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

2016

**NBN** 



# FOREWORD



HON. DATUK SERI UTAMA IR. IDRIS HARON

PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

Appreciating every second of this great leadership opportunity as WAY President, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all members of the Secretariat, Executive Committee, member organisations, and all participative parties for their determined effort and innumerable support. Without the solid collaboration from all parties involved, all of those achievements in year 2016 would have not been possible.

The annual report elaborates a whole year journey of 2016 given the accomplishments, challenges, efforts and step-by-step ride towards attainment of our major aims of serving young people worldwide, including our effort of tackling youth issues and striving for their betterment. I am confident that this annual report shall provide all information that is required by our members, partners and other interested parties on WAY's progress for the complete course of year 2016.

This annual report contains particulars on all the programmes organised and jointly organised in the recognition and attainment of our forth Millennium Plan of Actions 2014 – 2018 as well as the objectives stipulated in the WAY Charter. Looking back at all of those, I am glad that World Assembly of Youth was able to strongly carry out its role in maintaining partnership with various United Nations agencies, member organisations and other international organisations. It is, indeed, my privilege as the president of World Assembly of Youth to witness and be a part of this beautiful yet challenging journey of the year 2016, capturing many new partnerships while sustaining the existing ones.

Though year 2016 was a year full of changes, this year marked the first year of launching of the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and its 169 targets. This year was utilised by various organisations and stakeholders around the world to introduce SDGs and brought in awareness about their importance towards attainment of a better tomorrow. To carry that forward, our fight in bringing about betterment for the young people still and shall carry on with flaming motivation.

Last but not least, I hereby, once again, invite all stakeholders to join hand with us in hailing another great and fruitful year ahead! Together, we could make sustainable world, a reality!

## PREFACE



#### MISS EDIOLA PASHOLLARI

SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

I would like to take this opportunity to articulate my contentment towards many accomplishments for year 2016. Acknowledging those, I am grateful for all dedication shown by our amazing volunteers and members of Secretariat, not to mention their determination, teamwork and commitment in making each of our accomplishment for year 2016 possible.

The success of year 2016 was also a result of united efforts from our renowned colleagues at the Executive Committee, member organisations, all partners and stakeholders involved. Their input and unlimited support have brought tremendous contribution in young people's betterment and their wellbeing worldwide.

It is my greatest pleasure to launch the annual report of year 2016. I earnestly wish that this annual report shall enfold all pertinent information on our programmes, materials in publication and other information serving as a testimony of all hard work and devotion contributed in year 2016. This year was indeed a roller coaster journey filled with ups and downs, smooth and edgy paths, daunting yet exciting surprises. Despite all of the challenges and hard times, we, at the Secretariat, shall always deem it as a valuable lesson learnt to welcome another exhilarating year.

As for my hopes and goals for the following year, we seek to build more sturdy partnership with various organisations while sustaining the existing ones. I believe that well-built collaboration is the key towards the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Besides, year 2017 shall be packed with more action-based programmes that involve young people in the achievement of global goals and sustainable world that we all desire. We, at WAY, would like to call upon youth to reach out to us in sharing their concerns, thoughts, ideas or publication and continuously strive for progression to better serve all young people, worldwide. In WAY, we believe and always encourage youth involvement at all levels - "For the Youth, By the Youth".

Thank you and please do enjoy reading this report and we surely welcome any responses. (For feedback, please write to us at <u>info@way.org.my</u>)

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## BACKGROUND

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY), since 1949, has taken an active role in its position as the international coordinating body of 140 member organisations consisting of National Youth Councils and Youth Organisations from around the world.

WAY acknowledges the Universal Human Rights as the foundation of its actions and services for the young people and youth worldwide.

According to the WAY Charter, WAY aims to:

- 1. Increase inter-ethnic respect and to foster inter-cultural and international understanding and cooperation;
- 2. Facilitate the collection of information about the needs and problems of youth;
- Disseminate information about the methods, techniques and activities of youth organizations;
- 4. Promote the interchange of ideas between youth of all countries;
- 5. Assist in the development of youth activities and to promote, by mutual aid, the extension of the work of voluntary youth organizations;
- Cooperate in the development of national youth councils of voluntary youth organizations;
- 7. Establish and maintain relations international organizations, both voluntary and governmental;
- 8. Support and encourage the national movements of non-self-governing countries in their struggle for national liberation;
- 9. Promote tolerance, understanding, solidarity and cooperation among youth men and women irrespective of race, sex, language, religion or political orientation;
- 10. Encourage the full participation of young men and women in the development process of their countries;
- 11. Improve the equality between young men and women
- 12. Act as a representative body of national youth councils to the U.N and other appropriate governmental and non-governmental international bodies.

INTRODUCTION

Since our establishment in year 1949, World Assembly of Youth (WAY), owning a special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, has been working closely with several UN agencies, such as: UNAIDS, UNEP, ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO. This well-built collaboration has been applied also in year 2016, by having International Institute for Global Health of United Nations University (UNU-IIGH) as one of our partners in organising the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (16<sup>th</sup> MIYD) with a theme, **'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care'**.

The Sustainable Development Goals, Goal 17 - partnership and collaboration is without a doubt the most important ingredient in achieving WAY's aims and forth Millennium Plan of Actions. Year 2016 has been filled with new partnership from all around the world including collaboration in organising the 2016 Global Money Week in Abuja, Nigeria; the 2016 Global Youth Peace Fest (11<sup>th</sup> GYPF) in Chandigarh and Shimla, India; and Global Youth Peace Exchange (GYPE) in Bangkok, Thailand, while strengthening the existed collaboration created from prior years' good relationships.

Sixty seven years and still counting, WAY has acted as the international coordinating body of 140 member organisations consisting of National Youth Councils and Youth Organisations from all continents of the world. Year 2016 has been embellished with many great opportunities which allowed WAY to jointly organise and support several international programmes with our member organisations. Eminence declarations, resolutions and recommendations have been produced as outcome documents from various international programmes contributing to the betterment of youth and youth issues related policies in respective countries.

The journey of year 2016 was certainly painted with all excitement as well as challenges, as we accentuated towards our publication goal of enabling the collection of information about both needs and issues of youth in order to create awareness and stimulate the interchange of ideas between youth from different countries. This year also marked the launching of WAY's Youth Issues publication which contains brief yet complete information on the 21 youth issues that we tackle.

Three years away to our seven decades anniversary, we promise to continue bestowing our best efforts towards providing the right environment that allows young people to flourish fullest and responsibly. At our Headquarters, we have been offering a platform for youth to grow further through our internship and volunteers programmes. Our doors are always open to all young people who are eager to learn and in the same time, contribute in tackling different issues arising.

As for another year to come, we, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), are thrilled in welcoming all potential collaborations and opportunities to dig in endless possibilities as well as available resources towards the continuation of our attempts in the attainment of global goals and our forth Millennium Plan of Actions (MPACs). As part of our internal enhancements, at WAY-headquarters, we have been working to improve our operational system by blending creativity with productivity to whole-heartedly serve the youth and our members better.



### **YOUTH ACTIVISM CAMPAIGN**

### 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2016

### @ 09.30 AM to 04.30 PM

### **MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY, MELAKA CAMPUS**



#### ABOUT HEALING ART: PROMOTING WELLNESS THROUGH CREATIVITY

This programme was organised by the students of Centre for Diploma Programme (CDP), Multimedia University, Melaka Campus, in collaboration with iM4U, Occupational Safety and Health (OSHE) unit, Counselling unit, Faculty of Creative Multimedia, Melaka Mental Health Association, Befrienders Melaka and World Assembly of Youth (WAY), as part of the subject requirement for Personal Social Responsibility. Students were required to undertake a social project that benefits the society they are living in. This group of students' volunteers was composed of second year students from various ethnic groups.

The theme of *'Healing Art: Promoting Wellness through Creativity'* was selected due to the urgency of highlighting mental health as serious issue that plagues the modern society and acknowledging the pertinent role that arts have in improving one's mental health or condition. Ironically, the quality of mental health tends to deteriorate as the society becoming more affluent. Fast paced lifestyle and the demanding study and/or workplace environment have contributed to the augment of mental health issues.

An unmanaged mental health issue tends to have negative effects on the quality of life of a person, be it on his or her relationship with the family or productivity in the workplace. The stigma that is prevalent among the society makes the problem worse by hindering the affected person from seeking help. Burdened by this dilemma, arts offered an alternative where the person can deal with the problems and express their feelings. In fact, researchers have proven the effectiveness of arts as a form of therapy. Most importantly, arts are perceived as a form of personal expediency, alleviating the social stigma that is always associated with mental health. Promoting arts to the general public is, thus, important to improve the quality of mental health in the society.

### **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this awareness campaign of *'Healing Art: Promoting Wellness through Creativity'* are listed as follow:

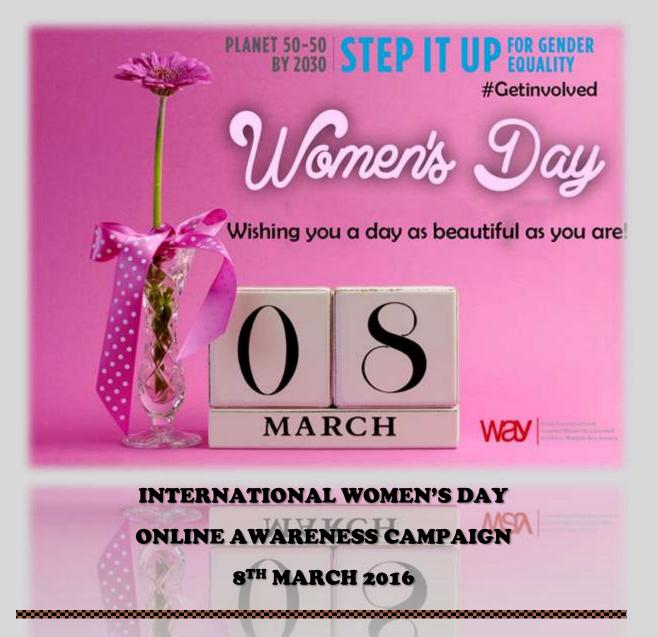
- To provide awareness among the staffs and students in MMU Melaka on the subject of depression (symptoms, prevention and management);
- To improve social perceptions directed towards the person suffering from mental health issue;
- To promote arts and self-expressions as an outlet for the management of depression and other mental health issues;
- To promote the idea of wellness through the practice of wholesome living;

#### OVERVIEW OF THE YOUTH ACTIVISM CAMPAIGN

The overall programme and awareness campaign took place from 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015 to 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016 in Multimedia University, Melaka Campus. The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) was invited to be part of the Anti-Depression Awareness Campaign by promoting Youth Activism and Volunteerism in the Mini Carnival which was held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2016 from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. in Main Hall, MMU Melaka Campus, Malaysia. During the mini carnival, participants present were approximately 150 to 200 people who were students as well as staffs. During this mini carnival, WAY not only introduced the importance of youth contribution in the society but also recruited new volunteers who were students that are willing to dedicate their time as well as effort in assisting WAY to achieve its mission of serving young people better. There were 5 personas from WAY Secretariat together with 1 intern present that day. Total of 16 new volunteers were recruited during that day.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the one day youth activism campaign took place at Melaka Campus, Multimedia University was a great success and achieved its stipulated objectives. Young people attended were taught to utilise their leisure time in more prolific activities including volunteering activity. The responses shown were truly favourable leading to new and additional recruited volunteers joining WAY Volunteers Programme.



#### **ABOUT INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

Over the years, March 8<sup>th</sup> marks the celebration of the International Women's Day, an annual event established to promote the achievements of women worldwide and to support the advancement of women and their struggle for equality. This Day aims to highlight the importance of creating conditions for the elimination of discrimination against women as well as recognition for their full and equal participation in social development. Besides, the International Women's Day is also an opportunity to call for change and to celebrate the acts of courage and determination shown by the ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and societies.

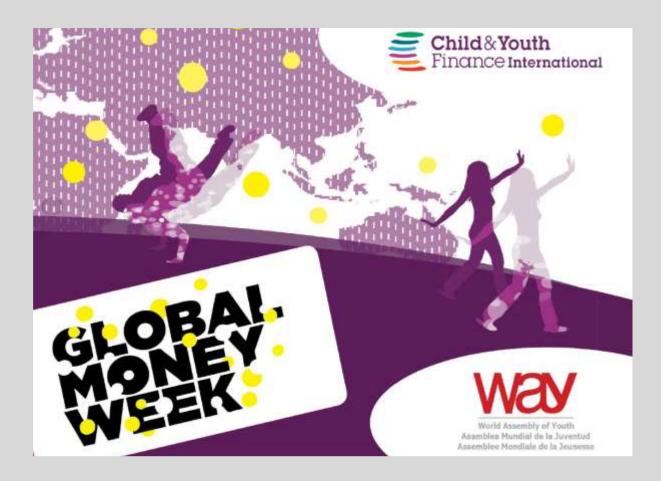
As for the year 2016, the theme was '*Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality*'. The idea of this theme was to consider how to accelerate the 2030 Agenda, building momentum for the effective implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal number five -Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls - and number 4 –

Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. The theme also focused on new commitments under UN Women's Step It Up initiative and other existing commitments on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's human rights.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITY**

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), always seek to contribute in the global innovative efforts in encouraging the embracement of gender equality and women's empowerment in all levels of society. We believe that empowerment for women and girls are vital to the development of societies. In fact, when they are empowered, women and girls are better equipped to fulfil their potential and eventually, contribute their best effort to the societies.

For year 2016 International Women's Day, we aimed to promote the essential role of women and girls in achieving sustainable development and constructive progress of their family members, the household, communities and their nation as a whole. In realising that objective, in year 2016, we conducted one week online campaign through our social media in educating young people and bringing awareness on the importance of woman's empowerment and gender equality. We posted quotes, inspirational photos and other materials in order to convey the inspiring message that through gender equality, sustainable development will be inclusive leading to a well balance in every aspect at all levels of the societies.



### **GLOBAL MONEY WEEK**

### ONLINE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN (MALAYSIA) AND NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS FORUM (NIGERIA)

### 9<sup>TH</sup> TO 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016

### **MALAYSIA AND NIGERIA**

#### **ABOUT GLOBAL MONEY WEEK**

Global Money Week is a worldwide celebration intended to empower the next generation of financial actors to be confident, responsible and skilled economic citizens. Every year, entire communities jointly take action to reshape the financial landscape, and give young people the tools and inspiration they need to shape their own future. Global Money Week takes place every year during the second week of March. It is coordinated by the Child and Youth Finance International (CYFI) Secretariat, but the events themselves are organised by various schools, universities, government ministries, central banks, and financial institutions, members of the civil society and communities of active youth worldwide.

The Secretariat acts as an anchor for Global Money Week activities worldwide, in an effort to coordinate, support and facilitate the many events and initiatives planned by local organisations, institutions and activists. The celebrations of 2016 usually took place between 9<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> March. During this week various worldwide activities were held to engage children, youth and their communities to learn about how money works, including saving, gaining employment, and creating livelihoods.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITY**

Acknowledging the partnership established between the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) and the Child and Youth Finance International (CYFI) in 2015, WAY realised the necessity of continually introducing Global Money Week and raising awareness on the significance of financial education and independence amongst young people. Carrying out those aims and purpose, in year 2016, we have organised one week online awareness campaign in engaging young people who are coming from various countries of all continents of the world via our social media networks. We posted quotes, inspirational photos and other materials in order to educate young people about the importance of financial education and independence.

Following are the quotes that we have posted and promoted via our social media (the softcopies of all E-posters are enclosed in our appendices).

- 1. Do not save what is left after spending but spend what is left after saving!
- 2. Keep calm and spend wisely!
- 3. Financial education is the key to good financial management!
- 4. Let us learn how to balance, don't spend more than you earn!
- 5. Differentiating between our wants and needs is the first step in becoming debt free!

Besides, the online awareness campaign, WAY was also involved in the National Multi-Stakeholders Forum coordinated by network of young female leaders of ECOWAS community (ROAJELF) held from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 23<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Abuja, Nigeria. The following activities were carried out during this National Multi-Stakeholders Forum:

- 1. Advocacy Tour to the relevant Institutions and Media Houses (22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016)
  - The Nigerian Television Authority (NTA)
  - The Security and Exchange Commission (SEC)
  - The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)
  - The Federal Ministry of Finance
- 2. Grand Finale (23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016)

Venue: National Centre for Women Development (NCWD), Abuja (Time: 1-5pm)

- Opening Address by Amb. Prince Felix Ihonre, Chairman BoT of ROAJELF
- Lecture and Film Show on Financial Literacy by SEC
- Goodwill Messages
- Address by Vice President of WAY

- Address from Brig. Gen. Paul T. Boroh, Special Adviser to the President on Niger Delta Affairs and Coordinator, Presidential Amnesty Program (OSANDPAP)
- Keynote Address from H.E. Mrs. Aisha M. Buhari Wife of the President of Nigeria
- Closing Formalities and Group Picture

### **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this awareness and educational campaign are listed as follow.

- To introduce and promote Global Money Week via social media and society, particularly women, in Abuja, Nigeria
- To raise awareness on the importance of financial education and the significance of being financially independent amongst young people

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), realising the active participation of youth in social media, designed this online campaign with a main purpose of promoting Global Money Week and raised awareness about the significance of Financial Independence and Education amongst young people, particularly those are under our online network. Besides, our effort and involvement also went up to Nigeria where the National Multi-Stakeholders Forum was held. Participants were mostly women, children, youth and members of the press. This event was a huge success and proved to be an effective morale booster as the major participating agencies expressed interest in supporting subsequent programmes of the organisers and the World Assembly of Youth (WAY).

### GLOBAL BUBBLE PARADE IN CONJUNCTION WITH YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION, MALAYSIA

### 28<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016

### @ 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM

### **BANDAR HILIR, MELAKA**





Global Bubble Parade 2016

#### ABOUT GLOBAL BUBBLE PARADE

The Global Bubble Parade is about bringing the 100 happydays mission comes to life in a physical event by using soap bubbles, in a flash-mob happening the same day on different cities, worldwide. It was created in order to bring people together who believe that it is possible to have a happy life and to celebrate the small victories and moments in life. The Bubble Parade was organised by people for people and can be hosted by anyone and anywhere as it spreads its mission across cultures, races and geographical borders. The event was oriented to build more resilient and diverse communities, to increase awareness about personal wellbeing and to create positive interactive experience between the city and its inhabitants.

The Global Bubble Parade event aimed to provide inspiration and happiness by sharing real conversations, laughs and to raise awareness about being a part of a community. Its main goal was to foster motivation, inspiration and action of happiness.

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITY**

The primary responsibility of young people, today, is to get good education in order to become better citizens of tomorrow. They need to learn the proper skills that are needed for the society's development and achievement of SDGs. They are required not only to know and understand the 17 Goals but also to carefully, analyse, and discuss the solution of issues that their countries face. The entire success of the nation is, in fact, laid on the hands of young people.

Realising those, we took part in the celebration of Malaysian National Youth Day in Melaka, Malaysia, where we showcased educational information on SDGs, Youth Issues, and our upcoming events on 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at Bandar Hilir, Melaka. In this programme, World

Assembly of Youth (WAY) was invited by Melaka State EXCO for Youth Development and Heritage as one of the exhibitors. Taking this opportunity, we conducted educational campaign in order to maximise youth potential through Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the future is now! This activity was also jointly conducted with our first Bubble Parade in celebrating International Day of Happiness. There were thousands of bubbles blown during that activity and many people present, children in particular, were overjoyed and even joined us in puffing more balloons to brighten that day.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this activity are listed below as follow.

