



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
ASAMBLEA MUNDIAL DE LA JUVENTUD
ASSEMBLEE MONDIALE DE LA JEUNESSE

ANNUAL REPORT

2012

Prepared by
WAY SECRETARIAT
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FORWARD

HON. DATUK WIRA IR. IDRIS HARON
PRESIDENT OF WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

Thank you very much for your commitment to YOUTH this past year. I am very proud of what we accomplished together in 2012. We ensured the long-term commitment of some of the world's most valuable generation.

Through our activities, we hope to have influenced important policies, legislation and government investments that will strengthen the youth of today. And we broadened support for sustainable development, developing new partnerships with the international community, private and public sector not forgetting the general public around the world.

Just as important, everyone at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY)—the Executive Board, Secretariat, and partners—at several occasions came together to agree on ambitious but achievable working plans for how we pursue our mission focusing on different facets towards a rapidly changing world. Together we have committed to work at a whole new scale. You will see this new framework reflected in our achievements that follow, which highlight the broad solutions that will define our work.

By 2015, the planet will need to support an estimated 8 billion people. That is nearly three times the global population at the time of our founding in 1949. Looking ahead, soaring demand for food, space, energy and water, coupled with the impacts of climate change, will strain the resources of our planet like never before. We anticipate that the current and future generation will be the most affected.

Yet we remain hopeful. Through our unique combination of knowledge, partnerships, innovation, skills, bold thinking and focus on tangible, lasting results, we can achieve our goals. We can marshal the resources, we have the experience and skill, and we have you—our supporters—who have made us for what we stand for today. Together, we can save the young generation on which our future depends on.

Again, let me iterate to you our valued colleagues, partners and leaders; our vocation, our youth, our lives, our hearts call not of subsidence merely they all request to set adrift towards development as many of us promised to our youth and other dependents.

Best wishes towards another successful year ahead!



PREFACE

MS. EDIOLA PASHOLLARI
SECRETARY GENERAL OF WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

We are proud to publish our 2012 annual report. This year has been very exciting, challenging and productive for all of us. We planned and organized more than 10 international events throughout the globe. Some of which were solely organized by our Secretariat; few of them were co-organized with member countries; while the rest were conducted in partnership with UN Agencies such as UNU, UNESCO and UNFPA.

These accomplishments were achieved as a result of the determination of our Secretariat to explore new solutions and push performance boundaries which reflected our continuing resolve to uphold our duties as custodian of the youth social activists of the world. We stand to honor the trust of our members and other stakeholders, and acknowledge their hard work, even in the face of the recent volatile and fundamentally-changing environment. This will create growth opportunities for some but threats for others. Hence we united and organized such diverse events, to prepare the young people to face and tackle such issues.

On behalf of WAY, we would like to pay tribute to the members of the Secretariat whose hard work and dedication contributed to our record achievements. We also wish to thank my distinguished colleagues on the Executive Committee and also those representing the member organizations for their invaluable support and contribution during the year.

We would also like to record my appreciation to all our partners and all other stakeholders for their resolute confidence in and support of our Organization towards serving the youth. Last but not least, we would like to sincerely thank the resilient youth who have contributed greatly from far and wide to make their voices heard one way or the other.

We look forward to working closely this year towards youth development and achieving a sustainable future for them.

Enjoy reading this report and for any feedback please write to us at info@way.org.my.

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BACKGROUND:

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY), since 1949, has taken an active role in taking up the position of the national coordinating body of 120 member organizations consisting of National Youth Councils and Youth Organizations from around the world. WAY acknowledges the Universal Human Rights as the foundation of its actions and services for the young people and youth worldwide.

We are bound by the following aims:

1. Increase inter-ethnic respect and to foster inter-cultural and international understanding and cooperation;
2. Facilitate the collection of information about the needs and problems of youth;
3. Disseminate information about the methods, techniques and activities of youth organizations;
4. Promote the interchange of ideas between youth of all countries;
5. Assist in the development of youth activities and to promote, by mutual aid, the extension of the work of voluntary youth organizations;
6. Cooperate in the development of national youth councils of voluntary youth organizations;
7. Establish and maintain relations international organizations, both voluntary and governmental;
8. Support and encourage the national movements of non-self-governing countries in their struggle for national liberation;
9. Promote tolerance, understanding, solidarity and cooperation among youth men and women irrespective of race, sex, language, religion or political orientation;
10. Encourage the full participation of young men and women in the development process of their countries;
11. Improve the equality between young men and women
12. Act as a representative body of national youth councils to the U.N and other appropriate governmental and non-governmental international bodies.

INTRODUCTION

The year 2012 commenced with a high note of positive reception from both nationally and internationally renowned organizations. We formed various partnerships with many organizations towards exalting youth development in areas like health, education, leadership, media, just to name a few.

World Assembly of Youth (WAY), with its strong work background, diverse portfolio of activities and unrelenting focus on execution and delivery of strategy will not only enable the Organization to withstand the already known cyclical fluctuations in the global economy but also to benefit from opportunities that could arise.

As a team we were bound to put in all efforts to further enhancing our ways of implementation at the same time compounding the youth to be more involved in the decision making process. With no doubt, we had the backing from most of our Volunteers once again. Hence we would like to acknowledge their services given to the society for youth development.

We further developed our Training of Youth towards preparing them for their future in various working environment such as in the IT field, administration, research, volunteer program and project coordination. All these so far have furnished sufficient results as expected with improvements in the working system of WAY Secretariat.

As per our annual publication, we maintained publishing our monthly e-bulletin, observed various UN international days and circulated several press releases in our website, groups and social media. They were also forwarded to all member countries, UN Agencies and other youth related organizations.

We continue to iterate our focus on internal excellence, on further growth in geographical coverage and services for youth.

OUR ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOP ON YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR 19TH TO 23RD MARCH 2012

Background

The world has evolved in the new millennium from the 20th to the 21st century. The scenario is no longer the same. Youth as the new citizens of the new millennium also need to evolve to remain relevant in the new era. The national and global needs are also no longer the same. So are the new needs and expectations of youth. This then requires a new approach in youth development, and hence a new form of leadership. This Workshop was aimed to explore where the new leadership for youth lies and to enhance approaches on Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

Aims, Theme and Objectives

The aim of this Workshop was to examine the implication of current leadership approaches in the new millennium. The theme of the Workshop was "Enhancing Youth Leadership for the Attainment of MDGs", in concert with the following objectives:

1. To examine the scenario of youth development in the new millennium
2. To determine new approaches in leadership
3. To provide new direction of youth contribution to enhance attainment of MDG.

Organizers

The Workshop was mainly organized by the International Youth Centre, Kuala Lumpur, with the support of Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia and in cooperation with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP), University Putra Malaysia (UPM), World Assembly of Youth (WAY), Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation (CAYC) and the Malaysian Youth Council (MBM)

Concept and Planning of Workshop

The concept paper and course content of the Workshop was formulated by a panel comprising members from the IYC and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). The panel was chaired by YM Dato' Raja Ruslan b. Raja Samah, Director of IYC and assisted by Prof. Dr Hj. Azimi b. Hj. Hamzah, Fellow of IYC and Mr. Lee Kwan Meng, Assistant Fellow of IYC. An organizing committee was formed to facilitate the implementation of the symposium. The panel and organizing committee discussions and meetings were coordinated and managed by the Programme Division of IYC.

Management and Organization of Workshop

A main organizing committee chaired by the IYC's Director was formed to facilitate the implementation of the workshop and members of the committee comprised senior officials from the various divisions of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia namely from the Policy Division, Youth Development Division, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tourism Ministry, Immigration Department, Royal Malaysian Police, Malaysia Airport Berhad (MAB) and other various agencies namely WAY, CAYC, IPPBM and MBM were also involved as organizing committee members. The final implementation of the workshop was successfully carried out with the formation of various sub-committees comprised of IYC's executives and administrative staff.

Participation

The participants came from diverse background and consisted of mainly youth leaders, social activist, volunteers, students, academician, governmental youth official, youth NGOs and representative from Asian and ASEAN countries. The workshop was attended by 50 participants from 15 countries within Asia including 14 from Malaysia.

The breakdown of participants is shown in the following table:

NO	COUNTRY	GENDER (M/F)	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS
1	BRUNEI DARUSSALAM	4 / 2	6
2	BANGLADESH	6 / -	6
3	GERMAN	- / 1	1
4	INDIA	2 / -	2
5	INDONESIA	2 / 1	3
6	MALDIVES	- / 1	1
7	NEPAL	2 / -	2
8	PAKISTAN	1 / -	1
9	PHILIPPINES	1 / 2	2
10	SRI LANKA	2 / 2	4
11	SUDAN	2 / -	2
12	THAILAND	3 / -	3
13	VIETNAM	1 / 1	2
14	YEMEN	1 / -	1
15	MALAYSIA	8 / 6	14
TOTAL		34 / 16	50

In summary, a total of 15 countries attended the Workshop including Malaysia. Thirty-six foreign participants attended the workshop while 14 participants were from Malaysia. Overall there were 34 male and 16 female participants.

Programme

The workshop methodology comprised of a Keynote Address, Country Presentations, Institutional visit work-group sessions, intergroup debate, debriefing and presentation of recommendations.

The Keynote Address was delivered by Mr. Marco Roncarati, Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (UNESCAP).

All 15 countries have presented a country report based on the guidelines given which include examine the scenario of youth development in the new millennium in their own country and determine new approaches in youth leadership while providing new direction of youth contribution to enhance attainment of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Participants were requested to concentrate on any one or all of the following four restructured Millennium Development Goals: healthy lifestyles; resolving unemployment; environmental sustainability and innovation and positive change.

The participants were divided into four group based on the four selected main topics of MDGs and presented the findings. The groups debated the topics facilitated by Mr. Mohamed Maliki, President, Malaysian Youth Council (MBM). All group work and group presentations were facilitated by Ms. Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General, World Assembly of Youth (WAY), Prof. Azimi Hamzah, IYC's Fellow, Mr. Lee Kwan Meng and Mr. Ong Ang Ieam.

Prof. Dr. Abu Daud Silong from University Putra Malaysia debriefed the workshop's participants on the overall leadership elements, approaches and new direction for youth contribution to enhance attainment of the MDGs. Prof. Dr. Abu Daud also deliberated on leadership theories and the framing of future leadership thinking in particular to youth development.

The participants visited the Perdana Leadership Foundation on 21 March 2012 in Precinct 8, Putrajaya. A briefing was conducted by the Foundation covering areas of national leadership in nation building. The participants were taken on a tour of the library which amassed numerous collections, publications and works of former Malaysia premier leadership.

The IYC provided major function as the secretariat of the workshop which includes logistic, full board and lodging, equipment, amenities and other facilities required for the smooth organization of the event. The workshop schedule, contents of programme, additional academic notes, paper presenters, rapporteurs, facilitators and overall methodology in implementing the workshop was facilitated by the Workshop Proceedings Sub-Committee headed by IYC's Fellow, Prof. Dr. Azimi Bin Hamzah.

The Opening Ceremony was officiated by Hon. Tuan Gan Ping Siew, Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia on 20th. March 2012, 5.00 pm. Hon. Datuk Wira Idris Haron, President of World Assembly of Youth (WAY) officially closed the workshop and presented certificates to the participants on 23 March 2012 at the Kampo Hall, International Youth Centre .

Conclusion

The organizing of the “Workshop on Youth Leadership in The New Millennium” gave participants an opportunity to learn and share ideas, experiences and expertise on issues concerning leadership new approach in youth development especially on MDGs and nation building. The needs and expectations of youth presently requires a new approach in youth development and hence a new form of leadership. This Workshop was able to explore where the new leadership for youth lies and has formulated a resolution on plans and recommendations to enhance approaches on Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

The participants resolved that the workshop provided them with new insight on the potential of new leadership approach, positive partnership in youth development within their own society and also at national and international level. Most of the workshop participants were motivated to address and put into practices the appropriate leadership model that is more effective in their own society and locality.

[Kuala Lumpur, March 2012]



CSR PROGRAM

'A Better Tomorrow Starts With Us!'

THE WEST CONCOURSE, DATARAN PAHLAWAN MEGAMALL, MELAKA
23RD TO 25TH MARCH 2012

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) was honored that the Secretariat participates at the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program '*A Better Tomorrow Starts With Us!*' hosted by the Dataran Pahlawan Megamall Management in Melaka, Malaysia. The program of the event comprised of exhibitions and simultaneous seminars organized by various organizations representing women.

WAY had the opportunity to host its own exhibition from 23rd to 25th March 2012 at 10a.m (1000HRS) to 10.00p.m (2200HRS) and a seminar on 25th March 2012 at 3.00 p.m (1500HRS) - 4.30 p.m (1630HRS) at the West Concourse Stage, Dataran Pahlawan Megamall, Melaka, during which we conducted a tardy observance of the year's International Women's Day '*Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures!*'.

Investing in young girls and women is essential for social change, now and for the future. Through connectivity they can have collective power and innovative measures both to change and improve their lives. At the core of this seminar was peer learning, by bringing together diverse young girls to learn life skills from their peers.

Amongst those who joined us was the Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron, President of WAY, Mr. Zali Matt Yasin, President of the Melaka State Youth Council and Ms. Ediola Pashollari, WAY Secretary General.

Programme of the 1 day Seminar is as seen below:

- Welcoming Remarks

- Poem – ‘*The World of a Girl*’
- Message by WAY Secretary General, Ms. Ediola Pashollari
- Message from UN Women Executive Director, Ms. Michelle Bachelet (Presented by a WAY Volunteer)
- A Young Woman Experience by Ms. Viloshini Baskaran, Volunteer Representative
- Message from UN Secretary General, Hon. Ban Ki Moon (Presented by a WAY Volunteer)
- Message by WAY President, Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron
- Learning Reflection – Inspiring Our Futures video

We were grateful for the volunteers and other guests who befitted a part of the world-wide movement to promote international awareness on gender equality and activism that will benefit our youth, community, states, nations and leaders to further the cause of international understanding, inspiration and novelty. On that day, we assumed a role of impacting the world of young women.

[Melaka, March 2012]



ROAD TO RIO +20

22ND APRIL 2012

In 2009 the UN General Assembly, decided to organize, on 20 – 22 June 2012 the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD/ Rio+20) at the highest possible level, including Heads Of States and Government or other representatives on two main themes, Green Economy and Governance. This event was scheduled to take place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

With this in mind, WAY joined the coalition partners for Road to Rio+20 where every partner collectively contributed to the achievement of a shared vision towards a successful Rio+20, through agreed initiatives. The coalition was based on consensus around its higher-level vision and strategy, but on the other hand it relied on a critical mass of engagement for every initiative it conceptualized, developed and implemented. Coalition members had common, but differentiated responsibilities for the fulfillment of agreed strategy, and were accountable to each other in the process.

We involved all WAY members and other organizations to organize events and activities from young people and youth organizations with the aim to create a global sense of responsibility for current and future generations to enjoy resources that will meet their daily needs, while generating a new social contract that places the planet at its center.

Amongst the options of participation, youth and youth leaders joined various **MyCity +20** organizers in their own countries. The call for action for this initiative was done before UNCSD Summit in June 2012. MyCity+20 initiative was aimed to mobilize youth, educating them on the urgency of Sustainable Development issues and encouraging them to involve themselves in the negotiation process, albeit from a distance. Also through this initiative, new methods were expounded upon for negotiating towards the some potential outcome to restructure the UN process and restore hope in the youth within the country and around the world.

Another option of participation was the initiative called **Rio+YOU**. The call for action was set for April 22, 2012 in collaboration with the Earth Day. We had the desire to change, to take part, to shout, to propose and especially the desire to work together for a better world. This was done in the form of a campaign that created awareness about the importance of the summit and the issues behind it. This also helped to encourage people from around the world to take action in their own lives and in the lives of their communities.

[Melaka, April 2012]

THE 6TH POSTGRADUATE FORUM ON HEALTH SYSTEMS & POLICIES

The 6th POSTGRADUATE FORUM ON HEALTH SYSTEMS AND POLICIES 2012
'Inspiring Sustainable Management of NCD: Challenges and Solutions for Health Systems'
WORLD YOUTH HOTEL, MELAKA, MALAYSIA
21ST TO 23RD MAY 2012

OVERVIEW

Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) are the leading causes of mortality and morbidity globally. In 2008, 63% of total deaths in the world (36.1 million deaths) were attributed to NCD, such as cardiovascular diseases, stroke, chronic respiratory diseases, cancers and diabetes. Approximately 80% of these NCD deaths (29 million) occurred in low- and middle-income countries and 29% of them were under the age of 60, compare to 13% in high income countries. As a result of population growth and improvement in longevity, it is estimated that NCD death will increase to 52 million in 2030. According to WHO projection, NCD will be responsible for three times as many disability adjusted life years (DALYs) and almost 5 times as many deaths as the combination of communicable diseases, maternal, perinatal and other nutritional conditions by 2030 in low and middle income countries,.

The urgency of addressing this issue has been the focus of attention of world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly, the World Health Assembly as well as the WHO Regional Committees. A great deal of research and study has been directed towards understanding NCD and its impact on the healthcare system as well as policy development and associated agenda. It has been well recognized that most NCDs are strongly associated and causally linked with various risk behaviors, mainly, tobacco use, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet and alcohol abuse. There is a critical need for strengthening national and global monitoring and surveillance system to increase the implementation of evidence-based measures to reduce the risk factors and to improve the access to cost effective health care interventions to reduce the mortality and morbidity among people.

The Postgraduate Forum was jointly organised by the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), Naresuan University, Gadjah Mada University and UKM Medical Centre, National University of Malaysia. It focused on bringing together postgraduate students in the area of public health, health systems and policy, health economics, health financing and other fields of research related to healthcare and its management to share their research findings and communicate with their peers about their experiences.

