

YOUTH BULLETIN

March 2011

Bringing Youth News From Around The World

News By Continent

- [Africa](#)
- [Asia](#)
- [Europe](#)
- [Americas](#)
- [Info](#)

In this Bulletin:

ANGOLA: Youth Council highlights peacekeeping

GAMBIA: Urr Youth Trained On Reproductive Health, Others

GHANA: Do not sideline the youth-Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings

KENYA: Ministry: Policies unfriendly to the youth

NAMIBIA: Youth implored to be educated

NIGERIA: Youths storm National Assembly

UGANDA: Government asked to rescue students in Libya

SOUTH AFRICA: Summit to offer jobless youth hope

AUSTRALIA: Youth Week in

Campbelltown to go off with a bang!

BORNEO: Daud: Youths must view development positively

PHILLIPINES: Poor boy takes the UN

SINGAPORE: National Youth Council to invest in mentoring

TAIWAN: President awards outstanding youth volunteers

VIETNAM: Indian and Vietnamese youth promote exchange visits

BOSNIA: A National Youth Council for Serbia: welcome KOMS!

ENGLAND: REDBRIDGE: Youth parliament election winners revealed

FRANCE: Continued room made for young people in the Council of Europe!

IRELAND: Youth Employment Action 2.0: Towards Future Cooperation

PORTUGAL: European Youth Forum unveils new study on youth impact of Treaty of Lisbon

BAHAMAS: Junior Tourism Minister in the making

CANADA: Pair back from workshop in Regina

JAMAICA: Youth body demands review of fee policy in public hospitals

USA: GenerationOn Selects 10 Outstanding Youth for Its Inaugural National Youth Advisory Council

UPCOMING EVENTS—APRIL-JUNE

ATE	EVENT	VENUE	MAIN ORGANISERS	ABOUT	CONTACT
18-20 APRIL	ASEAN Youth Forum on Innovation and Creativity	Labuan, Malaysia	Malaysian Innovation Foundation	Website	+60-389941714
27-29 JUNE	11th Melaka International Youth Dialogue	Melaka, Malaysia	World Assembly of Youth	Website	+60-62322711/1817

ANGOLA: Youth Council highlights peacekeeping

Luanda 03 Mar – The chairperson on the National Council of Youth (CNJ), Cláudio de Aguiar, said Thursday in Luanda that peace is above all valuable assets that can create a climate of harmony and well-being among Angolans.

Speaking to press, the head of CNJ underlined that the movement of people and

goods is a fact and every youth should be proud of the history of reconstruction of Angola whose process has contributed to the development of the country.

He said it is the responsibility of all Angolans to contribute to keep peace and respect the democratic institutions.

Cláudio de Aguiar said the country is currently in the process of consolidating the democratic and lawful state where everyone has the opportunity to elect their representatives.

[allafrica]

GAMBIA: Urr Youth Trained On Reproductive Health, Others

URR, 24 Mar - The Youth Network on Population and Reproductive Health Upper River Region (URR) chapter, in collaboration with the national committee, last Saturday organised one day training for youths in Basse on reproductive health, illegal migration, and HIV/AIDS at the Basse mini-stadium

The training was among other things, to broaden the knowledge of the participants on these societal problems that affect mostly young people, and come up with solutions. Speaking at the opening ceremony, Samba Baldeh, the chairman of the URR chapter, said the training is timely and relevant in the sense that the topics to be treated during the course of the training were pertaining issues in society. He urged participants to take the training seriously and to disseminate the knowledge gained to their colleagues who were unfortunate to attend the training. He thanked the network for the collaboration in organising the training.

For his part, Lamin Marong, the network national chairman, dilated on the impor-

tance of the training, saying the training will go a long way in addressing the issues of reproductive health, illegal migration, and HIV/AIDS. According to him, it is time for people to open up and speak their minds on these problems. He then commended the National Youth Council and UNFPA for the support in making the training successful.

On illegal migration, Marong said young people continue to perish in the high seas just in search of greener pasture, despite all the opportunities the government has created for the young people. According to him, HIV/Aids is another major problem that affects the young people, and requires collective efforts to curb it. He then advised people to go for HIV/Aids test to know their status and concluded by urging the participants to take the training seriously and to disseminate the knowledge to their colleagues.

Fabakary Sanneh, the URR regional youth coordinator, said the network came out of the initiative of the National Youth Council, funded by UNFPA. He said the topics discussed in the training are vital as they are of national and global concerns. Dilating

on the issue of illegal migration, Sanneh urged the young people to stay and contribute to national development, saying they have all the opportunities to succeed in the country. He described the network as a strong one that wants to create an impact on the young people. He finally challenged the participants and the general people to put all hands on deck in order to fight against these societal problems.

Lamin Drammeh, a representative from UNFPA said UNFPA is the lead donor to the network. He said the training is very important, looking at the topics of discussion and challenged the participants to make the best use of the training, while assuring of UNFPA's continuous support to the welfare of young people. Officially declaring the training open on behalf of the governor, Omar Sompou Ceesay, the chairman of the Basse Area Council, said Government under the leadership of President Jammeh is doing its utmost to stop illegal migration. According to him, young people who are the future leaders of this country should not be allowed to perish in the seas en route to Europe.

He went on to describe URR as the most vulnerable region when it comes to illegal migration and therefore appealed to the network to organise similar trainings in other villages in the region. Chairman Ceesay then advised the youths to stay and contribute in national development and thanked the network for the training.

[allafrica]

GHANA: Do not sideline the youth-Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings

SUNYANI, 25 Mar - Nana Konadu Agyeman Rawlings, former first lady, on Thursday cautioned that sidelining of the youth in active participation in national political development can lead to varied forms of rebellion, especially when the economic situation deteriorates".

She said events in the Middle East and other African countries as shown that the youth form the fulcrum of every societal endeavour. She was speaking at the launch of the 34th Ghana National Union of Polytechnic Students (GNUPS) week celebration at the campus of Sunyani Polytechnic.

The celebration is under the theme, "Deepening democracy in Africa: the role of the Ghanaian youth".