- To spark happiness and encourage lots of smiles that can change one's day
- To bring attention to constructive inspirational voices in the community
- To showcase educational information on global goals and pertinent youth issues

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the Bubble Parade and Educational Campaign was a great success in celebrating both Youth Day in Malaysia and International Day of Happiness. It definitely achieved all of its objectives and goals. The location which was Bandar Hilir, Melaka was another added advantage as it is a centre of attraction for both local community as well as tourists. We managed to capture a great number of audiences ranging from elderly people, adults, young people and even children.



### 26<sup>TH</sup> to 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

### KINGS GREEN HOTEL, MELAKA

**ABOUT MIYD** 

The Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) is an annual programme of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) which brings together young people and youth leaders from around the world to discuss relevant youth issues. Since 2001, the MIYD has convened on a wide range of youth issues. The MIYD has witnessed an escalating number of youth participants over the years, willing to participate in the decision making process. With the view of building a stronger partnership between the youth and the society, the MIYD produces a declaration which serves as a guideline for youth and national youth councils to address the selected issues.

### INTRODUCTION

Youth have both special concerns and responsibilities in relation to the environment protection and conservation. The quote *"The Earth does not belong to us; we belong to the Earth"*, without a doubt, points out the dependency that we have towards the environment. For centuries, environmental aspects and impacts are mostly disregarded, leaving many of natural resources including water, air and soil to be depleted and our climate is changing in unpredictable ways. The impacts of the environmental deterioration have been felt even stronger in recent days and have caused many natural disasters that cost in loss of hundreds of thousands of lives. It has been known that the environmental degradation is a result of socio-economical, technological and institutional activities, such as: population growth, increase in energy-use, industrialisation, urbanisation, elevation in consumption level, modernisation in agriculture and other sectors. The indisputable facts and statistics below show that our Earth has deteriorated because of many of our actions.

- Environmental degradation and climate change are major drivers in both forced and voluntary migration. (UNEP)
- Average sea level is predicted to rise by 9 to 88 cm by 2100and millions of people are projected to be flooded annually. (UNFCCC)
- 14 billion pounds of trash is dumped into the ocean every year, when 9.84% of all household waste could be recycled. (UNFCCC)
- The human population has grown more in the last 50 years, than it did in the previous 4 million years. (UNFPA)
- > At least 50 million acres of rainforest are lost every year. (UNEP)

Our planet is warming up faster than ever because of the vast amount of greenhouse gases that are being pumped into the atmosphere as the result of our actions. It is now our chance to protect and sustain what is left of it. Many global gatherings organised by various United Nations Agencies and Civil Society Organisations have pointed out means of fighting environmental deprivation, and promoting environmental sustainably. The recent event was the Conference on the Parties (COP) 21 in Paris, which intended to achieve a legal binding and universal agreement on climate change, with the aim of keeping global warming below 2°C.

Hence, this year, we selected **'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care'** as the theme for the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue. This theme was selected to recognize the critical stage of our planet and emphasised on the role that young people and youth leaders could play, to achieve environmental sustainability. In this Dialogue, youth highlighted their role and concerns towards environmental affairs, as it is now their time and opportunity to act and declare that yes, they do care!

#### THEME

The theme for the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue **'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care'** has been realised to fulfil the principal opinions and roles of young people towards combating environmental deterioration and achieving environment sustainability. As well as, to find innovative solution and adopting sustainable living in which the coexistence with the nature, shall be tailored in every activity and at all levels of the society.

An interactive dialogue on this topic was of significance to form, educate, increase awareness on the challenges and entitlements of youth towards environment at the different levels of society that they represent. Therefore, with the above anticipated theme, all participants present, such as: the young people, youth leaders, representatives from public and private sector, media persona, and members of various NGOs and CSOs, gathered to call for action and structure experiences on the issue of environmental protection and sustainability. They also charted a course towards the attainment of the sustainable and greener environment and an improved balance ecosystem. The outcome document shall enhance youth contribution towards a better and sustainable future of our planet.

#### OBJECTIVES

Throughout the Dialogue all participants gathered to call for action based on the following objectives:

- To promote awareness and empower young people in advocating towards environmental sustainability;
- To advance the role of youth and actively involve them in the protection of the environment and the promotion of economic and social development;
- To foster action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the environment, as well as the society;
- To address the determinants of environmental deterioration and its impact to the society, young people inclusive;
- To identify the roles and contribution of different sectors i.e. public sector, private sector, NGOs and others, in supporting young people's effort towards environmental sustainability;
- To identify and gather good practices, challenges, experiences, and lessons learned from the national youth councils towards improving or amending the current policies in order to preserve the environment and promote sustainable living;
- To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing the preservation of the environment;
- To foster networking, collaboration and partnership among youth and all stakeholders in order to address the issue of environmental sustainability;

#### **PROGRAMME OF EVENT:**

Date	Time	Agenda	Venue	Dress Code
26 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Arrival and Registration	KLIA/KLIA 2 - Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	1930HRS	Welcoming Dinner	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	2100HRS	<ul> <li>ICE BREAKING SESSION:</li> <li>➢ Introduction</li> <li>➢ Briefing on 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD Programme</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
27 <sup>th</sup> June	0500HRS - 0800HRS	Breakfast	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	0900HRS	<ul> <li>OPENING CEREMONY:</li> <li>Welcoming Remarks by Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth, Ms. Ediola Pashollari</li> <li>Video Presentation: 'Journey of MIYD'</li> <li>Address by President of Malaysian Youth Council, Mr. Mua'amar Ghadafi Jamaludin</li> <li>Address by President of Asian Youth Council, Hon. Hun Many</li> <li>Performance by Choral Speaking of SMK Infant Jesus Convent</li> <li>Address by President of World Assembly of Youth cum Chief Minister of Melaka, Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron</li> <li>Official Opening Address by Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Malaysia, Hon. Dato Sri Dr. Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar</li> <li>Souvenir Presentation</li> <li>Photo Session</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Formal

1030HRS	VIP Press Conference	Meeting Room 1, Kings Green Hotel	Formal
1045HRS	<ul> <li>PLENARY SESSION 1: THE SIGNIFICANT ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS IN ACHIEVING</li> <li>ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY</li> <li>Social Entrepreneurship In Environmental Services by Miss Adrienna Zsakay, Founder of Keep ASEAN Beautiful</li> <li>Acting For Health And Environment – Where Are The Co-Benefits? by Miss Uta Christine Dietrich, Research Fellow at United Nations University – International Institute for Global Health</li> <li>Known And Unknowns Of Rainforest Biodiversity: Not Knowing What We Don't Know In Time by Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohamed Ghazali Ismail, Vice Chancellor at University College Sabah Foundation</li> <li>Education And Environment Protection by Mr. Lukasz Wojciech Kosowski, Youth Advocate</li> <li>Chairperson: Mr. Ahmed Mostafa Kamal, Founder cum CEO of AM Foundation for Career Development</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
1300HRS	Lunch	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
1400HRS	<ul> <li>PLENARY SESSION 2: "OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES TOWARDS</li> <li>ATTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY"</li> <li>The Negawatt Revolution – Solutions For Life And Work To Reduce Our Carbon Footprint And Save Money by Mr. Matthias Gelber, Green Ambassador cum Co-Founder of Green Business JV Marketing Sdn Bhd/ Maleki GmbH/ Ecowarrior Malaysia</li> <li>Seeking Your Path To Environmental Sustainability by Miss Chong Sheau Ching, Executive Director of eHomemakers</li> <li>Build A Future Where Humans Can Live In Harmony With Nature by Mr. Ludwig Oscuro Federigan, Vice President for Business Operations at World Wide Fund for Nature - Philippines</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual

	<ul> <li>Solar Powered Irrigation Systems: Eco-Friendly Alternatives For A More Sustainable Agriculture by Mr. Tarek Keskes, Co-Founder cum Co-President of Maghreb Young Leaders Organisation (MYLO)</li> <li>Chairperson: Mr. Eugene F. Arokiasamy, Senior Secretary - Special Programmes at Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor, University Putra Malaysia</li> </ul>		
1530HRS	Refreshments	Kings Green Hotel	Casual
1545HRS	<ul> <li>PLENARY SESSION 3: "PROMOTING THE GREEN AGENDA GLOBALLY: YOUTH INCLUSIVE"</li> <li>The Green And Innovation GEM Framework Preparing Youth For A Sustainable Tomorrow by Dr. Pek Chuen Khee, Director of Undergraduate Programmes at Nottingham University Business School</li> <li>Role Of Youth In Sustainable Development by Miss Kehkashan Basu, Founder/President cum World Future Council-Youth Ambassador of Green Hope</li> <li>Boosting Environmental Sustainability Through Environmental Advocacy And Education by Mr. Mohamed Abdulrahman Saeed Al-Samet, Director for Information and Research Committee of the ClimateEducate Project of Alpha Team Organisation (ATO)</li> <li>Youth For Environmental Sustainability by Miss Syeda Nishat Naila, Climate Mentor of Climate Reality Project at University of Dhaka</li> <li>Chairperson: Mr. Ifeoluwa Bukunmi Ayansina, Youth Engagement Coordinator of The ASEAN Work – Life Balance Project</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
1700HRS	Free and Easy	Kings Green Hotel	Casual
1930HRS	Dinner	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual / Traditional

	2100HRS	<ul> <li>CULTURAL PERFORMANCES:</li> <li>➢ WAY Volunteers</li> <li>➢ MIYD Participants</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
28 <sup>th</sup> June	0500HRS - 0800HRS	Breakfast	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	0900HRS	<ul> <li>WORKSHOP: The role of all stakeholders in achieving environmental sustainability:</li> <li>Public sector,</li> <li>Private sector,</li> <li>NGOs / IGOs,</li> <li>Media,</li> <li>Society, and</li> <li>Young people.</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
	1300HRS	Lunch	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	1400HRS	WORKSHOP (CONTINUES)	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
	1530HRS	Refreshments	Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	1545HRS	WORKSHOP: GROUP PRESENTATIONS	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
	1700HRS	Free and Easy	Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	1930HRS	Dinner	Restaurant Melayu, Melaka	Casual
	2100HRS	City Tours <ul> <li>➤ Taming Sari Tower</li> <li>➤ Melaka River Cruise</li> </ul>	Melaka	Casual

	2230HRS	DRAFTING COMMITTEE MEETING	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
29 <sup>th</sup> June	0500HRS - 0800HRS	Breakfast	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
June	0900HRS	PRESENTATION OF 16 <sup>TH</sup> MIYD DRAFT DECLARATION	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
	1030HRS	Refreshments	Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	1045HRS	ADOPTION OF 16 <sup>TH</sup> MIYD DECLARATION	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Smart Casual
	1300HRS	Lunch	Cafeteria, Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	1400HRS	<ul> <li>FIELD TRIPS:</li> <li>Botanical Garden, Melaka</li> <li>1000 Flowers Garden, Melaka</li> <li>Bird Park, Melaka</li> <li>UniKL MICET Melaka Campus</li> <li>Youth Centre, Melaka</li> </ul>	Melaka	Casual / MIYD T- shirt
	1700HRS	Free and Easy	Kings Green Hotel	Casual
	2000HRS	<ul> <li>FAREWELL GALA DINNER AND CLOSING CEREMONY:</li> <li>Welcoming Remarks by Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth, Ms. Ediola Pashollari</li> <li>Address by President of Malaysian Youth Council, Mr. Mua'amar Ghadafi Jamaludin</li> <li>Video Presentation: Youth for Environmental Sustainability</li> </ul>	Ballroom, Kings Green Hotel	Formal/Tradit ional Attire

		<ul> <li>Address by President of World Assembly of Youth cum Chief Minister of Melaka, Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron</li> <li>Official Closing Address by Minister of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government, Malaysia, Hon Dato' Abdul Rahman Dahlan</li> <li>Certificate and Award Presentation</li> <li>Souvenir Presentation</li> <li>Photo Session</li> <li>Musical and Cultural Performances</li> </ul>		
30 <sup>th</sup>	0500HRS -	Breakfast	Cafeteria, Kings	Casual
June	0800HRS		Green Hotel	
	All Day	Departures	Kings Green Hotel - KLIA/KLIA 2	Casual

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this dialogue was organised by the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (Malaysia), Melaka State Government, International Institute for Global Health of United Nations University, Asian Youth Council and Malaysian Youth Council.

WAY firmly believes that young people have remarkable potential in inflicting betterment in their societies. Thus, maximising their talent and contribution is, indeed, a key to achieve environmental sustainability which was major focus of the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue in recognising the critical stage of our planet and emphasising on the role that young people and youth leaders could play.

However, the public and private sectors should develop mutual understanding and operational partnerships, so that real benefits could be felt by both administrations and the citizens alike. The Melaka International Youth Dialogue is designed to provide an international platform for youth and youth leaders around the world, to increase collaboration between stakeholders and also to improve youth participation in decision making processes about the issues that directly or indirectly affect them and the world they live.



### **GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT**

### 8<sup>TH</sup> - 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

### NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



### ABOUT THE 2016 GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT

Global Youth Summit at the United Nations is the first Global Summit which invited a large amount of young people to join and contribute in this prolific event. Initiating in the year 2016, the Summit convened from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at the United Nations headquarters in New York, United States of America. There were 500 outstanding young people participated in this conference to discuss various international affairs. Besides, they also had opportunity to interact with a number of senior United Nations officials.

The Global Youth Summit at the United Nations was co-launched by The Former United Nations interns and scholars association (WAFUNIF), US-China Sister City Association (UCSCA) and Times-Future Elite Organisation. Moreover, this summit also attracted attention from United Nations Office for Partnerships (UNOP), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Foundation (UNF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and other United Nations agencies.

### THE PURPOSE AND GOALS OF 2016 GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT

The purpose of this summit was to offer youth from all around the world a good opportunity and platform to deepen friendship and exchange culture. By participating in the United Nations conference, visiting international organisations, learning courses and joining a series of activities, young people present could cultivate the right values and expend international outlook. Moreover, there were award-giving to some outstanding youth leaders in appreciating their excellent performances, through participating in different kinds of international activities, or making extraordinary contributions to the conference topics.

The goals of this Global Youth Summit are listed as below.

- Increase the Influence of Youth
- Develop "the Belt and the Road" Policy
- Prevent the Overseas Brain Drain
- > Appeal for World Culture Exchanging
- Extend International Views of Youth
- Drive the Growth of Young Leaders
- > Display the Elegant Appearance of Young People

#### THE PROGRAMME ITINERARY OF 2016 GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT

The agenda of the Global Youth Summit at the United Nations are listed as follow:

#### MONDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016 @ SALVATION ARMY, UN LOCATION

9.15am : Youth Leadership Summit Opening Welcomes by Patrick Sciarratta

9.20am : Musical Welcome by NClassic Ensemble, led by Prof. Nam Joong Kim

9.30am : Video Presentation, 'How Did the UN Create the Image of SDGs? We the People for the Global Goals'

9.35am : Trollback Presentation by Jakob Trollback

**10.00am** : **Presentation** by **Dr. Ibne Hassan,** President of WAFUNIF cum Diplomat at the UN, Jurist

**10.15am** : **Presentation** by **Liangyu Dong,** Former Vice Chairman of China Dong Biwu's Son cum Vice President of Institution of Dong Biwu's Thought

**10.30am** : **Presentation on 'Global Goals Leaders'** by **Lawrence Y. Tian,** Chairman of the China Entrepreneurs Forum

**10.40am** : Presentation on 'How Do China's Youth Fare as Global Citizens' by Edward Chen, Youth Leader

**11.00am** : Presentation on 'Youth from the Developing World and the SDGs' by Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth

**11.25am** : **Presentation** by **Juan Pablo Celis Garcia,** Youth Representative from United Nations Association of NY

**11.35am** : **Presentation** by **Michelle Leon**, Miss Grand America, U.S.A.

**11.55am** : **Presentation** by **Jahye Kim**, President of the Hudson Fine Arts Foundation

12.05pm : Presentation on 'The Role of Sports and Culture in Achieving the SDGs and Youth Action in This Field' by Ju Suk Yoon

**12.15pm: Panel 1, 'Setting Stage on Youth Leading Change Globally'** chaired by **Tami Kesselman** (Chairman of the Board, AIESEC U.S. cum Co-Chair of Capital Markets Global Summit at UN)

#### Panellists:

- **12.20pm : Presentation on 'Global Youth Entrepreneurship to Solve Challenges for the World's Poorest'** by **Ahmad Ashkar,** CEO of the Hult Prize Foundation cum Advisory Board of UNDP Innovation Facility
- 12.30pm: Presentation on 'AIESEC and Opportunities to Join A Global Youth Organization to Collaborate on Achieving the SDGs at the Local Level Globally' by Attila Yaman, Programme Officer of Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI); Former Global Youth Rep to UN for AIESEC International
- **12.40pm : Presentation** by **Julia Myers,** U.S. Youth Ambassador to China; Co-founder of Pretty Purposeful; Co-founder of Youth Corps; Board Member of AIESEC

#### TUESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016 @ SALVATION ARMY, UN LOCATION

9.00 – 9.10am : Daily Greetings from the Chair, Patrick Sciarratta

9.15 – 9.45am : Remarks by Dr. Frank Owarish, Former UNITAR cum Director of Training

**9.45 – 10.45am** : Global Youth Panel: 'Emerging Region Youth Leaders and the SDGs' (Moderator: Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth)

<u>Panellists:</u> Subhajit Saha; Juan Pablo Celis Garcia; Edward Chen; Tony Abdel Ghany; Michelle Leon; and Maxine Davila

**10.45 – 11.15am : Virtual Education Presentation** by **Dr. Eunhee Jung**, CEO and Founder of EVECA

11.15 – 11.30am : Special Guest Presentation on 'Entrepreneurs, Educator, Investor' by Jiandong Lu

11.30 – 11.40am : Presentation on 'Decent Work and Economic Growth in a Start-Up' by Chris Kelsey

11.40 – 11.50am : Presentation on '21<sup>st</sup> Century Trends for Implementation of the SDGs' by Jixing Li

11.50 – 12.00pm : Presentation by Lei Yue, Senior Vice President of Sanpower Group

12.00 – 12.15pm : Presentation on 'Sister Cities and Future UN Internships' by Roy Ying and Peter Yue from the China Times Team

12.15 – 1.00pm : Presentation on 'The Oculus: An Aid to See the Crises. All Delegates Should Try It Out!' by UNDP Staff

#### WEDNESDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

10.00am – 1.00pm : UN Mission Visits and UN Tours





### 19<sup>TH</sup> TO 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

### SEOUL AND MUJU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

### ABOUT 27<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

The 27<sup>th</sup> International Youth Forum with the selected theme, **"World Youth and Health"**, took place from 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 in Seoul and Muju, Republic of Korea. This event was hosted by the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, the Republic of Korea (MOGEF) and organised by the National Council of Youth Organizations in Korea (NCYOK) in partnership with the World Assembly of Youth (WAY). The National Council of Youth Organizations across Korea under the auspices of the Ministry of Gender Equality and Family, Korea (MOGEF). NCYOK have been organising the International Youth Forum since 1990, inviting about 100 youth delegates from over 30 countries across the world every year. As for year 2016, the theme of the 27<sup>th</sup> International Youth Forum was 'World Health and Youth'. This theme was selected to discuss on its two major sub-themes which were Condition and Assignment of World Health and tackle as well as Youth's Role for Development of World Health.