OBJECTIVES

This forum was held as a platform for postgraduate students to communicate their knowledge and experiences gained during postgraduate work and share it with those who are newly enrolled in the programme. Recent updates on research methods and new research findings will be made available through keynote address and plenary sessions by the invited speakers.

FOCUS:

1. Non-Communicable Diseases
2. Economic Evaluations and Health Financing
3. Health Sector Reform
4. Information Technology in Healthcare
5. Current State of Health Policies and Management in South East Asia
Health Management

ORGANIZERS: UNU-IIGH

COLLABORATION: Universitas Gadjah Mada Indonesia

Naresuan University Thailand

University Kebangsaan Malaysia

SUPPORTED BY: State Government of Melaka

Melaka International College of Science and Technology (MiCOST)

World Assembly of Youth (WAY)

World Youth Foundation (WYF)

PARTICIPANTS:

Postgraduate students from every field related to healthcare policy and management took this opportunity to share their research and get feedback from their peers. Also in attendance were youth considering postgraduate studies, either in the field of healthcare, associated disciplines or even other areas. They took this opportunity to learn from the experiences of other graduate students.

Healthcare professionals and members of the public who have an interest in the public implications of NCDs were also welcomed.

PROGRAMME:

The Programme mainly focused on paper presentations that were invited in the areas of health systems and policy as well as others within the scope of the forum. Thereafter were conducted the oral presentations allotted to all those who submitted their papers. Participants were also shown Poster presentations that included Brief descriptions, procedures and materials of research done.

As per the norm in Melaka, participants were taken on a historical tour of the city and entertained by the state cultural performers.

[Melaka, May 2012]



12TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE
'Health, it's My Right!'
PUTERI RESORT, MELAKA, MALAYSIA
28TH TO 30TH JUNE 2012

SUMMARY

The 12th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) 'Health, it's My Right!' was graced by more than 200 youth and youth leaders from every region as expected by the organizers. Among them, in attendance were the Minister of Youth and Sports (Yemen), Hon. Mr. Moammar Mutahar Mohamed Al-Eryani; Ambassador of the Republic of Yemen to Malaysia, H.E Mr. Abdullah Mohamad Ali Al-Montaser; Ambassador of Vietnam to Malaysia, H.E Prof. Nguyen Hong Thao; Ambassador of Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) to Malaysia, H.E Mr. Khamphan Anlavan; as well as members of the WAY Bureau and Executive Committee.

By recognizing the human right to health and considering the carried out research, WAY made it an obligation that the 12th MIYD would encompass health as an enduring concern faced by youth with the theme: *'Health, It's My Right!'* This theme had been recognized to fulfill the predominant opinions of young people hence an interactive discussion on this topic was of significance to form, educate, increase awareness and promote health amongst youth in the different levels of society that we represent.

The participants were able to tap into the invaluable insights of the forerunners in the health field and those champions elucidating on recent developments and challenges while exploring better health opportunities in the world. They 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.

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

Objectives:

1. To raise an informative youth generation on the current situation of youth health with anticipated behavior adaptation and consequently admission to decision making amongst youth;
2. To foster youth action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of their societies;
3. To catalyze the speed of transformed paradigm towards health issues;
4. To address the challenges and determinants of health faced by youth today;
5. To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
6. To formulate the psychological, social, and physical protective factors that are associated with better health;
7. To determine the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfill the youth right to health;
8. To identify the role and the contribution of governments, national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining health as a right issue;
9. To create and improve the national, regional and international policies governing youth health for the present and future;
10. To incorporate networking, collaboration and cooperation between governments, society and private sectors to address the issue of youth health;
11. To build and strengthen the social capacity to provide comprehensive care and a supportive environment for all youth in all regions.

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 health and the youth's right to health.

WAY firmly believes that increasing youth connectivity and harnessing the potential of the right to health as key enablers to stimulate social and economic benefits for the millions of 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.

[Melaka, June 2012]



THE 23RD INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM
'Youth and Media'
SEOUL AND GOESAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA
22ND TO 28TH AUGUST 2012

Background

In addition to the rapid development of electronic communication technology, the emergence of New Media, a new communication media with different characteristics to the existing one, contributed to the globalization through the diversification and the liberalization to humans. However, it is bringing about harmful consequences such as delivering distorted information, invasion of privacy and weakening of moral responsibility. Reflecting on this, it is necessary to introspect on the New Media.

Internet based new media devices which go beyond the international borders and becoming a worldwide talking point, such as smartphones, tablet PCs, UCC and SNS, not only do they allow youths to form a broad network, but they induce sharing of information and participation in society. Accordingly, the youths' interest and thoughts regarding the policies that the nations and international organizations promote should be shared, and for the balanced development of the new media, it is the intention to search the role of the youth in this.

A moral youth culture should be formed through an in-depth public discussion on proper utilization of new media and youth culture that change rapidly to its surrounding environment, between all the youth around the world.

Objectives

- A. To make youth aware of global problems, offering an opportunity to tackle them and to find alternative ways or solutions
- B. To improve cooperation and mutual understanding among youths across diverse cultures.
- C. To spread goodwill around the world and to build interactive global citizenship through networking among youths.

Sub-themes:

- *Social Media and Youth Culture*
- *International Youth Cooperation in the New Media Era*

Organizers

- A. Host: The Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, the Republic of Korea (MOGEF)
- B. Organizer: The National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea (NCYOK)
- C. Sponsors: World Assembly of Youth (WAY)
 - Asian Youth Council (AYC)
 - European Youth Forum (YFJ)
 - ASEAN University Network (AUN)

Participants

- A. Overseas participants: 45 delegates
- B. Korean participants: 30 delegates
- C. Participants had a good command of English

PROGRAM FORUM:**KEYNOTE SPEECH:**

Young-Suk Park, Chair of the Millennium Project, Korea

CASE STUDY PRESENTATIONS:

Various youth presented cases about their researches and studies according to the theme sub-topics.

GROUP DISCUSSION:

The discussion session begun with a seminar (that corresponded to the assigned sub-theme) and later ended with a Plenary Session and the creation of the declaration of commitment. The seminar provided guidelines to better understand the sub-theme that the youth were asked to discuss about during the discussion sessions. In these sessions, participants were grouped into 2 teams each. Each team was then sub divided into 6 small groups of 10 to discuss the ideas and issues relating to the overall forum.

During the Plenary Session the discussion groups presented their request of actions for different social entities for the drafting of the declaration. These requests were then formalized to be included in the final declaration which was presented during the Closing Ceremony.

Once the declaration was accepted by all participants present the final Declaration was sent to all governments of participants' countries and also the United Nations and other International Organizations.

PLENARY SESSION AND ADOPTION OF DECLARATION:

The participants consolidated based on the information and opinions presented during the lectures and discussions. They then created the Seoul Declaration which was a statement of expressing the resounding resolution of all participants of the forum based on the forum's topic of Technological Advancement and Future Society.

OTHER PROGRAMS:

- a. Orientation and Ice Breaking
- b. Korean Culture Lesson
- c. Seoul City Study Tour

[Seoul, August 2012]



9TH ALLIED HEALTH SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2012
'Towards Better Health'
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA
10TH TO 11TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The Scientific Conference was aimed to be part of the follow-up implementations of both the postgraduate forum and the 12th MIYD both of which focused on health as issues. This Conference provided great opportunities for the meet up of medical and health professionals including Allied Health Professionals (AHPs) to present scientific papers and be updated on new search findings, share knowledge, innovation skills. The AHPs are categorized into three main groups namely clinical, laboratory and public health- based.

Each AHP is unique in their training. Their expertise helps to bridge the primary; secondary and tertiary care for patients and community delivered by medical and health personnel. They contribute their services along a continuum of promotive, preventive, therapeutic and rehabilitative care.

ORGANIZERS: The Nutrition Society of Malaysia

COLLABORATION: Allied Health Sciences Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia

SUPPORTED BY: World Assembly of Youth (WAY)

World Youth Foundation (WYF)

My Medic News

Infinity 21

Tourism Malaysia

Sky Quest

Media Buzz

Creative Crest

Info Med

Super Pages

Participants included a wide range of local and international medical and health professionals ranging from practitioners to decision makers in the public and private sector. They were presented with oral and paper presentations that addressed the role of the AHPs, public health, clinical and laboratory practices, legislations and innovations.

[Kuala Lumpur, September 2012]



POLICY FORUM

'Engaging Youth in Planning Education for Social Transformation'

UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS, FRANCE

16TH TO 18TH OCTOBER, 2012

The UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), in partnership with the UNESCO Chair of Youth from the National University of Ireland, Galway; the UNESCO Chair of Peace from the University of Ulster; the World Assembly of Youth; the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); and Laval University, hosted a high-level Policy Forum on ***Engaging youth in planning education for social transformation*** held at the UNESCO headquarters, Paris from 16 to 18 October, 2012.

Despite considerable progress, many countries are not on target to meet the six 'Education for All' goals by 2015. Education and training systems in many countries are failing in their mandate to provide quality education that is both universally accessible and relevant to youth in their new and changing environments. Consequently, many young people have become disenfranchised with their education systems.

Youth are far from defeated, however, as many have become informal yet active participants in the creative learning and educational planning process. There is growing recognition amongst global and national institutions that young people are key partners in ensuring continued progress.

Objectives

The objective of the Policy Forum was to strengthen the dialogue between young people, policy-makers, practitioners, and researchers to promote meaningful youth engagement within different levels of formal and non-formal education and training sectors.

The Policy Forum was:

- Examining contemporary policy, practice, and research initiatives on youth engagement within education policy-making and programming in different countries and across different contexts;

- Providing a space for youth, policy-makers, practitioners, and researchers to engage in dialogue on how youth could be active partners in planning their education;
- Identifying promising strategies to help policy-makers plan for and promote meaningful youth engagement in education and training settings.

The policy forum assembled youth, policy-makers, academics and practitioners from around the world in a unique and interactive dialogue to promote the engagement of youth in educational planning. By linking youth and policy-makers world-wide both virtually through online platforms and physically during Paris event, the Policy forum considered specific issues related to the role of education in engaging youth in peace building, civic engagement and in the transition into employment.

The Forum was inaugurated by Ms Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director-General and was linked to the launch of the 2012 EFA Global Monitoring Report on Youth, Work and Skills on Tuesday 16 October. It included high-level keynote speakers, among whom Mr. Forest Whitaker, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Reconciliation, presented his work on youth and leadership in Uganda.

A concrete Agenda for Action, based on the key recommendations emerging from the Forum and from the virtual debates around the world was borne and disseminated in a number of countries as part of a follow-up programme.

[Paris, October 2012]

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YOUTH VOLUNTEERS
AS ENABLERS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR
3RD TO 6TH DECEMBER 2012**

Background

Conflicts are occurring in many parts of the world today. There are untold suffering and lives are being lost. Whatever the situation, every time there is conflict, volunteers have been providing aid and support to the suffering victims. In most cases, medical aid is the norm. However, these conflict situations have no end. Before a conflict is resolved, new ones started. There is so much that youth volunteers can do other than helping the victims to rebuild their lives and to ease their suffering. Resolutions of such conflicts are the responsibilities of policy and decision makers at the national and global levels.

The experience of youth volunteers in such situations though can enable them to advocate the prevention of future conflicts. And this would be a more meaningful and constructive role that youth volunteers to play. Instead of being perpetrators of future conflicts, youth volunteers could be leaders and activists to champion the avoidance of new future conflicts. Since they have experienced and realize the futility of such conflicts and great suffering of the victims, they would be in a better position to advocate the prevention of future conflicts and ensure that the future of mankind will be once of peace and harmony.

This conference was conducted with the purpose of examining the roles that youth volunteers can play in preventing conflicts, and learning from the experiences of those who had been there. It also focused to promote the noble role of volunteers in conflicts in conjunction with International Volunteer Day on December 5.

Aim

The aim is to promote the role of youth volunteers in conflict prevention and how this cause could be advocated to the world.

Objectives

1. Getting an overview of global conflict situations
2. Examine the roles of youth volunteers in conflict
3. Share experiences on being in conflict situations
4. Determine the challenges in conflict prevention
5. Outline a new strategy of youth volunteer engagement in conflict prevention

Theme

UN theme for IVD 2012: "Volunteering for the Millennium Development Goals"

Organizers

The Workshop was mainly organized by the International Youth Centre, Kuala Lumpur, with the cooperation of Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Malaysia Institute for Research in Youth Development, World Assembly of Youth (WAY), Committee for ASEAN Youth Cooperation (CAYC) and the Malaysian Youth Council (MBM)

Concept and Planning of Conference

The concept paper and course content of the conference was formulated by a panel comprising members from the IYC and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM). The panel was chaired by YM Dato' Raja Ruslan b. Raja Samah, Director of IYC and assisted by Prof. Dr Hj. Azimi b. Hj. Hamzah, Fellow of IYC and Mr. Lee Kwan Meng, Assistant Fellow of IYC.

An organizing committee was formed to facilitate the implementation of the Conference. The panel and organizing committee discussions and meetings was coordinated and managed by the Programme Division of IYC.

Management and Organization of Conference

A main organizing committee chaired by the IYC's Director was formed to facilitate the implementation of the conference and members of the committee comprised senior officials from the various divisions of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia namely from the Malaysia Institute for Research in Youth Development, Policy Division, Youth Development Division, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tourism Ministry, Immigration Department, Royal Malaysian Police, Malaysia Airport Berhad (MAB) and other various agencies were also involved as organizing committee members.

The final implementation of the Conference was successfully carried out with the formation of various sub-committees comprising IYC's executives and administrative staff.

Participation

The participant's background were mainly youth leaders, social activist, volunteers, students, academician, government official, youth NGOs and representative from Asian, ASEAN and African countries. The conference was attended by 70 participants from 16 countries including 30 from Malaysia.

The breakdown of participants is shown in the following table:

NO	COUNTRY	GENDER (M/F)	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS
1	ALGERIA	2 / -	2
2	CAMBODIA	1 / 1	2
3	INDIA	3 / -	3
4	INDONESIA	4 / 9	13
5	IRAN	- / 1	1
6	MALDIVES	1 / 1	2
7	LIBYA	1 / 1	2
8	PAKISTAN	3 / -	3
9	PHILIPPINES	1 / 2	3
10	UGANDA	1 / -	1
11	SOMALIA	1 / -	1
12	SAUDI ARABIA	1 / -	1
13	THAILAND	1 / -	1
14	YEMEN	3 / 1	4
15	ZIMBABWE	1 / -	1
16	MALAYSIA	17 / 13	30
TOTAL		41 / 29	70

In summary 16 countries attended the conference. The number of foreign participants was 40 and 30 participants were from Malaysia. Overall there were 41 males and 29 females participants.

Programme:

The conference methodology comprised of Keynote Address, Paper Presentation and Forum sessions. The Papers Presentations during the Conference were as follows:

Paper 1. "Overview of Global Conflict Situations" by Ms Katri Susanna Hoch, Human Rights Officer United Nation Country Team

Paper 2. "Challenges in Conflict Prevention in the Context of Millennium Development Goals (MDG)" By Ms. Rahimah Yeop, Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR)

Paper 3. "Roles of Youth Volunteer in Conflict" Dr. Jeyathesan Kulasingam, Red Crescent Malaysia

Paper 4. "Strategy of Youth Volunteer Engagement in Conflict Prevention" By Dr. Jamilah bin Othman, University Putra Malaysia (UPM)

The title of the Forum: "Experiences of volunteers in conflicts situation". The following three panelist representing 3 different agencies involving in volunteerism activities participated in the Forum:

Panelist 1. Mr. Khalek Awang, Chief Executive Officer, Global Movement of Moderates Foundation (GMM)

Panelist 2. Mr. Jufitri Joha, ABIM Malaysia

Panelist 3. Mr. Abd. Rahim Manja, Mercy Malaysia

The IYC staff and volunteers played a major role as the secretariat of the conference and had provided all the logistic, equipment, amenities and other facilities required for the smooth organization of the event. All board and lodging for participants and secretariat staff from 3rd. to 6th. December 2012 was administered fully by the IYC.

The management of the conference: schedule, contents of programme, additional academic notes, paper presenters, rapporteurs, facilitators, and overall methodology in implementing the conference was facilitated by the Youth Development Panel of IYC headed by IYC Fellow, Prof. Dr. Azimi Bin Hamzah from Universiti Putra Malaysia and the various sub-committees.

The Honorable Senator Gan Ping Siew, the Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia officially open the Conference and presented souvenir to all participating countries at 12.30 pm., 5 December 2012 at the Kampo Hall, International Youth Centre. YBhg. Dato' Mohid Bin Mohamed, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Youth and Sports cum Chairman of IYC was also present during the ceremony.

A signing ceremony on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between IYC and Universiti Putra Malaysia was also held during the Opening Ceremony and witnessed by the Honourable Minister

The venue and accommodation was considered excellent and suitable for organizing such an international conference. The participants accorded words of thanks and appreciation to the Director of International Youth Centre (IYC) and staff of IYC for organizing this conference.

Conclusion

The organizing of the Conference has given the participants an opportunity to learn and share ideas, experiences and expertise on issues concerning volunteering activities in the relation to conflict situation.

The participants also resolved that the Conference gave them new insight on the potential of partnership and networking in designing, planning and implementation of voluntary work amongst local society or at international level. The high motivation shown by all participants to address the issues more effectively in various areas concerning voluntary service and management is visible through the questions and answers session throughout the Conference.

Overall the conference successfully achieved to highlight the major elements and important issues related to voluntary and conflict situations. The conference also successfully stressed the importance of bilateral and multilateral cooperation among institutions in relations to voluntary training and youth organizations.