Nana Konadu stressed that in her estimation, the youth should be the first estate of the realm and national policy should first centre on youth development for a guaranteed constant supply of human resource. She stressed that experience in terms of age was not the only prerequisite for high office, dialogue and decision-making process and called on the nation to tap adequately the ideas of the youth for national develop-

ment.

She emphasized the need for students at the tertiary level to adopt as part of their studies some of the quality reports of civil society in assisting to deepen democracy. "It will do our democracy a wealth of good if the authorities in tertiary institutions encourage students to analyze some of the reports by civil society as part of their studies", the former first lady added. Nana Konadu encouraged the youth to embrace agriculture and urged the government to put in place mechanisms that would encourage the youth to see sector as a viable business and a tool for national development.

She advised the student leadership to eschew disunity and political interference in their activities in order to hold government responsible for its refusal to implement policies beneficial to them. The former first lady urged the youth to be more innovative and progressive and to shun the get-rich-quick schemes that circumvented laid down procedures and bordered on criminality. Mr. Eric Opoku, Deputy Brong Ahafo Regional Minister, reiterated the youth were the major human resource potentials who

could contribute immensely to the development of the nation if their unique insight, innovative and creative ideas were harnessed. He said tremendous benefit could be achieved from the youth for national development if enabling, supportive and informative environment was created for them.

The Deputy Regional Minister stressed the need to address the deficiencies that confronted the Ghanaian youth in order for their role in democracy and development to be pronounced. Mr. Kwaku Owusu, Vice Rector of Sunyani Polytechnic, expressed regret that polytechnic education is now regarded by many as endangered species in the education sector". He explained this was due to the over liberalization of the education terrain for private and public universities to expand freely while restrictions were imposed on the polytechnics to run higher programmes that would provide progression for their students. The youth account for more than 60 per cent of the population in sub-Saharan Africa and must be seen as the central focus responsible in ensuring democracy in their countries, the Vice Rector added. Mr. Owusu noted that empower-

ing the youth entailed the initiation of sustainable programmes that would support both educational and economic ventures.

"If the young people who are the reservoir of the productive energy of society are economically and educationally empowered, those vices that threaten human security and durable democracy would be drastically reduced", he said.

The Vice Rector said to ensure employment security for all government and civil society should make concerted efforts to position educational institutions and supporting training agencies such that flexible education provided opportunity for all. 25 March 11.

[Ghana Web]

KENYA: Ministry: Policies unfriendly to the youth

NAIROBI, 24 Mar - The Ministry of Youth Affairs has conceded that some of its policies are not friendly to the youth.

Youth Affairs minister Paul Otuoma said Thursday that programmes such as the Youth Enterprise Fund meant to open up income generating activities among Kenya's young population have not been successful because the Ministry sets stringent conditions for funding.

“Of what use is it to give youths funds and then you find the same Ministry has put an ad in the papers about

the conditions which are across the government departments? This rules becomes punitive to the youth,” he said at the Hilton Hotel, Nairobi.

Dr Otuoma said that his Ministry has been unable to accommodate the young in procurement processes despite an executive order demanding that at least 10 per cent of its procurement should target the youth.

The youth, often defined as people between 18 and 35 years, constitute about 12 million people and are seen as a key source of human

resource. However, the Ministry admitted that the group has not been involved in most of the policies that affect them.

However, this is set to change as the Ministry plans to hold the first elections to pick members of the National Youth Council from next month. The council, created under the National Youth Council Act, is mandated to represent the youth in dealing with the government over issues that affect them.

The elections are set to be held from the grassroots (sub-location level) to the provin-

cial level from April 18- May 20.

A national delegates forum will be held to pick national representatives after which the minister will gazette them.

[Nation]

NAMIBIA: Youth implored to be educated

WINDHOEK, 24 Mar - Councillor of the Katutura East Constituency, Elina Ndapuka, when speaking to young people of the Mandume Primary School in her constituency stressed the value and importance of an educated nation.

She said communities, townships, villages, settlements, cities and municipalities will only be clean, healthy, peaceful, visionary and prosperous when their members are educated.

Ndapuka opined that violence against women and children, rape, robbery, assault, theft, alcohol and drug abuse in communities would be avoided when such communities are educated.

“Community development is a very important aspect of the development agenda of the Government of Namibia. We talk about Vision 2030 when we want to develop our communities to high standards.

For that to be possible you as future leaders need to be well educated, please study harder,” she stressed recently at the occasion of celebrating 21 years of Namibia’s independence with learners of that school.

Ndapuka emphasised the importance of education in that it provides many future opportunities. She added that an educated youth is competitive in their daily economic and social lives, adding that working hard to attain an education can also translate into a love for one’s country.

“When you are well educated, you become free and independent – simply put, you can lead an easy life, you command respect in society,” she said.

She further encouraged youth in her constituency to pass their exams, attend to their homework, noting that hard work would instill in them a deep sense of responsibility

and entrepreneurship.

She also stressed the importance of discipline the importance of self-respect and the vitality of respect towards parents.

“Some of you may be from poor families, families that are not educated. In this case it is up to you to assist your relatives in acquiring literacy skills. If any of your relatives do not know how to read or write, please teach them,” the councillor urged her youthful audience.

Addressing a gathering that was attended by both young and old at the Katutura East Constituency independence day celebrations on Monday, a pastor at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Katutura, Vilho Shiyandja, said in the 21 years of Namibia’s liberation, there have been challenges such as diseases, robbery, rape and all sorts of evil.

“We are confident that God would put an end to all these if we have the courage to fight them. We should thank God for keeping us thus far,” Shiyandja said. He too stressed that young people should honour their parents.

“Remember the Lord your God while you are young. The nation that accepts the Lord their God is a blessed nation,” said Shiyandja. After the formal speech, those that attended the event were treated to a meal. Annually, at constituency level, people gather to mark independence celebrations.

[new era]

NIGERIA: Youths storm National Assembly

ABUJA, 16 Mar - Representatives of the Nigerian youths, under the aegis of the National Youths Council of Nigeria (NYCN), have stormed the National Assembly for a session with Speaker of the House of Representatives Dimeji Bankole.