### **OBJECTIVES**

Throughout the forum, all participants gathered to call for action based on the following objectives:

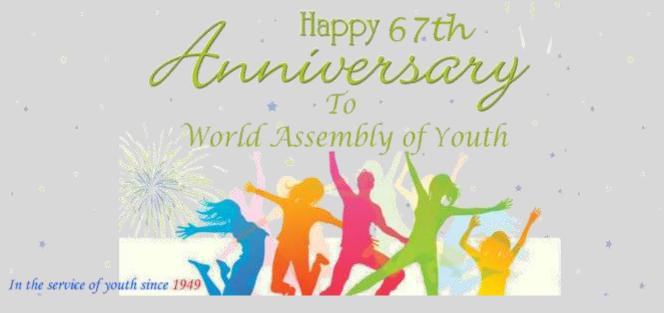
- To make youth aware of global issues, offering an opportunity to tackle them and to find alternative ways or solutions
- To improve cooperation and mutual understanding among youth across diverse cultures
- To spread goodwill around the world and to build interactive global citizenship through networking among youth

### OVERVIEW OF THE FORUM

The 27<sup>th</sup> International Youth Forum with a theme, 'World Youth and Health' was attended by approximately 80 overseas young people in which 60 of them were coming from overseas, while the remaining 20 of them were local. In brief, following are the itinerary of this programme.

Date	Activities
Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Arrival/ Registration
	Opening Ceremony and Welcome Dinner
	Orientation
	Recreation and Orientation

Saturday, 20 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Keynote Lecture Korean Culture Experience Transfer to Muju (Taekwondowon) Youth Chair Group Election
Sunday, 21 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Case Study Presentation Group Discussion I Group Discussion II
Monday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2016	Cultural Lesson on Korean Tradition Group Discussion III Group Discussion IV
Tuesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016	Group Discussion V Transfer to Seoul (International Youth Centre) Friendship Night
Wednesday, 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Plenary Session
Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Seoul City Study Trip (Outing) Closing Ceremony Adoption of Seoul Declaration Farewell Party
Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Departure



### THE 67<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### **WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH**

### "STRIVE FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE WORLD"

### 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

### ABOUT WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is the international coordinating body of national youth councils and youth organisations. One full member per country, the national youth council, is affiliated to WAY. Presently, WAY has over 140 member countries from all continents. Founded in 1949, WAY has special consultative status with various agencies in the United Nations system, ECOSOC, DPI, UNCTAD, UNAIDS, UNEP, ILO UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO. It acts as a bridge between the youth and the UN. WAY recognises the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the basis of its action and services. WAY works for promotion of youth issues and youth organisations in programme areas such as: youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training.

### ABOUT ITS 67<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

As its slogan states **"In the service of youth since 1949"**, the journey of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has been significantly profound in the empowerment, advancement and transformation of youth all around the world. In the past 67 years, WAY has tackled and discussed pertinent youth issues and assisted in the establishment of youth related policies through the organised programmes, activities and events at different levels.

These milestone accomplishments were made possible by the collaboration and partnership with various WAY Member Organisations, UN Agencies, Civil Societies, International Organisations and Institutions, Ministries Responsible for Youth, both Public and Private Sectors and many more.

At 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016, the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) commemorated the 67<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of its establishment as well as gratefulness of the 67 years of determined journey and devotion in serving youth worldwide. Almost 7 decades of its creation, WAY currently has 140 member organisations from all continents of the world. There were no major and physical festivity held. This anniversary was celebrated simple and privately within members of Secretariat.

Publication on this anniversary, including electronic posters and press release, has been specially made and was available at the social media and other online network within a week prior to the mentioned date.



# 2016 NGO Global Summit for UN SDGs

# at the United Nations

### THE 2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT

### "Transporting the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual UN DPI Conference Goals to United Nations Headquarters in New York, and More"

### 24<sup>TH</sup> - 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

### **UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS**

### NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### BACKGROUND OF THE 2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT

The 2016 NGO Global Summit was held with the aim of presenting the goals of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual United Nations DPI Conference to the United Nations Headquarters in New York, United States of America. It also served as a follow-up event of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual UN DPI Conference which took place from  $30^{th}$  May –  $1^{st}$  June 2016 in Gyeongju, Korea. By organising the 2016 NGO Global Summit, the organiser aimed to replicate some of the Conference's highlights and built from the Planning Committee's outcome document towards a strong and united NGOs' voice during the UN General Assembly in September.

Organised in cooperation with the NGO/DPI Executive Committee, the NGO community, the Government of the Republic of Korea and the National Organising Committee of Korea, the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual UN DPI Conference with the theme *"Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together"* provided a unique opportunity for participating NGOs to engage members of civil society, diplomats, United Nations officials, policy experts, scientists, educators, businesses, trade unions, parliamentarians, local authorities and others from around the world in discussing key issues relevant during that given year. The 2016 Conference focused on creating and strengthening global partnerships in support of the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE 2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT

This informative session was presented by the Permanent Missions of Canada to the United Nations and the Republic of Korea to the United Nations. The aim of this important, major NGO gathering was to 'reprise' successful aspects of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual UN DPI Conference that took place in Gyeongju, Korea at the end of May. The further interest for this Summit was to

begin discussions on new ideas for SDG implementation, reporting, and verification with actual programming that fulfilled the challenges presented by the UN SDGs.

Many Permanent Representatives and their staffs have been directly involved with this summit. Following are some of their names.

- Their Excellencies Oh Joon and Marc-André Blanchard and H.E. President Mogens Lykketoft, President, United Nations General Assembly, were all set to address the opening on August 24<sup>th</sup> in the UN GA Hall. Jakob Trollbäck creator of the Visualization of the SDG's, was set to make a major presentation then to share how the SDG visual identity was created.
- H.E. Mr. Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Ambassador Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations and H.E. Mr. Choonghee Hahn, Ambassador Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the United Nations appeared on the second major roundtable (reprised from the Korea conference). H.E. Mr. Caleb Otto of the Permanent Mission of Palau and H.E. Mr. Ahmed Sareer of the Permanent Mission of Maldives appeared as part of a panel on Small Island Developing States and Education for the SDGs. H. E. Mr. Nassir Al-Nasser provided an address on the work of UNAOC regarding youth, education and the SDGs.
- Mr. Amir Dossal leaded a fascinating panel on collaboration among NGOs for the SDGs. Ms. Daniela Bas, Director at United Nations DESA/DSPD, was included on the first panel. Mr. Maher Nasser, Director, DPI Outreach, addressed the Opening Ceremony in the UN GA Hall. As Mr. Bruce Knotts chaired the sessions as head of the NGO DPI Executive Committee, Ms. Maria Fare, of the UN Sustainable Development Campaign provided a keynote address during the events.

Several NGOs were involved as volunteers and all the registrants were taking part in order to learn what they had missed in Korea and also to find cooperative partners to continue their work in the field, around the world, for the success of the SDGs.

#### **PROGRAMME ITINERARY**

#### WEDNESDAY, 24 AUGUST, 2016 - CONFERENCE ROOM 1

9:00-9:10 A.M.: Musical Interlude (Violin/Cello Duo)

9:15-9:20 A.M.: Introducing the Conference Welcomes by Bruce Knotts (Conference Chair)

9:25-9:35 A.M.: **Conference Opening Address by H.E. Mogens Lykketoft** (President, United Nations General Assembly)

9:40-9:50 A.M.: UNDP Welcome by Rosemary Kalapurakal

9:55-10:00 A.M.: Video Presentation of 'We the People' for the Global Goals

10:00-10:10 A.M.: Host Nation Welcome by H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon (Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the United Nations)

10:10-10:20 A.M.: **Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Marc-André Blanchard** (Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations)

10:20-10:30 A.M.: Host City Welcome by Penny Abeywardena (Commissioner of the NYC Mayor's Office for International Affairs)

10:30-10:35 A.M.: **Remarks by Jeffrey Brez** (Representative from the UN Department of Public Information)

10:35-11:05 A.M.: **Presentation on the Visualization of the SDGs at the UN by Jakob Trollbäck** (Founder and Creative Director of the Trollbäck Company)

11:10 – 12:10 P.M.: 'The Right to Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Learning Spaces' Panel (Moderator: Bruce Knotts, Conference Chair)

## Panellists:

- Leslee Udwin (Founder and CEO of the Think Equal)

- Joseph S. Akoro (Founder and CEO of the RenfoCap Centre)

- Rurik Nackerud (Elisabeth Morrow School of the Little School Technology Integration)

- **Carol Bangura** (Doctor of Public Health Candidate, Senior Development Officer and NGO Representative to the United Nations)

12:10 – 12:40 P.M.: **'Coming from, Going to: Starting at the Outcome, Where Next?'** Panel (Moderator: **Jeffery Huffines,** Chief UN Representative, CIVICUS)

#### Panellists:

- Daniela Bas (Director at United Nations DESA/DSPD)
- Scott Carlin (Co-chair of the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual NGO/DPI Conference)

#### 12:45 – 1:00 P.M.: Reading of the Outcome Document of the 66<sup>th</sup> DPI/NGO Conference

- Dr. Mary Norton (Recent Vice President of NGO/DPI Executive Committee)
- Father Brian Muzas (Professor of the Seton Hall University)
- Dr. Scott Carlin (Professor of the Long Island University)

THURSDAY, 25 AUGUST, 2016 – CONFERENCE ROOM 1

9:00 A.M.: Delegate Welcomes and Announcements

9:15 – 9:30 A.M.: Chinese Youth Dance and Music Ensemble

9:30 -9:45 A.M.: 'From Policy to Action' Presentation by Ediola Pashollari (Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth)

9:45 – 10:00 A.M.: China Guest Speakers

10:00 – 11:15 A.M.: Roundtable II: 'STEAM for Global Citizenship to Power the SDGs' (Moderator: **Dr. Eunhee Jung**, Executive Director of IVECA International Virtual Schooling)

#### Panellists:

- H.E. Ambassador Riadh Ben Sliman (Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the United Nations)

- H.E. Ambassador Choonghee Hahn (Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the United Nations)

- **Babette Allina** (Executive Director of the Government Relations and External Affairs, Rhode Island School of Design)

- **Dr. Robert Swap** (Research Professor of the Department of Environmental Sciences for University of Virginia and Extraordinary Professor of the Environmental Sciences and Management for the Potchefstroom Campus of the North West University, South Africa)

- Ann Woo (Senior Director of Corporate Citizenship for Samsung Electronics in North America)

11:15-11:30 A.M.: Keynote Address by Maria Fare (UN Sustainable Development Campaign)

11:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.: New Book Release: 'Negotiating the Sustainable Development Goals: A Transformational Agenda for an Insecure World' written by Felix Dodds (Former UN DPI/NGO Conference Chair, Author)

12:00 – 12:45 P.M.: Special Roundtable: 'Small Island Development and the SDGs - An Ongoing' and Member State Discussion with Civil Society (Moderator: Dr. Radhika Iyengar, Representative of the Center for Sustainable Development and Earth Institute of the Columbia University)

## Panellists:

- H.E. Ambassador Caleb Otto (Permanent Mission of Palau to the United Nations)

- H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Sareer (Permanent Mission of Maldives to the United Nations)

12:45 – 12:50 P.M.: **Soo Park, Introducing Yoo Bin Cha** (A Filmmaker of the Mariposa Foundation Film)

12:50 – 1:00 P.M.: China Guest Speakers

## FRIDAY, 26 AUGUST, 2016 – CONFERENCE ROOM 1

9:15-9:30 A.M.: Welcome and Announcements

9:30-9:45 A.M.: Conference Address: 'Education and the SDGs for Global Citizens' by Min Jeong Kim (Representative from the UNESCO New York Liaison Office)

9:45 – 10:45 A.M.: Roundtable III: 'Global Citizens as Stewards of the Planet: Partnerships for Energy, Environment and Climate Change' (Moderator: Amir Dossal, Founder and Chairman of the Global Partnership Forum)

#### Panellists:

- Bryan Maygers (Executive Blog Editor of the Huffington Post)
- Dan Connors (Representative from the Aris Wind and Solar)
- Gopal Patel (Director of the Bhumi Project)

11:00 – 12 Noon: The SDGs in the Private Sector with Special guests from "Capital Markets Global Summit: Aligning Capital with the SDGs" (Moderator: Tami Kesselman, Co-Chair, Capital Markets Global Summit at UN and Founder & CEO of TBL Alpha Advisory)

## Panellists:

- Chantal Line Carpentier (Chief of Office of the UNCTAD New York)

James Gifford (Senior Fellow for the Harvard Initiative for Responsible Investment; Director of Impact for Tau Investments; and Former Founding Executive Director for UN-backed PRI)
 Vanessa Grellet (CEO of Intentional Investments Holdings; Chair of Nexus Impact Investing Working Group)

12 Noon – 12:40 P.M.: **#GiveYouthaChance Panel: "Youth Empowerment for Agenda 2030 Action"** (Moderator: **Ravi Karkara**, Senior Adviser Strategic Partnership and Advocacy to the Assistant Secretary-General; Deputy Executive Director of UN Women; and co-chair of UN Interagency Network on Youth Development)

## Panellists:

- Hanifa Mezoui (Representative for the UNAOC and the Unity in Diversity Campaign)

- **Miroslav Polzer** (Representative for the IAAI, Global Challenges Youth Music Contest – Informal Global Citizenship Education and Resource Mobilization with the Power of Music)

- Anam Gill (Representative for the IAAI Pakistan and Youth Led Local Action for Global Goals in Pakistan)

- **Melody Yung Ting Chang** (Representative for the Youthink Center, Youth Empowerment for Global Challenges Action in China)

- **Cleopatra Mbali Masinga** (Representative for the IAAI NY and South Africa, Empowering Young (Social) Entrepreneurs to Tap into Global Resource Pools in the Context of Global Climate Action)

- Esther Mc Farlane (Representative for the UN Secretary General's Global Education First Initiative's Youth Advocacy Group (GEFI-YAG), Global Citizenship Education - the Key to the achievement of the SDGs by 2030)

12:40-12:45 P.M.: Remarks by Madeleine Ramos

12:45 – 12:55 P.M.: **Remarks by MacDella Cooper** (Founder of the MacDella Cooper Foundation)

12:55-1:00 P.M.: Closing Remarks and Appreciation by Bruce Knotts





MALAYSIA



## ABOUT THE ANTI-DRUGS CAMPAIGN

The anti-drugs campaign organised and hosted by INTI International University and Colleges (IICS) aimed to ultimately contribute in the reduction of the abuse in drugs among Malaysian youth. This was achieved by raising awareness on the consequences associated with drugs abuse and encouraging both students and staffs of IICS to help people under the addictive influence of drugs. The key overall messages of this campaign were on factual information about the types of drugs and their respective consequences, the legal aspects and penalties of possessing and consuming those abused drugs. Besides, it also covered the benefits of avoiding drugs-abuse and strategies in helping as well as supporting drugs-abusers.

## **OVERVIEW ON THE ANTI-DRUGS CAMPAIGN**

In order to achieve its mission, the INTI International University and Colleges (IICS) invited lawyers or legal advisors, ex drug addicts, anti-drugs NGOs, youth-centric NGOs and also International Organisations to provide their expertise and necessary information pertaining to the prevention of drugs abuse. The World Assembly of Youth (WAY), as one of the invited organisations, had the opportunity to showcase our current and past works on drugs-abuse prevention and provide photographs, images and necessary printing materials that were relevant to this campaign. Our exhibiting booth was located at the Drive Way, Auditorium and MPH of INTI International University and Colleges (IICS).

Furthermore, some representatives from those invited organisations were asked to share their stories on drug abuse during a sharing session. There was as well a live performance by trained dogs by K9 Unit of Royal Police of Malaysia. This campaign was attended by approximately 100 to 200 students who are interested to learn about drugs-abuse and how they can be involved in youth related initiatives against drugs-abuse.

Time	Venue	Activity
9.00 am – 10.00 am	Drive Way	<ul><li>Booth Set up</li><li>Exhibition Boards Up</li></ul>
10.00 am – 1.00 pm	Drive Way	<ul> <li>Pass out flyers to students who attends the exhibition and around the exhibition area</li> <li>Encouraging students to join SSD games and visiting booths</li> <li>Student Registration for the Talk</li> </ul>
1.00 pm - 2.30 pm	Drive Way	<ul> <li>Lunch for Volunteers (1pm)</li> <li>Performances by Drug Free Youth Malaysia Band (1.30pm)</li> </ul>
1.30 pm – 02.00 pm	МРН	• Lunch for Speakers (1.30pm)
2.00 pm – 4.00 pm	Auditorium	<ul> <li>Talk and sharing sessions by Speakers</li> <li>Session 1: Samuel Lim (2.00pm – 2.45pm)</li> <li>Session 2: PDRM (2.45pm – 3.15pm)</li> <li>Session 3: Khai Aziz (3.15pm – 4.00pm)</li> </ul>
4.00 pm – 5.00 pm	Drive Way and Auditorium	End of programme

Following is the detail agenda of this Anti-Drugs Campaign.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, WAY exhibition booth in the Anti-Drugs Campaign at INTI International University and Colleges (IICS) was conducted as an awareness movement in educating young people on the causes, danger and effects of drugs abuse. Overall, the WAY exhibition was edifying and invigorating as visitors present got the chance to share their ideas, thoughts and suggestions on how to achieve a healthy generation, free from drugs abusive behavior. It was, undeniably, a prolific activity which marks as another successful event of the World Assembly of Youth towards a betterment of young people worldwide.



## **ABOUT THEME**

In today's world, it is crucial for every one of us to remember that we firstly are citizens of the world before our nations, we are the global citizens. The interconnection among people as well as nations across different geographical regions has brought in the concept of global citizenship and its pertinence towards today's emerged issues which are mostly correlated among countries. To tackle these emerging issues, it is necessary for everyone to know and accept the importance of being a global citizen, and how it relates individually to the young people today.

Global citizenship involves being aware of the world beyond the perimeters of our daily lives, and develop a sense of playing responsible roles as citizens of the world. These entails respecting and valuing diversity, understanding the dynamics of how the world works, being firm against global injustice in any form, taking keen interest and participating in community development activities both locally and globally, and fundamentally, stay diligent and enthusiastic about actions that would make the world more sustainable. To achieve the goal of becoming effective global citizens, it is essential to start building these values on young people because they are the leaders of tomorrow and would carry these values and pass them on to the next generations.

This process would involve teaching young people to be creative, flexible and proactive in their undertakings. Young citizens need to develop the enthusiasm, to solve problems around them, to practice effective decision making and critical thinking ability, as well as to effectively communicate their ideas among their peers, teams and groups. As we work hard to recognise and instil these skills in young people, we are progressively working towards achieving a sustainable and equitable world.

World leading organisations are taking initiative towards transforming the world through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs focuses on eradicating poverty, hunger, providing quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, and others, globally. All of these issues are at the spotlight every day and the need to tackle them is increasing tremendously.

Therefore, it is important to gather global efforts to solve the above mentioned problems. The SDGs would help to provide solutions to these issues and restore human dignity and rights. It will also address issues related to production, consumption and protection of natural resources, and most importantly, it will gradually promote global peace. The concept of peace has been constrained to only ending armed conflicts.

