as well as the forms of climate change induced migration i.e. rural-urban migration ,migration from low lying areas to higher areas (in the case of floods) and migration in search of resources such as water (in the case of drought)

In conclusion, Hon. Shifeta outlined the impacts of climate change induced migration and warned of the growing threat it poses to sustainable development.

Speaker Topic: ***“Youth Migration: The Next Great World Opportunity”***



By **Mr. Chet W. Sisk**, *Life Coach and Leadership Development Specialist, USA*

Mr Sisk's presentation was one that was inspiring and invigorating to those in attendance. In it, he focused on the inherent opportunities presented by youth migration and the importance of the youth in today's changing world, to quote;

“Young people have a broader sense of world awareness than generations past, which means they can make their home anywhere”

He went on to highlight the importance of the internet in bridging the physical boundaries to migration, the opportunities presented and how the youth can take advantage of the trends.

Speaker Topic: "**Understanding Refugee Youths In Malaysia**"



By **Ms. Tan Sok Teng**, Senior Programme Assistant of Social Protection Fund at United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Malaysia.

In her presentation, Ms. Tan aimed to establish the context of the Malaysian refugee situation and the responsibilities of both the refugees and concerned stakeholders. In establishing this context, she gave a breakdown of the demographic, living as refugees in Malaysia, refugee work and employment, healthcare and health issues concerning refugee youth as well as their education.

Ms. Tan spoke passionately on the rights of refugees and the prospective solutions to the Malaysian refugee situation in terms of the shared responsibility between the government and private sector, as well as long term options for the refugees i.e. voluntary return, local integration or resettlement to a third country.

In conclusion, also spoke about the role of the UNHCR in terms of reception, registration, documentation and status determination of refugees and asylum seekers.

Speaker Topic: "**A Whole New World, A New Fantastic Point Of View!**"



By **Ms. Ena Peeva**, Junior Marketing Assistant of Solar Tiverija, The FYR of Macedonia

Ms. Peeva began her presentation with an excerpt (*a whole new world*) from the 1992 Walt Disney movie *Aladdin*, which presented a metaphor for the expectations for young aspirational migrants.

She questioned the migrating youth's preparedness to join other societies and their ability to effect change in new societies as opposed to their own. "*Are we really read to become second class citizens in other countries just because we were not ready to fight to stay first class citizens in our own?*"

She was quick to criticism of the people that migrate to new places while running away from the problems and injustices in their home communities as opposed to tackling them. Citing from her personal experiences, she highlighted the shortcomings of a life of migration, the lack of stability and missing out on key moments in her family life.

In contrast to the above, she cited opportunities, skills and experiences that she would have missed out had she chosen not to migrate and remain in her comfort zone. Her analysis of the pros and cons of migration on a personal level was both refreshing and invigorating.

C. SESSION III: SKETCHING PROSPECTS OF YOUTH MIGRATION

Speaker Topic: **“Labour Export Policy and the Migrant Youth”**



By **Ms. Pamela Espineli Pangilinan**, *Executive Committee Member at Migrante International and Adviser of Migrante Youth, Philippines.*

Speaking on the Labour Export Policy and the Migrant Youth, Ms. Pangilinan initially outlined the key ASEAN labour export policies and their relevance to the Filipino migrant youth. She went ahead to briefly define the youth migrant population aided by facts and figures pointing to increasing deployment and remittances of the Overseas Filipino Workforce (OFW).

In her presentation, she scrutinized the major problems faced by the migrating workforce including trafficking and illegal recruitment, as well as the brain drain effect affecting the Philippines job market.

With the aide of several cases, she continued to discuss the social cost of migration, going on to conclude her presentation by drawing on the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and their Families.

Speaker Topic: **“ Sport and Integration: Opportunities and Limits”**



By **Mr. Andre Matthias Muller**, *PHD Researcher at the University of Malaya (UM), Malaysia*

Mr Muller, in his presentation had a unique approach to sports and its importance to migrating youth. He cited the potential sports provide to overcome racial barriers, discrimination and language barriers, all the while fostering understanding and facilitating dialogue between divergent communities.