[Kuala Lumpur, December 2012]



ICPD GLOBAL YOUTH FORUM

'Youth Rights Placed at the Heart of Development'

Bali, Indonesia

4TH TO 6TH DECEMBER 2012

At the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo in 1994, 179 Governments adopted a landmark twenty year Programme of Action. Led by the United Nations ICPD was more than a conference; it was a turning point. It signaled a fundamental change in the approach to population and put the needs and rights of individuals at the heart of global, regional and national development policies and programmes.

The ICPD created a shared commitment from world leaders to:

- Promote human rights and dignity;
- Support access to family planning, sexual and reproductive health and rights;
- Advance gender equality and the empowerment of women;
- Eliminate violence against women;
- Address environmental issues associated with population and development.

As the Cairo Programme of Action's twenty year anniversary approaches, the world's nations have renewed their commitment to making progress on the themes of ICPD. They asked for an in-depth review of progress and recommendations on actions for the future. This review was called **ICPD Beyond 2014**.

The review was meant to identify areas of advances made, challenges that still exist, how progress has been achieved and what countries can do to make best use of resources to deliver the vision of Cairo. A report on progress, gaps and recommendations for future actions will be presented in a report by the United Nations Secretary General in 2014.

The Review process

In the spirit of Cairo, the ICPD Beyond 2014 review worked to put the people most affected by the issues at the heart of decision-making and data gathering. In particular, it pursued to engage those people, who may not have been born in 1994, but who have most to gain from the success of the ICPD programme; and those who will be the future opinion leaders and decision-makers of the world.

The information gathering process for the review was conducted through consultation and engagement of civil society, young people and United Nations system partners and consisted of three key activity strands:

- **A global survey tool**

The key tool used to gather information and data from countries regarding progress and challenges in delivering the ICPD Programme of Action. The survey tool questionnaire was developed with input from civil society organisations, academic institutions, UN system partners and governments. The survey was distributed to governments in July 2012 for completion by September 2012. UNFPA country offices supported the engagement of civil society and young people in the survey completion to ensure a rounded perspective on the issues.

- **Civil society engagement events**

A series of global and regional consultations were held with civil society (with emphasis on increasing youth engagement) in Turkey, Jamaica, Ghana, Malaysia and Uruguay. These events aimed to raise awareness of the process and create sustainable civil society networks that will engage diverse voices into the information gathering process and generate a movement to advance the Cairo agenda.

- **Thematic conferences**

Questionnaires were unlikely to capture all the information that was needed to inform the review, especially in the areas of young people, women's health and human rights in relation to the Cairo agenda. To fill the gaps there were three thematic conferences on each of these topics. **The first of these was the Global Youth Forum that took place in Bali, Indonesia .**

The forum brought together 650 participants, comprised of young people, NGOs, Governments, the private sector, educational institutions and the UN system, under the leadership of young people themselves, to address issues for youth and suggest action oriented recommendations which were directly input into the global report of the ICPD Beyond 2014 review process. Youth engagement in the Forum was broadened through virtual events and the development of innovative, creative social media applications that will excite and enable direct input and dialogue with delegates at the Bali Forum.

All of the data and information from the survey, engagement events and thematic conferences were distilled into a summary report with recommendations by the UN Secretary General. A special session of the General Assembly discussed the report in which the Heads of State and Government reaffirmed their commitment to the Programme of Action Beyond 2014. The recommendations of the ICPD Review will inform the United Nation's development agenda beyond 2015, contributing to the content of new global development goals and targets. This provides a unique opportunity to ensure that the needs of women and young people, particularly in relation to their sexual and reproductive health and rights, are placed at the centre of the development agenda for decades to come.

[Bali, December 2012]

PUBLICATION:

A. QUARTER 1: JANUARY TO APRIL 2012

- ❖ Click this link to view our [JANUARY 2012 BULLETIN](#)
- ❖ Click this link to view our [FEBRUARY 2012 BULLETIN](#)



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY:

CONNECTING GIRLS, INSPIRING FUTURES

DATE: 8TH MARCH 2012

Connecting girls, inspiring futures! What a beatific and powerful theme to explore in the course of raising a standard for peace, tolerance, gender equality and respect for women's rights at all levels of society. This year's theme supports the notion of integrating together fresh minds to constructively strategize on being role figures in the community and having greater impacts therewith.

Good training and modeling starts from young. This is the time to curve the next generation of brilliant, strong and virtuous young women figures with an unshakable sense of integrity in the society by networking them to work together to inspire their futures. Inspiration should range from encouraging and motivating them to be self-disciplined, visionary, responsible to self as the architects of their own futures and working together in harmony with others. In this new era, individualism has to be abolished. Young girls need a paradigm shift from individualism to

interdependence on one another, humbly appreciating the input ideas of others. No man is an island; we all need each other in some ways.

There is a saying that 'history is written by the old but made by the young'. Young girls are capable, creative, energetic and prolific. Through consistent guidance and wisdom these qualities can be channeled to build strong nations. Young girls also have a unique contribution to make to national development due to their zeal, and an ability to inject fresh verve.

Today the world presents a better platform for young girls and women to network and raise their voice unlike decades ago where women were treated as objects of derision. Dating back to hundreds of years ago, women had to struggle for their oppression in areas such as political, economic, working class and even in their homes. A lot of gender disparity existed. It was only in 1909 that the first national woman's day was observed in the United States. Then in 1975, during International Women's Year, the United Nations began celebrating International Women's Day on 8 March. Nonetheless the saga for gender equality and women's freedom continues.

With the massive advancement of technology, we raise a voice for all to seize every opportunity presented to reach all young girls, women, and mother figures of communities to appreciate them on this day. The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) calls on all to empower young girls, inspire their futures even those in rural areas where technology seems to be lacking the most. Leaders should invest in building up responsible young women who will make informed decisions freely, and take responsibility for their lives. In order to attain the Millennium Development Goal of promoting gender equality and women empowerment, all national stakeholders will have to work towards

respecting and observing women rights, inclusion of women in decision making processes, and be neutral in order to represent the interests of everyone equally. Young girls should stand up to their roles, set achievable goals, be visionary and persevering.

In WAY's third Millennium Plan of Action, the organization has assumed a critical role as a way of achieving the development goal by 2014. The organization has pledged to globally reduce gender disparity in the work place by 10%, achieve gender equality in education, work force and community and empower women to participate actively at all levels within the community. In all of our events, WAY gives equal treatment and equal access to resources to both men and women and ascertains that no one's right is trampled upon. This shall continue to be our heart as we are driven to observe the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In celebrating women and their achievements, it would be good for everyone to bear in mind that a sustainable society is one that includes gender equality. On that note, though the chief focus is to connect girls let us not forget to connect the boys equally. Connect everyone with parity in order to have one mighty sustained global community.

HAPPY WOMEN'S DAY!

-END-

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION



DATE: 21ST MARCH 2012

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, March 21, commemorates the 1960 Sharpeville Massacre of 69 protestors during a serene rally. On that day peaceful demonstrators against apartheid were killed. On that note, in 1966, the United Nations therefore declared that each year on March 21, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination should be observed.

Discrimination amid human beings on the grounds of color or ethnic origin is an offense to human dignity, freedom and democracy. Racist laws and practices have henceforth been abolished in many countries, and the International Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is now nearing universal ratification.

Though laws have been enforced and change took its course, racial discrimination is still prevalent in some societies, hampering advancement of millions of people worldwide. Potential and talents are buried yearly as the marginalized are not given full and equal access to national resources. Racism takes form at every level of society; economic, political, work places by denying individuals the basic principles of equality and enjoyment of human rights. Some even pervert education to feed intolerance by twisting science to kill on a large scale of people, some fuel ethnic hatred and negligence of the minority has the

ability to destroy lives and fracture communities. In all regions, too many individuals, communities and societies suffer from the injustice and stigma that racism brings.

The world needs to know that we all constitute one human family. Instead of allowing diversity of race and culture to become a limiting factor in human exchange and development, we all may be encouraged to refocus our understanding and discern in diversity the potential for mutual enrichment. The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) calls on all to confront and eliminate the horrors of racial discrimination prevalent amongst us and to take comprehensive measures against them. Racial diversity ought to be celebrated and not treated as a threat at the expense of the minority; it is worth embracing and celebrating.

WAY pledges and encourages others as well; governments, NGOs, private companies and the community at large to pledge themselves to seek conversion of mind and inspire a life of human rights fulfilment giving room for all gifting and potential to be equally nurtured. The organization also reaffirms its stance on the promotion of interethnic respect and fostering intercultural understanding and cooperation to catalyse the peaceful and democratic regimes the world desires to implement.

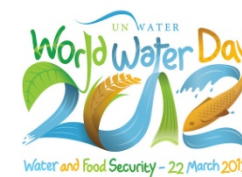
Without progress today, there will be no sustainable development tomorrow. Be challenged to eliminate racial discrimination. It starts with you and me today!

-END-

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD WATER DAY: "WATER AND FOOD SECURITY"



DATE: 22ND MARCH 2012

Water is the source and preserver of life. There can be no food production without water which makes it an important aspect in eradicating extreme poverty. Industrially, water is a prerequisite for economic growth and social development and a better administration. Agriculture is by far the largest consumer of fresh water.

Water scarcity makes us aware of its dire importance. The roles we play as individuals can either impact the conservation or depletion of water. Keeping and finding new water sources today is proving to be difficult especially in a world of 7 billion people. A quarter of the world's population lacks consistent access to fresh water and due to uneven distribution and scarcity there is a rise in conflicts, ill health and deaths.

The world needs sustainable management of fresh water resources that are already in existence as demands are increasing every year for it while resources are becoming more and more limited. Sadly a lot of people are unaware of the stern attention needed to be given to the issue. Raising awareness on the issue by informed organisations, governments and ministries becomes therefore imperative. For that reason, it is everyone's responsibility to engage in meaningful activities to save the little we have such as cleaning water bodies, producing quality food by using less water, catching floodwaters in underground cisterns to be used during the dry seasons for agricultural and industrial purposes, stopping the use

of pesticides that make water undrinkable and reduces food and water wastage. Good infrastructures need to be constructed to conserve water especially in remote and underprivileged areas.

Join us at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) to eradicate extreme hunger by strengthening access to clean water to all, empowering small and large scale food producers, raising awareness on the water shortage looming over us. WAY invites you to co-partner with its representatives to organize campaigns and programs to tackle the issue by reducing the amount of people without access to sanitary water by half by 2015, and provide a sustainable sources of water for your youth. All sectors should put into place all policies that govern the admittance and maintenance of water and food security for all.

Everyone needs full and equal access to clean fresh water and good quality food, it is our right. Use water wisely so that your neighbor can enjoy the same benefits as well. Act responsibly, in doing so you are exercising your right well and saving lives!

-END-

❖ Click this link to view our [MARCH 2012 BULLETIN](#)

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE



WORLD HEALTH DAY: "AGING AND HEALTH: GOOD HEALTH ADDS LIFE TO YEARS"

DATE: 7TH APRIL 2012

There is but one thing that we all cannot avoid in life, health. To live is a decision, and the choices we make shape the kind of people we become. Living healthy enables our bodies to continue running the race till we see wrinkles on our faces, that is to say it adds more years to our lives. Good health is then, resembled in the appearance of a person.

Healthy living does not just stop at watching our diets but it also encompasses psychological health; having the serenity of mind, and knowing how to deal with situations with the propensity to cause depression. This higher level of good health requires living a balanced life in all sense. Life is an experience on its own and to have it beautiful requires good discipline. We all need to discipline ourselves for the purpose of goodness for it profits the body and adds life to our bones.

Every time we wake up to see the day means aging to us and it is an inevitable process. We need to invest resourcefully to add value to our whole being especially in a world of 7 billion people with new diseases developing every day. The more the people the lesser the health facilities we have especially in poorer countries. Be encouraged to know that it does not take riches for one to be healthy; a rich man is a wise and healthy man who takes heed to what appreciates life for he shall live longer to enjoy its benefits.

Taking adequate care of oneself should also mean taking care of other people around us especially the young ones. Therefore the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is facilitating the 12th Melaka International Youth Dialogue under the banner, 'Health it's My Right!' from 28th to 30th June, this year, to take a step further in encouraging all leaders and youth to contribute their views and concerns profoundly in order to enhance the implementation of policies all around the world.

We believe an investment in youth renders remuneration for the society as they play an active role in all levels of community development. On the other hand, the older generation, through intergenerational relations, can teach our children and youth morally upright paths to follow by sharing life experiences, knowledge and wisdom. Collective efforts bear much fruit than individual efforts, so join us at WAY to continue raising a standard of awareness on health and combat the diseases that claim lives at tender ages.

Together we can make our world a healthy environment to live in. We all have one life to live so cherish its preciousness. Let us be merry in aging together by living healthy.

-END-

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

EARTH DAY: "MOBILIZE THE EARTH"

DATE: 22ND APRIL 2012



Mother earth has survived long to experience a tremendous number of things; from bearing 7 billion people to providing food, water, shelter and even a burial to the faithfully departed. Every being; people, plants and animals has its walk shaped by the earth. When we need medicine for all our sicknesses we look and turn to what the earth is able to produce for us so we may live, when we need natural resources and treasures we explore them from the heart of the earth. As a mother loves, nurtures and sacrifices for her children so has the earth held us in her bosom.

Though the earth has no personal being, it has its rights. Time to know that the earth won't wait; there is no more time to waste idling around. Efforts to mobilize environmental friendly activities need to be acted upon. Disasters are all around us, happening almost every day; tsunamis, hurricanes, floods, earth quakes and many other environmental issues simply because there is an enormous pressure exerted on the earth. While millions are going green, involving in global conversations, demand for its protection, environmental education in schools and communities on this day, the question should be what is my responsibility towards the planet and how can I play it positively as a young person?

Do not be left out. Earth day is an opportunity to do good to the planet. Be sure to involve in activities organised in your locality, or organisation. These activities may be tree planting, minimising water wastage,

recycling, cleaning your surrounding and hosting peaceful rallies on a healthy sustainable environment. Act responsibly so that we may preserve our earth. You may be surprised by how much energy spent can result in exceptional impact.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY), is motivated to fulfil its roles and responsibilities towards the earth, that is why the organisation has ascertained to carry out its obligations; the WAY plan of Action towards the Millennium Development Goal of “Ensuring a Sustainable Development for the Environment” by 2014. In our publication and events, we aim to raise awareness on the above especially among the youth with the desire of reducing 20% the effect of environmental degradation globally and maintaining environmental integrity among member countries.

For example, WAY, since last year, is enduring a partnership with more than 70 youth organizations around the world under the banner ‘the Road to Rio +20’. Such is in sight of generating grass roots that will create an inclusive sense of responsibility for current and future generations to relish sufficient resources to meet their needs, while generating a new accord. In another perspective we see Rio +20 as a cusp or a turning point in global awareness of our dependence on our planet. Most importantly, we advocate that Rio +20 must build a sense of confidence beyond its existence towards the rapid transition of responsible governance in sustainable communities and engaging citizenry for people and the planet.

This is by far not going to be the conclusion of WAY indulging in such advocacy as we see this as the WAY forward in also empowering young people around the world against such intricacies that they face every

day. We push for all youth and youth leaders to continue working in initiatives both within their localities and outside.

The world is doing something on EARTH DAY, be sure to do your part!

-END-



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD MALARIA DAY - 'SUSTAIN GAINS, SAVES LIVES: INVEST IN

MALARIA'

DATE: 25TH APRIL 2012

Health! It surely is everybody's right. Humanity deserves serenity in their bodies, healthy environments to live in, good affordable health facilities, but how can that be when we have diseases such as Malaria everywhere threatening almost half of the world population? So far malaria has caused about 216 million illnesses and claimed approximately one million lives most of them being children under the age of 5 while the economic cost stands at 12 billion per year. Loss of life represents loss of valuable human capital, potential and skills for national development.

Since efforts to control the disease have been implemented in 2000, the number of malaria cases has reduced by 17% and 25% in deaths worldwide, especially in developing countries. Extensive funding has grown over the years. Interventions have been able to reduce this burden of disease, making the world a sustainable place to live, indeed a good development.

This year, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is pleased to take part in efforts to "Sustain Gains, Save lives: Invest in Malaria" through its 12th Melaka International Youth Dialogue with the theme "Health, it's My Right!" in June. An unprecedented effort to educate, invest resourcefully in the lives of youth improving their lives, offering strategic information to enrich good health, and managing a sustainable environment is in

development. WAY secretariat is exuberant to host and serve the needs of youth under this banner while pursuing the Millennium Development Goal of "Health, HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases".

WAY concedes that collective work yields superior results than individual work. Therefore, be encouraged as a youth, citizen or leader to partner and involve widely in these great many activities to prevent and control malaria. Despite the current economic climate, development aid needs to continue flowing to build clinics, hospital facilities, provide access to life saving necessities for malaria patients' especially in Africa, and it takes a willing heart to join efforts to remit the challenges.

If communities can continue funding efforts and measures on a wide scale to monitor malaria, then the burden of the disease will be significantly reduced. Extraordinary results are achieved by the input of extraordinary people; renew your commitment to curb the disease.

The clock is ticking; your intervention is needed so let's keep the momentum going.

-END-

❖ Click this link to view our [APRIL 2012 BULLETIN](#)

B. QUARTER 2: MAY TO AUGUST 2012



World Press
Freedom Day

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

**WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY – “NEW VOICES:
MEDIA FREEDOM HELPING TO TRANSFORM**

SOCIETIES”

DATE: 3RD MAY 2012

The media has, to this day become the most influential and most informative driving force in the world. Daily we get to know the happenings all around us, the changes taking place and so on. The media has indeed helped to make the world “small”. It is because of the media that the youth get to be well informed and gain knowledge due to advancement in Information communication technology (ICT).