However, it goes beyond this sphere. The SDGs would help to achieve deeper peace such as: changing the attitudes of parties involved in conflicts and transform the systems that contribute to the rising tensions between parties. Issues such as inequality or marginalisation and excluding sections of society are major causes of conflicts and disruption of world peace. The achievement of SDGs would assist in bridging this gap. Teaching and practicing the act of being global citizens, youth shall assist to achieve SDGs, as global citizenship promotes respecting, valuing diversity and being firm against injustice.

## ORGANISERS

WAY plenary session on Global Citizenship Education themed as **'Global Goals, Our Responsibility'** was organised by World Assembly of Youth (WAY), hosted by Yuvsatta and supported by both national as well as international partners.

## PARTICIPANTS

The participants present were between the ages of 18 and 35 years old, with a well balance of male and female gender representing the local organisations, youth organisations and young people. The total number of participants in the 11<sup>th</sup> Global Youth Peace Fest was 250 delegates from 33 countries. While for WAY Global Citizenship Education plenary session, it was attended by approximately 25 delegates from 18 different countries.

## AGENDA

WAY Plenary Session on Global Citizenship Education with a theme, **'Global Goals, Our Responsibility'** took place at Indian School of Business (ISB) in Muhali, India on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016. This session started from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. The detailed agenda of this programme is as follow:

TIME	AGENDA	DRESS CODE
10.00 am – 10.30 am	Registration	Formal
10.30 am – 10.45 am	Welcoming Remarks by <b>Miss Ediola Pashollari</b> , Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth	Formal
10.45 am – 11.45 am	<ul> <li>Workshop on Global Citizenship Education (GCE):</li> <li>Definition of GCE and SDGs</li> <li>Challenges in attainment of Global Citizenship</li> <li>Presentation: Success Stories</li> </ul>	Formal
11.45 am – 12.00 am	Tea Break	Formal
12.00 am – 1.00 pm	Workshop on Global Citizenship Education: - Formulation: Projects on Peace	Formal
1.00 pm – 2.00 pm	Lunch	Formal
2.00 pm – 3.45 pm	Workshop on Global Citizenship Education (Cont.): - Formulation: Projects on Peace	Formal
3.45 pm – 4.00 pm	Photo session	Formal



# **GLOBAL PEACE YOUTH EXCHANGE**

# $7^{\text{TH}} - 12^{\text{TH}}$ NOVEMBER 2016

## **BANGKOK, THAILAND**





## BACKGROUND

On 2015, the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at an historical UN Summit – officially came into force. Over the next 15 years, with these new Goals that universally apply to all, countries will mobilise efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. The new Goals are unique in that they call for action by all countries, poor, rich and middle-income to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognise that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015 - The United Nations Security Councils adopted a historic resolution on youth, peace and security that urge greater representation by young men and women in the prevention and resolution of conflict. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development. Interestingly, the Asia-Pacific region consists of 717 millions young people, comprising 60% of the world population of youth. Yet, there are so many negative narratives about young people and their ability always being underestimated. Acknowledging that, the Global Peace Youth Exchange Program was created in order to empower youth to be the agent of peace and sustainable development.

## ABOUT THE GLOBAL PEACE YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Global Peace Youth Exchange Program is a transformative program that seeks out active and substantive engagement of young people from diverse backgrounds and supports meaningful participation of young people in decision-making and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by echoing the Resolution Youth, Peace and Security through the inclusion of youth in peace-building efforts. This is an on-going program for young people in Asia and the Pacific to exchange ideas by addressing both, local and global issues and to find positive solutions, and fostering cooperation through multiple opportunities for young aspiring leaders to strengthen and discover inherent qualities within them through volunteering service on environmental conservative programs, facilitation workshops on peace and leadership, as well as series of dialogues with world institution.

Participants of this programme were young people who were coming from diverse background and those keen on volunteering service, social development, peace building and collaboration. They were at the age group between 18-30 years old.

This programme aims to focus on 3 key learning interconnected components which are elaborated as follow.

## 1. Leadership for Peace-building

Promote the understanding of our shared identity and common aspirations to establish the basis for lasting peace. It is the foundation for respect, empathy and shared responsibility beyond all the boundaries. The basic leadership values – respect and compassion for all people, honouring the family, living with integrity - are vitally important to young people of diverse backgrounds for taking leadership roles in present and the future. Participants will explore leadership core values that effectively deal with peace building and development challenges.

#### 2. Service and Volunteerism

Provides an experiential-based service-learning opportunity for youths of diverse backgrounds, who work together to address urgent social needs in their communities. Serving and volunteering can fosters a social environment in which our innate creativity can flourish and enable us to create value.

#### 3. Sustainable Development

Social entrepreneurs have had a distinctly important role in shaping today's process of sustainable development and addressing the issues of youth unemployment. Young people are the source of creativity and tremendous innovative ideas can be cultivate if we unleash their potential for greater good. They are best understood the problems they face and can offer new ideas and alternative solutions. The program provide the opportunities to learn from the experienced social entrepreneurs, working as a group of like-minded people and collaborate together to make a practical difference in the community and nationwide.

## **PROGRAMME ITINERARY**

Day 1 – Monda	ay, November 7, 2016 (Trang Hotel, Bangkok)			
Time	Program			
14:00 - 16:00	Hotel Check-in & Registration			
16:00 - 18:00	Program Orientation			
	Welcome remarks by the Co-Conveners			
	Mr. Yeqing Li, President, Global Young Leaders Academy; Co-chair, GPYE-			
	Thailand			
	Mr. Jinsoo Kim, Regional President, Global Peace Foundation Asia Pacific;			
	Co-chair, GPYE-Thailand			
	Program Briefing			
	Mr. KornnattSurapat, Co-founder / Managing Director, Transformagent			
	Academy			
	Logistic Briefing			
	Mr. Michael Biadessek, Travel Expert, BangkokVanguard			
	Get to know and synergy			
	House rule and cultural agreements			
18:30 - 20:00	Welcoming Dinner			

Day 2 – Tuesday, November 8, 2016 (UNCC, Bangkok)				
Time	Program			
08:30 - 09:00				
09:00 - 09:30	Opening Session			
	• Emcee Welcoming by Ms. Weaw J., Co-Founder of SideKick			
	• Introduction by Mr. Nicholas Lee, Executive Secretary, Asia Pacific			
	Peace and Development Service Alliance			
	• <b>Overview of UNESCAP</b> , by Ms. Tuenjai Chuabsamai, Strategic			
	Communications and Advocacy Section			
	• Opening Speech by Mr. Ye Qing Li, President, Global Young Leaders			
	Academy; Co-chair, GPYE-Thailand			
	Remarks by the Governor of Samut Songkhram province			
	• Remarks by Ms. Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General, World Assembly			
	of Youth			
09:30 - 12:30	SDGs Forum			
	Overview of Youth Empowerment on UN SDGs			
	Mr. Marco Rncrati, Social development Division, UNESCAP			
	Social Cohesion and Peace-building			
	Mr. Odhran McMahon, Youth Specialist, UNDP			
	Mr. James Poon, Global Peace Youth International			
	Group Discussion			
	Responsible Consumption as a Responsible Citizens			
	Ms. Janet Salem, Program Officer, Resource Efficiency and Sustainable			
	Consumption and Production, UNEP Asia and the Pacific (TBC)			
	Dr. Clarence Tan, Singularity University Asia Pacific Ambassador			
	Group Discussion			

12:30 - 13:30	Lunch at UNCC
14:00 - 17:00	Learning Workshop: SDGs for Me & My World
	Facilitated by Transformagent Academy
	Session 1: Networking
	Session 2: Learning Capture
	Session 3: Appreciative Inquiry & Intuitve Writing
	Session 4: Group Dialouge & Circle Sharing
17:30 - 18:00	Wrap-up

Day 3 – Wednesday, November 9, 2016 (Thammasat University, Tha Prachan Campus)			
Time	Program		
08:00 - 08:15	Registration at Thammasat University, Tha Prachan Campus		
08:15 – 09:00	Welcome Circle & Home of Global Citizen		
	Full-day workshop facilitated by Transformagent Academy		
09:00 - 10:00	SDGs Homework Review		
10:00 - 10:15	Break		
10:15 – 12:30	Global Consumption		
	Session 1: Team Simulation		
	Session 2: Learning Capture		
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch at TU		
13:30 - 14:30	Global Consumption		
14:30 - 15:00	Global Issues in Perspective		
	Facilitated by Mr. James Poon, Youth Specialist, Global Peace Foundation		
15:00 – 15:15	My Commitment on SDGs		
15:15 – 15:30	Break		
15:30 - 16:00	My Commitment on SDGs		
16:00 - 17:00	SDGs 2 - Whole Day Workshop Summary and Closing		
18:00 - 19:30	Dinner		
19:30 - 22:00	Travel to Samut Songkhram		

Day 4 – Thursday, November 10, 2016 (Samut Songkhram Province)			
Time	Program		
08:00 - 08:20	Workshop Opening		
	Welcome Remarks by Mr. Niran Wonggiw, Director of Samut Songkhram		
	Technical College		
08:20 - 12:00	Learning Workshop: Ideation to Action		
	Facilitated by Transformagent Academy		
	Session 1: Team Simulation		
	Session 2: Learning Capture& Group Presentation		
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch at Samut Songkhram Technical College		
13:00 - 15:00	Community Survey and Service with the Local Community		
15:00 - 16:00	Learning Workshop: Ideation to Action		
	Facilitated by Transformagent Academy		
	Session 1: Personal & Group Reflection		
	Session 2: Solution Ideas Presentation		
16:00 - 16:30	Workshop Summary and Closing		
16:30 - 17:30	Depart to Resort		

17:30 - 20:00	Appreciation Dinner		
	UNESCAP Official Speech		
	• Deputy Gonernor of Samutsongkhram Province Congratulatory remarks		
	Testimony from the Participants		
20:00 - 22:00	Heart to Heart Program Ending		
	Overall Program Reflection and Sharing		
	Appreciation Circle and Program Closing		

Day 5 – Friday, November 11, 2016 (Samut Songkhram and Bangkok)			
Time	Program		
09:00 - 12:00	Cultural Expedition, Hosted by Bangkok Vanguards		
	Cultural Expedition at Mahachai Market - Thailand's largest seafood port		
	and Explore Train Market in Maeklong		
	Tour along the coast line to the Khlong Khone Community		
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch		
13:00 - 18:00	Customized Cultural Exploration in Bangkok and Exclusive Dinner		
18:00	Check—in hotel and Night Chill-out		

Day 6 – Saturday, November 12, 2016 (Trang Bangkok Hotel)		
Time	Program	
09:00 - 12:00	Breakfast, Departure and farewell	



WITE MENT

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO





## ABOUT HORYOU

Horyou is the social network for social good. Through technology, innovation and social entrepreneurship advocacy, Horyou promotes meaningful and global interactions amongst its adherent organizations, members and personalities. With its platform, App and Spotlight, the first Global Social Currency, Horyou helps transform positive ideas into concrete actions while building constructive relationships both online and offline.

## ABOUT COP21: BACKGROUND OF THE 2016 SIGEF

The United Nations Climate Change Conference known as COP is a major summit that gathers world's leaders to discuss solutions and set goals for limiting global warming and its consequences. Last year the conference was hosted by President François Hollande in Paris and saw the participation of more than 150 Heads of State, at the forefront of whom Barack Obama, Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping and David Cameron delivered keynote speeches. Among the participants were representatives of the private and culture sectors, notably Bill Gates, Elon Musk and Leonardo DiCaprio, along with a number of representatives from government organizations, UN agencies, NGOs and civil society. A total of approximately 40,000 participants were present who represented 190 countries.

## ABOUT THE 2016 SIGEF

SIGEF is an annual international event organised by Horyou. The 2016 SIGEF took place from November 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Marrakesh, Morocco. Plenary sessions, workshops, panels, as well as cultural activities, networking events and interviews took place during the 3 days of the event. The third edition along with United Nations Conference of the Parties, COP22 in Marrakech, presented an exceptional line-up of speakers, social innovators, entrepreneurs and philanthropists. This edition explored innovative solutions for a better future in a wide range of topics such as Cities of the Future, Climate and the Environment, Social Entrepreneurship, CSR practices and Sustainability, Venture Philanthropy and Impact Investing, Arts and Culture and Youth Empowerment. One of the key components of SIGEF 2016 was the Projects' Awards, an initiative dedicated to displaying socially innovative projects.

## AIMS OF THE 2016 SIGEF

The 2016 SIGEF was organised by Horyou to gather various social good actors and enable exchange between policy makers, corporate, intellectuals, innovators and non-profit organisations. Moreover, it aimed to highlight the positive actions and projects that benefit local and global society.

## PROGRAMME ITINERARY

The detailed agenda of this programme is provided as follow:

## DAY 1 – WEDNESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

- 08.30 09.30 | Meet and Greet Breakfast
- 09.30 10.00 | Opening Remarks
- 10:00 12:00 | **Plenary** Access to Health Services & Drinkable Water in Developing Areas *Keynote*: **Rosalie Matondo** (Minister of Forestry Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment Republic of Congo) *Keynote*: **Georges Bwelle** (Surgeon and CNN Heroes Yaoundé Central

Hospital)

## Panel - Expanding Health Services in Africa

## Panel - Drinkable Water as a Human Right

- 12.00–13.30 NGO Presentation, Documentaries Screening, Art Performance, Empowerment Session
- 14:00 16.00 | **Plenary** Boosting Innovative African Agriculture *Keynote*: **Hicham Bouzekri** (CEO of MASCIR)

*Keynote:* **Ismahane Elouafi** (Director General of ICBA-Agriculture for Tomorrow)

Panel - Climate Smart Agriculture

Panel - Innovative Technology for African Farming

- 14:00 16.00 | **Plenary** New Trends in Private Sector: Accelerator of Sustainability Keynote: **Nasser Kettani** (National Technical Officer of Microsoft) **Panel - Circular Economy and Waste Management** 
  - Panel Creating Impact through Responsible Business

20.00 | Art Performance

## DAY 2 - THURSDAY, 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

- 08.30 09.30 | Networking Breakfast
- 10:00 12:00 | Plenary Affordable and Clean Energy Keynote: Yasuhiro Yamato (Vice President of Eneco Holdings) Keynote: Bertrand Piccard (Pilot and Founder of Solar Impulse) Panel - Solar Energy and Geotermia Panel - Latest Innovative Trends in Renewable Energy
  - Abdeladim Lhafi (High Commissioner, Haut Commission for Water and Forest and Against Desertification)
  - ✓ John Bird (Scientist and Award winning Author)
  - ✓ Murager Sauranbayev (Senior Vice President of SCS Global Services)
  - ✓ Amina J Mohammed (Minister of Environment, Nigeria)
- 12.00–13.30 | Activities with NGOs, Documentaries Screening, Art Performance, Empowerment Session
- 14:00 16:00 | Plenary Cities of Tomorrow

*Keynote*: Alejandro Agag (CEO of Formula E Holdings) Panel - Sustainable Construction and Housing

- Panel Transportation of the Future
- 16:15 18:00 | Plenary Sustainable Finance and Impact Investment in Africa Keynote: Chris Adelsbach (Managing Director of )Techstars
   Panel - Best Practices and Modern Approaches in Microfinance
   Panel - Fintech for Social Good

## DAY 3 – FRIDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

- 08.30 09.30 | Networking Breakfast
- 09:30 12:00 | Plenary Impact of ICT on African Economic Development and Education Keynote: Samia Chakri (Director Digital Economy of the Ministry of Industry, Trade, Investment and Digital Economy, Morocco) Keynote: Sukena Touré (President and Founder of Rapides) Panel - ICT Revolution in Africa

## Panel - Role of ICT in Education

- 12.00–13.30 | Activities with NGOs, Documentaries Screening, Art Performance, Empowerment Session
- 16:15 18:00 | Plenary Arts and Empowerment

Keynote: François Maurel (Photographer, Actor and Filmmaker)

*Keynote:* **Ayman T. Jamal** (Founder and Managing Partner of Barajoun Entertainment)

Keynote: Carla Ortiz (Actress, Film Director of Philantropist)

- Panel Empowering Women
- Panel Advancing the Role of Civil Society
- Panel Art for Social Good
- 16.30 | SIGEF Awards Ceremony
- 17.00 | Closing Remarks



# THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEST AFRICAN YOUTH CAMP (WAYC) "LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA: WEST AFRICAN YOUTH IN PERSPECTIVE DEVELOPING SDGS & AFRICA AGENDA 2063" 12<sup>TH</sup> - 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016 MONROVIA, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA



## BACKGROUND

The West Africa Youth Conference is a Non-Profit Organisation (NGO), an emanation of the Africa Youth Conference held in Maputo, Mozambique  $10^{th} - 14^{th}$  of December, 2012 with the theme "*Democracy and Good Governance: Youth a Power in Africa*!"

Issued discussed at this conference included:

- Implementation of the Africa Youth Charter and the Africa charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;
- Democracy and Good Governance in Africa;
- Youth Citizenship and Political Participation;
- Gender and Political Participation;
- Insecurity and Hunger in Africa; and
- Access to Information, Social Media and Accountability: Advocacy Instruments held by "Agent of Change";

At the end of this conference, a communiqué issued requesting each region to have a regional follow-up with regional conference to further step down the outcome as a follow-up to the Africa Youth Conference. Pursuant to the communiqué, the **"WEST AFRICA YOUTH CONFERENCE"** was founded in Abuja, Nigeria in 2013.

During that year, this Organisation provided the opportunity for youth representing various youth platforms in West Africa countries to discuss on the following matters:

- The successes and nuances of West Africa Governance as well as also to commemorate the 38 years of the Economic Community of West African States and the 14 years of Nigeria's peaceful democracy reflecting on the best practices of Governance and the lessons we can take out of these scenarios;
- The need to transform youth from factors of problems to actors of solutions in the ECOWAS Sub-Region and to reflect on the challenges of dissemination and implementation of the African Youth Charter and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, all aimed at strengthening democracy in West Africa;
- Insecurity, hunger, youth unemployment in the West Africa Sub-Region;
- Gender and political participation among youth vis-a-vis Youth inclusion in policy and decision making at all levels/tiers of governance.

## INTRODUCTION

The **West Africa Youth Camp** was premised on building upon the foundation laid in previous gatherings as narrated above. It was particularly a follow-up of our West Africa Youth Conference "Abuja 2013" and to further strengthen the involvement of youth in development and governance of the West African Sub-Region.

This event helped participants imbibe practical knowledge of how to develop and implement initiatives into policies and eventually programs-of-action. This program identified social entrepreneurship initiatives that foster peace and counter radicalism/terrorism within the Sub-Region. There were conflict resolution, crisis management, entrepreneurship, mentoring and civil rights activities.

The ultimate aim of the West Africa Youth Camp was to inspire a national network of advocates for good governance, peace, youth participation in politics/governance; and volunteers who helped forge more inclusive societies in their respective countries.

## THEME

The theme for 2016 West African Youth Camp was **"Leadership and Development of Africa:** West Africa Youth in Perspective Development SDGs and Agenda 2016".

## OBJECTIVES

Following are the objectives of the West Africa Youth Camp:

- > To encourage youth involvement in leadership and good governance;
- To educate youth leaders on responsible citizenship by underscoring the sanctity of life and peace;

- To advance gender equality in politics and governance;
- To mobilise, educate and commission a regional network of youth committed to peace building;
- To create a new generation of young leaders adopting the culture of social inclusion to neutralize religious, racial and ethnic diversity and avoid thereby avoid tension, radicalism and conflict;
- To further encourage national, regional and international networking cooperation and exchange among youth and youth organisations;
- To inspire a new generation of youth leaders that will serve as worthy role models and give hope to their peers to believe in the African dream by staying in Africa to develop Africa;
- To appreciate good governance and appraise democratic process governance and democracy process that will include youth in policy and decision making in order to enhance participatory Democracy;
- > To building solidarity among youth who are future leaders of West Africa.