The meeting was held in the most convivial atmosphere. Its agenda was youth empowerment and their active participation in the running of the country. At the end of the more than one hour brainstorming session, Bankole and his visitors agreed to work together to produce a road map for the promotion of a national youth manifesto.

The Oluwale Ajani-led NYCN has also been working assiduously with the Federal Ministry of Youths Affairs and National Orientation to place Nigerian youths both at home and in the Diaspora in the mainstream of socio-political and economic activities in the country, the aim being to pave the way for more youths to gain a strong foothold in government at all levels.

In its determination to make a difference, the NYCN had held several summits aimed at sensitizing as many youths as possible to participate in politics and other economic activities as enunciated in its manifesto.

But the clamour of the Nigerian youths for adequate recognition by all tiers of government may have started yielding fruit what with the official recognition of the NYC leadership by the Presidency.

For instance, the youth summit which was at the instance of the Ministry of Youths Affairs gave the youths prominence throughout

event.

President Goodluck Jonathan attended the summit and unfolded the commitment of his government to youth empowerment and his desire to ensure that the youths are part of government at all levels in the country.

The NYCN leader was also invited to give a speech during Mr. President's flag off of his presidential campaign at the Eagle Square, Abuja.

The emerging close relationship between the NYCN and the presidency may be a signal that Nigerian youths are finally regaining the momentum to actualise their dream of having a bigger stake in the governance of the country.

The session with Bankole cemented the dream of full recognition. The purpose of the visit was to lay before Mr. Speaker the National Youths Manifesto, a document said to be the first of its kind in the country and a product of several brainstorming sessions.

The session with the Speaker was like a re-union of old comrades and like minds. Mr. Speaker and the youth leaders rubbed minds on ways and means to attain the aspirations of the Nigerians youths.

Bankole was delighted to identify with the aspirations of the NYCN leadership, an indication that as a national youth leader himself with advantage of age on his side, Mr. Speaker would not relent in assisting the youths to attain their desired goals.

The NYCN representatives demanded among others, revival and rehabilitation of existing vocational training centres where available; and establishment of new ones to

enhance apprenticeship programmes of equal standards both in the rural and urban areas.

Promotion of youth entrepreneurship through inclusion of entrepreneurial training in the school curricula and provision of access to credit, organisation of business development skills training, mentorship opportunities and better information on market opportunities;

Restructuring of the national education curriculum to focus on skills development and individual empowerment in order to produce graduates who are more of job creators than job seekers and development of macro-economic policies that focus on job creation particularly for youths.

The youths also wanted government to foster greater linkages between the labour market and the education and training institution to ensure that curricula are harmonised and aligned to the needs of the labour market with specific employment opportunities for youth;

To Institute incentive schemes for employers to invest in the skills development of employed and unemployed youths;

Governments at all level to allocate substantial percentage of the annual budget to the productive sector and provide enabling environment for entrant of investors and other entrepreneurs for the purpose of job creation;

Government to vigorously pursue the Local Content Act as recently passed by the National Assembly;

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) to give effect to its policy on Micro-credit facilities of banks and improve-

ment of Small and Medium Scale entrepreneurship.

Conscious attempt by private sector to integrate youth development programmes for low and middle levels manpower development that will dovetail into job creation;

Increase local content by both local and foreign investors to absorb qualified and unemployed youths; and government to review existing laws to un-bundle land resources for employment generation, agriculture and industrialisation;

The NYCN also demanded implementation of the National Youth Employment Action Plan (NYEAP) of the Federal Ministry of Youth Development.

But the session went beyond presentation of the National Youth Manifesto. The President of NYC did not leave without assuring Mr. Speaker of the desire of NYCN leadership to work with him towards ensuring the full implementation of the new youths' agenda.

A highly elated Bankole in his response appreciated the commitment of the youths to the task of working out a sound future for themselves.

He promised to study the manifesto with a view to presenting the document to the House at the appropriate time.

Mr. Speaker did not forget to seek the prayer of the youths for his success at next month poll.

Before departing, the NYC expressed words of appreciation to the speaker for moving round the campuses to sensitise students in tertiary institutions on the challenges the faced as future leaders. Since the past few months,

Bankole has been guests in some Nigerian universities giving talks on the values of good governance and the role expected of Nigerian youths in governance at all levels.

The youths expressed satisfaction with the passing by the House of the Freedom of Information Bill after 12 failed attempts. They also commended Bankole for ensuring the passage of the new Minimum Wage bill

after some hiccups.

NYCN also commended Bankole for his personal initiative in launching a youth empowerment scheme in Abeokuta South Federal Constituency especially the scholarship and bursary offers, payment of WAEC and NECO fees, tutorials and computer training for selected youths.

They also recalled that the

Speaker donated buses for students' union governments during his campus lectures engagements and built hostels in some institutions.

At the end of the session Bankole and the youth leaders appeared to have been fully re-assured that the consensus building efforts worked out well.

[TNV]

UGANDA: Government asked to rescue students in Libya

KAMPALA, 15 Mar - THE African Arab Youth Council Uganda has asked the Government to ensure that Ugandan students stuck in Libya are repatriated.

Addressing journalists at Hotel Africana on Friday, the chairman of the council, Abbas Agaba, said the situation in Libya was a threat to black Africans, since they had been labeled mercenaries.

Agaba, the former NRM party national youth chairman, urged President Yoweri Museveni to use his power as the head of state and a member of the mediation team in the Libyan crisis to rescue the students. "These students may not have used formal procedures to go to Libya but the situation requires government intervention," Agaba said.

Only nine of the 30 Ugandan students studying at the Is-

lamic College in Tripoli have returned home with the help of Kenyan authorities.

Agaba said the Ugandan Ambassador to Libya, Habib Ssebunya, and other diplomats had already returned home.

Efforts to get a comment from Ssebunya were futile as his phone was off.

Agaba, also the African Chapter vice-chairman, said

countries like Rwanda, Kenya and Nigeria had already picked their students.

