

11TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE
“SHAPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENTREPRENEURS”
26-30 JUNE 2011
EVERLY RESORT HOTEL MALACCA, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

DECLARATION

1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 We, the participants of the 11th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) convened in Melaka from 26-30 June 2011 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 The theme selected for MIYD 2011 is “Shaping the Next Generation of Entrepreneurs”. This theme was selected in the realization of the need to educate, increase awareness and promote young innovators as a means to develop the socioeconomic factor that is amiss today. All countries are affected by an economic and social imperative to address the youth and employment challenge faced.
- 1.3 Therefore, with the above anticipated 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 special needs; conveying the right message; and structuring experience in order to take advantage of opportunities of entrepreneurship.
- 1.4 After thorough deliberations through plenary sessions, workshops and other events, we the participants have put together this document with the following recommendations that we strongly feel ought to be implemented to empower youth to become entrepreneurs.

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

- To achieve behavior adaptation and equal access to decision making amongst youth
- To understand entrepreneurship, its role and contribution to the youth in their respective backgrounds

- To develop and explore entrepreneurial traits and skills that contribute to development
- To cite challenges faced by young entrepreneurs today including those encompassing gender prejudice
- To appraise the opportunities provided and role played by the governments, national youth councils, NGOs, and private sector;
- To formulate the above opportunities by applying the youth experience, knowledge and expertise
- To generate ideas to be partnered with government, national youth councils and other organizations
- To improve the national and international policies governing youth entrepreneurship for the future
- To propose improvement to current systems of youth entrepreneurship world wide
- To integrate networking, collaboration and cooperation between government, society and private sectors to address the issue of socioeconomic development
- To utilize, incorporate and firm the role of the national youth councils in promoting entrepreneurial development in their respective countries

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Government

- 2.1.1 To involve young entrepreneurs in the decision making process in regards to entrepreneurship.
- 2.1.2 To establish policies that benefits the young people to become successful entrepreneurs.
- 2.1.3 To include entrepreneurship curricular throughout the education system.
- 2.1.4 To create incubator departments for the purpose of nurturing and streamlining the startup process of an entrepreneur.
- 2.1.5 To allocate funds and resources towards the setting up of youth entrepreneurship endeavours.
- 2.1.6 To ensure equitable access to resources from new to already accredited companies.
- 2.1.7 To facilitate startup entrepreneurs by providing tax exemptions for at least 2 years.
- 2.1.8 To create opportunities by lowering threshold for startup companies.

- 2.1.9 To promote gender equality and empower young women to participate in entrepreneurial opportunities.
- 2.1.10 To establish a National Youth Bank that will support, advise and evaluate on the activities and the projects of young people on all platforms, financially or otherwise. (This will be the first Youth Bank to be established in Malaysia).

2.2 International, Regional and National NGOs

- 2.2.1 To establish programmes aimed at mentoring youth on the areas of entrepreneurship.
- 2.2.2 To create projects and carry out continuous events that will cater to the need of the young people to be involved in entrepreneurial activities.
- 2.2.3 To equip young people with the knowledge and skills for the benefit of entrepreneurship within the society.
- 2.2.4 To foster collaboration between the public and private sectors for the benefit of youth entrepreneurs.
- 2.2.5 To set up a sector within the NGOs that will provide knowledge and skills in the area of entrepreneurship.
- 2.2.6 To unify through networking individuals and successful entrepreneurs in order to create one voice to speak on the issues of youth entrepreneurship.
- 2.2.7 To promote cooperation in building networking between and among the NGOs globally to assist the young entrepreneurs.
- 2.2.8 To act as a catalyst in eradicating the misconception towards young people as entrepreneurs.

2.3 Media

- 2.3.1 To utilize all forms of media to impart positive thoughts, ideas, awareness, opportunities, messages and attitudes to the young people.
- 2.3.2 To empower the young people by showcasing the success stories of young entrepreneurs.
- 2.3.3 To employ the usage of new media technology to inform and educate communities on youth entrepreneurship.
- 2.3.4 To optimize the existing and tap new platforms for networking amongst the young and experienced entrepreneurs.