## PARTICIPANTS

Invited delegates to the camp were youth leaders of APEX National Youth Organisations and Regional Forums from all 16 countries of West Africa (all member States of ECOWAS).

Delegate criteria included but not limited to the following:

- Delegates who were young West Africans aged between 18 to 35 years old;
- Delegates who were current democratically elected/instituted youth leaders whose organisations are representative of youth and are actively engaged in socio-political and economic development of their countries;
- Gender sensitive requiring minimum of about 30% of participants as women.

## ORGANISERS

The **West African Youth Camp (WAYC)** was organised by the West Africa Youth Conference, Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY) in collaboration with World Assembly of Youth (WAY) with support of Ministry of Youth and Sports, Liberia and the ECOWAS Commission.

## **PROGRAMME ITINERARY**

#### DAY ONE: 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

TIME	ΑCTIVITY	PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT	REMARKS
8:00-8:30	Arrival of Delegates	International/Liberia	Secretariat
8:30-8:40	Arrival of Invited Gust	Dignitaries	Protocol
8:40-8:45	National Anthem	Guest Artist	All
8:45-9:00	Opening Remarks by the	Hon. Charles Saah N' Tow	Protocol
	Chairman	Minister of Youth and	
		Sports, Liberia	
9:35-9:40	President Federation of Liberia	Mr. Augustine S. M. Tamba	Protocol
	Youth		

9:40-9:45	Speech by the National	Mr. Uyero Erarawewho	Protocol
	Coordinator WAYC	Junior	
9:50-9:55	Special Guest of Honour Remark	H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf	Protocol
	Official Opening of the Youth	President of the Republic of	
	Camp	Liberia	
	Group Photography	All	
	Planting of "West Africa Youth	H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf	
	Unity Garden" (Climate Change	President of the Republic of Liberia	
10:00-	Advocacy) Tea Break	Liberia	Welfare
10:30			Wenale
10:30-	Opening of Plenary by the First	Miss Christine Elder	Protocol
11:30	Keynote Speaker: <i>Leadership</i>	US Ambassador to Liberia	11010001
11.50	and Development of Africa:		
	West Africa Youth in		
	Perspective Developing SDGs		
	and Achieving Agenda 2063		
11:30-	Second Plenary: Role of Young	Miss Ediola Pashollari,	Protocol
13:30	People in Global Regional and	Secretary General of	
	Sub-Regional Developmental	World Assembly of Youth	
	Agendas (SDGs, Agenda 2063	(WAY), Malaysia	
	and ECOWAS)		
13:30-	Round Table – SDG's and AU	Speakers:	Protocol
14:30	Agenda 2063: The Role of	Participants from Gambia,	
	Young People in Achieving Its	Senegal, Ghana, Guinea and	
	Agenda in West Africa, with Specific Reference to Goal 1,2	Sierra Leone	
	and 4		
14:30-	Round Table: <i>Good Governance</i>	Chaired by Mr. Comrade	Protocol
15:30	and Youth – Youth Participation	Preye Ketebu-Brown, Vice	
	in Political Process	President of World	
		Assembly of Youth (WAY)	
		Youth Representatives	
		from:	
		- Nigeria	
		- Ivory Coast	
		- Liberia	
		- Burkina-Faso	
		<ul> <li>Republic of Benin</li> <li>Mali</li> </ul>	
		- 101011	
15:30-	Lunch		Welfare
16:30			
16:30-	Third Plenary :	Mr. Sahr Ansumana,	Protocol
17.00	Youth Empowerment/	National Coordinator of	
	Industrialization as A Form of	AYCAH, Sierra Leone	
	Stabilizing West Africa		
	Economy		
17.00-end	Entertainment Interlude		Logistics

# DAY TWO: 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT	REMARKS
8:00-8:30	Registration of Delegates	International/Liberia	Secretariat
8:30-8:40	Opening Prayers/National Anthem		All
8:40-9:00	Reflection from Day 1 Activities		Secretariat
9.00-9:30	Goodwill Messages from Youth Leaders	Youth leaders across West Africa	All
9:30-10:00	Round Table: <i>Education</i> <i>as a Key Process of</i> <i>Achieving the SDG's and</i> <i>the Agenda 63</i>	Chaired by <b>Mr. Murtala</b> <b>Muhammed Garba</b> President of National Youth Council of Nigeria In attendance, youth representatives from: - Nigeria - Gambia - Liberia - Republic of Togo - Republic of Mali - Senegal - Ghana	Protocol
10:00-11:00 11:00-12:00	Tea Break Forth Plenary: Agricultural Sector and Agro-entrepreneurship – the Role of Young People	<b>Dr. Akinwumi Ayodeji Adesina</b> President of African Development Bank (ADB)	Welfare Protocol
12:00-13.00	Fifth Plenary: Regional Integration as A Means for Developing A Global Partnership for West African Youth	<b>Mr. John Amara</b> President of Coalition Against Hunger in Africa, Sierra Leone	Protocol
14.00-15:00 15:00-16:00	Lunch Round Table: <i>Strategies</i> <i>to Raise Funding for</i> <i>Youth in Agricultural</i> <i>Business Sectors and</i> <i>Education</i>	Speakers:Youth representatives from:Ivory CoastMauritaniaRepublic of TogoRepublic of NigerRepublic of BeninNigeria	Welfare Protocol
16:00-16:30	Sixth Plenary: <i>Terrorism and Insecurity</i> <i>as Hindrance to Youth</i> <i>Development in West</i> <i>Africa</i>	Mr. Luc Joel Gregoire Directeur Pays Pnud, Cote D'Ivorie	Protocol
17:00-end	Entertainment Interlude		Logistics

# DAY THREE: 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT	REMARKS
8:00-8:30 8:30-9:00	Registration of Delegates Opening Prayer/National Anthem		Secretariat All
9:00-10:00	Seventh Plenary: Youth Development and Wealth Creation as A Mean of Achieving Economic Stability: Migration as A Focus in West Africa	Speaker is to be confirmed	Protocol
10:00-11:00	Tea Break		Welfare
11:00-12:00	Round Table: <i>Effective</i> <i>Participation of Women in</i> <i>Governance and Decision</i> <i>Making in West Africa</i>	Chaired by Miss Sise Sawaneh Youth Representatives from: - Sierra Leone - Gambia - Sao Tome and Principe - Republic of Togo - Republic of Mali - Burkina Faso	Protocol
12:00-14:00	<ul> <li>Cluster/Group Visitation to:</li> <li>(i) National Assembly</li> <li>(ii) Office of the Minister of Youth and Sports</li> <li>(iii) National Gallery of Art</li> </ul>		Transport
14:00-15:00 15:00-15:30	Lunch Eighth Plenary <b>: The Role of</b> Young People in Peace Building and Education	Hon. Collins Eke C. Former Commissioner for DESOPADEC and Coordinator of African Peace Ambassador Network (APAN)	Welfare Protocol
15.30-16.00	Round Table: Strategic Step for the Setting Up of A \$10 Million Dollars West Africa Youth Development Bank	Speakers:Youth Representativesfrom:-Nigeria-Ivory Coast-Liberia-Republic of Togo-Ghana-Niger	
16:00-16:30 16:30-17:00	Group Report of the Visitation Closing Remark		Protocol Logistic

# DAY FOUR: 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT	REMARKS
8:00-8:30	Registration of Delegate		Secretariat
8:30-9:00	Opening Prayer		All
9:00-10:30	Overview of the Entire		Secretariat
	conference		
10:30-11:30	Tea Break		welfare
11:30-12:30	Report/Communiqué of the		Secretariat
	Conference		
12:30-13:30	Distribution of Certificate		Secretariat
13:30-14:30	Lunch		Welfare
14:30-15:30	Vote of Thanks		Delegate
15:30-16:00	Closing Remark of the		
	Conference		
18:00-22:00	Gala/Award Night		

# DAY 5: 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

TIME	ACTIVITY	PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT	REMARKS
8.00-end	Departure		Transport

# PUBLICATION



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD CANCER DAY: 'WE CAN. I CAN' DATE: 04<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

Cancer is an uncontrolled growth and spread of detrimental cells. It can affect almost any part of the body. The growth often invades surrounding tissue and can metastasize to distant sites. Many cancers can be prevented by avoiding exposure to common risk factors, such as consumption of tobacco through smoking. In addition, a significant proportion of cancers are curable by surgery, radiotherapy or chemotherapy, especially if they are detected early.

World Cancer Day, organised by the Union for International Cancer Control, is an opportunity to highlight the wide range of actions needed to effectively prevent, treat and control the many forms of cancer. Observed each year on the 4<sup>th</sup> February, this day is publicly known as the World Cancer Day, when organisations and individuals around the world unite to raise awareness about cancer and work to make it as a global health priority. The day was first organised by the International Union against Cancer in 2005.

Cancer is a leading cause of death around the world, according to the WHO, which estimated that 84 million people were at the risk of dying due to cancer between 2005 and 2015 without intervention. Low-income and medium-income countries are harder hit by cancer than the high-resource countries. It is essential to address the world's growing cancer burden and to work on effective control measures.

It is part of the World Cancer Campaign, which responds to the Charter of Paris adopted at the World Summit against Cancer for the New Millennium on February 4, 2000. It called for a strong alliance between researchers, health-care professionals, patients, governments, industry partners and the media to fight against cancer.

This year, and through 2018, the theme of World Cancer Day is "We can. I can." This theme is selected in order to explore how everyone can, together and individually, do their part to reduce the global burden of cancer. The campaign outlines actions that communities and individuals can take to save lives by achieving greater equity in cancer care and making fighting cancer a priority at the highest political levels.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), call for regional, national and international action across multiple areas to reduce cancer risks in populations, and to strengthen health care delivery systems for people with cancer. We deem the World Cancer Day is a chance to reflect on what individuals can do to make a difference in the fight against cancer and to take action to reduce the global burden of cancer. Though progress in medical improvements is

prominent, we believe healthy lifestyle will be the golden key to free society, young people inclusive, from the invasion of cancers. Thus, we urge youth to start caring about their health by reflecting it in their lifestyle as to prevent is always better than to cure.

Be Healthy, Live Free from Cancer!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ZERO TOLERANCE TO FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION DATE: 06<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

"Health systems and health professionals are essential to the wellbeing of societies. They provide credible, scientific and unbiased information that can help people protect themselves from violations of their rights." ~ Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon ~

About 120 to 140 million women have been subject to Female genital mutilation (FGM) and 3 million girls are at risk each year, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO).

FGM encompasses of all procedures that involve altering or injuring the female genitalia for non-medical reasons and is recognised internationally as a violation of the human rights of girls and women. It reflects deep-rooted inequality between the sexes, and constitutes an extreme form of discrimination against women and girls. The practice also violates their rights to health, security and physical integrity, their right to be free from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, and their right to life when the procedure results in fatal bleeding or even death.

International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation is observed yearly on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February. It is an UN-sponsored awareness day served as an effort to make the world to be aware of female genital mutilation and to promote its eradication.

The elimination of FGM is a key target under Goal 5 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, and this year's day is being held under the theme "Mobilizing to Achieve the Global Goals through the Elimination of FGM by 2030".

To promote the abandonment of FGM, coordinated and systematic efforts are needed in engaging whole communities by focusing on human rights and gender equality. These efforts should emphasise on societal dialogue and the empowerment of communities to act collectively to end the practice. They must also address the sexual and reproductive health needs of women and girls who suffer from its consequences.

We, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), are in support with UNFPA and partners in mobilising health professionals to abolish female genital mutilation. We believe that in order to be effective in speeding up the end of Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting, efforts towards elimination need to be focussed on multi-sectorial and rights-based approaches, inclusive of

the voices of girls, young women, boys, young men, parents, schools, traditional leaders and local authorities. We will continue to stand as the young people's voice to fight the female genital mutilation as we believe that the beautiful world is when gender equality is achieved with no violence against women in any forms.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE DATE: 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

Social justice, equality and equity constitute the fundamental values of all societies. To achieve a society for all, governments should make a commitment to the creation of a support for action to promote social justice at national, regional and international levels. The advancement of social justice is a part of the global mission to promote human dignity and development. Social justice means removing barriers amongst people all over the world created because of their age, gender, religion, ethnicity, race, or disability.

The promotion of gender equality or struggle for the rights of migrants and indigenous people are dazzling examples of the pursuit of social justice because all people should have equal opportunities irrespective of their gender or origin.

Underlying on that purpose, the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 20<sup>th</sup> February as World Day of Social Justice .The first World Day of Social Justice was observed on the 20<sup>th</sup> of February 2009. It aims to contribute to the efforts of the international community in poverty eradication, promotion of full employment and decent work, gender equity and justice for all.

As recognised by the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), social growth aspires on social justice, solidarity, harmony and equality within young people around the globe. In line with that, we find it essential to involve the society especially youth in achieving a socially just world. Today, the youth are extremely in tune with social networking and the enormous empowerment which has provided brilliant contribution for society as a whole.

Therefore, we encourage all stakeholders to keep on stimulating communications in spreading awareness to young people and promoting the eradication of negative stereotype generally practiced in this current society. Such stereotypes will create barriers hence isolating our society, especially youth, into classes.

As we seek to build the world we desire, let us strengthen our efforts to achieve a more inclusive, equitable and sustainable society built on constructive dialogue, transparency and social justice.

Happy world day of social justice!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY: 'QUALITY EDUCATION, LANGUAGE(S) OF INSTRUCTION AND LEARNING OUTCOMES' DATE: 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

Languages are powerful tools in protecting and developing our tangible and intangible legacy. It promotes the spreading of mother tongues that will serve not only to encourage linguistic diversity and multilingual education but also to develop full awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world in inspiring unity based on perceptive, charity and dialogue.

International Mother Language Day has been observed every year since February 2000 with the aim of promoting linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. It was created by the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in order to promote cultural traditions and instigate solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue. The date represents the incident that took place in 1952 when students demonstrating for recognition of their language, Bangla, as one of their country's two national languages, were shot and killed by police in Dhaka, the capital of what is now called Bangladesh.

In line with Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education of the Agenda 2030, this year's theme emphasises on the importance of mother tongue languages as appropriate languages of instruction in the early years of schooling. It facilitates access to education while promoting fairness for population groups that speak minority and indigenous languages, in particular, for girls and women. Besides, adopting mother tongue language in education raises the quality of education and learning achievement by focusing on understanding, learning and creativity, rather than on rote and memorisation of one recognised or official language.

At the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we look to uphold issues as well as support linguistic diversity and multicultural education. We support all society especially young people to realise the importance of linguistic diversity as one of the world remarkable heritages. Mother tongue instruction is imperative for everyone to enjoy their right to quality education and key to reducing unfairness, promoting inclusion and improving learning outcomes for all.

We wish you a Happy International Mother Language Day and let us sustain mother tongue languages and the beauty of their diversification with a pride and innumerable respect!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: 'PLANET 50-50 BY 2030: STEP IT UP FOR GENDER EQUALITY' DATE: 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016

"It's the fire in my eyes, and the flash of my teeth, the swing in my waist, and the joy in my feet. I'm a woman phenomenally. It's in the click of my heels, the bend of my hair, the palm of my hand, the need of my care, 'Cause I'm a woman phenomenally. Phenomenal woman, that's me. " ~ Maya Angelou ~

Women encounter challenges every day. Apart from sharing their communities, struggles over limited resources like jobs, many systematically face discrimination simply by virtue of being female. Young women around the globe possess the collective power to change their lives, their communities and even the world that we live in. Alas, that potential is often disregarded.

International Women's Day is annually held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March to celebrate women's achievements in the past, present and future days. It is a day when women are acknowledged for their accomplishments without regard to their individual division, nationality, ethnic, linguistic, cultural and economic background. It is also known as the United Nations (UN) Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.

This Day aims to highlight the importance of creating conditions for the elimination of discrimination against women and their full as well as equal participation in social development. Since its celebration in early years, International Women's Day has assumed a new global facet for women in developed and developing countries.

The 2016 theme for International Women's Day is '*Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality*'. The idea of this theme is to consider how to accelerate the 2030 Agenda, building momentum for the effective implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal number five -Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls- and number 4 –Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. The theme will also focus on new commitments under UN Women's Step It Up initiative and other existing commitments on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's human rights.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) believe that empowerment for women and girls are vital to the development of societies. Women and girls that are empowered to basic education are better equipped to fulfil their potential and contribute their best effort to the societies. They are essential for a sustainable development and constructive progress of all of

their family members, the household, communities and their nation as a whole. By achieving gender equality, sustainable development will be inclusive leading to a balance in every aspect at all levels of the societies.

So, let us this year step it up together in both promoting and espousing the practice of gender equality in every of our daily activity.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF HAPPINESS DATE: 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016

"It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness." ~ Charles Spurgeon ~ "Happiness is the meaning and purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence." ~ Aristotle ~

What is happiness? Is it subjective or can we put an objective value on it? How can and should we pursue happiness? The word of happiness is used frequently in our lives, and most of us strive to be happy. However, defining happiness can be knotty as there are many diverse routes to happiness subjected to an individual priority of life.

The concept of happiness is indeed straightforward; it is a state of mind, pleasant emotion made of love, inner peace, joy, contentment and fulfilment. It is an art that can be cultivated by focusing and being grateful on small things in life which are often ignored, but carry a lot of meaning. We all do our utmost and spend our entire lives for achieving success, more money, better career and greater wealth in order to attain happiness. Oppositely, the truth happiness is derived from the contentment of what we have - health, relationships, peace of mind, gratitude, kindness, love, faith and so forth and being grateful of every opportunity given to strive for betterment. Happiness is, without a doubt, our choice.

Realising the value of happiness, International Day of Happiness is, then, celebrated globally on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2016. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The International Day of Happiness recognises the relevance of happiness and wellbeing as universal goals and aspirations in the lives of human beings.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), recognise this day as an essential human goal and we call upon countries, youth councils, NGOs and young people inclusive to approach public policies in ways that improve the well being of everyone. By recognising this day, WAY aspires to focus global attention on the idea that nation's growth must be inclusive, equitable and above all balanced, so as to promote sustainable development. We believe that by 2030 the plan for Sustainable Development is the time to realise a life of dignity for all people by progressing towards the interlinked Sustainable Development Goals; we can help spread happiness and secure peace for better tomorrow that we all wish for.

Let us make happiness our primary goal because life is yours and to live to its fullest is your choice!





WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DURBAN DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION – 15 YEARS AFTER DATE: 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2016

Racial discrimination divides and kills; it hinders peace and destabilises social unity within increasingly diverse societies. It can be brutal and wide-ranging, which sometimes is embodied in dissolute laws. It can also insidiously, silently, deprive people's daily basic rights to employment, housing and a social life. We all have a role to play, each at our respective levels, in combating racism.

The International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination was established six years after an event, known as the Sharpeville tragedy or Sharpeville massacre, which captured worldwide attention. This event involved police opening fire and killing 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against the apartheid "pass laws" in Sharpeville, South Africa on March 21, 1960.

This year, the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination is devoted to both challenges and achievements of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action – 15 years after the landmark document was adopted at the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in South Africa.