As the world celebrates the World Press Freedom Day, may we remember that freedom of speech is a right of every individual and the media as well, has the right to air their opinions and views. The big question however still remains, should there be boundaries to what the media airs and who is to set the boundaries? Throughout the past years, many journalists have constantly faced brutal attacks and many were even killed by the same society that they serve and even opposed by their own governments. How then is the media to help a society that bites the hand that feeds it? How is the Media to help to transform societies that are constantly against them?

This year marks a new beginning of how the media is to impact societies as the theme says “New Voices: Media Freedom Helping to transform

Societies”. This is a step that could drive the youth to also seek to impact their societies; after all, many who are engaged in the media are the youth in the fields of journalism, reporting and editing. It is truly time for the media to be seen from a different perspective, to be seen as world changers and not peace disturbers, to be seen, as informants not gossip moguls. Despite the negativity that usually surrounds the media, their rights should not be violated. Journalists too have a right to life and measures to protect them should be intensified. The youth should also be pro active in supporting the media to ensure that there will be change in every society to make their world a better place.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) in its recognition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights distinctly concedes that the media have a right to freedom of speech, and the right to life. Therefore, WAY stands together with the world this day, to encourage the youth to support the media in their efforts to positively impact societies by proclaiming the theme “New Voices: Media Freedom Helping to Transform Societies”.

-END-



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

**WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR
DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT: "DO ONE THING**

FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION"

DATE: 21st MAY 2012

In a world that continues to embrace individualism in the name of seclusion, racism in the name of patriotism, it is quite judicious to observe the world day for cultural diversity for dialogue and development. It is imperative for us as humans to authentically realize that there is only one race that exists in the world and that is, the human race and that we are all of one intrinsic nature and value.

History tells of many who dared to insist for a change, many who dared to risk their lives to see change while some just mutely stood on the side-lines and observed. The purge of racial prejudice dates back to the early days of slavery and continues to be addressed by politicians, entertainment icon and many world leaders. It is quite inspiring to see that the world is driving towards establishing universal cultural diversity. Agencies like the UN have been keen on pursuing equality of all humanity. Many countries have also adopted policies that annihilate all forms of racial derogatory to perk up our perception towards each another. The world at large is now calling forth young men and women who will also goad to stand firm in embracing cultural diversity to harness the potential that exists in individuals.

This year's revolutionary theme depicts a wave of change that could be the spark to ignite the fire, bringing change in the world. With the youth

as the front liners, more can and will be archived in uniting the human race. This theme has a dynamic potential to engage youth from around the world in taking part to **"Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion"**. There are many people in the world who need a helping hand, a listening ear, an encouraging word and a caring heart and this is a step towards attaining greater success.

Therefore, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) gladly supports the World Day for cultural diversity for dialogue and development. WAY envisions to Increase inter-ethnic respect and to foster inter-cultural and international understanding and cooperation while promoting tolerance, understanding, solidarity and cooperation among young men and women irrespective of race, sex, language, religion or political orientation.

Together as the youth we can profusely unify diversity; together we can achieve Magnum opus.

-END-



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

AFRICA DAY

DATE: 25TH MAY 2012

Today we celebrate the success of all African people and pay tribute to the motherland of most; the African Continent. This is a symbolic destiny of the African continent, its people and their determination to transcend their differences. May 25 is also marked by one of the most important elements that have changed the history of Africa for good. The formation of the Organization of the African Unity (OAU) in May 1963 which has given a fresh mandate to build an integrated prosperous and peaceful Africa.

We veritably believe that Africa is on an unstoppable journey to strengthen her linkages and networks of various regional economic blocks to establish a one African Economic Community of Nations. Africa is standing stronger than before, growing in all aspects, with a large number of population of people. Their economy is booming, having a large number of infrastructure buildings, schools, hospitals and many more. The land is full of beauty beyond description, and has cultural diversity with people sharing life together. It is rich in natural resources, and a hub for diversified economic investments and tourist attraction.

The continent continues to make history and surprises the rest of the world with its many unrecognized milestones. The people of Africa, especially the youth at the forefront, are now rising above their circumstances and stepping out of their comfort zones to face pragmatism head on. Africa is rising above the clouds and soaring on wings like eagles to unleash its full potential. The land is in its season of

jubilee, a time for freedom and refreshment with one voice proclaiming "Ubuntu"; we are one. The youth in Africa realize now that it is their roots that have made them trees that bear much fruit. The unity saga among the youth continues as they ride on the wave of change to make Africa a place that it supposed to be, a place of peace and harmony.

At the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), an organization that acknowledges diverse cultures, we commemorate this day by giving honor and respect to the great people of Africa especially the youth, who have fought for the transformation and establishment of the land. WAY aims to be part of Africa's immense progressive development, by promoting mutual understanding, unity and cooperation among young men and women to boost its stand among other continents.

WAY would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate all African member countries for their impressive achievements on the area of youth and social development. As the hearts of the people beat the same rhythm; a rhythm of love, oneness and humility, a rhythm that cries out for change; certainly progress will be sustained. We all stand united with a goal in mind: Youth, the present and the future. Rise Africa, Rise!!!

Happy Africa Day!

-END-

❖ Click this link to view our [MAY 2012 BULLETIN](#)



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY:

"GREEN ECONOMY: DOES IT INCLUDE YOU?"

DATE: 5TH JUNE 2012

The world economy as we know it plays an important role in guiding the world as well as to influence the decisions made by nations. Our environment continues to sustain many forms of life at the cost of its own life. The plant kingdom up to now has been the only one not infusing any harm to the environment whereas the animal kingdom is dominant in harming the environment particularly humans.

However, the world day for environment is rather a celebration of great achievements in protecting the environment. This is a time to retrospect with gladness knowing that we may not be where we want to be but we are not where we used to be. The green economy has become a major area of focus in the world today. Environmentalists constantly drive the message across, raising awareness at all times of how the green economy is one that can be sustainable.

This year, the question at hand is this, **"does it include you?"** Looking at the progressive efforts made towards a green economy one realizes that only environmentalists or pro-environment organisations have been the ones advocating for such. Today, the environment is calling out to the commoners, all those who do not belong to the nobility to step out in good faith to partake in establishing a green economy and every individual has a role to play and responsibilities to accept

What about the youth's roles and responsibilities? The continuous success of every economy needs to be propelled by nifty ideas which are mostly harnessed from the minds of the youth. The youth are therefore at the center plot of this economy and are greatly needed in developing a sustainable green economy. This is particularly because the youth are vivacious. That alone is enough to catapult the world in becoming a green economy that improves human wellbeing while exponentially reducing environmental risks.

On that note, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) commendably concedes the World Environment Day in the drive for a green economy. Our response to the Millennium Development Goals laid out by the UN is to reduce by 20% the environmental degradation globally by 2014. Fulfillment of such an obligation has been in motion through events, campaigns, and publications on the issue at hand. A green economy does include us at WAY since we are also partaking of the efforts to the Rio +20. We have been involved in a number of activities, both publication and events, co-partnering with other organisations to promote environmental awareness and sustainability in preparation for the Earth summit to be held in Rio de Janeiro this June.

WAY is of faith that this year is a landmark for a milestone of aggressive efforts to save and sustain our environment. Consequently, we applaud all efforts made by organizations towards the earth as well as hearten the youth to step up to sustain our environment. As the Secretary General of UN said recently at the UNA – USA Global Class room International Model UN Conference, the youth should raise their voices and demand real action. In their prime the youth should be motivated to go the extra mile and embark on real development. Though it may be tough on the young people with inadequate support and resources, it shouldn't halt change.

We remember that every cloud has a silver lining which is why we have to remain optimistic for positive change. A journey of a thousand miles begins with a step.

-END-



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD REFUGEE DAY: "REFUGEES HAVE NO CHOICE. YOU DO."

DATE: 19TH JUNE 2012

For many decades diverse countries have been hosting refugees who flee from harsh circumstances of war or tribal conflicts in their own countries. The year 2011 recorded the highest number of refugees since 1990.

The latest statistics show that the number of people who are forcibly displaced worldwide is 43.7 million people. They are driven by continuing conflicts in countries such as Somalia, Afghanistan (the prime country with the most refugees of about 3million people), DRC, Sudan, and Libya. These are people who have lived to face different situations, loosing families, homes, security of jobs to feed themselves and the rights to education for the young. Many of the youth refugees usually end up illiterate, live below the poverty line and become common vagabonds found on the streets who fend for their families.

As we celebrate World Refugee Day, let us not just be carried away with activities but rather strive for the protection of Refugee rights and intensify our support to secure and sustain environments. They have the freedom to walk the streets safely and not be discriminated against. As host countries we should seek to protect and alleviate refugees from socioeconomic stress through our generosity, concern and volunteerism.

The United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) on 20th June plans to launch a new campaign called "dilemma" to signify the tough choices facing refugees aimed at emphasizing on the public to empathize with

and understand the dilemma of refugees which will be conducted during the Rio +20 conference. As the theme suggests, many of these people are bound by unfavorable conditions leaving them with no choice, but for all of us who enjoy the exercise and observance of our rights we have a choice. We have a choice to make a difference and assist refugees through our governments, nongovernmental organizations and refugee related bodies. We have a choice to offer medical assistance, raising awareness, educational training and donate both monetary and non-monetary resources.

Malaysia as a concerned nation will in June 24 host more than 500 refugees at an event in Kuala Lumpur themed "Loud and Proud" through the UNHCR. This is an event to bear testimonies of the remarkable impact Malaysia has been doing towards refugees and celebrate refugees. Through our headquarters in Melaka, Malaysia the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) seeks to join forces with the youth internationally and all stakeholders to raise awareness and provide resourceful support to those in need. Join us at WAY to promote solidarity, eliminate tribal discrimination, and raise international cooperation to assist refugees by addressing the causes of refugee flows, bringing them back home and instilling peace in our nations for the young children and youth to grow in healthy environments.

Together we can bring lasting solutions to the influx of refugee problems. Choose to be part of these solutions.

-END-

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WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD POPULATION DAY - "UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES"



DATE: 11TH JULY 2012

The importance of good health; sexual reproductive health and education to all young people cannot be overstated. Without reproductive health and freedom young people cannot fully exercise their fundamental rights therefore paving a way for them to be abused.

The world's health care systems are being paralyzed by a number of outcomes and a population of seven billion people. Access and affordability of health care systems is becoming less, especially in rural areas where lack of qualified medical practitioners and good education systems is prevalent. There is imbalance between demand and supply which leads to illness and deaths of many young people. Statistically, about 1.8 billion people are entering into their reproductive years without knowledge and services needed to protect themselves while a full one-third of the illnesses among women ages 15 to 30 in developing countries is related to pregnancy, childbirth, abortion, reproductive tract infections and HIV/AIDS.

To reduce these numbers we have to enforce efforts to achieving the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) that calls for a universal access to reproductive health by 2015. As governments and societies we ought to confront fundamental issues of gender and sexuality that stand in the way of improving sexual and reproductive health while advocating for policy change to improve health systems and access to care. The

marginalized groups such as young people, ethnic minorities, need our help; we need to challenge traditions and practices that marginalize women and girls, including domestic violence.

Through the World Assembly of Youth (WAY)'s Third Plan of Action (2010 – 2015) **"The Catalyst for Transformation and Improvement**, WAY has assumed the responsibility to sustain and stabilize efforts towards the MDGs. Through the headquarters in Melaka, Malaysia and close coordination with Youth Councils and Organizations we are raising awareness on reproductive health through publication. Concerning young mothers WAY plans to reduce mortality ration by 10% by providing medical assistance. This is a part of the strength we are tapping on to making a global impact in the lives of the youth.

As nations, we all still have a long way to go in fulfilling the MDGs but we can play a crucial role to make every pregnancy wanted, every childbirth safe and every young person's potential fulfilled.

-END-

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY 2012: "67 MINUTES OF TIME"

DATE: 18TH JULY 2012



Few in the world dedicated their life for humanity, Nelson Mandela through his 67 years of altruistic service, did that, fighting for democracy, freedom and justice he stands as a beacon of hope and an inspiration for millions around the world.

Another year gone, and the world continues to commemorate Nelson Mandela Day not only to celebrate his legacy, but also to distinguish it as a call on people all around the world to celebrate the lofty ideals that the likes of Nelson Mandela fought for, to own the values he represents, by effectively participating in their communities, and taking action towards making the world a better one for all.

Adhering to a simple creed "We can change the world and make it a better place. It is in your hands to make a difference." Nelson Mandela changed the world, and on this halcyon day, is a chance for all youth to honor his extensive service, by being agents of change.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) beseeches youth and youth leaders around the world to devote 67 minutes of their time to make a difference in their communities, one minute for every year Nelson Mandela spent fighting for humanity. By doing this, we will not only be volunteers towards providing a positive effect on others but will also ensure that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are attained and sustained.

Let us stand together and commemorate Nelson Mandela's enduring dedication to human rights by taking expedient actions to tilt the world in our favor.

-END-

❖ Click this link to view our [JULY 2012 BULLETIN](#)



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY: BUILDING A BETTER WORLD, PARTNERING WITH YOUTH

DATE: 12th AUGUST 2012

MESSAGE FROM: HON. DATUK WIRA IR. IDRIS HARON, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

Never before in history has the dream of building a better world been so attainable, yet seemed so elusive. In an age of technological breakthrough and plenty, many youth continue to have limited access to opportunities for self-development, 40 per cent of the unemployed population are youth and almost 209 million youth live in abject poverty, thus, reduces the contribution they can make, not just to national development, but also to world development.

Young people are an inexhaustible source of energy, innovation and courage, working with them around the world I can assert that the evidence is irrefutable that youth are key partners and pivot in the discussion of development, the MDGs-at its heart-are young goals; education, HIV and unemployment are youth issues, it's through their talent and idealism that the MDGs can be attained. These are the ones who put an exclamation mark on life!

"To unleash the power of young people, we need to partner with them". That is something the World Assembly of Youth have been endeavoring to do since its establishment; bringing youth leaders and youth together with government officials, civic leaders, philanthropists, NGOs, academia

and other stakeholders from all over the world, building perpetual bridges of communication and partnership, our diverse events are a testimony of our effort in ensuring the foundation for building a better world is laid.

Recognizing that young people in all countries are a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, the international community must continue to work together with youth to develop strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance for self-development, thus, benefit the whole human family. Together we can achieve great ends; together we can build a better world.

MESSAGE FROM: *MS. EDIOLA PASHOLLARI, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH*

Building a better world for tomorrow comes through the actions and decisions we make today, it is what is at the heart of what we do that defines the actions we take, the values we uphold and the goals we set. Living in a world which is predominantly populated by young people, it is not only wise but inevitable to acknowledge the fact that they are indeed the wellspring of ideas for innovation. They cut across as today's thinkers, problem solvers as well as the perfect catalyst for humanity's quest for a better world.

We at WAY are inspired to work at all levels to support youth in acquiring a platform on which they can obtain most of the intercultural skills they need to live in this age of diversity. By partnering with young people, not

only do we reach out to some of the world's strongest advocates for peace, unity, justice and diversity but also acknowledge the fact that young people represent a growing class who are yearning for their needs to be heard as well as the need to be included.

Through working with these young men and women, we realize that their aspirations not only go beyond fitting in with a world hit by a global economic crisis, getting jobs, making a living; but extend to being part of the decision makers shaping the landscape of the world they live in. Over the years we have witnessed young people driving innovations, economic and social change in the different regions of the world. It is celebrating the achievements of these young people, acknowledging their potential and giving them a seat on the table of decision makers that we get to realize their full true potential. On this day let us embrace the reality that in order to witness change in the world we have to act as mentors to these young people whose opinions are usually suppressed more often than listened to.

By giving youth a chance to be the pivot of change to the world we all dream of, the need to strengthen the policies and investments involving young people becomes more evident. We need to listen and engage them in order to establish meaningful decision making at all levels.

For our world to succeed it requires combined effort of all of us, in all our different walks of life and by working together we get to build the world we always dream of.

-ENDS-

❖ Click this link to view our [AUGUST 2012 BULLETIN](#)

C. QUARTER 3: SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 2012



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY 2012:
DEMOCRACY EDUCATION**

DATE: 15 SEPTEMBER 2012

"Much education today is monumentally ineffective. All too often we are giving young people cut flowers when we should be teaching them to grow their own plants." - John W. Gardner

By definition, a democracy is a system in which people have power and are able to exercise it. Involvement of people in the public affairs of their communities and countries is more likely than any other form of government to ensure basic freedom and equality, meet the needs of everyone and preserve or restore peace, hence paving way for development. We know that education is an important criterion in life and as many know, the education system is broken and at times outdated in most countries. Thousands of students are checking out, stressing out, and dropping out every day. Young people who could strengthen the economy end up straining it, creating more social problems instead of solving them.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we believe that the duty of the educator is to clarify this information at the appropriate level to the learners. In order to reinvent and reclaim dominance of such challenges, democratic education can be used as a tool. This type of education incorporates the principles of a healthy democracy: students have an active role in shaping their own learning, rather than being passive

recipients of knowledge. They are participants and citizens, each with unique gifts, not empty vessels or products on an assembly line. Besides stamping democracy as one of the cores of the program areas WAY organizes for youth since its foundation in 1949, we have continuously aspired to fully participate in educating youth around the world about democracy.

As such, WAY on this day, shares its commitment to strengthen democracies through the meaningful engagement of young people to empower them to be autonomous, responsible members of their community and the larger world. As Margaret Mead said, "We are now at a point where we must educate our children in what no one knew yesterday, and prepare our schools for what no one knows yet."

