

MESSAGE BY DONALD TINOTENDA CHARUMBIRA
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The World Assembly of Youth is pleased to welcome all delegates and participants to the 4th Melaka International Youth Dialogue!

We are delighted to note the vast nationalities and backgrounds of participants, and are certain that this Dialogue will be a unique platform for youth to review their participation in decision-making processes.

Having held three previous Dialogues, we observed that a major concern for us as youth is whether our decisions and resolutions would ever be recognised or implemented. It is against that background that we resolved to hold this Dialogue under the theme of *Youth Participation in Decision-Making Processes*.

Through this Dialogue, we hope to evaluate youth participation and its efficacy at all levels of decision-making processes. We would also like to evaluate and review the implementation of the UN's World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond. The UN General Assembly resolved to ensure full and effective participation of youth in the life of society and in decision-making. We would like to assess how far this has been implemented.

I would like to pay special tribute to everyone that has worked in our various working committees and sub-committees, which organised all aspects of the MIYD. A special thanks also goes to all facilitators, speakers, chairpersons, partners, sponsors and supporters of the MIYD.

And finally to all participants, who have flown thousands of miles to join the MIYD, we are grateful for your commitment and support.

Wishing a pleasant and enjoyable stay in Melaka, and a fruitful Melaka International Youth Dialogue!

DONALD TINOTENDA CHARUMBIRA