In light of this topic, we at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), deem that racism is taught, and, thus, believe that the best way to combat this issue is to approach the concern with camaraderie and harmony. We seek to promote global citizenship education and develop tools and expertise capable of enhancing mutual understanding, critical thinking and intercultural dialogue. We, therefore, encourage the young people and youth leaders, to unite and incorporate the ethics of respect, equality and solidarity in daily activities.

On this day, let us call on Member States, Civil Society Organisations, citizens and young people to raise their voices and act to eliminate racial discrimination, as that is indispensable for building more inclusive, tolerant and, hence, stronger as well as sustainable societies. Young people have the option of posting their opinions regarding discussions on human rights and racial discrimination at Voices of Youth, which is UNICEF's online bulletin board for young people. Contributors to Voices of Youth come from different parts of the world including Jamaica, Kazakhstan, and the Philippines.

We need more than ever to redouble efforts at the global level to build the defences against racism and intolerance in the minds of every individual and within common institutions.

Happy International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD WATER DAY: BETTER WATER, BETTER JOBS DATE: 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2016

World Water Day is an international observance and opportunity to learn more about water related issues, be inspired to bring awareness to others and take action to make a difference. The initial World Water Day dated back to the 1992 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development where an international observance for water was recommended. The United Nations General Assembly responded by designating 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1993 as the first World Water Day.

Since then, this day has been held annually all around the world. Each year, UN-Water, the entity that coordinates the UN's work on water and sanitation, sets a theme for World Water Day corresponding to a current or future challenge. The engagement campaign is coordinated by one or several of the UN-Water Members with a related mandate.

Under the theme 'Better Water, Better Jobs', the year 2016 provides an important opportunity to consolidate and build upon the previous World Water Days to highlight the two-way relationship between water and the decent work agenda in the quest for sustainable development.

It is undisputable that water is the vital building block of life, but it is more than just essential to quench thirst or protect health; water is imperative for creating jobs and supporting economic, social activity and human development. Today, half of the world's workers - 1.5 billion people - work in water-related sectors. Moreover, nearly all jobs, regardless of the sector, depend directly on water. Yet, despite the indelible link between jobs and water, millions of people whose livelihoods depend on water are often not recognised or protected by basic labour rights.

At the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we believe that the World Water Day is a day to make a difference for the members of the global population who suffer from water related issues. It is a day when all stakeholders gather to strategically plan on how water should be managed in the future. In fact, ensuring access to safe water for all is vital for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, in today world of limited resources, the private sector clearly has an increasingly important role to play.

Let us join the 2016 campaign to get informed, engaged and take action. You could also contribute on social media by using the hashtags #WaterIsWork and #WorldWaterDay.

Happy World Water Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY: 'AUTISM AND THE 2030 AGENDA: INCLUSION AND NEURODIVERSITY'DATE: 2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2016

#### "To measure the success of our societies, we should examine how well those with different abilities, including persons with autism, are integrated as full and valued members." ~ Ban Ki-moon ~

Autism is a lifelong, developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with and relates to other people, and how they experience the world around them.

The number of disabled youth has been increasing gradually and has resulted in heightened concern in relation to their rights and well-being. Many youth living with autism encounter issues such as: prejudice, social isolation and discrimination from members of their respective societies.

World Autism Awareness Day is celebrated yearly throughout the world in order to give opportunity to all to come together in highlighting the needs and dreams of people living with autism.

As such, the United Nations has acknowledged and highlighted the necessities to mainstream disability in the organisation's development agenda. Mainstreaming disability requires a basic approach in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in order to ensure inequality is not perpetuated.

In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the determined new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that is inclusive and leaves no one behind. While all SDGs are universally applicable, disability and persons with disabilities are explicitly referenced in the following goals: quality education; decent work and economic growth; reduced inequalities; sustainable cities and communities and partnerships for the goals.

This year, the theme for World Autism Awareness Day is "Autism and the 2030 Agenda: Inclusion and Neurodiversity" which will look ahead to 2030 and reflect on the new SDGs and their implications for improving the lives of people with autism.

We at WAY, inspires to promote the need for bringing awareness about Autism related matters in all nations globally. Realising the importance of defending the rights of disabled youth, many international organisations, governmental bodies, NGOs and media-

organisations have been contributing through many programmes and initiatives towards improvement of their well-beings.

As part of youth population, we urge all stakeholders to include and accommodate the needs of young people with autism in all aspects of life and every effort towards their betterment worldwide.

Happy World Autism Awareness Day!

# International Day of Sport for Development and Peace

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE DATE: 6<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016

Sport, as a tool for education, development and peace, can promote cooperation, solidarity, tolerance, understanding, social inclusion and healthy lifestyle at the local, national and international levels. Its inherent values such as teamwork, fairness, discipline, respect for the opponent and the rules of the game are understood all over the world and can be harnessed in the advancement of solidarity, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

6th April 2014

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace is observed each year to promote healthy lifestyles and emphasises the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) focus on giving access to sport to as many people as possible. It is a day when some of the world's leading sportspeople work together with communities to bring not only sporting opportunities but also its blazing spirit to enrich lives, particularly those of young people.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) understands and values the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace. We believe that sport has the capacity to empower individuals and bring one's moral values to the forefront. It can play a strategic role in teaching life values and survival principles as well as communicating encouraging messages on important issues, thus driving social change. It also helps the more vulnerable groups in society, especially young people and persons with disabilities, to enjoy responsibly their human rights, including safe opportunities to engage in physical educational programmes and sporting activities.

Therefore, on this International Day, let us pledge to strengthen the role that sport plays in communities around the world. We need to have everyone on the team, including private sector, public sector, international organisations, NGOs and many others. We urge all stakeholders to utilise sports in achieving the common objective of all, towards the betterment of brighter tomorrow. Children should be introduced to sport earlier and taught the values that it carries. Youth, being young and lively, are encouraged to be the role model in practicing active and healthy lifestyle.

Together, let us use sport to help creating a healthier, happier and more prosperous world for all.

Happy International Day of Sport for Development and Peace!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD HEALTH DAY: 'BEAT DIABETES' DATE: 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016

#### "A healthy attitude is contagious but don't wait to catch it from others. Be a carrier." ~Tom Stoppard~

Being healthy is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely the absence of disease of infirmity. With almost half of the world's population being made of young people, the issue of health becomes a main concern as the youth are part of the present as much as they are the hope of the future.

The World Health Day 2016 is celebrated, annually, on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April under the sponsorship of the World Health Organisation (WHO). It is held to mark the founding of WHO and is seen as an opportunity by the organisation to draw worldwide attention to a subject of major importance to global health.

Global interest in the health of adolescents and youth has manifested itself in many expressions of commitment to their healthy personal, spiritual, social, mental and physical development. One implication is that the international public health community must adopt an approach to adolescents and youth that goes beyond the health sector to elicit the active participation of all social factors, including young people themselves as agents of change.

The theme for this year's World Health Day is 'Beat Diabetes'. Diabetes is a chronic disease that occurs when the pancreas either does not produce enough insulin, or the body is unable to effectively use the insulin produced.

This year's World Health Day aims to increase awareness about the rise in diabetes case, and its staggering burden and consequences. It is pivotal to trigger a set of specific, effective and affordable actions to tackle diabetes, particularly in low to middle income countries. These action should include steps to prevent diabetes and diagnose, treat and care for people with diabetes as well as launch the first global report on diabetes, which will describes both burden and consequences as well as advocate for stronger health systems to ensure improved surveillance and enhanced both prevention and control strategies.

Recognising the importance of health issues, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that healthy youth are productive and willing to help with development of their societies and communities. We also include health as our pertinent aspect on our fourth

Millennium Plan of Action in order to ensure the rights to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health and wellbeing of young people.

Therefore, let us encourage all members to strengthen the capacity of their countries for early warning, reduction and management of health risks in national, regional and global levels.

Happy World Health Day!



PRESS RELEASE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH INTERNATIONAL MOTHER EARTH DAY: 'TREES FOR THE EARTH' DATE: 22<sup>ND</sup> APRIL 2016

Mother Earth is an ancient concept common to many languages and cultures, acknowledging the connection to the planet which sustains and nurtures us.

The word 'mother' holds great power. It evokes memories of the women who gave us life, nurtured us as infants and helped mould us into who we are today. The Earth is the ultimate mother, an astounding planet that has, since time immemorial, supported life in myriad forms. As humans, we outgrow the need for constant maternal care. Interestingly, we can never outgrow our reliance on Mother Earth. As long as we live, we need air, water, fertile soil and the countless other gifts that this planet bestows.

This year, Mother Earth Day coincides with the signing ceremony for the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, which will take place at the UN Headquarters in New York. Celebrated on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April yearly, International Mother Earth Day recognises that the Earth and its ecosystems provide its inhabitants with life and sustenance. It also aims to raise awareness that humans have a collective responsibility to promote harmony with nature and to balance the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations.

This year's theme of the International Mother Earth Day is *"Trees for the earth"*. Trees will be the first of five major goals to be undertaking in honour of the five-year countdown to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. On their own and together, these initiatives will make a significant and measurable impact on the Earth and will serve as the foundation of a cleaner, healthier and more sustainable planet for all.

Mother Earth Day was first celebrated in the United States in 1970 and is organised by the Earth Day Network. Its mission is to broaden and diversify the environmental movement worldwide and to mobilise it as the most effective vehicle to build a healthy, sustainable environment, address climate change, and protect the Earth for future generations.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is observing the selected theme "Tress for The Earth". Realising the importance of environment and benefits that it provides, we are organising our upcoming annual dialogue titled as 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care' in order to fulfil the major views and roles of young people towards combating environmental deterioration and achieving environment sustainability. We also encourage everyone especially youth to take a stand so that together, we can show the world a new direction for a greener, better tomorrow. Happy International Mother Earth Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD BOOK AND COPYRIGHT DAY DATE: 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2016

#### "Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world." ~ Malala Yousafzai ~

Books are the source of knowledge and the inspiration of wisdom. It is our true friend that helps us in our need, advices us and shows the path in darkness to light. Whenever we need advice, we should open the proper book and seek for guidance. Their choice like friend's choice should be wise and thoughtful. In fact, a friend may deceive, but surely not a book. It gives us knowledge and helps in developing our memory power, wisdom and intelligence.

Copyright is a legal concept, enacted by most governments, giving exclusive rights to the creator of original work, usually, for a limited time. It is "the right to copy", but also gives the copyright holder the right to be credited for the work and other related rights. It is an intellectual property form.

23<sup>rd</sup> April is a symbolic date for the world literature. It is on this date in 1616 that Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega passed away. It is also the date of birth or death of other prominent authors, such as Maurice Druon, Haldor K.Laxness, Vladimir Nabokov, Josep Pla and Manuel Mejía Vallejo.

World Book and Copyright Day is observed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April. It pays a worldwide tribute to books and authors, encouraging everyone, and in particular young people, to discover the pleasure of reading. This annually celebrated day is organised by UNESCO to promote reading, publishing and copyright. It was firstly celebrated in 1995.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), urge young people to develop a habit of reading frequently so as to increase their knowledge on different topic matters. Our encouragement towards reading has even gone further than just raising awareness amongst young people as we continue to publish resourceful reading materials such as news, press releases, articles and even books especially those related to youth issues. Realising the role that online network plays in today's world, we have utilised the means of social media and other online platform for promoting the habit of reading and the fondness of books amongst young people.

In all of this, our goal is clearly to encourage authors and ensure that more women and men benefit from literacy and accessible formats because we believe that books are our most powerful forces of poverty eradication and peace building.

Happy World Book and Copyright Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY: 'ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS - THIS IS YOUR RIGHT!' DATE: 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2016

"I call on everyone to stand united in defending and encouraging press freedom and the right to access to information. This is essential for human rights and dignity, for our aspirations for sustainable development, for common determination to build lasting peace." ~UNESCO Director-General, Irina Bokova ~

Every year, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May is a day to celebrate the fundamental principles of press freedom, and evaluate the practice of press freedom around the world. In this day, we pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the exercise of their profession and defend the media from attacks on their independence.

This day was proclaimed as the World Press Freedom Day by the United Nations' General Assembly in 1993, following a recommendation adopted at the twenty-sixth session of UNESCO's General Conference in 1991. Today serves as an occasion to inform citizens of violations of press freedom as well as enlighten them with the fact that in dozens of countries around the world, publications are censored, fined, suspended and closed down, while journalists, editors and publishers are harassed, attacked, detained and even murdered. This year's theme is "Access to Information and Fundamental Freedoms - this is your right"! It focuses on three different aspects of press freedom which are freedom of information as a fundamental freedom and as a human right; protecting press freedom from censorship and surveillance overreach; as well as ensuring safety for journalism online and offline.

It is a date to encourage and develop initiatives in favour of press freedom as well as assess the state of press freedom worldwide. This day serves as a reminder to governments of the need to respect their commitment to press freedom and is also a day of reflection among media professionals about issues of press freedom and professional ethics. Just as importantly, World Press Freedom Day is a day of support for media which are repeatedly targeted for the restraint or abolition of press freedom. In 2016, World Press Freedom Day coincides with three important milestones: the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the world's first freedom of information law, covering both modern-day Sweden and Finland, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Windhoek Declaration of press freedom principles and the year 2016 is also the first year of the 15 years life-cycle of the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that strengthening the conditions for journalism is a key to develop a culture of openness, access to information and fundamental freedoms. It is a day that seeks to advance the right to information, press freedom, and the

safe environment for journalism. It resonates with contemporary global issues and opportunities around the world, making it possible for stakeholders to continue to take this day to a higher level of visibility, relevance, and greater impact towards attainment of press freedom responsibly.

Happy World Press Freedom Day!



#### WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES: 'FAMILIES, HEALTHY LIVES AND SUSTAINABLE FUTURE' DATE: 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

"Equitable social and economic development depends on fair legal frameworks and social norms that support the rights of women and children. Discriminatory laws and practices that do not give equal rights to all, and that suppress women's and children's rights, have no place in contemporary families, communities, societies and nations." ~ Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations ~

Family defines widely as a basic unit of social structure. This exact definition can vary greatly from time to time, culture to culture. Families remain at the centre of social life ensuring the well-being of their members, educating and socialising children and youth as well as caring for both young and old.

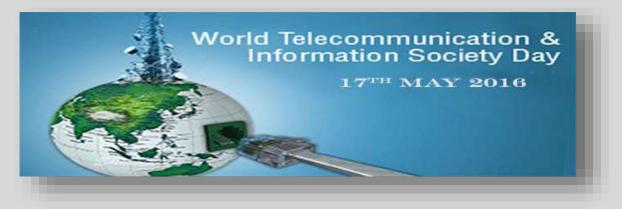
The International Day of Families is observed on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May every year. It was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 with resolution to reflect the importance of family bonding and relationship. This day aims to promote awareness of issues relating to families and increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic progression that affects families.

The International Day of Families has stimulated a series of awareness-raising events, including National Family Day. In many countries, National Family Day provides an opportunity to highlight different areas of interest and significance to families in each nation. Variation of activities are organised in different nations including workshops and conferences, radio and television programmes, newspaper articles as well as cultural programmes relevant to their themes.

The theme for this year's observance is "Families, Healthy Lives and Sustainable Future". It highlights on the central goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which focus on ending poverty, promoting shared economic prosperity, social development and people's well-being while protecting the environment.

However, family-oriented policies could greatly contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 1 to 5 relating to eradication of poverty and hunger; ensuring healthy lives and promoting of well-being for all ages; securing educational opportunities throughout the lifespan and achieving gender equality.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that a policy perspective, taking families into account in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, has a potential to speed up the achievements of many targets relating to individuals' well-being. A number of family policies, such as those supporting the care giving role of families, work-family balance for parents, empowering families to support their individual members' health, education and well-being, have been found to contribute to overall development goals. Like the quote of the UN's Secretary General, "on this International Day of Families, let us renew our pledge to promote work-family balance for the benefit of families and society at large" because after all, everything starts from a family.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SOCIAL IMPACT' DATE: **17<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016** 

INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY: 'ICT

ICT involves the use of modern and old technologies for gathering, storing and retrieval of information with subsequent transmission to third party for further usage. The youth being adaptable, creative and innovative stand the best to benefit from the rapid development of ICT. The proliferation of Information and Communication Technologies presents on the other hand both opportunities and challenges in terms of social development and inclusion of youth (United Nations, 2005).

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day has been celebrated annually on 17 May since 1969, marking the founding of ITU and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865. It was instituted by the Plenipotentiary Conference in Malaga-Torremolinos in 1973.

The purpose of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is to help raise awareness of the opportunities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.

ICT entrepreneurs and start-ups as well as small to medium-sized enterprises have a particularly relevant role in ensuring economic growth in a sustainable and inclusive manner. They are involved in the development of innovative ICT-enabled solutions with a unique potential to make a long-lasting impact in global, regional and national economies. In fact, they are the important source of new jobs, especially for youth, in the current economy of knowledge and innovation.

In 2016, World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) will focus on the theme, 'ICT entrepreneurship for social impact', in accordance with Resolution 68 and as endorsed by ITU Council 2015. The theme for WTISD-16 is in line with ITU's work in unlocking the potential of ICTs for young innovators and entrepreneurs, innovative medium-sized enterprises, start-ups and technology hubs as drivers of innovative and practical solutions for catalysing progress in achieving international sustainable development goals, with a focus on medium-sized enterprises from developing countries.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY), at the centre of youth services, organises year round events to tackle youth issues. One of the prominent programmes is the annual event known as Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD). In year 2003, WAY organised MIYD with the theme of 'Youth and Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) for Development'. The event brought together youth and youth leaders from different countries to convene and tackle the issue of ICT. A declaration was, then, drafted and distributed to National Youth Councils and public sector as suggestions to adopt into their policies. Following is a link to the 2003 declaration: http://www.way.org.my/program-outcome/item/miyd-declaration-2003

Happy World Telecommunication and Information Society Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT DATE: 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2016

"Celebrating cultural diversity means opening up new perspectives for sustainable development and promoting creative industries and cultural entrepreneurship as sources of millions of jobs worldwide particularly for young people and especially for women. Culture is a sustainable development accelerator whose potential has been recognized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations." ~ Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO ~

Cultural diversity is a constant part of our society, people with different cultural backgrounds live next to each other and through new media, we learn about things that happen on the other side of the world. It is a driving force of development, not only in respect to economic growth, but also in promoting social cohesion and intercultural dialogue.

21<sup>st</sup> May annually marks as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development. It is a day declared in December 2002 in order to provide us with an opportunity to deepen our understanding of the values of cultural diversity and learn to live together peacefully. The UN General Assembly proclaimed 21<sup>st</sup> May as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue, welcoming the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), recognise that the world, as a society is built from veracity, developed by people from different cultures. Thus, young people, as a largest part of world population, must understand that each individual enriches others' lives through this diversity. It is in our variation that there is a strength hidden and for every overlap of those differences, there is a relief found.

WAY preserves its role in not only encouraging but also works together with young people to look for commonalities in other cultures through dialogue. By recognising, acknowledging and embracing these similarities, we become one intrinsic nature and value, we become united. We long for youth from all around the world to perceive the relation of cultural diversity and the ideal concept of union. We believe that the more diverse the society, the stronger the bond created.