- 2.3.5 To create forums where young entrepreneurs can share their ideas and achievements as well as be able to form partnerships.
- 2.3.6 To impart skills that are relevant to the entrepreneurial industry for the benefit and progress of national development.
- 2.3.7 To assist in marketing the products of young entrepreneurs through free advertising, articles, business columns and air time.

2.4 Private sector

- 2.4.1 To provide training to youth entrepreneurs in the areas of management, marketing and technical skills.
- 2.4.2 To intensify corporate social responsibilities in order to help reduce the obstacles faced by young entrepreneurs.
- 2.4.3 To make available the use of resources within the sector to alleviate the stress of running an enterprise.
- 2.4.4 To appoint mentors to impart knowledge and experiences to the new entrepreneurs.
- 2.4.5 To provide grants and loans to viable projects instituted by the young entrepreneurs.
- 2.4.6 To offer apprenticeship opportunities to youth in order for them to understand and experience the world of entrepreneurship.
- 2.4.7 To involve the private sectors in honouring youth entrepreneurs with an annual award.

2.5 Society

- 2.5.1 To motivate and maintain the support towards the young entrepreneurs by buying their products and investing in their enterprises.
- 2.5.2 To change the mindset and provide moral support to the young people in their innovative and entrepreneurial ideas.
- 2.5.3 To provide opportunities and sharing of ideas that will be beneficial to both the youth and the society.
- 2.5.4 To sustain the continuous growth of a society, the young entrepreneurs should be acknowledged for their given contributions.
- 2.5.5 To identify and display role models to influence behavioral change in societies.

3 GENERAL COMMENTS

In a working partnership, WAY and World Youth Bank Network recommend the following:

- 3.1 To propose to United Nations Security Council to establish Youth Watchdog under UN SC Agency because the youth of today are both victims and perpetrators of worst crime and terror acts of contemporary human history.
- 3.2 To propose to World Bank to actively participate in the feasibility of broadening of global financial infrastructure to a sector of Direct Youth Financing under the World Youth Bank standard-setting system.
- 3.3 To propose to International Labour Organisation (ILO) to open an international dialogue for standardization of labour rights of virtual workers, such as part-timers, project-oriented, and mobile global workforce of the future entrepreneurs.
- 3.4 To motivate and encourage all decision makers in the process towards the promotion of young people as entrepreneurs.
- 3.5 To generate opportunities that would allow the youth to participate, create, develop and stand for youth entrepreneurship.
- 3.6 To strengthen partnership between the private sectors, societies, governments and NGOs for the development of young entrepreneurs.

4 CONCLUSION

We, the participants of the 11th MIYD, realize and recognize the importance of shaping the next generation of entrepreneurs. We seek to create youth dialogues for the lobbying and advocating of legislations, policies and programs at all levels of society, creating a positive and healthy lifestyle for young people worldwide.

Appendix

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

- 1. Albania**
- 2. Australia**
- 3. Azerbaijan**
- 4. Bangladesh**
- 5. Botswana**
- 6. Brunei**
- 7. Cameroon**
- 8. Canada**
- 9. China**
- 10. Egypt**
- 11. Gambia**
- 12. Ghana**
- 13. India**
- 14. Indonesia**
- 15. Iran**
- 16. Kazakhstan**
- 17. Kenya**
- 18. Malaysia**
- 19. Marshall Islands**
- 20. Namibia**
- 21. Nigeria**
- 22. Oman**
- 23. Pakistan**
- 24. Palestine**
- 25. Philippines**

- 26. Saudi Arabia**
- 27. Somalia**
- 28. South Africa**
- 29. Sudan**
- 30. Switzerland**
- 31. Thailand**
- 32. Trinidad and Tobago**
- 33. Uganda**
- 34. UK**
- 35. USA**
- 36. Uzbekistan**
- 37. Yemen**
- 38. Zambia**