He asked the International Community and Libyan authorities to protect the Africans in Libya.

[New Vision]

SOUTH AFRICA: Summit to offer jobless youth hope

CAPE TOWN, 24 Mar - Stakeholders and government entities are committing themselves to offer different opportunities to the unemployed youth when the Cape Metropole Youth Summit takes place in Cape Town next month.

The summit, hosted by the SA NGO Coalition (Sangoco) and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), is designed to cre-

ate opportunities, develop skills, inculcate values and change attitudes among the youth.

Yesterday, a number of NGOs and private companies discussed how they would contribute to overcome the challenge of inadequate skills development, which they said was the core reason for the high level of unemployment.

Sangoco spokeswoman Tasneem Gamielien said their

intention was that youth attending the summit be presented with opportunities rather than discussing challenges.

Gamielien stressed the importance of stakeholders pledging their participation in the form of providing either skills development, employment opportunities or funding of youth businesses or studies.

"We want the summit to

offer the youth real opportunities and therefore there is a critical need to address skills development in order to bridge the gap between supply and demand," she added.

Stakeholders said there was a significant gap between jobs offered and skills the majority of youth possessed, which made them unemployable.

Western Cape Youth Council spokesman Lungisa Mzizana said aligning skills provided

to youth with what was required in the labour market provided a great challenge.

He said the majority of the youth who finished school found minimum requirements to traditional universities and universities of technology “ultimately higher”. Therefore, he believed, the further education and training (FET) sector was the key to skills development.

However, the curriculum and

skills provided by FET colleges was not aligned with the standards and requirements of the labour market.

“The new growth path speaks directly to youth and job creation speaks directly to skills development. We therefore need to develop skills from artisan to higher professional levels if we want to see increased economic activity,” Mzizana said.

Thanduxolo Popo of Sibanye

Youth Forum said the existence of bodies like the NYDA was “in fact not significant if it would not refocus on training and skills development”.

“The NYDA will continue to fund businesses that fail if we do not refocus on skills training, because we can have all the opportunities but without necessary skills to take them up, they are not opportunities,” he said.

Gamielien said corporate and private businesses should participate in the summit to make the skills development organisations aware of their expectations. - Londiwe Buthelezi

[Cape Argus]

AUSTRALIA: Youth Week in Campbelltown to go off with a bang!

CAMPBELLTOWN, 25 Mar - CAMPBELLTOWN'S kids are urged to "own it!" as Youth Week celebrations kick off on Friday.

National Youth Week 2011 will run from April 1-10 and includes activities surrounding sport, games and the arts.

Campbelltown Arts Centre will host a variety of events including the Fusion of Short Films, Hip Hop for Health, After Effects Film Making workshop, Drumming It Up!

workshop and Sounds of Hip Hop.

Young residents who prefer to get involved in sporting action can take part in the annual Youth Week Skate Comp at Campbelltown Skate Park from 1pm to 7pm on Saturday.

The council will also hold a forum on Monday entitled Celebrating Youth Diversity.

A Nintendo Wii challenge will be held at the HJ Daley Library on Saturday, April 9.

A variety of board games will be available at Glenquarie Library's Board Game Nights on Wednesday and Thursday, April 6 and 7.

Campbelltown Mayor Paul Lake said celebrating the city's youth and acknowledging the positive contribution they make to the community was important. "Despite what some media outlets like to report, the majority of youth in our city are just like young people all over Australia; they work hard to make a

difference in their community, they have high aspirations for their futures and they achieve outstanding results that are on par with other people their age, despite some having life obstacles or challenges to overcome," he said.

[macarthur-chronicle]

BORNEO: Daud: Youths must view development positively

KUCHING, 29 Mar - Youths, regardless of race, play an important role in ensuring the continuity of development in the state and country.

With proper upbringing, they can be good citizens and future leaders to ensure that Sarawak is on par with the global development.

"The youths of today should possess a positive view and attitude towards development," said Minister in the Chief Minister's Department

(Islamic Affairs) Datuk Daud Abdul Rahman.

Speaking at the closing ceremony of Sarawak Youth Carnival 2011 (DUN Tunjung) at Padang Semarak in Gita last Sunday, Daud also stressed that youths should not be selective in pursuing their career as the state government was serious in providing ample job opportunities.

"Just take the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) for example.

"Through SCORE, there would be one million and six hundred thousand job opportunities readily available," he said.

On another note, Daud also said youths of today should be better-informed as access to information from several forms of the media especially the World Wide Web could be easily obtained.

[Borneo Post]

PHILLIPINES: Poor boy takes the UN

MANILA, 18 Mar - Seventeen year-old Arnel Alipao has been an active youth leader both in school and in his community in Brgy. Tolingon, Mainit, Surigao del Norte. In the last elections, he ran as chairman of the Sangguniang Kabataan. Unfortunately, he lost.

But while poverty hindered him from getting elected into

office, it ironically opened up doors of opportunities, and paved the way for his entry into the global stage to share his advocacy with other nations. A rare feat that this young man never ever imagined he could accomplish.

Poverty and an advocacy on disaster risk reduction (DRR) brought Arnel to New York City where he delivered a

presentation during the Thematic Debate at the United Nations headquarters.

Handpicked from over 112,000 children under the World Vision Child Sponsorship program in the Philippines, Arnel represented the country in the UN General Assembly side event last month and spoke on the youth's perspective on disas-

ters. He also delved on the need to tap the youth's capacities and potentials in achieving DRR, as he impressed the audience and his fellow speakers and diplomats from various countries.

"There were times that I was conscious with the words that I used, but I did overcome it. Sharing my perspective to the panel, the other speakers and

Since 1949

audience expressed their nice impression of Filipinos,” recalls Arnel, the only one of three Filipinos who participated in the UN debate. He was joined by Senator Teofisto Guingona III, who co-authored the Disaster Risk Reduction law, and Filomena Portales, World Vision Philippines advocacy and communications director. World Vision is among the agencies that organized the event, along with the UNDP, Save the Children, and youth from Canada and the Philippines.