Therefore, let us create a world of peace and solidarity that can only be accomplished by acknowledging and celebrating our diversity. Happy World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY DATE: 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2016

"On this World No Tobacco Day – I challenge all young people to say no to smoking. I appeal to you all to protect our youth from tobacco's harm and break the tobacco marketing net." ~ Dr. Jean-Marc Olivé, WHO Representative in Vietnam ~

Tobacco is a leafy plant grown on our Earth. In 2007, four countries that are China, Brazil, India, and the United States produced two-thirds of the World's tobacco. Tobacco is an addictive substance because it contains the chemical nicotine and like heroin or cocaine, nicotine changes the way our brains work and causes us to crave more of it. This addiction to nicotine is what makes smoking harmful especially to young people.

World No Tobacco Day is observed around the world to encourage a 24-hour period of abstinence from all forms of tobacco consumption around the globe. The World Health Organisation and partners mark this day by highlighting the health risks associated with Tobacco use and advocating for the effective policies to reduce Tobacco consumption.

This year, the World Health Organisation and the Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control are calling different countries to get ready for plain or standardized packaging of tobacco products. This is meant to reduce the attractiveness of the tobacco products, restricts the use of tobacco packaging as a form of tobacco advertising and promotion.

A few goals for this World No Tobacco Day 2016 campaign according to WHO is that the day aims to facilitate policy development by member states and the globalisation of plain packaging by providing informative, compelling and persuasive information as well as to highlight the role of plain packaging as part of the comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach to tobacco control.

Since smoking is the single biggest preventable cause of death, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe in empowering youth leaders and youth organisations in order to collaborate together to achieve a generation free of drugs-abuse. In fact, in one area of our Fourth Millennium Plan of Action, we encourage all of our members to strengthen the capacity of their countries for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks, including danger in abusing addictive substances. Happy World No Tobacco Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY DATE: 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

The well-being of both humankind and environment depend on the responsible management of the planet's natural resources. Many of the Earth's ecosystems are on the verge of critical tipping points of diminution or irremediable change, pushed by high population growth and economic development. By 2050, if current consumption and production patterns remain the same and with a rising population expected to reach 9.6 billion, we will need three planets to sustain our ways of living and consumption.

The natural environment has a direct effect on young people's well being; it must be maintained for the present and next generations. The friendly use of natural resources and environmentally sustainable development will help to improve young people's life. Maintaining the environmental integrity is the responsibility of every individual within the society.

World Environment Day is a big annual celebration started by the United Nations General Assembly to engage millions of people from different countries across the globe as well as draw attention of political and health organisations to implement some effective actions. It started celebrating as an annual event on every 5<sup>th</sup> of June since 1973 in order to raise the global awareness about the importance of healthy and green environment in human lives.

The World Environment Day observance is being developed by the National Youth Council to achieve the following objectives: to expand knowledge among the youth on the importance of protecting our environment, promote proper utilisation of our wildlife resources, encourage positive practices geared towards the protection of our environment and raise awareness of the way in which our day to day practices impact our environment.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), encourage worldwide awareness and action for the environment and a global platform for public outreach that is widely celebrated by stakeholders. Hence, this year, we selected 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care' as the theme for the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue. This theme is selected to recognise the critical stage of our planet and emphasise on the role that young people and youth leaders could play, to achieve environmental sustainability. In this Dialogue, youth shall highlight their role and concerns towards environmental affairs, as it is now their time and opportunity to act and declare that yes, they do care!

Happy World Environment Day!





WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD DAY TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION AND DROUGHT: 'INCLUSIVE COOPERATION FOR ACHIEVING LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY' DATE: 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

"Without a long-term solution, desertification and land degradation will not only affect food supply but lead to increased migration and threaten the stability of many nations and regions. This is why world leaders made land degradation neutrality one of the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals." ~ UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon~

Desertification is a form of land degradation in which a relatively dry land region becomes increasingly arid, typically losing its bodies of water leaving no plants either wildlife on it. It is caused by a variety of factors, such as disasters or climate change which mostly resulting from irresponsible human's activities. Desertification is a significant global ecological and environmental problem.

There is probably no greater issue than land in the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals that touches everyone. From the food we eat, to the clothes we wear and the houses we live in, there are all rooting from land resources. In order to "leave no one behind" as proclaimed in the new Sustainable Development Goals, achieving land degradation neutrality needs to be in the forefront to meet our requirements and achievement of environmental sustainability.

The World Day to Combat Desertification is a unique occasion that has been observed since 1995 in order to promote public awareness related to international cooperation in combating desertification and the effects of drought. World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought is celebrated on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June yearly. Its purpose is to highlight ways to prevent desertification and recover from drought. Each annual celebration has a different theme.

The theme for this year's World Day to Combat Desertification and drought is *'Inclusive Cooperation for Achieving Land Degradation Neutrality'* which advocates for the importance of inclusive cooperation to restore and rehabilitate degraded land and contribute towards achieving the overall Sustainable Development Goals. Land has been an overlooked component in Sustainable Development for years. Now, it is viewed as a vital link to provide solutions to cope with many other development challenges such as dealing with climate change, securing water and energy resources as well as promoting inclusive growth.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) aims to remind everybody that desertification can be effectively tackled, that solutions are possible, and that key tools to this aim lay in strengthened community participation and co-operation at all levels. Every stakeholder plays important role in halting any further activity which could worsen the desertification that has already persisted in today world.

Join us for this year's 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue to discuss on 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care' which will be held from 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 in King Greens Hotel Melaka, Malaysia. Let us unite our efforts to achieve a sustainable future and better tomorrow.

Happy World Day to combat Desertification and Drought!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING DATE: 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

The vulnerability of young people to drug abuse has in recent years become a major concern. The consequences of widespread drug abuse and trafficking, particularly for young men and women, are all too apparent. Violence, particularly street violence, often results from drug abuse and illicit drug networks.

Today, there is widespread recognition among Member States and United Nations entities that drug abuse, together with organised crime, jeopardise the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. It is increasingly clear that drug control must become an essential element of our joint efforts to achieve peace, security and sustainable development. At the same time, we must reinforce our commitment to shared responsibility and the basic principles of health and human rights.

Celebrated annually and worldwide on the 26<sup>th</sup> June, International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking has an aim in bringing awareness and emphasising on the hazards of drug addiction and illegal trafficking. This day aspires to highlight drug abuse as a major deterrent to humanity and socio-economic growth as well as melanoma to the well-being of the youth which in overall distort the sustainable development of a nation. This day serves as a reminder of the goals agreed to by Member States of creating an international society free of drug abuse.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), work on empowering youth leaders and youth organisations especially for that matter related to awareness and collaboration in achieving a generation free of drug abuse. Realising that, we have published a book in 2009 'Youth & Drugs Abuse' (http://www.way.org.my/books.html) with the purpose of educating young people on the danger of drug abuse. In 2008, we also organised the 8<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) with a theme 'Towards a Drug Free Generation' where youth and youth leaders convened and came up with ideas or rather suggestions (declaration) on how to address the issue of drug abuse (http://www.way.org.my/program-outcome/item/miyd-declaration-2008).

The prolonging WAY's commitment also reflects on our recent co-organised event, the IFNGO Youth Healthy Lifestyle Workshop, which took place on November 2015. The Resolution of this fruitful event is available at the following link: http://ifngo.pemadam.org.my/files/pdf/p6/YOUTH RESOLUTION IFNGO HEALTHY LIFESTY

<u>LE WORKSHOP PP.pdf</u>. We shall continue carrying out our mission and with joint effort, we could together achieve a generation free of drug abuse and illicit trafficking.

Happy International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE DAY 1 - 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE, "YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE, OUR CARE" DATE: 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

**Melaka, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2016** – THIS day marked another outstanding event for the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), as vastly zealous and commended participants, speakers and volunteers assembled for the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), which is taking place from 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 at Kings Green Hotel in Melaka, Malaysia.

The theme for this year is 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care' selected to fulfil the principal opinions and roles of young people towards combating environmental deterioration and achieving environmental sustainability. In this dialogue, youth can realise their role and concerns towards environmental affairs, as it is now their time and opportunity to act and declare YES! They do care! With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement, there is, now, a clear framework for international cooperation to reach just world that values and conserves nature.

We have the honour to welcome various speakers including Miss Uta Christine Dietrich, Mr. Matthias Gelber, Prof. Datuk Dr. Mohamed Ghazali Ismail, Mr. Asu Oku Okang, Mr. Lukasz Wojciech Kosowski, Dr. Pek Chuen Khee, Miss Syeda Nishat Naila, Miss Adrienna Zsakay, Mr. Mohamed Abdulrahman Saeed Al-Samet, Miss Chong Sheau Ching, Mr. Ifeoluwa Bukunmi Ayansina and few knowledgeable chairpersons, who will assist during the plenary sessions. It was indeed an enticing moment. An informal dinner was also held to welcome all speakers and chairpersons as well as to brief them on the detailed programmes for the next 4 days.

As a form of welcoming the delegates, an ice breaking session was held in the evening to serve as a casual way to get all participants to mingle with one another. With the arrival day gone, everybody is looking forward to both the opening ceremony and plenary sessions happening the next day. The participants will gain knowledge from the invited speakers and moderators that will challenge, encourage, inspire and stimulate them as well as highlighting on the significance of environmental sustainability.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE DAY 2 - OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE 'YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE, OUR CARE' DATE: 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

**Melaka, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016** - WAY Headquarters hosted yet another successful opening ceremony for the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (16<sup>th</sup> MIYD) at the Kings Green Hotel here in Melaka, today.

The opening ceremony was officiated by Malaysia Minister of Natural Resources and Environment, Hon. Dato Sri Dr. Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar. Other dignitaries included WAY President cum Chief Minister of Melaka, Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron; the Asian Youth President, Hon. Hun Many and our very own WAY Secretary General, Miss Ediola Pashollari. We also had in our midst, the presence of the High Commissioner of the Republic of Namibia to Malaysia, Her Excellency Anne Namakau Mutelo; the Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Malaysia, His Excellency Qaley Allahverdiyev; and various government representatives from both national and regional levels.

The Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth, Miss Ediola Pashollari, during her welcoming remarks introduced the theme of the MIYD, 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care'. She welcomed all participants to the dialogue and thanked all the youth organisations, government bodies, sponsors, speakers, delegates and dignitaries for contributing their time and making themselves available for this event.

President of WAY, Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron, who was present during the opening ceremony, gave his speech on global climate change as severely impacting the natural balance of our planet and the green energy, clean fuels and carbon tax that are much needed foundation of the new human revolution. Furthermore, he spoke on the Green City Action Plan for Melaka, that it reflects Melaka's long term commitment to tackle climate change by pursuing low carbon growth, improving environmental quality and strengthening economic competitiveness. He encouraged the delegates to actively participate in the dialogue as well as enjoy their stay in Malaysia, particularly Melaka.

In addition, Hon. Dato Sri Dr. Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar also presented on how countries need to prepare their national plans of action with their own targets adopted and adapted to the specifics and needs of each country, putting sufficient resources in government budgets to ensure enough support as well as action underway. He urged all young people to take part in the role suggesting better ideas on how to tackle environmental issues.

The Asian Youth President, Hon. Hun Many, encouraged the youth to tackle and take environmental issues seriously. He further reiterated the importance of this youth dialogue. The opening ceremony was then completed with the awarding of tokens of appreciation to the Guests of Honor and dignitaries present. Photos were also taken with all representatives from different countries.

During the three plenary sessions, we had motivating speakers from different countries talking about the significance role of stakeholders in achieving environmental sustainability, opportunities and challenges towards its attainment and promoting the green agenda globally, youth inclusive. The sessions were educational as speakers shared their knowledge and awareness on environmental sustainability: our future, our care. After that, the day was ended with dazzling cultural performances from all participants, volunteers and staff.

Overall, it was a remarkable way to get through another day and we look forward to more incandescent days!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE DAY 3 - 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE 'YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE, OUR CARE' DATE: 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

**Melaka, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016** – TODAY, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016, was a day filled with bright ideas and fervour! Youth leaders from all around the world discussed and worked in expressing their opinions and thoughts in form of recommendations, which will be adopted for development of environmental policies.

Prospects were given to all participants as one of the principal concerns of young people worldwide as it has direct implications for their well being both now and in the future. They were divided in groups and asked to suggest solutions, develop ideas, interact with one another and present their discussions.

The workshop was based on the role of all stakeholders in achieving environmental sustainability. A platform was given to participants as an opportunity to share their ideas and recommend ways to improve them.

After a busy day, the participants were treated to a delicious delicacies at Restaurant Melayu continue with relaxing Melaka river cruise filled with joy and happiness. A short tour was also taking place at Taming Sari Tower, in which the participants enjoyed the view of Melaka from 150 meters above the ground.

A meeting to draft the declaration of recommendations pertaining to youth and environmental sustainability was convened at night. The purpose was for all participants to give their different views and perspectives related to the issues of environment to come up with the most suitable solutions and recommendations. The different ideas were then discussed upon which the most appropriate solution was derived.

Interesting philosophies, knowledge and thoughts were passed around to both speakers and participants creating magnificent discussions upon which some agreed and others agreed to disagree.

It was an incredible way to get through yet another fruitful day.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE DAY 4 - CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE DATE: 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

**Melaka, 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016** - THE last day of the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue was filled with many remarkable moments. The day began with the presentation of the 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD Draft Declaration which was later on adopted for implementation. Everyone present participated well proving that they, indeed, paid attention to the advices and feedbacks given by various speakers for the past days.

During the day, the participants went on various field trips in Melaka including Botanical Garden, 1000 Flowers Garden, Bird Park, UniKL MICET campus and Youth Centre. It was an overwhelming experience for the participants and volunteers as they got to know many captivating places.

The farewell gala dinner and closing ceremony were held later that night at Kings Green Ballroom where WAY Secretary General, Miss Ediola Pashollari, welcomed all respected guests and participants. She went on to appreciate all the participants for their efforts in making the 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD a fruitful dialogue. The pulpit was later left for the Hon. Datuk Lim Ban Hong, the State EXCO for Transport, Project Recovery and International Trade, who gave a touching closing speech that the earth is our and only home, therefore, the world has to find a common denominator for the youth and environmental matters.

After the 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD was officially closed, the sponsors were awarded with token of appreciations. Besides, volunteers were later on thanked and awarded with certificates for their hard work and dedication; without them the 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD could have not been a great success. The celebration was concluded with a photo session with sponsors, VVIPs and other VIPs. The night was ended with many of tremendous cultural performance, magnificent band show, exciting dancing and joyful laughter.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE DAY 5 – DEPARTURE DAY OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE DATE: 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016

**Melaka, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016** – TODAY is the last day of the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogues, as everyone was saying their goodbyes to each other. The participants, delegates and speakers were all delighted as they departed. Though it was a heartbreaking moment but we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that we should not say 'farewell', instead, we should all say 'see you' as we are looking forward to the next year's 17<sup>th</sup> MIYD, with more mirth and jubilant moments.

We also would like to exploit this opportunity to thank all partners, sponsors, organising committee, volunteers and all parties who were dedicatedly involved in making this dialogue a grand success. Our honour and gratitude are also dedicated to all participants of 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue who worked so hard in constructing the declaration which contains a number of recommendations for implementation by stakeholders including Public Sector, Private Sector, NGOs/ IGOs, Media and young people alike. In addition, participants also established commitments and outcomes in pursuit of a sustainable environment globally.

The participants of the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue recognised the importance of empowering and equipping the young people with the right knowledge, skills and proper attitude to protect and preserve the environment for the current and future generations. In line with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement, the young people should be at the forefront of universal transformation taking actions in order to save our Mother Earth. Hence, they believe that with the continuous support of all the stakeholders, they should reach their desired goal which is the environmental sustainability for all.

We are delightful to have all your support and we shall count on youth leaders, especially from our member organisations and 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD participants, in channelling the declaration to the right stakeholders.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD POPULATION DAY: 'INVESTING IN TEENAGE GIRLS' DATE: 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

"On this World Population Day, I urge all Governments, businesses and civil society to support and invest in teenage girls. Everyone deserves the benefits of economic growth and social progress. Let us work together to ensure a life of security, dignity and opportunity for

> all." ~Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon~

As the world population edged to 7 billion people in 2011, it has had profound implications for development. A world of 7 billion is both a challenge and an opportunity with implications on sustainability, urbanization, access to health services and youth empowerment.

In 1989, in its decision, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme recommended that, in order to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues in the context of overall development plans and programmes and the need to find solutions for these issues, 11 July should be observed by the international community as World Population Day. This day is observed annually on 11 July to raise awareness of global population issues and a day to focus attention on the urgency and importance of population issues.

Today, many scholars believe that the key to curbing population growth trends lies in robust and restrictive government policies towards child birth and birth control as a means of curbing population growth. As much as international bodies propose several strategies to curb population growth, these recommendation remain obsolete unless governments take the step and integrate them into their domestic, social and economic policies.

This year's theme of World Population Day is "Investing in Teenage Girls". Teenage girls around the world face enormous challenges, many are considered by their communities or parents to be ready for marriage and motherhood. Many are forced out of school, damaging their future prospects, even among girls who stay in school, access to basic information about their health, human rights and reproductive rights can be hard to come by, leaving them vulnerable to illness, injury and exploitation. These challenges are exacerbated among marginalized girls, such as members of ethnic minorities or those living in poverty or remote areas.

Yet when teenage girls are empowered, when they know about their rights and are given the tools to succeed, they become agents of positive change in their communities.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) believes that leaders and communities must spotlight on and stand up for the human rights of the most isolated teenage girls, particularly those who are poor, out of school, exploited, or subjected to harmful traditional practices, including child marriage. Marginalized girls are vulnerable to poor reproductive health and more likely to become mothers while still young. They have a right to understand and control their own bodies and shape their own lives.

Today let us stand and fight for marginalised teenage girls!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY: 'SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TO IMPROVE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT' DATE: 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

There are more youth on the planet than ever before. These young people are poised with all of the potential and energy to be our next generation of leaders, workers and parents. There are 1.8 billion young people around the world, making up a quarter of the global population. They are the workforce of the future, yet 58 million of them are not even able to attend primary school. How can young people help themselves, both practically and professionally? How can developing countries reduce youth unemployment and realise their full potential? How could youth leaders make a difference?

World Youth Skills Day (WYSD) was established by the United Nations in 2014 to raise greater awareness of the importance of technical and vocational education for young people who need to develop relevant and marketable skills. July 15 is the World Youth Skills Day, observed yearly. The theme for this year is "Skills Development to Improve Youth Employment". Understanding what works to support young people in today's and tomorrow's labour market through training and skills development, will be the main key to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Skills development is a primary means of enabling young people to make a smooth transition to work. We need to develop the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, which are: critical thinking, problem solving creativity, collaboration and digital literacy through ultimate learning re-skilling and up-skilling programmes.

A high level of youth unemployment and underemployment is an acute problem. Majority of young people, who cannot be employed, live in the developing countries. Recognition of this problem and implementation of different programmes is aimed at enhancement of youth's ability to make informed life and work choices. More than 61 million jobs have been lost since 2008, resulting in more than 200 million people unemployed word wide. The youth unemployment rate is nearly 3 times higher than the rest of the population that is why is vital to raise awareness about the importance of investing in the development of youth skills.

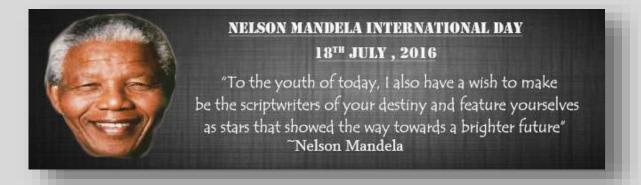
WYSD is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which proposed two goals on education and skills for employment: Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all, and Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) seeks to generate greater awareness of and discussion on the importance of technical, vocational education, and training and the development of other skills relevant to both local and global economies. Our vocation is to contribute in reducing unemployment and underemployment among the youth across the globe. It shall highlight youth skills development to draw attention to the critical need for marketable skills.

