

SPEECH BY MISS EDIOLA PASHOLLARI

ACTING SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

AT THE WELCOMING DINNER OF THE

10TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE

“YOUTH LEADERSHIP POWER AND ITS INFLUENCE TO THE SOCIETY”

FRIDAY 25TH JUNE 2010 AT 2000 HRS

MITC, ANCASA HOTEL, MELAKA

Hello everyone,

I would like to take this time to thank Datuk Seri Ali Rustam, WAY President and also the Chief Minister of this charming state Melaka, for graciously opening his residence and hosting the dinner tonight. Thank you Datuk Seri!

Once again I would like extend a warm welcome to all VIPs and all participants to WAY and to the dinner tonight.

I am so glad that all of you were able to attend the 10th MIYD. Every year it has become more challenging and exciting to plan and organized the different dialogues. In the last 9 years we have seen the progression of the challenges and needs of the youth globally. We at WAY are so happy that we are apart of life changing experiences for the youth. It is always an exciting event to look forward to and the prospect of discovering new ideas and friendships are endless.

MIYD has been set up as a place where issues regarding youth standing in society is discussed, evaluated and decisions made. We have discovered that the declarations made are life changing as we place more trusts in the youth and allowing them to be partners in the decision making process. We have showed to them in the past dialogues that we at WAY are standing alongside them and we are continuing to do so.

This last two days we have heard quite a lot of speeches and watch videos and power point presentations. For all that has been exposed to us are of immense encouragement and I hope that you will put to great use the suggestions and recommendations given by then speakers. We may not be able to utilize all of them but I know for sure those ideas can work if we apply it with great determination and focus.

Youth leadership will be the back bone of every youth group (if it hasn't by now) and we sincerely hope that the declaration which will be drafted tonight speaks forth loudly the voice of youth on the matter.

Focus and passion should be part of our role as the present youth leaders and in passing on the this thought we must be willing to walk by mentoring and work by modeling alongside the younger, newer and potential youth leaders that can and will influence the society at large.

I must confess that it has been an effort to organize these dialogues but it has been great fun. It has been pleasurable and enjoyable in working with all the different youth councils, organizations, NGOs both locally and internationally. We are our own mini United Nations here.

Although this year is our 10th year in holding the dialogues there are still more to come. This year alone WAY is collaborating/working together with the National Youth Council of Indonesia for the upcoming event “International Youth Forum on Climate Change” next month in Jakarta and Makassar, the National Council of Youth Organisations in Korea for their event, 21st International Youth Forum, in August and also WAY General Assembly.

As you can see there are in reality many amazing events still to come in WAY’s calendar. All of these events as well as the one we are in will definitely succeed as we are focus on our goals and objectives.

Please make use of the opportunity that is here right now, to get to know the speakers and other youth leaders. Start planning for your own program and take advantage in asking, finding out information and networking together.

Let us grow together in the knowledge and the ways we can better prepare our youth for their greater future.

Enjoy the meal, the friendship and most of all continue to dialogue.