He pointed to the difficulties faced by migrating youth such as segregation and low integration, and explained how sports aides in overcoming them. An observation was made that people with a background in migration tend to have lower participation in sports, and went ahead to give various reasons why, as well as how we can encourage and foster their involvement.

He concluded by exploring various ways forward to that effect such as local area based outreach programmes, inward bonding in terms of social and cultural capital, and economic integration.

3. WORKSHOPS:

Based on the introductory perspective and case studies from the invited speakers who led structured discussions of the relevant issues pertaining to the theme, the practicality of involving the youth in decision making process was born in the workshops which were considered interactive and brainstorming sessions.

In the workshops the participants were divided into groups and asked to discuss on the challenges and roles played by the public and private sectors as well as the Non-governmental organizations in relation to youth migration. This later led into the creation of the Draft Declaration which was later presented to the participants for its adoption. *Refer to Pictures in the Appendix*

4. DECLARATION:

The declaration is a document bearing recommendations agreed by the participants that they feel ought to be implemented by the public and private sectors as well as NGOs. The participants through their thorough discussions, debates, thoughts, and experiences during the plenary sessions, and workshops and guided by the dialogue objectives agree to the final draft declaration in unity as they were brought together for the dialogue.

The adopted declaration was then distributed to all participants present and later on published and forwarded to all WAY members and other related institutions. *Refer to the Appendix*

5. TOUR:

The tour was organized into an informative visit based on the theme for the Dialogue in which the visit was scheduled on the afternoon of the 14th September, 2012. For this tour, the participants were taken to the Melaka Anti-Human Trafficking Offenders Camp in Tanjung Kling, and were given a chance to witness and meet some of the victims of human trafficking. Additionally, the participants visited various heritage sites in Melaka, including the Malaysia Youth Museum, Flor De La Mar Museum, Samudera Museum Phase 2, Malaysian Royal Navy Museum, Melaka Art Gallery, and the Melaka Sultanate Palace Museum. *Refer to Pictures in the Appendix*

6. CLOSING CEREMONY:

The closing ceremony of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue commenced with the reading of the adopted declaration.

Secretary General of WAY Ms. Ediola Pashollari, in her remarks, expressed her gratitude for the development of the declaration and the level of commitment demonstrated by everyone present during the entire dialogue. Her welcome remarks were followed by a speech from the WAY Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Masiela Lusha.

The participants were graced with a few words of inspiration from the former WAY president Datuk Seri Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, who encouraged the spirit of volunteerism, and acknowledged the hardships faced by migrating youth around the world. He encouraged them to keep fighting for what's right and always aspire to more.

The president of WAY Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron also shared with those in attendance, encouraging everyone to take it upon themselves to bring the declaration to reality in their respective organizations. He noted that youth should use their power as the middle man between the young and old generation to good use and be the picture and voice of legal migration.

In addition to officially closing the dialogue, the President invited all present to celebrate with WAY their 64th Anniversary. The anniversary was celebrated with cutting of the cake.

The closing ceremony was attended by various persons of honour including; Datuk Seri Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, former President of WAY; Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia cum Vice President of WAY; Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy, Melaka State Executive Councilor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGOs; Hon. Datuk HJH. Norpipah Binti Abdol, Deputy Chairman of Youth and Heritage, Melaka; Mr Hussein Abdullah M. Al- Ahmed, Vice President of WAY, Yemen; Dr. Alh. Muazu Babangida Aliyu, The Chief Servant of Niger State, Nigeria; His Excellency Premdut Doongoor, High Commissioner of the High Commission of Mauritius; His Excellency Idris Konjari, Ambassador of the Republic of Albania; His Excellency Yasser Hashem, Minister of Plenipotentiary, Deputy Chief Minister of Mission, Embassy of Egypt; His Excellency Akhmad DH Irfan, Minister of Social and Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia; Hon. Dato Chuah Ghee Lye, Chief Police Officer, Police Diraja Malaysia; and Mr Al- Hajj Mohammad Fazlul Haque, EXCO member of WAY.

