

MIYD 05 DECLARATION

We, the participants of the fifth Melaka International Youth Dialogue on "Strengthening National Youth Councils for Global Development" convened in Melaka, Malaysia from 27-29 June 2005 hereby make the following recommendations.

Capacity building for greater efficiency and effectiveness of National Youth Councils

1. NYC's need to streamline organizational and operational structures to meet the needs, demands and desires of young men and women;
2. Information, communication and technology systems need to be put in place for effective networking;
3. NYC's should create an enabling environment for human resource development for young men and women;
4. NYC's should set up an advisory council that allows experienced senior members who were former NYC members or others who were actively involved in youth development;
This Advisory council should act as a catalyst and transfer knowledge and experience to youth leaders;
5. NYC members should be given training in:
 - a) Preparation of feasible project reports for resource mobilization;
 - b) Financial management and reporting skills (a uniform international financial reporting to be evolved for NYC's);
 - c) Good governance;
 - d) Human Resource practices.
6. NYC's should concentrate in addressing the major problem of unemployment among youth through appropriate entrepreneurship development and international trade training programs as this will encourage the youth to be innovators and job creators.
7. NYC's should organize internships through exchange programs to expose the NYC members to the 'best practices' in other countries.
8. An effective training in 'Social Marketing' should be given for securing smart partnership' with private organizations.
9. A Global 'E-youth' network should be established for sharing the experience and the knowledge instantaneously.

Developing Partnerships with Governments and International Agencies

1. The Youth calls on Government /Intergovernmental Org and Youth Councils to develop plans of action that take into consideration youth development;
2. Call on the United Nations, the Commonwealth of Nations , African Union, European Union, Organization of Islamic Conference and other specialized youth serving organizations to assist with formulation of plans of action that take into consideration challenges and opportunities in youth development;
3. Call on governments and youth serving organizations to out in place mechanisms to ensure effective implementation of plans of action and policies that include resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation and reporting;
4. Call on government to recognize the important role that NGO's and NYC's play in youth development;
5. Call on Government to commit to its role as a facilitator and equal partner in development;
6. Government to recognize and privatize youth concerns as national development issues;
7. Government to facilitate partnerships with intergovernmental and regional organization to maximize on opportunities in youth development.

National Youth Councils and the Millennium Development Goals

1. Youth Councils call for improved, compulsory and free education for all;
2. Advocate for more representation of women at all levels of decision-making, policy making and implementation processes;
3. Recognize female role models and achievers around the world;
4. advocate for higher budget allocation for improved health services focused on women and children;
5. Population education to be included in the curriculum of secondary education ;
6. Promote the co-operation between environmental organizations and youth councils to ensure environmental sustainability;
7. United Nations agencies, including the General Assembly, should include youth representation;
8. Government delegations to the United Nations and other intergovernmental agencies to include youth representation;
9. A specialized UN agency for youth affairs should be established, such as UNICEF or UNIFEM.
10. Promote behavioral change among youth to combat HIV/AIDS;
11. Organize outreach programs to create awareness of diseases;
12. National Youth Councils should lobby for immediate and total debt cancellation for developing nations.