Democratic education is rooted in meaningful challenge to the learner, while also being responsive and relevant to the larger community. We therefore encourage our members, colleagues, together with governments to commit, work together and strengthen democracy through this. We believe that through this education, young individuals and communities find their voices. Therefore, Let us celebrate the adventure of learning, while cultivating personal and social responsibility. With democratic education we embrace an educational setting where young people have the right to decide individually how, when, what, where and with whom they learn and to have an equal share in the decision-making in running their organizations. When you teach the youth what to think you limit them to your ideas. When you teach the youth how to think, their ideas are unlimited.

-END-



**WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE 2012: "SUSTAINABLE
PEACE FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE"**

DATE: 21ST SEPTEMBER 2012

Peace is manifested when there is economic tranquility; equality; political repose; an absence of war; fear; and hatred.

Strings of change such as young leaders, peace builders and social activists, advocate and promote peace to be not confined to any particular geography, or limited to any specific race; rather it consists of all peace supporters throughout the world from whatever background, language, creed, history or geography.

The community also can play a significant role in providing the young people with the choice to join the peace. We need the vision, excitement, optimism and dreams of such people who are driven by conscience and informed choice establishing the community and commitment to building peace.

Reflecting on the above, it is ironical that after 30 years of advocacy for peace, the world has witnessed a souring friendship between allies and foes. Now it is at the brink of peace and unfortunately full of discord.

News reports frequently reveal the iniquity acts interfering with the civil liberties and causing a setback on development towards a positive future. Such kind of news has become a growing concern as it is often, if not mostly, received with far much greater negative logic than the reality, subsequently testing the magnitude of people's emotions.

Why then are we lively towards recalling our past? Where are the voices of "Generation Next"? Past events should never be of any excuse to jeopardize peace through the unfortunate memories of people. The

World Assembly of Youth (WAY) would therefore like to encourage all that future of the peace rests with tomorrow, not yesterday. Past should always be remembered like history and let it stay there. Never to be used for tomorrow break of peace.

WAY will not let up in her fight against violence, in her commitment for peace in the world. We are animated by the common desire to be "believers of truth, workers of peace".

In our activities, we urge country leaders and the public, including young people, to recognize the seriousness of the lessons learnt in the past and search for new, practical ways of dealing with peace threats for a sustainable future through sustainable peace.

Let us endeavor to identify the new faces of violence and disputes together in broad strides on a journey towards truth, a case of taking a decisive stand for human dignity and a case of common engagement in human rights, dignity and integrity of each individual around the globe that can make peace sustainable.

Together We Stand, Divided We Fall! Happy International Day of PEACE!

-END-

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WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE 2012

DATE: 2ND OCTOBER 2012

Mahatma Gandhi whose legacy and life of non-violence is annually observed worldwide and celebrated for his contribution once quoted; "Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man." He understood and stated that a powerful idea could change the world. He also knew that individuals, working alone and together, could realize what others might dismiss as impossible dreams.

Non-violence means avoiding not only external physical violence but also internal violence of the spirit. You not only refuse to shoot a man, but you refuse to hate him. The choice of non-violence should not be left to chance, but integrated into every element of global justice and also publicly proclaimed as a guiding principle and method. The legitimate search for assertive and disruptive methods can and should proceed, but this must not be confused with vandalism and violence. The most radical and effective forms of social action are those that heighten the contrast between the just demands of global justice and the brutal actions of law enforcers.

Conflicts, even of long standing duration, can be resolved if we endure in continuous flow of communication. Community should be favorable towards others needs and realize the importance of mutual interdependence. We can't win at somebody else's expense. We can only fully be satisfied when the other person's needs are fulfilled as well as our own.

We at World Assembly of Youth (WAY) believe that the idea of non-violence needs to be taught at every level in our societies, to make the youth of today aware of the real, practical meaning and benefits of non-violence in their daily lives so as to reduce the violence, and consequent suffering, perpetrated against them and humanity in general. It is with the same belief that we challenge the youth to mount up to power and break the cycle of violence with peace education and activities.

It is time that we make peace with one another and live harmoniously in order to build our nations. WAY is also playing its role by bringing awareness on non-violence and educating the youth in this area. We believe in peace, freedom and democracy. That is why we encourage all youth and youth leaders to give power to good and abhor evil such as violence.

These same ideals sum up the legacy of Mahatma Gandhi, whose birthday we celebrate today. His peaceful struggles against unjust regimes in South Africa and India captured the imagination of the world. His incorporation of non-violence into everyday life inspired countless individuals to lead better and more meaningful lives.

Together, we can build a new culture of non-violence for humankind that will give hope to all humanity, and the youth in particular.

Youth Stand for Non-Violence!

-END-



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE
ERADICATION OF POVERTY: "ENDING**

**THE VIOLENCE OF EXTREME POVERTY: PROMOTING
EMPOWERMENT AND BUILDING PEACE"**

DATE: 17th OCTOBER 2012

Excessive poverty, which has impaired for far too long has become a global challenge affecting nearly all world countries. It is further linked to social unrest and is a threat to peace and security. Unfortunately, the global economic trends continuously worsen the matter as more and more people are getting drawn into poverty.

This year's theme, 'Ending the Violence of Extreme Poverty: Promoting Empowerment and Building Peace,' highlights the fact that eradication of poverty is a moral imperative as well as a necessary step towards the eradication of other social problems and violence. We must not look at poverty as a fragmented or isolated problem but must instead view it as the root of many other social problems.

On this Day, we seek to work towards a common future, lifting people out of poverty so that they, in turn, can help to transform our world. For prosperity to be sustained it must be shared. Economic growth alone is not sufficient enough towards elimination of poverty, redistribution policies need to be put in place as a pre requisite and not an impediment to growth. Systematic and structural causes of poverty must be identified, challenged and changed. Those in poverty must be supported to take power over the constraints they face and those in power must be held accountable.

With a vision to reduce by at least 30 % the number of people living in extreme poverty around the world by 2014, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) continues to consider poverty not as the inevitable result of circumstance, but as the product of unjust situations that can be changed by focusing on actions that will break the cycle. Promoting the empowerment of youth, listening carefully and seeking to understand the aspirations of these young people not only creates an atmosphere of respect and mutual confidence but goes ahead to foster self-esteem among the youth as they play their role in combating poverty especially in all member countries.

By setting out a blue print towards provision of quality education, good health, productive employment, building perpetual bridges of communication and partnership, we believe that this will enable the youth to gain more control of their lives and further unleash the power in them as we continue to work together to develop strategies that will give people everywhere a real chance of self-development.

The gains humans have made have been steady and plentiful. Now a major leap is possible. Consistent with past efforts, we can now attain fully liberatory goals, including participatory economics and also alternative structures for global development. We have only to make the effort.

-END-

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WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE

DATE: 16th NOVEMBER 2012

Breaking down the walls that divide our society today comes at a high price, one that we have to pay in order to fulfill the dream of a just and equal society for all. Respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and our ways of being human are fostered by knowledge, openness and communication, the freedom of thought, conscience and belief.

Teachings of tolerance consider harmony and indifference not as a moral duty but a political and legal requirement. This is a virtue that replaces a culture of war with a culture of peace. By confronting prejudicial ignorance with knowledge, discord with tolerance, isolation with the outstretched hand of generosity, accepting one another in the same walk, we take a step towards achieving that dream of building a better world. It is evident that this cannot be accomplished overnight but it takes greater investments to strengthen commitment to it.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) joins the world today to commemorate tolerance. Our guiding principle of seeking peace and development through working with youth, teaching and promoting tolerance, increasing inter-ethnic and inter-cultural respect as well as international understanding further comes to light on such days. Young men and women get informed, inspired, and educated not only as the people of today but also as the generation of the future. We believe that education for tolerance should aim at countering influences that lead to

fear and exclusion of others. This should help young people to develop capacities for independent judgment, critical thinking and ethical reasoning.

Tolerance is necessary between individuals and at the family and community levels. Tolerance promotion and the shaping of attitudes of openness, mutual listening and solidarity should take place in schools and universities and through non-formal education, at home and in the workplace. The communication media are in a position to play a constructive role in facilitating free and open dialogue and discussion, disseminating the values of tolerance, and highlighting the dangers of indifference towards the rise in intolerant groups and ideologies.

Let the world today, judge only by the content of our character, not by any distinction such as color, sex, language, religion, political, national, social or other status.

-END-



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

**INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION
OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

DATE: 25TH NOVEMBER 2012

Gender based violence is a global pandemic that cuts across all borders, impacting all people and societies regardless of ethnicity, race, socio-economic status or religion. Violence against women in particular continues to persist as one of the most horrifying, deep-seated and pervasive human rights abuse in the world. It's a threat to all women and an obstacle to development, peace and unity in all societies.

Violence against women and girls takes on many forms and is wide spread throughout the globe. The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women raises public awareness of violence against women in all countries around the world and at all levels in society.

On this day the World Assembly of Youth joins the rest of the world to urge governments and partners around the world to embrace the energy, ideas and leadership of young people as they help end this pandemic of violence. As a human rights issue, the effort to end violence against women becomes a government's obligation and not just a good idea. By organizing activities around the world, WAY hopes to draw attention to the need for continued action from the different stakeholders to improve their efforts and response to this crisis, as well as draw up resolutions of prevention, protection and prosecution as essentials to combating this violence.

WAY further calls on governments of member states to embrace a strategic vision, outlining how they plan to tackle this violence. By challenging the attitudes and behaviors which foster it, intervening early where possible to prevent it, providing adequate support where violence occurs, and working in partnership to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families, we hope to achieve the cultural change we need to tackle this problem.

With the adoption of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, the international community sent out a clear message that gender based violence will not be tolerated. Let this day be an opportunity to renew that commitment and determination towards the practice justice and equality in our societies, where no one is deemed better than the other.

-END-

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WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD AIDS DAY "GETTING TO ZERO"

DATE: 1ST DECEMBER 2012

Amidst the marginalization, social exclusion and drug abuse, just to mention but a few, the world today is still witnessing the disastrous AIDS pandemic. Besides sapping vital forces along, reducing production capacities, enlarging the enormous gap between the rich and the poor and striking down populations, this epidemic is synonymous with socio-economic regression.

An epidemic of the magnitude, complexity and urgency of HIV/AIDS is not confined to national borders, divisions within society or sectorial responsibilities, it demands response that is both collaborative and complementary from all sections of society be it governments, NGO's, media or private sector.

Halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS is a key Millennium Development Goal and a challenge which the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has given top priority in all its development undertakings. Adopting a multi-sectorial approach that solicits committed participation of all stake holders in the fight against HIV /AIDS has been and remains a high priority for action throughout all our work from headquarters to the field.

In view of the disastrous effect of HIV/AIDS, UNAIDS adopted a strategy "Getting to Zero 2011- 2015", which aims to advance global progress in

achieving country set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support.

The records of the past decades should confront all stakeholders with new challenges for the coming few years. Strengthening commitment to prevention, allied with innovative financing strategies, alleviating the negative impacts of HIV/AIDS on individuals, families as well as communities, early delivery of new and additional policies, should create an environment required to achieve this target.

On this day every year, the world gets a chance to come together to not only commemorate the lives of people who have unfortunately fallen victim to the disease but also come up with strategies that are concrete and practical towards achieving the theme for this year.

It is the time to take leadership and build defenses to save our future generations and to protect the people infected and affected from the epidemic. We, at WAY, acknowledge this challenge and commit to respond with renewable responsibility, sensitivity and vigor.

On this day, let us speak up and make a difference towards an AIDS free world!

-ENDS-



**International
Volunteer Day**

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY

DATE: 5th December 2012

As famously coined by the Greek fabulist Aesop, **“No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted”**.

Whether it is called “Minga” in Latin America “Harambee” in East Africa or “mikprites” in Albanian, volunteerism is an expression of a core principle of most cultures, as well as a fundamental source of community strength, resilience, solidarity and social cohesion.

Purposeful volunteerism strengthens trust, solidarity and reciprocity among citizens. When everyone contributes their skills and knowledge through volunteer action, this combined effort can be significant towards achieving human peace and capital development. With a large influx of individuals engaged in development initiatives through volunteer actions worldwide, it is these same efforts that come in handy to improve their lives as well as the lives of others.

In recognition of the importance of volunteers, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) joins the world to celebrate all its volunteers on the International Volunteer’s Day. Volunteers should be acknowledged for the important contribution they make to the community. Many not-for-profit organizations would find it impossible to carry out their work without volunteers. Their recognition lets them know that others appreciate what they do. It gives them a feeling of accomplishment and motivates them

to continue giving selflessly to the society for sustainment of development.

Our concept at WAY is centered on optimizing volunteerism impact on youth. Major effort is focused on mobilizing youth volunteers, advocating for youth volunteerism globally, and integrating youth volunteerism into the organization’s objectives as well as those of our partners in both the public and private sectors. This, we believe, fosters secure and stable environments conducive for reinforcing linkages between volunteerism and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals.

By enhancing the capacity of youth to exercise the choices they set, participate and contribute to development planning at all levels in society; it is our hope that this empowers them and gives them a stake in the futures of the communities they live in. The enormous potential of volunteerism for development that lies within youth inspires us as an organization and it is our mission to deliver on that potential.

Happy volunteer’s day!

-ENDS-

PRESS RELEASE**HUMAN RIGHTS DAY****DATE: 10TH DECEMBER, 2012**

The Doctrine of Human Rights in international practice, within international law, global and regional institutions, in the policies of states and the activities of non-governmental organizations has been a cornerstone of public policy around the world. Besides being endorsed by the international community as binding obligations, the mismatch between these basic rights and the freedom that all people are entitled to and the legally required standards continue to become apparent, provoking skepticism, debates about the coherent nature and justification.

Many have gone on to protest against the unresponsive institutions which have shut them out albeit a large majority remains silent, unable to take any part in the public lives of their communities. This year's Human Rights Day is focused directly towards the right of freedom and association, the right to take part in public elections, decision making institutions and the right to freedom of expression.

Accordingly, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) takes this chance to call upon youth to actively participate in implementing projects dedicated towards contributing to human rights enjoyment. We believe that these young people should continue demanding respect for their fundamental human rights, including their right to voice their opinions and for that voice to count.

These young people have a special responsibility towards developing a global perspective and values based on qualities such as love, truthfulness kindness, justice and esteem for all members of humanity. Besides all that, the youth should be assisted in developing these qualities both within the family, which is the foundation of society, and within the community to which they belong.

In the face of extraordinary contemporary challenges for democratic change, climate change, globalization and ongoing economic and financial crises in many countries, we at WAY believe that youth participation and inclusion are critical in the development and implementation of durable, workable policy solutions.

Respecting Human rights plays a key role in supporting wider peace building and state building processes. To be effective, all stake holders including; national governments, international organizations, and private as well as public sectors and media need to respond quickly to the demands of citizens.

"If civilization is to survive we must cultivate the science of human relationships - the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world at peace." - Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Happy Human Rights Day!

-ENDS-

❖ Click this link to view our [DECEMBER 2012 BULLETIN](#)

FINANCE REPORT

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
INCOME / EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - JAN TO DEC 2012

INCOME (RM)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
Balance b/d	(8,577.30)	40,509.45	6,614.53	(18,868.09)	(41,810.89)	(42,710.89)	52,282.01	26,069.11	9,494.63	(16,550.07)	(13,030.27)	(15,491.92)	(8,577.30)
Membership Fees	1,532.01						2,003.80	1,516.02					5,051.83
Corporate Donations													0.00
Sponsorship / loan				5.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	3,102.00			22,200.00	18,000.00	46500	129,807.00
Government Donations													0.00
Conference Fees/sponsorship													0.00
-MIYD11	65,000.00												65,000.00
-MIYD12						100,000.00							100,000.00
MIYD12 fee collection				450.00	466.35	32,970.00	11,258.20						45,144.55
Insurance Refund	341.00				706.80			410.00				110.30	1,568.10
Air Ticket Refunds													0.00
Rent													0.00
Management Fee													0.00
Total Income	58,295.71	40,509.45	6,614.53	(18,413.09)	(20,637.74)	110,259.11	68,646.01	27,995.13	9,494.63	5,649.93	4,969.73	31,118.38	337,994.18
EXPENDITURE (RM)													
Salaries	14,155.00	14,177.50	14,262.00	14,654.00	14,700.00	15,009.00	14,306.00	14,133.00	13,975.00	12,642.00	14,250.00	13,845.00	170,108.50
Incentives													0.00
Utilities	1,097.51	1,407.27	912.54	1,089.30	1,659.65	1,403.40	1,382.15	1,066.40	910.25	1,005.90	1,043.00	823.80	13,801.17
WAY Conference / Meeting -MIYD			280.00		180.00	35,600.00	18,595.00				1,475.20		56,130.20
WAY Conference / Meeting-60th													0.00
General Assembly													0.00
Air Tickets		5,650.00					2,500.00						8,150.00
Travel Allowances		7,571.40			958.45		602.00		2,675.65	912.40		1,903.60	14,623.50
Creditors													0.00
Staff Claims	500.80	1,370.00	2,384.70	1,022.00	1,037.50	1,219.20	2,207.40	1,081.40	3,574.50	1,323.85	1,849.55	5,007.50	22,578.40
Bank Charges	19.00	2.00			2.00	19.00	6.00	4.00		2.00	2.00	17.00	73.00
Printing & Stationery	366.70	178.80	180.00	95.80	361.95	221.90	33.80		128.45	150.95	93.35	400.00	2,211.70
Postage			77.75		10.70	26.25	3.30					175.50	293.50
Subscriptions	105.00	113.10	107.70	113.00	109.20	113.10	107.40	90.60	97.60	106.50	84.90		1,148.10
Fuel, Tolls & Parking	400.00	1,327.40	878.00	1,518.50	669.50	350.00	1,205.50	300.00	819.50	1,479.10	534.00	464.50	9,946.00
Insurance			4,739.33										4,739.33
MV - maintenance, Insu. & Tax	7.00	940.00	571.90	1,680.00	1,393.00	2,423.10	529.00	580.00	2,979.00	275.00	230.00	437.00	12,045.00
Office expenses	181.15	187.60	209.35	279.20	155.75	189.15	324.30	254.25	160.10	131.30	235.95		2,308.10
Office Equip -Maintenance & serv.	354.10	369.85	279.35		235.45	803.00	175.05	390.85	124.65	51.20	63.70	48.50	2,895.70
Rent	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	7,200.00
Audit				1,524.00									1,524.00
Accounting				822.00									822.00
Donations													0.00
cash in hand												2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Expenditure	17,786.26	33,894.92	25,482.62	23,397.80	22,073.15	57,977.10	42,576.90	18,500.50	26,044.70	18,680.20	20,461.65	23,722.40	332,598.20
Balance c/f	40,509.45	6,614.53	(18,868.09)	(41,810.89)	(42,710.89)	52,282.01	26,069.11	9,494.63	(16,550.07)	(13,030.27)	(15,491.92)	7,395.98	5,395.98

CONCLUSION

The world is on track to meet the target on reducing the youth issues though it is struggling to keep pace with population growth and ever-accelerating urbanization. The target on sustaining youth development will plainly not be met unless progress is greatly accelerated, and if it is not, 2.4 billion people will be without access to many resources in 2015 despite more than doubling the population.