At the end of the dialogue, Arnel was not only able to voice out the sentiments of the Filipino youth but also earned the respect and renewed commitment of the international community who was very willing to help the country cope with disasters.

Arnel and other leaders of the World Vision National Children's Federation board of trustees embarked on various awareness campaigns such as the distribution of disaster preparedness flyers, tree planting, clean-up projects,

community risk assessments and even national youth conferences to tackle problems and present solutions to problems affecting children.

Arnel is currently popularizing DRR by raising awareness in his school and community so more locals will become knowledgeable and prepared in case of disaster situations.

“I am now trying to make a proposal in the campus to include DRR in the school's mission to have a community extension. This summer, I'll work double time in promoting it in my community and equipping them with the right skills, knowledge and strategies that they can use in mitigating disasters,” says Arnel, a B.S. Electrical Engineering freshman at the Caraga State University in Agusan del Norte.

The second of four children, Arnel has been a World Vision (WV) scholar since Grade 3. If not for the support of WV and the Surigao Norte People's Initiative Development Association, Ar-

nel would not be able to go to school. His father, a farmer, could not afford to give them the education they need. But poverty didn't hinder Arnel from excelling in school and bringing pride to the family.

Arnel was a consistent honor student and graduated valedictorian in elementary and high school. As president of the student government, Arnel spearheaded many programs including free tutorial lessons in Math, Science and English to his fellow students and children in his community.

Now in college, the DoST scholar continues to excel as a dean's lister and student leader.

“Before I consider the titles and medals I earned in school as my great achievements. But now it's different. I realized that my greatest achievements are the little things that I'm doing to help young people,” he shares.

After his feat in New York, things started to change for Arnel. All of a sudden, he

says, people were being kind to him and treating him like a VIP. School authorities were very impressed with him and were happy about his representing the Philippines in a high level international event. Today, he is the guest speaker at the commencement rites in his alma mater in Surigao.

“They even want me to be featured in the school paper's publication. Bilib na bilib sa akin ‘yung mga teachers ko, pati ‘yung mga kasamahan ko sa community. ‘Yung mga umaapi sa akin, hiyang hiya na ngayon at ni hindi sila makatingin sa akin,” says Arnel.

All these attention, respect and newfound influence can be overwhelming and rewarding for Arnel, but he says he is choosing to remain humble and focused on his goal of living life to fullest and contributing to the development of his province, in his own little way.

[Manila Bulletin Publishing Cooperation]

SINGAPORE: National Youth Council to invest in mentoring

GAMGHADI, 09 Mar - Mugu district on Wednesday witnessed a child marriage attempt foiled at the 11th hour. Parents of Kusa Sejugal (16) of Rowa-1 and Keshar Mahattar (17) of Karkiwada were all set to get their children married, but their bid was foiled when members of National Youth Federation, Mugu and Children's Club intervened. They also sent the parents home with a warning.

Trafficker held

DHANGADHI: Police have

arrested Sivaraj Joshi of Chaumala, Kailali, for selling his wife Maheswori to an Indian national eight months ago. According to police, Joshi had sold Maheswori while taking her to Gujarat. The arrest came after Maheswori's parents moved Maklakheta Area Police Office against Sivaraj, accusing him of selling their daughter to Seturam Bhatiya. Police said Sivaraj admitted to selling his wife for Rs 30,000.

Protest in Bara

BARA: Members of some 80

families of Baraiya Tole staged a demonstration in Kalaiya on Monday against UCPN-Maoist CA member Shivachandra Kushawaha's alleged attempt to render them homeless. According to demonstrators, Kushawaha had approached police to vacate their houses.

[Himalayan News Service]

Worldwide

Since 1949

TAIWAN: President awards outstanding youth volunteers

Taipei, 27 Mar - Ten winners of the National Youth Contribution Award received their trophies Sunday from President Ma Ying-jeou, who praised them for embodying the core values of the Taiwanese people.

The award winners -- seven individuals and three groups -- were honored at a ceremony in Taipei for their outstanding volunteer work at home or overseas, or for their contributions to sports or their families.

Ma said that since studying Taiwan's history and observing the people over many years, he could sum up the six core values of Taiwan as "integrity, rectitude, kindness, diligence, initiative and tolerance, which can be seen in these 10 young people."

"This means they embody traditional moral values that

have long supported Taiwan's society," he added.

The award recipients, three of whom come from underprivileged families, stood out from among 629 applicants for the annual award from the National Youth Commission (NYC).

The three group winners were one made up of National Tsing Hua University students, another comprising Taoyuan-area student volunteers and a third composed of college students in the Chiayi area.

The judges had a hard time making their final decisions, as there was a record-breaking number of applicants this year, in which the Republic of China celebrates its centennial, said NYC Minister Jack Lee.

One of the winners, student

nurse Chih Shao-hua, said that she "was happy to be able to pay back to people even before I start working." "Of her volunteer work of cutting the hair of the elderly, patients with mental disorders and other underprivileged people.

Chih grew up in a single-parent low-income family and has herself been the recipient of financial support from charities.

Eleventh grader Chen Hsiang-fang from Taichung City, who organized 15 volunteers in seventh grade to tutor school children in remote areas, said she believes that "the more people our group has, the more we can achieve."

Kaohsiung Medical School student Tai Yu-lin, meanwhile, was recognized for his 42-day health service pro-

gram in West Africa's Burkina Faso last year in which he provided services including oral hygiene education and care to local children and families.

Tai's volunteer efforts helped introduce Taiwan to the people of both Burkina Faso and northern India, which he visited in 2008 to work for the Crawl Society, a non-government

[CNA]

VIETNAM: Indian and Vietnamese youth promote exchange visits

VIETNAM, 08 Mar - A delegation of ten cadets from the National Cadet Corps (NCC) of Ministry of Defence of India visits Vietnam as part of a youth exchange programme between the two countries.

According to the Embassy of India in Hanoi, during their ten-day stay in Vietnam, the Indian youth, including four girls and six boys, will participate in many joint activities with their counterparts from the Vietnam Youth Federation (VYF).