The closing ceremony was concluded with a dinner, followed by certificate and awards presentation, souvenir presentation and photo session. The night was ended with a performance by one of the local bands, Black Velvet and dignitaries, participants, organisers and volunteers celebrated the end of the dialogue as one.

DELEGATES:

This year's MIYD 'Youth Migration: A Step from Haven' was graced by more than 200 youth and youth leaders from every region as expected by the organizers. The participants were able to tap into the invaluable insights of the forerunners in the migration field and those champions elucidating on recent developments and challenges while exploring better migration opportunities in the world.

The participants recognized the Dialogue as a potential driver for development growth and indulged in efforts to exploit the benefits that could be reaped from others present.

This intensified the atmosphere of self-motivation, and great networking groups formed as was the initial intention of the Melaka International Youth Dialogue to bring together young people and youth leaders to discuss this imminent issue and also formulate a guideline that encompasses the suggestions brought forward during the workshop sessions.

With the outcome document, the declaration, WAY Secretariat trusts that the delegates will play their role in disseminating the gained information to all their relevant institutions in their respective countries; form partnership with all relevant stakeholders; and also reach to the grass root levels and the community as a whole, with the aim to promote young people's right to migration.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

A complete financial report is available upon request from the secretariat

APPENDICES:



13TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE “YOUTH MIGRATION: A STEP FROM HAVEN”

12-14 SEPTEMBER 2013

HANG TUAH WORLD HERITAGE HOTEL, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

DECLARATION

1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 We, the participants of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) convened in Melaka from 12-14 September 2013 for an annual program organised 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 By recognising the significance of youth migration and considering the statistics and research done, WAY made it an obligation this year that the 13th MIYD encompassed migration as an enduring concern faced by the youth with the theme: Youth Migration: A Step From Haven. This theme has been recognised to fulfil the predominant opinions of young people hence an interactive discussion on this topic has been of significance to form, educate and increase awareness on the adversities and prerogatives of youth migration at different levels of society that we represent.
- 1.3 Therefore, with the above mentioned theme, participants and all relevant stakeholders present such as the young people, youth leaders, public and private sector, academia, international, regional and national organisation representatives gathered to call for action and structure experience on the youth migration issues. This outcome document is expected to enhance youth contribution towards promoting a more humane approach towards youth migration.
- 1.4 After thorough deliberations through paper presentations, plenary sessions, workshops and field trips, we, the participants, have put together this document with the following recommendations that we strongly feel ought to be implemented by all the stakeholders to ensure that the rights of various categories of youth migrants, such as but not limited to political, economic, environmental and social migrants, are acknowledged and protected.

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

- i. To raise an informative generation on the current situation of youth migration with anticipated behaviour adaptation and consequently admission to decision making amongst youth;
- ii. To foster youth action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the societies;
- iii. To address the challenges and determinants of migration faced by youth today;
- iv. To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
- v. To formulate the environmental, political, economic and cultural factors that are associated with migration;
- vi. To ascertain the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfil the right to freedom of movement for/among the young people;
- vii. To classify the role and the contribution of the national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining resourceful migration factors as a human rights issue;
- viii. To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing youth migration for the present and future;
- ix. To integrate networking, collaboration and cooperation between public and private sectors, civil societies, youth organisations and other stakeholders to address the issue of youth migration;

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Public Sector

2.1.1 To formulate, review, implement and evaluate policies and programmes on youth migration in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2.1.2 To ensure the implementation of coherent national, regional and international policies and guidelines with regards to youth migration.

2.1.3 To involve youth in the decision making processes, review, implementation and evaluation with regards to migration.