The young people have a right to fair living standards, and to adequate resources that sustain the living standards. To a large extent, sustained progress in health, environment and education depends upon improvements in the basic provision of sufficient resources and guidance on how to maintain them.

The relatively slow progress in achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) towards 2015 in the past few years requires us to pick up pace. There is widespread acceptance that social services are critical to improving development standards and to preserving the gains made in other sectors and a growing recognition that behavior change is key to saving lives of young people.

Comprehensively, we are aiming towards achieving MDGs before 2015 and have joined others in planning the post 2015 Agenda. We reiterate our gratitude to all those who were involved in attaining the achievements for the year 2012 for WAY such and making them worthwhile for WAY and look forward to working together for the year 2013. We resonate what we achieved in 2012 and continue to sustain these efforts and findings ready for more doors to be opened to us to tackle youth issues.

APPENDIX

WORKSHOP ON YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CENTRE, KUALA LUMPUR
19TH TO 23RD MARCH 2012

RECOMMENDATIONS

PREAMBLE

We, the participants of the Workshop on Youth Leadership for the New Millennium with the selected theme "Enhancing Youth Leadership for the Attainment of MDGs", gathered here at the International Youth Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 19th to 23rd of March 2012 discussed, examined, determined and provided new directions in youth leadership to enhance the role of youth and youth leaders towards achieving sustainable development in the society.

After thorough discussion, country report presentations, study visit, debate and deliberation, on four issues: Healthy Lifestyle; Resolving Unemployment; Environmental Sustainability; Innovation and Positive Change, we recommend the following actions to be taken into consideration by all youth and youth leaders:

1. HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

- 1.1 To facilitate and assist in the formulation of policies on mental and physical development of youth in partnership with relevant stakeholders based on the merits and importance of youth health;
- 1.2 To work in collaboration with stakeholders to provide indoor and outdoor leisure and recreation facilities and services for youth;
- 1.3 To advocate and promote the consumption of a healthy and balanced nutritious diet for youth;
- 1.4 To raise awareness on the impact of substance abuse and to collaborate with all stakeholders to provide health, counselling and help related centres that could assist in combating these addictions;
- 1.5 To introduce various activities that will engage young people in minimising stress and other related health related issues;
- 1.6 To support the provision of proper health services in general for young people and utilise youth for generating health services;

2. RESOLVING UNEMPLOYMENT

- 2.1 To nurture youth with innovative and creative approaches that could enable them to generate business, entrepreneurial and self-employment opportunities;

- 2.2 To utilise the potential of social networks in creating and publicising new employment opportunities;
- 2.3 To provide an educational model to all the relevant stakeholders that could enable the establishing and upgrading of learning institutions that will provide training on soft and hard skills for the youth;
- 2.4 To develop with relevant stakeholders the establishment of coaching and mentoring centres that will enable the young people to plan their future for advanced studies or career;
- 2.5 To organize campaigns that could influence all the stakeholders to assist young people in generating sustainable jobs;
- 2.6 To work with stakeholders in allocating more national resources for employment and entrepreneurship for young people.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- 3.1 To strongly recommend to all the relevant stakeholders in collaboration with youth and youth NGOs in creating policies for the sustainable use of limited natural resources;
- 3.2 To promote and encourage the use of alternative environment friendly renewable energy resources among all the stakeholders in partnership with youth and youth NGOs;
- 3.3 To recommend all the relevant stakeholders to establish an eco-friendly system in waste and waste water management with the support of youth and youth NGOs;
- 3.4 To educate consumers towards a more sustainable consumption pattern and behaviour led by all the stakeholders especially with the youth;
- 3.5 To spread and share information on the actions which can be taken in solving the current environmental issues with the involvement of youth and youth NGOs;
- 3.6 To facilitate and cooperate with all the stakeholders in lowering the consumption and preserving potable and non-potable water and also utilising other sustainable resources for water production;

4 INNOVATION AND POSITIVE CHANGE

- 4.1 To provide facts and ideas that could enable various stakeholders to support young people in their innovative ideas for a positive change;

- 4.2 To work with stakeholders to provide facilities and resources for young people to further develop their innovative ideas and support the implementation of those ideas;
- 4.3 To cooperate with all relevant stakeholders in preventing the youth and others from abusing the innovations;

To recommend that all the stakeholders including the UN system to translate theme of the International Youth Year 1985 “Participation, Development and Peace” into action”.

THE WORLD OF A GIRL

By *Lorato Pamela Molema*, WAY Volunteer

The world of the girl child,
Promising yet gloomy,
Hopeful, yet in despair
The hand that rocks the cradle,
The procreator,
The mother of tomorrow;
A woman shapes the destiny of civilization.
Such, is the tragic irony of fate,
That a beautiful creation such as the girl child, is today one of the gravest concerns facing humanity,
With a volley of summits, conferences and events held for the cause,
with the world's topmost leaders at the helm.

Traditions and rituals outline the existence of the girl child,
Amidst uproars of gender equality and law enforcement,
female infants are still found dumped in trash by the dozens
while unborn fetuses continue to be sniffed in the womb.
Wrought with discrimination and prejudiced by rituals,
our society has dealt the girl child a rough hand,
starting even before birth,
till the dark of life.

See the world from the eyes of a girl child,
bright but unprivileged,
twinkle in the eye,
but remorse in the spirit;
the girl child,
a picture of dismay.
Save the Girl Child, Eradicate Illiteracy and Poverty

Let's make a change,
a paradigm shift in the mindsets of the past and look into a future of the girl child with a different
eye and an open mind.
History has proven that if a girl child is empowered they can flourish and be a flower of the nation,
of the world at large.
Like a city seated on a diamond mine but perishing in poverty,
is a nation that does not recognize the ability and the strength of a female,
they that do thrive,
reaching levels they otherwise would never have,
rising up to a great today and a better tomorrow marching down the streets of hope with a better
understanding of "*when you educate a woman you educate a nation.*"

What will happen to world?
Will the world change as all things?
Or will it develop immunity
and embrace hypocrisy?
Will the world resist change
and go against its doctrinaire?
Why, will the world change not?
Should nothing be permanent, even change?

The world should change and give a girl a chance,
A chance to be what the world knows not about her,
what the world thinks she can never be,
a chance to change the world,
educate the girl child and she will come home lawyer and engineer,
connect her and she will give you honor and favor,
empower her and she will end up in tower and in power
how can you shun her when you never gave her an opportunity to shine?

Give the girl child a chance,
and she will make the face of the earth so fine,
a better wife, an informed mother, a competitive co-worker,
a learner friend, a business woman, a reputable author, an honest politician,
a compassionate tax collector, a fair judge, a reliable lawyer,
a successful business woman and many more
if you would give her a chance enough with girl child abuse,
infanticide, femicides, denying them education and their rights,

For a world without women is barren,
it's rid of its productive and will not multiply,
women bring growth,
they nurture and increase,
they bring forth fruits
start her up right and she will finish with victory,
the time for change has come,
lets embrace it and connect the girl child,
empower her help her reach her full potential.
Big things CAN come in cute, small packages, GIRLS.



12TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE

"HEALTH, IT'S MY RIGHT!"

PUTERI RESORT, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

28-30 JUNE 2012

DECLARATION

1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 We, the participants of the 12th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) convened in Melaka from 28-30 June 2012 for 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 By recognizing the human right to health and considering the statistics and research done, WAY has made it an obligation this year that the 12th MIYD will encompass health as an enduring concern faced by the youth with the theme: Health It's My Right. This theme has been recognized to fulfill the predominant opinions of young people hence an interactive discussion on this topic will be of significance to form, educate, increase awareness and promote youth health in the different levels of society that we represent.
- 1.3 Therefore, with the above mentioned theme, all young people, youth leaders, government and organization officers gathered to call for action in areas such as assessing the problem; tackling the challenges; forming partnerships; focusing on the needs; structuring experience; and conveying the right message in order to ensure health as a fundamental right for the youth.
- 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 youth have the right to health.

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

- To raise an informative youth generation on the current situation of youth health with anticipated behavior 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 their societies;
- To catalyze the speed of transformed paradigm towards health issues;
- To address the challenges and determinants of health faced by youth today;
- To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
- To formulate the psychological, social, and physical protective factors that are associated with better health;
- To determine the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfill the youth right to health;
- To identify the role and the contribution of governments, national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining health as a right issue;
- To create and Improve the national, regional and international policies governing youth health for the present and future;
- To incorporate networking, collaboration and cooperation between governments, society and private sectors to address the issue of youth health;
- To build and strengthen the social capacity to provide comprehensive care and a supportive environment for all youth in all regions.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Public Sector

- 2.1.1 To establish non-discriminatory policies which emphasize the right to health for youth.
- 2.1.2 To ensure the implementation of international policies and guidelines with regards to youth health and rights.
- 2.1.3 To involve youth in the decision making processes and implementation with regards to health policies and programs.
- 2.1.4 To integrate and continuously revise health curriculums throughout the education system, in partnership with relevant stakeholders.
- 2.1.5 To create legislative frameworks to set health standards for products which affect the health of youth.
- 2.1.6 To allocate resources for the necessary means to support the relevant stakeholders that address issues regarding youth health.
- 2.1.7 To establish accessible health and research centers that should provide complimentary and confidential services for all youth.

- 2.1.8 To create an enabling environment for NGOs to carry out their services for the benefit of youth through instituting helplines and hotspots.
- 2.1.9 To refine health care services and facilities and motivate health care personnel to operate in a youth friendly way where needed.
- 2.1.10 To educate and train youth on health information and services available to them.
- 2.1.11 To promote transparency and accountability of the healthcare systems, personnel, and practices.
- 2.1.12 To provide vaccinations and monitor the coverage of immunization among the youth.
- 2.1.13 To establish agencies that monitor the quality and content of medicinal and food products.
- 2.1.14 To acknowledge that both paternity and maternity leave are equal in rights for both parents.

2.2 International, Regional and National NGOs

- 2.2.1 To establish peer-to-peer and participatory learning systems aimed at meeting health needs of the youth.
- 2.2.2 To diversify the projects and carry out continuous events that will help spread awareness and address the need for youth to be involved in health issues.
- 2.2.3 To involve more youth and youth organizations in community service and volunteering through projects related to healthcare.
- 2.2.4 To encourage youth organizations to collaborate in order to improve their respective capacities.
- 2.2.5 To foster collaboration and strengthen the efforts of both the public and private sectors for improving youth health.
- 2.2.6 To provide and share resources with relevant organizations that integrate health programs in their agenda for the benefit of youth.
- 2.2.7 To utilize capacity building in order to fight stigma and discriminatory practices among the youth, for the youth.
- 2.2.8 To recognize and communicate success stories in order to impress upon the youth the consequences and challenges of living unhealthily.
- 2.2.9 To directly involve the media in programs related to health issues in order to instantly communicate the relevant information.

2.3 Media

- 2.3.1 To establish social network platforms where the youth can find information and effectively communicate ideas on health challenges and rights.

- 2.3.2 To publish reliable and up-to-date information on health issues and services related to the needs of the youth.
- 2.3.3 To flood all avenues of media with positive messages which promote general well-being of the youth.
- 2.3.4 To encourage investigative and critical journalism that addresses the factors and issues which directly and indirectly affect youth health.
- 2.3.5 To assist in marketing healthy products according to the international standards, through free advertising, articles, business columns and air time.
- 2.3.6 To be more creative in grabbing the attention of the youth in order to be engaged in health issues.
- 2.3.7 To involve youth and youth organizations in talk, roundtable, drama and music shows related to youth health issues

2.4 Private sector

- 2.4.1 To provide facilities and services to employees within company premises and encourage a healthy and balanced work-life.
- 2.4.2 To offer health insurance to the employees and their families.
- 2.4.3 To discourage practices of discrimination on the basis of health status and promote a working environment that supports equality.
- 2.4.4 To be supportive of NGOs targeting health programs for the youth and assist in implementing the outcomes.
- 2.4.5 To promote social capitalism by establishing access to healthcare services for the youth in need.
- 2.4.6 To integrate telecommuting into the working environment so the youth can work at their convenience.
- 2.4.7 To encourage companies to provide programs for youth health as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies.

2.5 Society

- 2.5.1 To change the negative mindset and provide necessary support to the youth with health-related issues.
- 2.5.2 To acknowledge the physical, mental, and social limitations on health in order to provide timely and effective services.
- 2.5.3 To recognize that youth have the right to make informed decisions regarding their health, lifestyle, and well-being.

- 2.5.4 To define and eradicate unhealthy practices within the communities irrespective of culture, norms and traditions.
- 2.5.5 To showcase and reward success stories to integrate behavioral change and build informed and empowered youth.
- 2.5.6 To provide first aid courses to all members of community and keep them up-to-date on the current health issues and protocols on epidemics.

2.6 Education

- 2.6.1 To recognize the importance and need to equip youth with the right knowledge and skills to tackle health-related issues.
- 2.6.2 To engage the existing professionals working on youth health in iterative training.
- 2.6.3 To emphasize the importance of physical education for a better and healthy lifestyle of the youth.
- 2.6.4 To have competent and well-equipped health professionals that can address current health issues and manage crisis situations.
- 2.6.5 To empower out-of-school youth with the necessary training in order to build their capacities.
- 2.6.6 To promote alcohol, drug and tobacco free lifestyle.
- 2.6.7 To integrate comprehensive sexuality education to empower young people to make informed choices.
- 2.6.8 To establish curriculum of medical and health related educational institutions to give special concern to local and international youth health issues.

3 GENERAL COMMENTS

- 3.1 To stimulate all stakeholders to strengthen their partnership for the enhancement of youth health services and rights.
- 3.2 To generate opportunities that would allow the youth to participate, create, develop and stand for rights to health.
- 3.3 To strengthen the social capacities between the private and public sector for the establishment of youth health rights in all regions.
- 3.4 To encourage collaboration among the stakeholders in order to provide easy access to quality health for youth.

4 CONCLUSION

We, the participants of the 12th MIYD, realize and recognize the importance of prioritizing the health of youth worldwide as a fundamental right. We seek to generate youth dialogues to advocate for legislations, policies and programs at all levels of society in order to ensure a positive and healthy lifestyle for youth globally.

Appendix

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Albania	Sri Lanka
Azerbaijan	Sudan
Bangladesh	Thailand
Botswana	Trinidad and Tobago
Brunei Darussalam	Tunisia
China	Uganda
Denmark	United Arab Emirates
Egypt	United Kingdom
Germany	United States of America
Ghana	Yemen
Hong Kong	Vietnam
India	
Indonesia	
Iran	
Italy	
Kenya	
Laos	
Libya	
Malaysia	
Maldives	
Namibia	
Nigeria	
Oman	
Pakistan	
Palestine	
Philippines	



YOUTH DECLARATION

THE 23RD INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

YOUTH AND NEW MEDIA

AUGUST, 22-28, 2012 SEOUL AND GOESAN, KOREA

Preamble

69 youth participants from 29 countries gathered in Seoul and Goesan, Korea from August 22nd to 28th, 2012 to seek ways to emphasize Youth's Role in New Media Era.

The participants discussed the following:

- International Cooperation in the New Media Era
- Social Media and Youth Culture
- Government, Private Sector, Relevant International Organizations' role in support of Youths

We, the participants, of the 23rd International Youth Forum determined

- To emphasize the role of governments to reduce education inequality
- To promote the preservation of culture and national identity
- To reduce conflict and gap between cultures and generations
- To raise awareness for global problems such as starvation
- To highlight the role of public sector in assisting youths
- To raise awareness of the need of protection of reputation in new media while not restricting individuals' freedom of speech
- To raise awareness of the danger of bandwagon effect and selective exposure in new media
- To raise awareness of privacy issues such as privacy violation
- To protect individual privacy in new media

And for these ends recommend the following plans of action:

Government

A. Education Inequality

1. We encourage governments to use CME (Computer Mediated Education) equally in all sectors, especially in rural areas.
2. We encourage the use of SNS page for all levels of education. People can suggest their own ideas for developing education system without political opinion.

B. Misconception of education for people with special needs

1. We believe governments should educate people more about special needs high school through advertising in new media tools
2. We urge governments to make educational TV and online lecture for students with special needs. Ex) Providing sign language service for deaf people.