The Indian visitors will stay in Vietnamese families for a day, take part in cultural and sports activities with students of the Tran Quoc Tuan Uni-

versity of the Vietnam People's Army in Hanoi's Son Tay town and visit Ha Long Bay.

They also plan to exchange with youth unions of Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta province of Long An, carry out joint community work as well as visit the Cadet School of Cu Chi.

On March 4, the young cadets visited Birla Orphanage in Hanoi and presented a large television and a DVD player to children there.

The visit aims to reciprocate the visit of six Vietnamese cadets to India from Jan. 14-30, 2011 to participate in the Republic Day parade of India

on January 26.

The cadets were sent to India under the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between the VYF and the NCC signed on December 5, 2006.

[VOVNews]

WAY



World Assembly of Youth
Asamblea Mundial de la Juventud
Assemblée Mondiale de la Jeunesse

■ In the service of youth

■ Worldwide

■ Since 1949

BOSNIA: A National Youth Council for Serbia: welcome KOMS!

BELGRADE, 15 Mar - Also Serbia has its first youth umbrella organisation: Krovna Organizacija Mladih Srbije (National Youth Council of Serbia – KOMS)! The founding assembly was held in Belgrade 10-13th March and included speeches delivered by the State Secretary for Youth of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ivana Kovačević and European Youth Forum President, Peter Matjašič. Vukasin Grozdanovic was elected President of the platform.

Ms. Kovačević noted that in the past four years, there has been a huge growth in youth NGO involvement, as well as plans for future expansion and that KOMS stays a “relevant partner for the Ministry of Youth and Sports. “At that moment only five youth offices existed and at this moment we already have 116 of them. The Ministry of Youth and Sport is going to announce new calls for youth organisations in March.”

Next, Peter Matjašič pointed out the “importance and beauty that everybody is working for the youth and has the same goal on the local, regional or European level.” He commented that the European Youth Forum “is really satisfied with all work concerning the establishment of the Serbian Youth umbrella organisation” and that the process took “four years of hard work - but was worth it!” He further emphasised that work should go beyond this founding assembly in strengthen-

ing all KOMS member organisations, and renewed the support from the Youth Forum. He concluded by wishing good luck during the voting and elections as well as to the future board, and said that if KOMS wants to be partners with the European Youth Forum, the Forum would be happy to welcome KOMS in its family!

[EYF]

ENGLAND: REDBRIDGE: Youth parliament election winners revealed

REDBRIDGE, 25 Mar Winning Redbridge Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) and their deputies: (l-r) Adam Patel, Sophia Hoongle, Alex Grigorescu and Tash Miah THE youngsters who have been selected to represent their peers at national level for the next year have been revealed. More than 8,000 people aged 11 to 18 in Redbridge voted to select two representatives and two deputies to put

across their views at the UK Youth Parliament. Sophia Hoondle, 15, and 14-year-old Alex Grigorescu, who are both from Ilford and attend Seven Kings High School, were selected to represent Redbridge Youth Council at national level. Woodford County High School Tash Miah, 17, from Ilford, and Valentines High School pupil Adam Patel, 13, will serve as their deputies.

Voting took place over two weeks in February and the results were announced at a ceremony at Ilford Town Hall yesterday (March 24). The turnout was significantly higher than last year, in which only 3,500 young people went to the polls. The UK Youth Parliament has 600 elected members from around the country who organise events, run campaigns and lobby decision-

makers on issues affecting young people.

[guardian-series]

FRANCE: Continued room made for young people in the Council of Europe!

STRASBOURG, 16 Mar - This week in Strasbourg, in the framework of the Council of Europe's Co-Management Structure, a series of meetings of the Joint Council on Youth and the Advisory Council on Youth were held. During the meeting, representatives of youth organisations met with Council of Europe officials

to discuss reforms in the institution, youth participation and naturally, the rights of young people in Europe.

The Advisory Council on Youth is group of 30 representatives of youth councils responsible for providing input on youth sector activities, as well as ensuring youth rights are represented

in the Council. At the meeting this week, Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland assured the Joint Council that “cooperation with civil society is essential and the co-management system is a vital part of that”.

[EYF]

IRELAND: Youth Employment Action 2.0: Towards Future Cooperation

DUBLIN, 11 Mar - The 10th - 11th of March saw 11 European Youth Forum Member Organisations gathering for the Youth Employment Action (YEA) Consortium meeting in Dublin. The consortium meeting provided members with the opportunity to review and present the ongoing work of youth organisations in the field of employment across Europe

over the past year, including the National Youth Council of Ireland's recent 'Forgotten Generation' report.

YEA was established in September 2009 by a transnational consortium of European Youth Forum Member Organisations in order to improve the position of young people in Europe with regards to their access to the

labour market, enhancing their employability and making them aware of their working rights.

In Dublin, the YEA Consortium were able to consolidate plans for future methods of cooperation between youth organisations in the field of employment, which included the expansion of the groups, whilst developing a

timeline for Youth Employment Action events in 2011.

For more information on the Youth Employment Action Consortium, please visit the YEA website, or watch its recently produced 'Interview' documentary.

[EYF]

PORTUGAL: European Youth Forum unveils new study on youth impact of Treaty of Lisbon

LISBON, 16 Mar - European Youth Forum unveils new study on youth impact of Treaty of Lisbon.

On 16th March in Brussels, the European Youth Forum presented a new study highlighting the impact of the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon in the field of youth. Conducted by Prof. Paolo Ponzano, the study in particular focuses on article 165 of the treaty which specifically deals with youth participation. The launch at the European Parliament was hosted by MEP Katarina Nevedalova, and attended by Zenon Severis from the cabinet of Youth Commissioner Vassiliou, as well as Giacomo Filibeck, President of

the Youth Convention, amongst others.

“Art. 165 of the Treaty is the result of the advocacy of the European Youth Forum towards the Institutions for a decade to recognise the principle that young people must play a key role in European democratic life,” underlined Peter Matjašič, President of the European Youth Forum, “the insightful results of this research reinforce the need to invest in youth participation in the next Budget cycle of the Union”.

Read the 'the Impact of the New Provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon' here!