2.1.4 To create awareness and disseminate information on existing and newly formed policies and programmes on youth migration.

2.1.5 To provide resources to all relevant stakeholders on migration for effective implementation of policies and programmes on youth migration.

2.1.6 To establish accessible research centers that should provide up to date data (gender and age disaggregated), necessary and reliable information on youth migration.

2.1.7 To form policies that will provide an equal platform for both local and foreign youth with regards to employment, education, healthcare, security, housing, insurance etc.

2.2 Private sector

2.2.1 To collaborate with relevant stakeholders in order to provide and ensure decent jobs for young people.

2.2.2 To establish training centres that will provide vocational and professional skills for young people.

2.2.3 To provide resources for young migrants, for self-employment and others.

2.2.4 To support and adhere to basic employment regulations and rights of young migrant workers.

2.2.5 To comply with environmental laws in order to prevent environmentally induced migration.

2.2.6 To encourage companies to provide programmes for youth migrants as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies.

2.3 National, Regional and International NGOs

2.3.1 To establish peer-to-peer and participatory awareness programmes aimed at addressing issues on youth migration.

2.3.2 To diversify the projects and carry out continuous programmes that will help spread awareness and address the need for youth to be actively involved in tackling migration issues.

2.3.3 To involve more youth organisations in community service and volunteering through projects related to youth migration.

2.3.4 To encourage collaboration among various organisations in order to improve their respective capacities with regards to youth migration.

2.3.5 To foster synergy and collaboration, and strengthen the efforts of both the public and private sectors for addressing youth migration issues.

2.3.6 To enhance the capacity of relevant stakeholders in order to fight stigma and discriminatory practices towards youth migrants.

2.3.7 To recognise and communicate best practices of implemented migration

policies and programmes in order to encourage policy makers and other relevant stakeholders to tackle youth migration issues.

2.3.8 To encourage all the relevant stakeholders to utilise the traditional and new forms of media in disseminating current policies and programmes related to youth migration and development issues.

2.4 Media

2.4.1 To establish social network platforms where all youth can find relevant information and effectively communicate ideas on addressing migration challenges and opportunities.

2.4.2 To publish reliable and up-to-date information obtained from trusted and verifiable sources on migration issues.

2.4.3 To encourage investigative and critical journalism that addresses the leading factors of youth migration.

2.4.4 To produce, broadcast and publish informative programmes on migration focusing on legitimate procedures for young people.

2.4.5 To involve youth and other stakeholders in all forms of media programs related to migration issues.

2.5 Society

2.5.1 To foster positive public perception of every society and provide necessary support to the youth migrants.

2.5.2 To recognise that youth migrants have the say to make informed decisions regarding their rights.

2.5.3 To create a platform that promotes the socio-political, cultural and economic integration of youth immigrants.

2.5.4 To discourage and eradicate unhealthy practices including and not limited to discrimination and xenophobia towards young migrants.

3 GENERAL COMMENTS

3.1 To encourage all stakeholders to strengthen their partnership for the enhancement of youth migration and their rights.

3.2 To generate opportunities that would allow the youth to participate, create, develop and stand for rights of young migrants.

3.3 To promote local, national, regional and international development cooperation among stakeholders in origin, transit and destination countries or societies.

3.4 To urge collaboration among all the stakeholders in order to provide easy access to quality jobs, healthcare and education for young migrants.

3.5 To strengthen and promote meaningful youth participation at all levels of decision making on migration and implementation of programmes.

3.6 To ensure that migration and remittance does not replace long term development strategies or policies that are crucial towards youth development and self-actualisation.

3.7 To encourage youth to follow the appropriate legal channels of migration at all times.

3.8 To proactively engage youth-led activities to mitigate the challenges of youth migrants whilst enhancing their development potential.