C. Loss of traditional culture and national identity

1. We urge governments to provide financial support for the preservation of national culture
2. We believe that all governments and the private sector should provide dual sound of foreign media content; dubbed and original version.

D. Conflict and gap between cultures and generations

1. We urge all governments to promote culture to reduce misunderstanding between generations through new media.

E. Campaign Structural Improvements

1. We believe that governments should provide easy access to legislation either national or international (Treaties) in order to create a legal framework that allows the promotion of social campaigns.
2. We urge all governments to create, support and maintain campaigns against social issues by using new media means.

F. Education of Social Media Privacy Issues

1. We encourage all governments to include mandatory internet and SNS in early stages of education. This education should be active, learning-based, with an aim to explain the public, archival nature of SNS.

G. Consent of personal information provision

1. We urge all governments to respect the privacy of individuals by not investigating or accessing personal data without consent.

H. Policy Transparency in Social Interactions

1. We encourage all the governments to engage its citizens by being transparent about their policies regarding social media.

I. Awareness of Social Media Threats (Online Defamation)

1. We urge governments to raise awareness on the issue of online defamation through public media campaigns and provide assistance to educational institutions

Private Sectors

A. Fundraising

1. We encourage the promotion of social issues towards private organizations in order to gain support.

B. Conflict and gap between cultures and generations

1. We urge private sector to promote culture to reduce gaps between generations through new media.
2. We believe that all private sectors should provide simple and easy new media usage that can engage different generations and bridge generation gaps.

C. Public Sector CSR

1. We urge private sector to launch campaign against social issues by using new media means that can improve their work processes and efficiency.

D. Identity Verification / Protection

1. We urge social media companies to ensure the protection of identities by requiring proof of identification to remove duplicate or false profiles.
2. We believe that social media companies should provide an option of blocking individuals/users. Furthermore, there should be an option that allows an individual to block any form of unsolicited contact.
3. We encourage companies to provide concise summaries and updates of terms and conditions for SNS in layman's terms.
4. We urge the private sector to focus on the prosecution of pirated copyright content provider rather than on the user.

E. Social Media Companies

1. We strongly urge Social Media Companies to provide an equal opportunity to express agreement, disagreement or doubt with the platforms content. We encourage them to remind users of their responsibilities regarding the sharing of content.

International Organizations, Academia and Civil Society

A. International Cooperation in Social Problems

1. We believe that academia, international organizations and civil societies need to be carefully concerned about social issues and actively utilize new media to promote raise public awareness.

B. Third Party Invasion

1. We encourage all individuals to be alert and informed when they provide any personal information on the internet. Individuals should ensure that they only register for sites that do not pass on their information to third parties without the user's consent.

C. Educational Institutions role in arbitration of online defamation

1. We request the empowerment of faculty in educational institutions to arbitrate cases of online defamation. We encourage the promotion of the issue by conducting educational seminars and lectures on the topic

D. Individual's Duty in Social Media Usage

1. We call on all individuals to recognize their duty to create and share new media content responsibly and understand its double sword nature.

Conclusion

In summary, the forum highlighted the issues that youths face in the new media age. Moreover, we discussed about possible uses of new media tools in order to raise awareness of different issues in society.

We concluded that new media would play a key role in society and individuals need to understand how new media works and to be aware of its powers.

Suggestions were made to, public and private sectors to address the issues that were determined in the forum.



POLICY FORUM

'Engaging Youth in Planning Education for Social Transformation'

UNESCO HEADQUARTERS, PARIS, FRANCE

16TH TO 18TH OCTOBER, 2012

Draft Agenda for Action

Engaging Youth in Planning Education for Social Transformation

The IIEP 2012 Policy Forum¹ brought together 250 participants – policy-makers, youth, practitioners, and researchers – to debate the issue of 'Engaging Youth in Planning Education for Social Transformation' in three areas: (a) *conflict transformation and peacebuilding*, (b) *civic engagement*, and (c) *connecting education, learning, and the world of work*. This Agenda for Action has emerged from those discussions.

Preamble

1. In recent years, there has been an increase in initiatives responding to the needs of youth. The International Year of Youth (2010–2011), the numerous youth-oriented and youth-led initiatives developed therein, as well as the growth of youth movements around the world, underlines the potential of youth as positive agents of change. These initiatives have contributed to the growing recognition of youth as key partners in development, contributing to the shift from 'for youth' to a 'with and by youth' approach to policy development, programming, and research.
2. Despite this progress, and a growing body of research showing youth as key actors in social transformation, misconceptions persist, as do obstacles to meaningful youth engagement. Too often, youth continue to be seen as a challenge and a source of social unrest. Engaging youth in planning their education is a precondition to challenging such misconceptions and overcoming the obstacles.
3. Education (both formal and non-formal) has a key role to play in developing the knowledge, skills, and values for youth to become global citizens and positive agents of change. Education can help foster the ability to build and maintain peace, to engage in political and civic processes that work for the public good, and to create social and economic progress that provides sustainable livelihoods. Civic engagement can strengthen these skills and values, as well as empowering youth to contribute fully to their societies.

¹ *'Engaging Youth in Planning Education for Social Transformation', 16-18 October 2012, UNESCO, Paris, held in partnership with the UNESCO Chair in Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy, University of Ulster; the UNESCO Chair in Children, Youth and Civic Engagement, National University of Ireland, Galway; the World Assembly of Youth and UNESCO's Education and Social and Human Sciences sectors*

4. Youth are innovative. They engage easily with new technologies. Education policy-making, programming and research should use these innovative technologies which are revolutionizing learning to effectively engage youth in learning and planning processes.

5. Youth is a heterogeneous group. Stakeholders² should consider the great diversity in the motives and needs of youth, and how diverse youth groups³ perceive issues in their given context and culture. Therefore, educational issues affecting youth vary greatly – ranging, for example, from the frustration or alienation of those who, though educated, are unable to find decent work, to youth who, for whatever reason, have little or no access to basic education, literacy, or skills development.

6. Youth delegates of the 7th UNESCO Youth Forum in 2011 ('How Youth Drive Change') urged Member States 'to ensure access to quality formal and non-formal education, including informal education, intercultural education, values-based education and civic education, as equal parts of general education'. They called for 'a fair educational system, taking into consideration refugee children or children with migration backgrounds and creating opportunities that these children also succeed in school.'

An Agenda for Action

This Agenda for Action is formulated in two parts. Part I presents the main recommendations emerging from the Policy Forum and proposes actions to address them, through **policy development** to address the roles youth will play, concrete **programming** that can be used to put youth-led policies into effect, and a **research** agenda to provide the evidence and evaluation process for policy and programming formulation and implementation. Part II offers a list of future actions that participants are willing to undertake to advance the agenda of engaging youth in planning their education for social transformation.

Part I: New opportunities: strengthening youth engagement in planning education policy, programming, and research

Youth need to be included in all stages of policy development

7. Inter-ministerial collaboration in policy development (inter-ministerial initiatives of youth, education, labour, and gender, etc.), and broad stakeholder participation is essential. Education and training policies, both formal and non-formal, need to be aligned with youth, development, labour, and other policies to ensure and strengthen coherence.

² Stakeholders will vary depending on the context but could include for example government officials, employers, community leaders, civil society, research institutions. Youth should always be included as a stakeholder.

³ By 'diverse youth groups' we mean youth from different social, economic, geographic and ethnic backgrounds, from both rural and urban areas, who have different interests, needs and require a range of mechanisms for engagement

8. Inclusive partnerships, inter-geographical, inter- and intra-regional dialogue and coordination can facilitate knowledge sharing. Therefore, using consultative mechanisms and frameworks (e.g. national youth forums, youth cabinets or parliaments) that engage diverse youth groups (especially the most marginalized and hard to reach) may promote development of government education and training policies that are relevant to the needs and aspirations of youth. Capacity development, of both youth and policy-makers, to effectively engage with these mechanisms, may be required. To ensure these mechanisms are effective and continue to be relevant in contexts that are constantly evolving, there needs to be regular and consistent monitoring and evaluation.

9. **Conflict transformation and peacebuilding** should be integrated in education policy at all levels, in both formal and non-formal education. Its integration should be contextualized and supported through policies that address the possible causes of social conflict and violence. Stakeholders should work together to identify how education policies can contribute to resolving social and political conflicts, including through collaborative peacebuilding initiatives.

10. **Civic engagement** (i.e. active participation in school and community life) can promote and enhance global citizenship for youth at all levels. Stakeholders should develop context-appropriate strategies for civic engagement and civic education at all levels of formal and non-formal education.

11. The global economic and employment crises have increased the urgency to develop and implement policies that adequately **connect education, learning, and the world of work**. Ensuring that education and skills policies are coherent with national employment and development policies and the real skills demands of the labour market is essential. Stakeholders need to ensure effective monitoring and evaluation of the impact of such policies on effective transitions from education to the world of work.

Proposed actions

a) Develop a specific national agenda and framework on youth engagement in educational planning with diverse youth groups, through inter-agency, inter-ministerial, and inter-generational dialogue and collaboration, to strengthen meaningful youth participation at each step of the policy process.

b) Develop or support technical capacity for national and regional collaboration enabling stakeholders to jointly engage in education policy and programme development, research, and analysis.

c) Initiate tracer studies of youths' insertion into their respective fields of work, as a baseline for monitoring and evaluating policy impact. This could include the identification of good practices that have facilitated transition to employment in a given context.

d) Establish or strengthen formal cross-sector multi-stakeholder discussion and decision-making platforms such as national youth fora, youth cabinets or youth parliaments, to improve dialogue and facilitate multi-sectoral policy development, planning, implementation, and evaluation. Care should be taken to ensure that youth can express themselves freely and comfortably through these platforms.

Engaging youth requires diverse forms of educational programming

12. Methodologies and approaches to educational programming need to be relevant to the needs and life experiences of the youth they aim to engage. The importance of offering alternative educational paths is crucial. Transitions between formal and non-formal education and training programmes and opportunities need to be facilitated, and non-formal education programmes be given increased recognition, validation, and certification. Learning should provide traditional educational skills, as well as values that promote tolerance, citizenship, respect, and individual empowerment.

13. To implement conflict-sensitive educational policies and plans, **conflict transformation and peacebuilding** considerations should be integral to programme development and implementation. Contextually appropriate peacebuilding and conflict resolution should be included in formal and non-formal education curricula. Programmes may be strengthened by youth-led civic engagement such as advocacy campaigns or establishing peace clubs in schools and communities.

14. To strengthen activities that encourage **civic engagement** (such as political engagement, creative activities, sports, community work), civic engagement should be included and accredited as a part of formal and non-formal programmes. This should include training for stakeholders on how to improve context-sensitive youth civic engagement.

15. Lifelong learning methodologies and approaches to educational programming are required for all youth to facilitate the **connection between education, learning, and the world of work**. These may include skills training, mobile schools, community learning spaces, and other alternative educational paths. Teachers should be offered the option of training in alternative delivery methods where feasible and appropriate, e.g. the teaching of transversal and transferable skills (entrepreneurship, business, IT) and career guidance (using employment forecasts to understand the current skills demand). Non-exploitative internships and apprenticeships should be provided at appropriate levels of the education and training system. Technical and vocational education and training programmes must be given a more positive image, and greater status and recognition within education systems and within society.

Proposed actions

- a) Review and, if necessary, revise education curricula and teacher education curricula to ensure they are context- and conflict-sensitive, supportive of civic engagement and relevant for the transition to the world of work.
- b) Accredite and certify non-formal education, including civic education, through specific education programmes, including at master's level.
- c) Establish or strengthen career guidance and information systems for all youth which are coherent with current labour market information and demand-based skills.

Research should be developed and conducted with and by youth

- 16. A research strategy that is holistic and identifies the relations between conflict transformation, civic engagement, and the connection between education, learning, and the world of work is essential for better understanding what policies and programmes may apply in a given social, political, and economic context. Life history and social change research methods may allow a greater insight into the impact of policies on the lives of youth and help develop concrete recommendations for change. There is also a need to monitor how youth engagement contributes towards political, social, and economic stability.
- 17. To strengthen evidence-based education policy-making and programming, youth must be engaged as partners in the research process. Research findings should be clearly communicated to the different stakeholders using appropriate tools and formats.
- 18. To ensure that **conflict transformation and peacebuilding** policies and programmes are context specific, the capacity of all stakeholders to conduct conflict analysis should be enhanced. To determine what is known, what works as well as identify knowledge gaps, the state of research on peace education and conflict resolution, including youth participation in conflict transformation and peacebuilding, should be mapped.
- 19. There is a need to further define '**civic engagement**', including its role in relation to specific social and cultural contexts. Research, should be conducted on appropriate, context-relevant youth civic engagement programmes. This could include, for example, the co-elaboration of capacity development measures that support youth engagement skills or a model for future youth researchers.
- 20. Given the ever-changing nature of the labour market, there is a need for ongoing research to ensure that connections between **education, learning, and the world of work** are strengthened and remain relevant. This requires linking academic and labour market research with policy and practice. Research findings should feed into policy and planning for national, regional, and local education and training programmes.

Proposed actions

- a) Undertake a baseline research on current youth engagement in education planning, policy, and programming at different levels – from school and local up to national and international levels.
- b) Review current education programmes to determine the gaps, and identify the strategies needed to transmit the values and competencies necessary for inclusive citizenship, peacebuilding, and supporting youth transitions to the world of work.
- c) Use a variety of new media, including social networks, to strengthen and continue discussions and communication on youth-related issues and engagement in education.
- d) Identify, and involve in the youth engagement dialogue, a media or research institution to promote and advocate for increased youth engagement in education decision-making.
- e) Train youth as researchers to develop, design and co-lead a research programme on youth education, peacebuilding, civic engagement, and connecting education, learning, and the world of work policies and programmes.

Part II: Participant follow-up on proposed actions

Initiatives related to the engagement of youth in educational policy development, programming, and research, in the three thematic areas outlined in this Agenda for Action, will be monitored and reported at annual and bi-annual events, such as the UNESCO Youth Forum or the World Assembly of Youth's annual Youth Dialogue programme.

The following actions have been committed to by the respective parties, who have agreed with the core principles outlined in the Agenda for Action:

Ministry of Education, Pakistan

- a) The Ministry of Education will augment the proposal to focus on marginalized youth with the involvement of youth in non-formal education, as well as by strengthening their role in policy formulation, planning, and dialogue.
- b) It is further proposed that civic engagement and civic education should be given high focus in Education Development and Planning so that the engagement of youth in social transformation is fully accomplished.
- c) Youth activities will be promoted through civic engagement, such as sports and community work, and stakeholders be provided with the training necessary to be more effective.
- d) Community Model Schools will be employed as agents to motivate communities for enhancing literacy in the country, to allow us attainment of the following objectives of UNESCO's forum: (i.) New opportunities strengthening youth engagement in planning education policy, programming, and research; (ii.) Bring youth into the initial stages of policy development; (iii.) Engaging youth requires diverse forms of programming and implementation.

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports South Sudan

The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports:

- a) plans to bring different youth associations (religious, political, and regional) together for dialogue and debate in order that they may be fully engaged in planning and programming;
- b) proposes to establish a national youth service to bring together youth from all around the country to take part in an annual programme to promote civic values attached to sports, culture, and community service;
- c) hopes to establish and strengthen vocational training centres to encourage more opportunities for young people to have skills that are relevant to the employment needs of South Sudan;
- d) will propose to the cabinet to introduce a levy of US \$1-2 per barrel of oil to finance youth activities in South Sudan.

Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports, Burundi

The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports is working towards:

- a) establishing youth centres in all '*communes*' (129) of the country. These are training (undertaken by UNESCO trained peer educators) and awareness raising centres on themes such as citizenship, peaceful conflict resolution, sexual health, AIDS;
- b) establishing a 'first job placement' aimed at young people with no work experience. In 2012, 200 young people benefitted from the programme;
- c) seeking funding to establish a fund for youth entrepreneurship promotion to circumvent the need for guarantees required by banks and micro-finance institutions;
- d) introducing a national volunteer service in 2013.

Ministry of Youth and Sports, Yemen

The Minister of Youth and Sports recognizes the major role that youth have played in changing Yemen and has started to take practical measures to involve youth in decision-making, including:

- a) organizing a large national meeting for youth to elect a council of youth that will advise the Ministry on policy;
- a) launching a webpage to provide information on the Ministry's activities.

UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP)

- b) IIEP will maintain the Plan with Youth website and social media tools in order to maintain the dialogue between different stakeholders involved in youth engagement in educational planning and policy development. The website 'www.planwithyouth.org' will serve as a means for collecting and disseminating information on monitoring the follow-up to the Agenda for Action and the different stakeholder commitments.
- c) IIEP will undertake an analysis of current education and youth policies and plans in order to identify gaps as well as possible good practices that exist in terms of youth engagement in educational planning and policy development.
- d) IIEP in collaboration with the partnership will produce a series of policy briefs for education decision-makers on mechanisms to support youth engagement in educational planning in different contexts and for different categories of youth.
- e) IIEP in collaboration with the partnership will publish a synthesis of the outcomes from the 2012 Policy Forum, including the background research overviews related to the themes of youth engagement in education and peacebuilding and conflict transformation, civic engagement, and transition to the world of work. Additional research materials, online debates, and group work discussions will be included.

UNESCO Chair at the University of Ulster

The UNESCO Chair at the University of Ulster in collaboration with the partnership will, over the next two to three years, design and seek funding for a project of research with the overall aim of informing practice in the area of youth participation. The project will examine literature and existing models in a number of countries in the following four areas:

- a) Undertake a review of existing methodologies for accessing 'inaccessible' youth voices and ensuring a multiplicity of youth representation.
- b) Conduct a review of models of organizing youth participation.
- c) Identify the skills and approaches necessary to support youth as researchers.
- d) Examine models for youth to influence the policy process.