<http://issuu.com/yomag/>

docs/lisbontreatyyouth

On 16th March in Brussels, the European Youth Forum presented a new study highlighting the impact of the provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon in the field of youth. Conducted by Prof. Paolo Ponzano, the study in particular focuses on article 165 of the treaty which specifically deals with youth participation. The launch at the European Parliament was hosted by MEP Katarina Nevedalova, and attended by Zenon Severis from the cabinet of Youth Commissioner Vassiliou, as well as Giacomo Filibeck, President of the Youth Convention, amongst others.

“Art. 165 of the Treaty is the result of the advocacy of the European Youth Forum towards the Institutions for a decade to recognise the principle that young people must play a key role in European democratic life,” underlined Peter Matjašič, President of the European Youth Forum, “the insightful results of this research reinforce the need to invest in youth participation in the next Budget cycle of the Union”.

Read the 'the Impact of the New Provisions of the Treaty of Lisbon' here!

[EYF]

BAHAMAS: Junior Tourism Minister in the making

NASSAU, 29 Mar - The ninth Junior Minister of Tourism will be crowned April 8, after 11th graders from around the Bahamas gather in Nassau for a competition to decide who will hold the office for the next 12 months.

Fourteen 11th graders will take part in a national speech competition to be held at St. John's College. It is the culmination of a series of competitions conducted by the Schools Unit of the Ministry of Tourism & Aviation. Speech contests and panel interviews held throughout the islands of the Bahamas have determined winners from 14 is-

lands, inclusive of Nassau, and the winner of the final round on April 8 will be named Junior Minister of Tourism 2011-2012.

"In a few short weeks, a new Junior Minister of Tourism will be selected from among the 57 candidates of this year's competition from basically all of our islands, from Abaco to Inagua," said Bonnie Rolle, senior manager of the Schools Unit. "I extend best wishes to all the finalists in their quest to capture the title of Junior Minister of Tourism, and to become the recipient of the Patrick S. Bain Scholarship. The scholarship is provided by the Bahamas Hotel Asso-

ciation, and is tenable at the College Of The Bahamas to pursue a discipline specific to tourism and hospitality." Boykin Smith of St. Anne's School emerged as the winner of the Nassau rounds on March 24. He said he felt confident and is looking forward to doing more research on the topic chosen specifically for the finals - "Tourism and Biodiversity." "If I become Junior Minister of Tourism, my plan as Junior Minister is to attend the youth conferences assigned to me by the Ministry of Tourism. I would also attend youth groups offer myself to them and show them the benefits of the tourism indus-

try."

The winner of the Junior Minister of Tourism competition will meet with Minister of Tourism & Aviation Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace for an interview on the tourism sector and issues facing young Bahamians. In addition, the Junior Minister will have the responsibility of participating in promotions that involve young Bahamians and presenting the Ministry of Tourism's business plan to youth groups.

[Bahamas weekly]

CANADA: Pair back from workshop in Regina

REGINA, 26 Mar - Despite different backgrounds, troubles facing youth across the country are surprisingly similar, a Portage la Prairie pair found recently.

Const. Shannon Neff and Portage Collegiate Institute student council president Nathan Utioh attended the Youth Leadership and Project Development Workshop earlier this month at the RCMP's Depot Division in Regina. While there, RCMP National Youth Services team from Ottawa arranged for 19 youth between the ages of 13 and 18, along with RCMP officers from across Canada to talk about the issues

facing young people across the country. Neff said the workshop was an eye opener for both her and Utioh to find out that young people have similar troubles, no matter the background or cultural differences.

"A general consensus with the youth participants was that within their communities, the issue of alcohol and drug abuse is a serious concern that is affecting youth," Neff said. Each young person, working both individually and collaboratively, came up with an action plan for their own communities to help combat the problems youth are facing, she said.

"Although the identified issues were similar," she said, "each action plan was very different as each was created by each individual youth with their own personality and views on how to begin tackling these issues."

The workshop was one way the RCMP supports youth, Neff said and it gives young people a chance to voice their opinions and concerns as well as following up on those concerns with action. The hope is that throughout the next year, these action plans created by and led by each youth, will roll out in their community with the support of the RCMP mentor that at-

tended the workshop with them. During their time at Depot, the youth were also given an inside look at some aspects of the training that RCMP cadets go through.

[The Daily Graphic]

JAMAICA: Youth body demands review of fee policy in public hospitals

KINGSTON, 27 Mar - The National Youth Council of Jamaica (NYCJ) is demanding that the Government reviews its no-user fee policy in public health institutions following the death of one its members recently.

The youth organisation says it is giving the Government no more than three weeks to respond to its demand. The NYCJ has taken the Govern-

ment to task over the policy following the death of 22 year-old youth advocate, Jevine Williamson.

Ms. Williamson died in the Spanish Town Hospital while undergoing a caesarean section on March 12. She was reportedly given general anaesthesia and left unattended as the only doctor on duty had to attend to another situation.

Chairman of the NYCJ, Ryan Small says the incident is a clear indication that the free healthcare system instituted by Government in 2008 is not working because the facilities do not have the resources to cope.

Mr. Small claims the group was informed by a senior medical officer that Ms. Williamson was not given

the required anaesthetic because the hospital did not have it in stock. He says Ms. Williamson's surgery was also postponed on three occasions because of resource issues.