4 CONCLUSION

We, the participants of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue, realise and recognise the importance of fundamental human rights of young people, regardless of their migration status. We seek to generate youth dialogues and advocate for legislations, policies and programmes at all levels of society in order to ensure a "safe haven" for young migrants.

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Albania	Saudi Arabia
Azerbaijan	Somalia
Bangladesh	Somaliland
Botswana	South Africa
Brunei Darussalam	Sri Lanka
China	Sudan
Czech Republic	Syria
Egypt	Uganda
Eritrea	United Arab Emirates
Ethiopia	United Kingdom
Germany	United States of America
Ghana	Uzbekistan
Hungary	Vietnam
India	Yemen
Indonesia	
Iran	
Kenya	
The FYR of Macedonia	
Mauritius	
Malaysia	
Namibia	
Nepal	
Nigeria	
Pakistan	
Philippines	

PRESS CONFERENCE



OPENING CEREMONY



GROUP PRESENTATIONS



CULTURAL PERFORMANCE



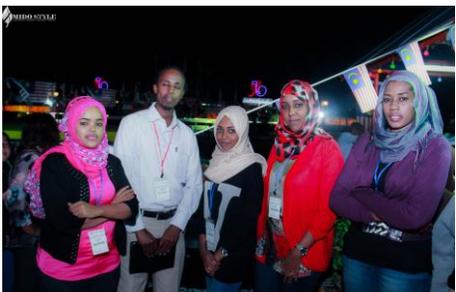
WORKSHOPS



PLENARY SESSIONS



TOURS & OUTINGS



NETWORKING SESSIONS



CLOSING CEREMONY



PRESS RELEASE – OPENING CEREMONY

The following Press Release was sent out to commemorate the official Opening Ceremony and other activities that took place on that day.

Melaka, 12 September 2013. THE Opening Ceremony of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) was held today at Hang Tuah World Heritage Hotel with the honourable presence of Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh, Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia, Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy, Melaka State Executive Councillor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGOs, Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia cum Vice President of the World Assembly of Youth, YB. Datuk Hjh. Norpipah Binti Abdol, Deputy State Executive Councilor for Youth and Heritage Melaka, and our very own Ms. Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General to WAY. We also had the presence of some of WAY Vice Presidents, WAY Executive Committee members and various other government representatives from all over the world.

The Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth, Ms. Ediola Pashollari, during her welcoming remarks introduced the theme of the MIYD and took the participants and delegates throughout the journey of the dialogue. She welcomed the participants both to the dialogue and thanked all the youth organizations, government bodies, donors, speakers, delegates and dignitaries for having taken their time to make themselves available for the event.

We had the honour of being addressed by a lady who will go in history as WAY's first ever Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Masiela Lusha. She devoted her time to make a video of her speech so that we all know she is part of the movement for change and to show her support. She reinstated the importance of migration; that it is not only for the youth but for the future generations and for the future of our world. She encouraged the participants to share the passions they have towards youth migration and to listen with open hearts and ears to their esteemed acquaintances.

Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy on behalf of the President of WAY, Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron confirmed the implementation of youth actions towards impacting the world by bringing reformation to policies in existence through Youth Organizations and National Youth Councils. He reaffirmed the youth of WAY's Millennium Plan of Actions towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by tapping on the potency of youth, governments and private sectors. He continued to encourage the youth to collectively work together, respecting other's rights when bringing out ideas on migration and its issues in general.

Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh, Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia in an effort to bring awareness on migration concerns, acknowledged the dangers that young people encounter during migration process. He declared that he will ensure that injustices faced by young migrants will be addressed, that the young migrants rights are fought for and each of their voices are heard. He went on to urge all parties concerned to go into this dialogue with a clear objective and that they should all play their role in changing the current youth migration status. He reminded the youth that their rights are in fact their greatest weapons against

challenges they endure and encouraged them to fight for them at all times until they are granted.