World Assembly of Youth (WAY)

WAY commits to continue assisting IIEP, youth, and partners around the world on advocating for youth engagement in education, particularly conflict transformation and peacebuilding, civic engagement, and the transition to the world of work, and will continue awareness-raising by conducting other events in 2013 related to these themes.

UNESCO Chair at the National University of Ireland, Galway

The UNESCO Chair at the National University of Ireland, Galway, will seek to support the partnership through the future agenda of the Chair.

UNESCO Youth programme (Youth-led social innovation team)

- a) To the extent that the IIEP Policy Forum followed up on the recommendations of the 2011 UNESCO Youth Forum, UNESCO will provide space during the 2013 UNESCO Youth Forum for young participants of the IIEP Policy Forum to report on the follow-up projects and actions that they will have developed in their countries and communities to follow upon those Agenda for Action items of the IIEP Policy Forum that link to the recommendations of the 2011 UNESCO Youth Forum.
- b) UNESCO will develop context-appropriate programmes for democracy-building, civic engagement and civic education, both through the formal and the non-formal sector, in countries in transition in the Arab States.
- c) UNESCO will support the establishment of, and/or strengthen existing, structures (namely National Youth Councils; youth desks at the UNESCO National Commissions) enabling an inclusive and representative engagement of youth in policy and programme development at national or local level.

Greater Upper Nile, Bahr El Ghazal and Equatoria Youth Association, South Sudan

We are committed to formulating a national agenda for youth, which is coherent with, and will allow us to work in partnership with, other international youth organizations.



Bali Global Youth Forum Declaration

Outcome of the Bali Global Youth Forum of United Nations Member States, youth groups, individual youth participants, non-governmental organizations, private sector institutions and other stakeholders, as well as thousands of virtual participants.

The conference was held in Bali, Indonesia, from 4-6 December 2012 in the context of the review and follow up to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 in order to produce recommended actions for the outcome report of the review and for the post 2015 United Nations development agenda as well as to generate a new consensus on putting youth rights at the heart of development.

The conference was preceded by extensive interaction at national and global levels on the themes of staying healthy; comprehensive education; families, youth-rights and well being, including sexuality; transition to decent work; and leadership and meaningful participation.

A dedicated web and mobile platform will provide the means for continued conversations on issues of youth rights, well being and development in order to effectively influence global and national policies and programmes that impact young people.

Final Recommendations from Thematic Session 1: Staying Healthy

Ensuring accountability, transparency and the need for implementation as a cross cutting theme across all recommendations, with special focus particularly on LGBTQI, MSM, drug users, refugees, rural populations, out-of-school, sex workers, indigenous, afro-descendant populations, migrants, young people in conflict and emergency situations, empowering young women and adolescent girls, persons with disabilities, young people living with HIV and AIDS.

Data

Governments should develop and strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships with private sector, civil society and young people, in collecting, analyzing, using and disseminating periodic, reliable, qualitative and quantitative output and outcomes-oriented youth health data, which is disaggregated by age (10-14, 15-19, 20-24), gender, sex and other factors and supports evidence-based policies and programmes.

Invest in building the capacity of young people to collect and validate data, ensuring youth-led and youth-friendly monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in the design, planning and implementation of national policies and programmes.

Enabling environments

Governments should work in partnership with adolescents and youth, media, religious leaders and the private sector to create enabling environments that are conducive to ensuring young people have access to comprehensive affordable health services that are free from coercion, discrimination, violence and stigma – and provide for basic needs through increased funding, improved legislation and policies, accessible and affordable services.

Governments should also ensure that young people have meaningful participation in the allocation of resources for health at the local and national levels, and the creation of policies that respect, protect and fulfill human rights.

Governments address harmful traditional practices (such as forced circumcision and genital mutilation, early and forced marriage, gender-based violence and violence against women).

Education

International community including governments, NGOs, private sector and civil society must establish partnerships to make adolescents and youth aware of their rights to staying healthy through formal and non-formal education.

To provide non-discriminatory, non-judgmental, rights-based, age appropriate, gender-sensitive health education including youth-friendly, evidence based comprehensive sexuality education that is context specific.

Access to health services

Governments must provide, monitor and evaluate universal access to a basic package of youth-friendly health services (including mental healthcare and sexual and reproductive health services) that are high

quality, integrated, equitable, comprehensive, affordable, needs and rights based, accessible, acceptable, confidential and free of stigma and discrimination for all young people.

As part of this basic package governments must provide comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services that include safe and legal abortion, maternity care, contraception, HIV and STI prevention, care, treatment and counseling to all young people.

Governments should ensure that all healthcare providers receive training on youth-specific health issues and provision of adolescent and youth-friendly services through pre-service and in-service training and professional development.

Laws and policies

Governments and UN agencies, in line with international human rights standards, should remove legal, policy and regulatory barriers that hinder the meaningful participation and empowerment of young people to exercise and claim their rights.

Governments and UN agencies should support the sexual and reproductive rights of young people including ensuring access to legal and safe abortion that is affordable, accessible and free from coercion, discrimination and stigma, providing support and protection mechanisms that promote the right to choose.

Governments should implement financially sustainable policies and legal frameworks that protect, promote and fulfill the reproductive and sexual rights of all young people, regardless of their sexual orientation and gender identities.

Call for governments and UN agencies to institutionalize mechanisms for youth leadership, particularly marginalized youth (as mentioned above), in the development of policies and programmes that impact young people's lives.

Final Recommendations from Thematic Session 2: Comprehensive Education

Universal access to free education

Governments must ensure universal access to free, quality, comprehensive education at all levels in a safe and participatory environment.

Inclusive education

Governments must adopt a rights-based approach to education, including formal, informal and non-formal education, targeting vulnerable and marginalized groups*, especially girls.

Governments should provide special, equal and equitable educational programs, including through mainstreaming extracurricular activities, for vulnerable and marginalized groups, especially young people living with disabilities.

Governments and other stakeholders need to acknowledge that learners have different learning needs, requiring different pedagogical styles. Therefore, alternative modes of learning must be valued and formally acknowledged.

Governments should enact, implement and enforce laws that enable education in an environment free from discrimination, violence, and bullying.

Relevant education

Governments and other stakeholders, with the active and meaningful participation of adolescents and youth, should develop and implement effective systems for appropriate curriculum development and periodic review to empower young people to gain relevant skills for employment and livelihoods, including promoting vocational educational programs and involvement of the private sector.

Quality education

Call on governments to implement and monitor sustainable gender-sensitive and transformative educational programs, by establishing gender-sensitive indicators and quality education systems and infrastructure, which should include qualified staff, appropriate facilities, tools (including technology), teaching materials and methods.

Financing and partnerships

Governments must allocate sufficient funds towards achieving universal access to comprehensive education.

Governments should enact policies that facilitate investment in education by private sector partners, the international community and other stakeholders.

Young people should be involved in establishing monitoring and evaluation processes to improve and sustain consistent and quality education that is evidence-based, and ensure effective governance, transparency and accountability.

Comprehensive sexuality education

International community including governments, NGOs, private sector and civil society must establish partnerships to make adolescents and youth aware of their rights to staying healthy through formal and non-formal education.

To provide non-discriminatory, non-judgmental, rights-based, age appropriate, gender-sensitive health education including youth-friendly, evidence based comprehensive sexuality education that is context specific. [cf: —Staying Healthy ||]

Governments should create enabling environments and policies to ensure that young people have access to comprehensive sexuality education, in formal and non-formal settings, through reducing barriers and allocating adequate budgets.

*Girls, LGBTQI, people living with disabilities, indigenous people, migrants, [socioeconomic status], language minorities, women, pregnant girls, people living in the context of war and humanitarian contexts, sex workers, people living with HIV/AIDS, dropouts, Afro-descendants, and displaced peoples.

Final Recommendations from Thematic Session 3: Families, Youth Rights, Well-being and Sexuality **Financing and accountability**

Governments should make a political and financial commitment to ensure that sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) policies and programs are prioritized for budgetary allocation and are equally accessible for all young people.

Governments must be transparent in the implementation of policies and programs on SRHR.

Sexual rights

Governments must fund and develop, in equal partnership with young people and health care providers, policies, laws, and programs that recognize, promote, and protect young peoples' sexual rights as human rights. This must be developed in accordance with the principles of human rights, non-discrimination, respect, equality and inclusivity, with a gendered, multicultural and secular approach.*

Governments, together with other stakeholders, should guarantee an environment free from all forms of harmful traditional practices and psychological, physical and sexual violence, including gender based violence; violence against women; bullying in the home, school, workplace and community; sexual coercion; and female genital mutilation, amongst others. Support must be provided for victims of violence including free counseling, services and legal redress.

Cultural and religious barriers such as parental and spousal consent, and early and forced marriages, should never prevent access to family planning, safe and legal abortion, and other reproductive health services – recognizing that young people have autonomy over their own bodies, pleasures, and desires.

* With reference to the WHO working definition of sexual rights, the Yogyakarta Principles, and Sexual Rights: an IPPF Declaration.

Legal protection

Governments must ensure that international and national laws, regulations, and policies remove obstacles and barriers – including requirements for parental & spousal notification and consent; and age of consent for sexual and reproductive services—that infringe on the sexual and reproductive health and rights of adolescents and youth.

Governments must repeal laws and regulations that permit violence and/or discrimination against young people, especially those who are marginalized, including laws that limit same-sex marriage, and criminalize YPLHIV and LGBTQI.

Governments should, with multi-stakeholder involvement, promote and implement laws, policies and programs that eliminate harmful practices such as early and forced marriage, rape, sexual and gender based violence, female genital mutilation, honor killings, and all other forms of violence against adolescent girls and young women.

Governments should decriminalize abortion, and create and implement policies and programs that ensure young women have access to safe and legal abortion, pre- and post-abortion services, without mandatory waiting periods, requirements for parental and spousal notification and/or consent or age of consent.

Sexual and reproductive health services and comprehensive sexuality education

Governments should ensure that every young person, including LGBTQI young people, have equal access to the full range of evidence- and rights-based, youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services and comprehensive sexuality education, that is respectful of young people's right to informed consent.

Services should be confidential, accessible, and include a full range of safe, effective, affordable methods of modern contraception and family planning services and commodities, including pre- and post-natal care, amongst others. Comprehensive sexuality education should be developed in partnership with young people and include information on sexual orientation and gender identities that is free of religious intolerance.

Families

The concept of the family is constantly evolving and governments must recognize this by adapting legal, policy and programmatic frameworks that embrace every form of family* and ensure the right of everyone to form a family, regardless of sexual orientation and gender identity.

* Forms of families include but are not limited to: single parenthood, same sex couples, traditional, temporarily separated, displaced, child-led/headed, divorced, cohabitating, fostered, grandparents raising children, couples without children, migrants, extended and LGBTQI.

Final Recommendations from Thematic Session 4: The right to decent work

Governments should ensure the right to decent work for young people through effective policies and programmes that generate employment, which is stable, safe, secure, non-discriminatory, and provides a decent wage and opportunities for career development.

Governments and all stakeholders should ensure the rights of young people at work are adhered to, including the right to fair hiring, and to join and organize labor unions, consistent with international conventions.

Meaningful participation

Governments, in equal partnership with the private sector and young people, with special emphasis on marginalized and vulnerable groups, should invest in building the capacities of young people, and in creating an enabling environment for young people to meaningfully participate in all stages of decision making and implementation of rights-based policies and programs on employment.

Investing in people and jobs

Governments should prioritize creation of jobs and a skilled workforce by increased investment including from the private sector through programmes that foster youth entrepreneurship and provide capacity building to young people through (job) trainings, using formal and non-formal curricula, education, vocational and employment counseling, quality paid internships, offer social protection, mentoring and expertise sharing so that young people, in particular marginalized groups, get the necessary information and skills to access decent work opportunities.

Non-discrimination, equality and gender

Governments and international community, in partnership with CSOs, should ensure equal and equitable access to decent work free from discrimination, respectful of diversity, and promoting human development for all young people, in particular young women with children and other vulnerable and marginalized groups*.

Governments should create enabling environments that provide opportunities for young people and diversified jobs that recognize and value their needs and unique skills, perspectives and contributions. Governments should guarantee that anti-discriminatory laws and policies ensure workplace safety and protection from violence for all. Therefore, governments must update existing international conventions against discrimination to include vulnerable and marginalized groups of young people and enforce them.

Governments and the private sector must support young women's leadership in the workforce, thereby contributing to sustainable development. They must eliminate gender disparities in all sectors and at all levels of the workforce and implement and enforce policies that address discrimination of young women in the labor market, including equal access to a range of educational and employment opportunities, with equal pay.

National policies and plans

Governments should support and protect marginalized groups by strictly adhering to ILO conventions and standards, particularly those relating to domestic workers, and provision of parental leave.

Governments, in partnership with civil society, the private sector, and employers should implement, monitor and evaluate gender-sensitive, rights- and evidence-based national youth employment policies, commit to financing programmes, and develop legal frameworks to ensure social protection mechanisms, including childcare and access to sexual and reproductive health services.

Governments should ensure legal recognition of undocumented workers including migrants, decriminalize sex work, and eliminate mandatory medical checks that are used as a basis for discrimination, especially mandatory HIV, and pregnancy testing in the general protection, respect and fulfillment of the rights of all young people to decent employment.

* Including girls, women, young people who are disabled, LGBTQI, living in rural areas, indigenous, afro-descendant, ethnic minorities, out-of-school, sex workers, domestic workers, undocumented workers, living with HIV, in conflict zones, refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, living on the street, working in the informal economy, and deprived of freedom.

Final Recommendations from Thematic Session 5: Leadership and Meaningful Youth Participation

Governments must acknowledge that young people's participation is a pre-condition for sustainable development. Young people refer to diverse groups* that are (but not limited to) Young People Living with HIV, LGBTQI, indigenous, afro-descendants, persons with disabilities, marginalized ethnicities, religious minorities, migrants that are documented and undocumented, drug users, disadvantaged economic and social groups, young parents, young women, men who have sex with men, refugees, migrants, young people in conflict and emergency situations, pregnant girls, dropouts, displaced people, language minorities, asylum seekers, living on the streets, working in the informal economy, adolescent girls, sex workers and deprived of freedom amongst others.

Participation by all young people

Governments, in equal partnership with the private sector and young people; with special emphasis on marginalized and vulnerable groups*, should invest in building the capacities of young people, and creating an enabling environment for them to meaningfully participate in all stages of decision-making and the implementation of rights-based policies and programs. Governments must ensure the right to legal protection for young people to freely express their opinion and organize.

Governments, civil society organizations and all other relevant stakeholders must ensure and monitor, in equal partnership with young people, through effective and gender-sensitive policies and resources, equal access to meaningful participation in local, national and international decision-making forums; in a safe, non-discriminatory, democratic environment, in all geographic areas, with particular attention paid to conflict and post-conflict situations, including vulnerable and marginalized groups*.

Accountability

Governments should ensure that young people have meaningful participation in the allocation of resources at the local and national levels, and the creation of policies that respect, protect and fulfill their human rights.

Governments, UN and other international institutions must develop monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for existing global recommendations on youth issues including meaningful youth participation.

Young people with access to decision-making spaces must be responsible and accountable to their own organizations and their own constituencies.

Funding, empowerment and capacity building

We call on governments, civil society organizations, UN agencies, the private sector, young people and other stakeholders to strengthen, fund and empower organizations by building sustainable youth capacity for participation and leadership. Sustainable youth capacity requires access to information, resources, civic education, technical and entrepreneurial skills, to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate budgets, policies, programs and other decision making processes.

Governments, UN agencies, international organizations and private institutions must invest in increasing the use of all forms of media and ICT as platforms to develop awareness and capacity building for young people.

Governments and CSOs should facilitate access to education, information, and financing of programs and the capacity building of young people.

Leadership

Young people should show unity, transparency, accountability, and responsibility in their initiatives at national, regional and international levels.

Young people should take upon themselves the task of mobilizing and selecting representatives in National Youth Councils and Youth Parliaments, promoting themes (leadership, participation and volunteerism) in a manner that meets their needs and aspirations.

Spaces and levels of participation

Governments and international organizations are urged to undertake political reform to include young people in policy-making and implementation, regardless of socio-economic and cultural background, in line with international human rights standards, and should remove legal, policy and regulatory barriers that hinder the meaningful participation and empowerment of young people to exercise and claim their rights.

National and Local-Level Governments, UN agencies, international organizations and private institutions must ensure the meaningful participation of young people at all levels of policy and program development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation without discrimination, coercion, or violence and in equal partnership; support the networking of youth-led organizations and movements at the regional and global levels; and establish structures and systems that promote the civil rights of young people, such as youth councils, youth-led organizations and movements.

The United Nations should appoint a young Special Advisor on youth without delay; employ more young people; and urge member states to have youth representatives in their delegations.

National Level Governments should appoint an independent Youth Minister with an appropriate age limit; institute democratically elected youth parliaments that feed into national parliaments; institute a political representation quota with active recruitment and mentoring for young people; financially and institutionally support youth policies through youth led processes, and not as volunteers alone.

National Level Governments should ensure that the political representation of young people is proportionate to their numbers, with special focus on young women and youth belonging to vulnerable groups*.

Local Level Governments should establish and support youth councils; and provide youth councils with decision-making space within governments.

Governments and international bodies should create new and effective channels of social and political participation for civil society and youth organizations.

WORKSHOP ON YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM





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AS ENABLERS FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION**



ICPD GLOBAL YOUTH FORUM

'Youth Rights Placed at the Heart of Development'





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