[Go-Jamaica]

USA: GenerationOn Selects 10 Outstanding Youth for Its Inaugural National Youth Advisory Council

NEW YORK, 22 Mar - (Following a nationwide search, generationOn, the global youth service movement and a division of Points of Light Institute, has selected 10 extraordinary youth from around the country to form generationOn's first-ever National Youth Advisory Council. As part of the Council, these young service leaders will help to develop and execute generationOn's key initiatives, and serve as ambassadors for the power of all kids to make their mark on the world. On March 20, this inaugural group of young people took part in their first leadership training event, learning more about the message of youth leadership and how to spread the word about volunteerism and serve as ambassadors for generationOn. The leadership training event was held in conjunction with the Points of Light Institute

Tribute to President George H.W. Bush, which included all four living past presidents of the United States and gave the new youth advisory council members a chance to experience the legacy of great lives dedicated to voluntary service. Following the training, members of the Youth Advisory Council joined more than 100 residents and National Service volunteers in completing a variety of service projects at the Washington, D.C., Veterans Affairs Community Living Centers Program, including outdoor refurbishing, preparing gift packages for the children of active military families and letter-writing to deployed military personnel. Volunteers also created a Tribute Wall and Canvas of Service, a graphic depiction of the United States alongside commitments to serve and tributes to others making a

meaningful difference through volunteer action. The canvas will be part of an inspiration exhibit that travels to Washington, D.C.-area schools as part of youth service learning and engagement efforts managed by Greater DC Cares and The Mission Continues. The generationOn Youth Advisory Council was created to bring an authentic youth voice to generationOn's programming and provide young people engaged in youth service with a unique opportunity to be drivers of their own ideas from conceptualization to implementation and reflection. The 10 young people chosen for the Youth Advisory Council demonstrate a strong commitment to volunteerism, philanthropy and generationOn's mission to "inspire, equip, and mobilize youth to take action that changes the world and them-

selves through service." "These remarkable young leaders are already committed to creating a better world through service and bringing positive change to the people of their communities," said Christopher Caruso, executive director of generationOn. "We are honored to have them as part of our inaugural youth advisory council and look forward to their contributions as we continue to develop the tools and resources that help dedicated kids across the country to become actively involved in giving back to their own communities." GenerationOn received more than 200 applications from young people between the ages of 13 and 18; the new Youth Advisory Council members were selected based on their commitment to volunteerism and experience in guiding positive change within their commu-

nities. The members of the generationOn Youth Advisory Council are:

- **Jacob Bernstein (age 16), St. Louis, Missouri** – Jacob volunteers at local food drives, car washes and at a local crisis nursery. For the last two years he has also recruited youth from local area schools to raise awareness about childhood hunger. He created a website providing young people with a place to go to find volunteer opportunities.
- **D’Andrielle Chee (age 13), Gallup, New Mexico** – D’Andrielle volunteers at the Navajo Nation Waste Management Program and helps with litter control and the beautification of her community. She also volunteers at her school, helping out with bake sales, and running concessions and clean-up at basketball games.
- **Milton Dimas (age 13), Novato, California** – Milton has taken a special interest in the children of immigrants by tutoring at non-

profit organizations, and advocating for the importance of education to ensure that all children have a better and brighter future.

- **Joshua “Clay” Hurdle (age 16), Lake Park, Georgia** – Joshua implemented a bilingual reading program for elementary school children at local libraries and schools in his community. Every week he dedicates his time to helping Hispanic students in his neighborhood learn English.
- **Mohit Jain (age 16), Omaha, Nebraska** – Mohit has volunteered and helped his community in many different fields, especially health. He has worked in Alzheimer’s disease rehabilitation centers, as well as the One World Community Health Center and the Domestic Violence Group of Omaha.
- **Rachel Ley (age 14), Stevens Point, Wisconsin** – Rachel founded a service learning project that delivers

book packages to newborns at her community hospital and has reached out across the globe by helping raise money for children in Bolivia to purchase violins. In addition, she played her violin to raise funds over \$6000 for the local Humane Society.

- **Lance Oppenheim (age 15), Southwest Ranches, Florida** – Lance is the vice president of a youth-led nonprofit organization that helps students write about their volunteer experiences and post them online. He has volunteered in many ways including participating in walkathons, cleaning tables at homeless shelters, delivering food to homebound seniors and cleaning kennels at animal shelters.
- **Rachel Shuster (age 14), Dix Hills, New York** – Rachel began volunteering in the sixth grade by starting a Kids Care Clubs local chapter, of which she is also the leader. She has organized many community service

projects, including a teen fashion show that raised more than \$2,000 for a camp for children with cancer and their siblings.

- **Malaika Worsham (age 15), Ann Arbor, Michigan** – Malaika has volunteered for American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Meals on Wheels, and at her church. She says that she really enjoys delivering food to the elderly because of the joy and excitement that it brings them.
- **Liu Zhen (age 17), New York City, New York** – Liu began volunteering at a nonprofit organization that works to help new immigrants arriving in the United States from China. She now volunteers at a local soup kitchen serving meals to the homeless, and works independently with students in her community, including Asian Americans from her school to educate them about the importance of staying in school.

[Business Wire]

ABOUT WAY

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is the international coordinating body of national youth councils and organizations. The full members of WAY are national youth councils. WAY has 120 member organizations from all continents.

Founded in 1949, WAY has general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and works in close cooperation with several UN agencies including UNAIDS, UNEP, ILO UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO.

WAY works for promotion of youth and youth organizations in program areas such as: youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training.



World Assembly of Youth
Assemblée Mondiale de la Jeunesse
Asamblea Mundial de la Juventud

SECRETARIAT

World Youth Complex
Jalan Lebu Ayer Keroh
75450 Ayer Keroh
Melaka, MALAYSIA

Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555
E-mail: someone@example.com
Website: <http://www.way.org.my>

World Assembly of Youth Organization Chart

PRESIDENT

HON. DATUK IR. IDRIS
HARON (Malaysia)

VICE PRESIDENTS

HON. POHAMBIA SHIFETA
(Namibia)

MR. HUSSEIN AL-
AHMED (Yemen)

MR. ERNESTO KESAR
(Trinidad and Tobago)

MR. AHMAD DOLI
KURNIA (Indonesia)

MR. MOHAMED ALWANE
(Libya)

SECRETARY GENERAL:

MISS EDIOLA PASHOLLARI (Albania)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MR. SESUN JEE (Korea)

MR. MARVIN NATHAN
YOBANA (Nigeria)

MR. BHUBAN PATHAK
(Nepal)

MR. ISMAIL MOHAMMED
NUR MOHAMED ISMAIL
JAMIL (Sudan)

MR. ALHAJ M. FAZLUL
HAQUE (Bangladesh)

—
(Latin America)

—
(Europe)

In the Service of Youth Since 1949