The opening ceremony was then concluded well with the presentation of tokens of appreciation to the guest of honours and dignitaries present and took photos with representatives from different countries. The day was continued with three plenary sessions; Brain Waving Youth Migration, Challenges and Opportunities on Youth Migration, and Sketching Prospects of Youth Migration. Presentations from government representative bodies, academicians, youth organizations, NGOs and private sectors from various countries shared their thoughts and expertise by joining forces to equip and empower the youth on youth migration from different perspectives.

Migration should not be an issue, it should be embraced, and we should all adhere to different state laws if at all we want to see change in our system. Thus far the participants have proved to be very active and we therefore look forward to having interactive and informative workshops that will deliver a fruitful outcome, for the next two days.

We concluded our day with cultural performances from the participants and WAY volunteers, which saw a variety of talent among all present here for the 13th MIYD.

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PRESS RELEASE – CLOSING CEREMONY

The following Press Release was sent out to commemorate the official Closing Ceremony and other activities that took place on that day.

Melaka, 14 September 2013 - THE closing ceremony of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue was celebrated with many interesting events. The day began with the reading of the draft declaration which was later adopted for implementation. Everyone present participated well proving that they indeed paid attention to the advices and feedbacks given by various speakers for the past two days.

Later during the day, the participants were taken on a field trip to the Anti- Human Trafficking Victims Camp in Tanjung Kling. It was during the visit that the participants were enlightened on the procedure done once a victim reports their fate to the authorities. It was a humbling experience for the participants as they showed concern and asked various questions and most of them extended a helping hand.

Ms. Ediola Pashollari, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) Secretary General welcomed all to the farewell gala dinner and closing ceremony later at night. In her welcoming remarks, she mentioned how grateful she was for the development of the declaration and the level of commitment demonstrated by everyone present during the entire dialogue. She also acknowledged the input of all dignitaries, and organizers and she hoped for a continuous link between the youth, WAY, National Youth Councils, Youth Organizations and Government Youth Representative Bodies. Her welcome remarks were followed by a speech from the WAY Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Masiela Lusha.

In his speech, the president of WAY encouraged everyone present to take upon themselves to make sure that the declaration presented today becomes a reality in their respective organizations. He noted that youth should use their power as the middle man between the young and old generation to good use and be the picture and voice of legal migration.

In addition to officially closing the dialogue, the President invited all present to celebrate with WAY their 64th Anniversary. The anniversary was celebrated with cutting of the cake.

The closing ceremony was attended by various persons of honour including; Datuk Seri Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, former President of WAY; Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia cum Vice President of WAY; Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy, Melaka State Executive Councilor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGOs; Hon. Datuk HJH. Norpipah Binti Abdol, Deputy Chairman of Youth and Heritage, Melaka; Mr Hussein Abdullah M. Al- Ahmed, Vice President of WAY, Yemen; Dr. Alh. Muazu Babangida Aliyu, The Chief Servant of Niger State, Nigeria; His Excellency Premdut Doongoor, High Commissioner of the High Commission of Mauritius; His Excellency Indris Konjari, Ambassador of the Republic of Albania; His Excellency Yasser Hashem, Minister of Plenipotentiary, Deputy Chief Minister of Mission, Embassy of Egypt; His Excellency Akhmad DH Irfan, Minister of Social and Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia; Hon. Dato Chuah Ghee Lye, Chief Police Officer, Police Diraja Malaysia; and Mr Al- Hajj Mohammad Fazlul Haque, EXCO member of WAY.

The closing ceremony was concluded with a dinner, followed by certificate and awards presentation, souvenir presentation and photo session. The night was ended with a performance by one of the local bands, Black Velvet and dignitaries, participants, organisers and volunteers celebrated the end of the dialogue as one.

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World Assembly of Youth

World Youth Complex, Lebuh Ayer Keroh, Ayer Keroh, 75450 Melaka, Malaysia

Tel: +606 232 1871/ 232 2711 Fax: +606 232 7271

Email: info@way.org.my Website: www.way.org.my