To WAY, this day serves as an opportunity to highlight the importance of youth skills development. We recognize and support projects and initiatives that seek to equip young people with the right tools and resources that will further develop their capacity. This shall enable young people to obtain decent work in a sustainable low carbon world and help them address global challenges in particular, poverty eradication. We urge NGOs and other relevant stakeholders to identify areas of skilling and vocational training that need improvement and encourage the unemployed youth to adopt their own entrepreneurship for self-sufficiency.

You can join the celebration for the first-ever World Youth Skills Day by sharing your experiences and ideas using the hash tag #WYSD or #WYSD2016 on social media.

Happy World Youth Skills Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY: 'TAKE ACTION, INSPIRE CHANGE' DATE: 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

"When a man has done what he considers to be his duty to his people and his country, he can rest in peace. I believe I have made that effort and that is, therefore, why I will sleep for the eternity." ~Nelson Mandela~

Mandela was and will always remain a true depiction of self-sacrifice and a blessing to human kind. His legacy lives on from age group to age group. He was a symbol of unlimited unity that has no race and shares one common good, a human kind.

Acknowledging on his great efforts, every year on his birthday, United Nations joins a call with the Nelson Mandela Foundation to devote 67 minutes of time to helping others as a way of honouring his good deeds throughout the world and encouraging individuals, communities, governments and non-profit organisations to take one small step towards the larger leap of making a positive imprint.

Nelson Mandela International Day was inspired by Nelson Mandela's call, for the next generation to take on the burden of leadership in addressing the world's social injustices when he said that 'it is in your hands now'. It is more than a celebration of Nelson's life and legacy; it is a global movement to honour his life's work and act to change the world for the better. In fact, it is a reminder for all that every person in the world can make a difference, no matter how big or small their contribution.

As the world reflects on Nelson Mandela's legacy, we at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), give tribute for his life, his leadership, his devotion to humanity and humanitarian causes. We believe that Nelson Mandela Day is not only celebrating Nelson Mandela's life, but it is also a global call to action for people to recognise their ability and responsibility to have a positive effect on others around them.

We seek to instigate and support young people to embrace the values that Mandela shared which include democracy, freedom, equality, diversity, reconciliation, and respect. We believe that as the largest portion of the population, any changes starts from young people will certainly bring productive result to the society and to the world.

Let us give the little of our time to make a change that is close to your heart by giving a little of your time to make a difference for the betterment of someone else's life. We can start today amongst our surroundings from the smallest thing.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FRIENDSHIP DATE: 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016

"Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It's not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything." ~ Muhammad Ali ~

There are many valuable things in life, but friendship is one of the most important. To live life without the experience of friendship is life without living. The ability to make and keep good friends is important throughout life, and much of that ability develops in adolescence. Friends provide a basic source of happiness in general, as well as a source of support in difficult times. However, close friendships do not happen accidentally. There are certain requirements for the development of meaningful, lasting friendships.

The International Day of Friendship is a United Nations (UN) day that promotes the role that friendship plays in promoting peace in many cultures all around the world. It is observed on the 30th of July yearly. The day is based on the recognition of friendship not only in the general sense but also both its relevance and importance as a valuable sentiment in the lives of human beings around the world.

The International Day of Friendship has been celebrated in several South American countries for many years, particularly in Paraguay, where the first World Friendship Day was proposed back in 1958. In 2011, the UN proclaimed the International Day of Friendship with the idea that friendship between peoples, countries, and cultures can inspire peace efforts and build bridges between communities with different backgrounds. In this day, the UN urges young people to contribute in community activities that include different cultures and promote international understanding and respect for diversity.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth, encourage stakeholders, governments, societies, and community to hold events, activities and programmes that promote harmony, mutual understanding and reconciliation, like our annual Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) where all participants who are mostly consisted of young leaders from different background, occupations and culture, share one common interest of accomplishing the betterment wellbeing of youth worldwide. Each year, new friendships are born during our dialogue while our young participants work together in the achievement of youth betterment. This year 16<sup>th</sup> MIYD has also engendered many sparks of beautiful friendships amongst both participants and volunteers.

Therefore, on this International Day of Friendship, let us remember the ties that bind us together, regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation or borders. Let us cultivate solidarity as a single human family on our one and only planet. Let us pursue true and lasting friendship.

Happy International Day of Friendship!



### International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples 9 August

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHT TO EDUCATION 9<sup>™</sup> AUGUST 2016

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE: 'INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHT TO EDUCATION' DATE: 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

Indigenous people are cultural groups who are local to a land or region, especially before the arrival of a foreign and possibly dominating culture. They share a cultural identity that has been shaped by their environmental region and a variety of names are used in various countries to identify such groups of people, but they usually regarded as the unique inhabitants of a region.

Notwithstanding the diversity of indigenous peoples, they share common problems and issues in dealing with the prevailing, or invading society. They are generally concerned that their unique cultures are threatened and they might suffer both discrimination and pressure to assimilate into their surrounding societies. It is undoubted that the role of the human species as a whole to preserve a wide range of cultural diversity and that the protection of indigenous cultures is vital to this enterprise.

Observed every year on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, International Day of the World's Indigenous People promotes and protects the rights of the world's indigenous population. It recognises the unique cultures and challenges of indigenous people throughout the world. These challenges include human rights, developmental, educational, environmental, and medical/health issues faced by members of native cultures. The resolution also encourages cooperation between indigenous and non-indigenous peoples.

This year's theme, 'Indigenous People's Right to Education' states that the right of indigenous peoples to education is protected by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. They have the right to establish and control their educational systems and institutions providing education in their own languages, in a manner appropriate to their cultural methods of teaching and learning.

The right of indigenous people to education is also protected by a number of other international human rights instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In fact, Goal 4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for ensuring equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous people and children in susceptible situation.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that efforts should be made in order to ensure that indigenous peoples have access to education and vocational training. Besides, adult literacy educational programmes are evenly important element for inclusive education with many long-lasting benefits available to indigenous peoples.

We urge the education sector not only reflect the historical abuses, discrimination and marginalisation suffered by indigenous people, but also reflects their continued struggle for equality and respect for their rights as people and as individuals.

Happy International Day of the World's Indigenous People!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY: 'THE ROAD TO 2030: ERADICATING POVERTY AND ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION' DATE: 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

> "The foundation of every state is the education of its youth" ~Diogenes~

Young people are not only the leaders of tomorrow; they are the leaders of today. A nation's most valuable resource is its young people. Young people represent our national future and embody national prosperity. Youth require equal access to educational achievement that befits their innate ability no matter if they are from urban, rural or remote communities, regardless of their low socioeconomic, indigenous, homeless backgrounds, in situation of being a refugee or a young parent, in the juvenile justice system or in the care of the state.

International Youth Day (IYD) is the invention of the United Nations, and was first celebrated on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2000, after the UN General Assembly passed a resolution accepting the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in Lisbon in 1998. It is celebrated annually on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August focusing on the rights of young people to have full access to education, adequate healthcare, employment opportunities, financial services and full participation in public life as well as their contributions.

The theme of the 2016 International Youth Day is 'The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production'. This year's International Youth Day emphasises on achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly on the leading role of young people in ensuring poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development through sustainable consumption and production.

Sustainable consumption involves the use of products and services that meet the basic needs of communities while upholding the needs of future generations. The growth and promotion of individual choices and actions that increase the eco-efficiency of consumption and minimise waste and pollution are critical for achieving equitable socioeconomic development. Yet, many young men and women face barriers to certain green consumption choices. Those barriers to sustainable consumption choices include the high prices of goods and services and a lack of information about the available options.

Increasing resource efficiency and moving toward sustainable production can contribute significantly in meeting the basic needs of all people, including youth, by making food, water and energy more accessible and affordable to those living in poverty. Investing in sustainable production also creates new markets and employment opportunities which help to achieve social inclusion in the societies.

World Assembly of Youth (WAY) works for the promotion of youth issues and youth organisations in programme areas such as: youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training. As an international-scaled organisation whose aims are not only at its contribution of actively resolving youth-related matters but also its coordination of national youth councils, WAY has been known for its concern towards welfare of youth, worldwide.

Acknowledging the International Youth Day, we encourage everyone, youth inclusive, to be proactive in working together in order to make effective changes in improving the wellbeing of young people. Let us support the youth initiatives by giving righteous voices that they deserve as it is not enough to hope only for a better tomorrow, instead, we must progressively act now. Change is in progress and the drive to its success is in the hands of young people.

Happy International Youth Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY: 'ONE HUMANITY' DATE: 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

"Art to me is a humanitarian act and I believe that there is a responsibility that art should somehow be able to effect mankind, to make the word a better place" ~Jeff Moons~

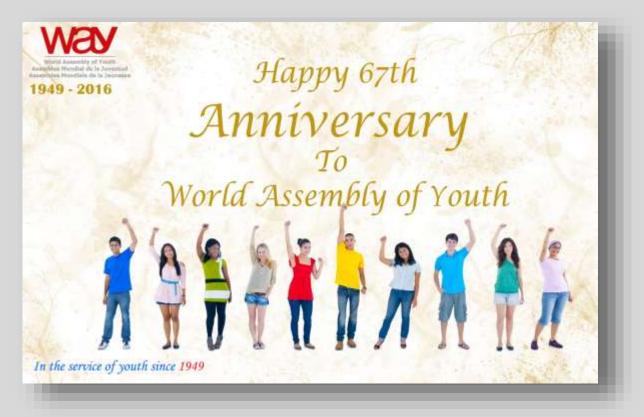
World Humanitarian Day is an opportunity to celebrate the spirit that inspires humanitarian work around the globe. Thousands of people across the globe are doing incredible deed every day in helping others but unfortunately some of them pay the ultimate price.

Years ago, in 19<sup>th</sup> August, 22 humanitarian aid workers were killed in a horrific attack at the UN Headquarters in Baghdad. Their lives were cut short as they worked selflessly to save others. Each year on the same date, we pay tribute to the unsung heroes who, despite the risks, work to save lives on the front lines of conflict and help victims of natural disasters pick up the pieces and rebuild their communities.

The theme for year is 'Inspiring the World's Humanity', it calls on everyone to join the world's humanitarian efforts and become an active messenger of humanity. It can be started with building a global sense of momentum by undertaking an influential social action and sharing on social networks to amplify the message as well as encourage the action. On this World Humanitarian Day, we would like to take this opportunity to fabricate strong solidarity with the women, men, youth and children who are suffering from humanitarian emergencies worldwide. Our salutation also goes to the humanitarian workers who strive to serve those in need as well as uphold human rights and dignity for decades.

Inspired by the quote once said by Mother Teresa, 'don't look for big things, just do small things with great love; the smaller the thing, the greater must be our love', we would like to encourage all to reach out to each other and shower the world with love and compassion. We urge people, especially youth around the world to get involved, stay informed and engage in creating a more humane and harmonious world.

On this day, let us, once again reiterate our recognition towards the tremendous service that the humanitarians have done and are still doing till today to save lives around the world. We are forever grateful to them. Since 1949, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), stand strong for the human rights and fight for inherent dignity of every human being. Happy World Humanitarian Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE THE 67<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH: 'STRIVE FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE WORLD' DATE: 24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016

Helping young people and youth leaders globally to reach their maximum potential is a top priority for us at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY). WAY fully recognises that young people need support to maintain good health and well being, access to education and strong youth community network. Besides, being concerned about their study, work, health and future, young people are thirsty for opportunities to get involved in amusing activities related to culture, sports and recreation. Importantly, they need to be safe and feel safe.

As our slogan states "In the service of youth since 1949", the journey of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has been significantly profound in the empowerment, advancement and transformation of youth all around the world. In the past 67 years, WAY has tackled and discussed pertinent youth issues and assisted in the establishment of youth related policies through the organised programmes, activities and events at different levels. These milestone accomplishments were made possible by the collaboration and partnership with various WAY Member Organisations, UN Agencies, Civil Societies, International Organisations and Institutions, Ministries Responsible for Youth, both Public and Private Sectors and many more.

Today, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), commemorate the 67<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of our establishment as well as gratefulness of the 67 years of determined journey and devotion in serving youth worldwide. Almost 7 decades of our creation, WAY currently has 140 member organisations from all continents of the world.

In line with that, we have highlighted several relevant aims in assisting the collection of information on the needs and problems of youth from all around the world; promoting the interchange of ideas amongst them; supporting in the development of youth activities; and encouraging full and inclusive participation of young people in their countries' developmental process. Sixty-six years in continuously carrying out such purposes, we, at WAY, promise to always bestow our fullest efforts for the betterment of young people worldwide.

History has it, founded in 1949, WAY has been well known as international coordinating body of national youth councils and youth organisations, working devotedly for the promotion of young people and youth organisations in different programme areas such as youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training. WAY has a general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and work together with several agencies of United Nations including UNEP, UNICEF and UNAIDS.

As we celebrate our sixty-seven birthday, we wish for the endless support from our members, volunteers, stakeholders, young people and the global community at large. Let us work together, side-by-side, in providing young people with the opportunities and platforms which not only abundantly develop their potential but also flourish their characters and inspirations. By joining our hands, let us recreate more youth-friendly environment where young people and future generations could blossom peacefully and maximally towards achievement of sustainable world that we all strive for.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF CHARITY DATE: 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give"  $\sim$  Winston Churchill  $\sim$ 

Today is the International Day of Charity. It is a day for thought on what you can contribute, no matter how small it is, in making this world a better place. Charity, like the notions of volunteerism and philanthropy, provides real social bonding and contributes to the creation of inclusive and more resilient societies.

Charity can alleviate the worst effects of humanitarian crises, supplement public services in health care, education, housing and child protection. It assists the advancement of culture, science, sports, and the protection of cultural and natural heritage. It also promotes the full recognition of rights of those marginalised and underprivileged as well as spreads the message of humanity in conflict situations.

The International Day of Charity was established with the objective of sensitising and mobilising people, NGOs, and stakeholders all around the world to help others through volunteer and philanthropic activities. International Day of Charity aims at raising awareness and providing a common platform for charity related activities across the world. It also recognises the importance of charity as a means of promoting solidarity, dialogue and mutual understanding among people from different countries.

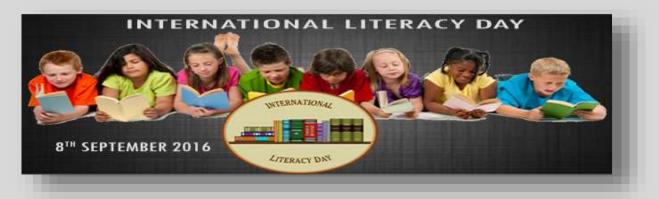
This day was observed on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September, every year, to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace. Mother Teresa, the renowned nun and missionary, was born in Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu in 1910. In 1928, she went to India, where she devoted herself to helping the destitute. In 1948, she became an Indian citizen and after two years, she founded the order of Missionaries of Charity in Kolkota (Calcutta).

We, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that the role of charity should be seen as one of the major tools in sowing quality traits of compassion, love and empathy in today young people's disposition. In this day, we also encourage individual especially young people, to use this opportunity to support charitable activities in their communities.

We also believe in mobilising young people and stakeholders all around the world to help others through volunteer and charitable activities.

On this International Day, we call on people everywhere, of all ages, to act based on the charitable impulse that resides in the heart of every human being.

Happy International Day of Charity!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY: 'LITERACY AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES' DATE: 8<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

Literacy is a fundamental human right and the foundation for lifelong learning. It is essential to social and human development as well as to transform lives and facilitate full participation in society. It makes a pivotal contribution to wide variety of goals like maintaining peace and promoting democracy, eradicating poverty, achieving gender equality as well as achieving sustainable development.

Low levels of literacy skills lead to greater unemployment rates, lesser income, increased health risks, and separation from the greater society. This inter-causal relation is intensifying due to the propagation and presence of Information and Communication Technologies in almost every sphere of today modern life escalating the demand of literacy skills. Sadly, opportunities for acquiring basic literacy skills are not equitable and especially limited among socially excluded groups. Deep challenges remain to be addressed regarding the relevance and quality of literacy skills that are being delivered.

International Literacy Day is celebrated, worldwide, bringing together governments, multiand bilateral organisations, NGOs, private sectors, communities, teachers, learners and experts in education field. Celebrated yearly, this day emphasises on the magnitude of reading, particularly from a multicultural international perspective. The day aims to promote public awareness towards the importance of literacy that closely influences both social and human development. In the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, literacy is aligned with lifelong learning opportunities. It is a part of Sustainable Development Goal 4, which aims to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all." SDG Target 4.6 calls for all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, to achieve literacy and numeracy by 2030.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that literacy unlocks human potential and is the cornerstone of development of one nation. Therefore, to achieve SDG goal 4, we believe global leaders must refocus their efforts on the role of education in poverty reduction and ensure that young people are full of eagerness to learn. We call on youth, worldwide, to be the initiators of transformation and leaders in fighting against illiteracy within their immediate societies.

We, once again, urge young people to be the facilitators of this opportunity and the engineers of a future that is free of illiteracy. Happy International Literacy Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY DATE: 15<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

In a globe where everything is changing, the mindset of the youth is also changing concerning governance and the increase for the desire for fairness and equality in all forms of life. The world at large is experiencing extreme change of leadership and it is ideal times for youth to fully contribute in modernising the world. Democracy is as much a process as a goal, and only with the full participation of and support by the international community, national governing bodies, civil society and individuals, the ideal of democracy can be made into a reality and therefore, enjoyed by everyone at everywhere.

The International Day of Democracy is celebrated every year on the 15<sup>th</sup> of September. It was established by the United Nations in 2007 as an opportunity to review the state of democracy in the world. In particular, the day celebrates the values of freedom, respect for human rights and the principle of holding genuine appointments by universal suffrage. It emphasises on the importance of democracy, what it involves, the challenges it faces as well as the opportunities it offers and identify the steps to be taken in order to strengthen its effectiveness.

The theme for this year is 'Democracy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', a plan for achieving a better future for all, laying out a path over 15 years and call for mobilising efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change, while ensuring that no one is left behind. Sustainable Development Goal 16 addresses democracy by calling for inclusive and participatory societies and institutions. It aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at every level.

The role of the citizen in improving the quality of democracy and supporting institutional reform is fundamental. For the past year alone, the world has witnessed many examples of citizen-led movements across all continents demanding more responsive government. When huge citizen movements spring up as a response to socio-economic crises across all continents, this is a clear call that 'politics as usual' needs to be re-examined.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), speak of inter-ethnic respect, international understanding and teamwork, tolerance and national liberty as well as democracy. We seek to participate in promoting democracy in every way possible and by having a sense of responsibility especially towards the youth.

Ever since our establishment, we have been organising events and activities including discussions, conferences and press conferences involving keynote speakers, often those who

are leaders or educators concerned in supporting and endorsing democracy governments and communities.

Indeed, democracy relies on everyone. Therefore, contributing your individual voice is as important as those of other stakeholders.

Happy International Day of Democracy!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE: 'THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: BUILDING BLOCKS FOR PEACE' DATE: 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

Peace cannot be measured by defence expenditure, government policy, or by the number of wars waged in the world. Peace is not just the absence of war. Positive peace is only possible when the rights of individuals in any given society to access their basic needs and their well being are definite.

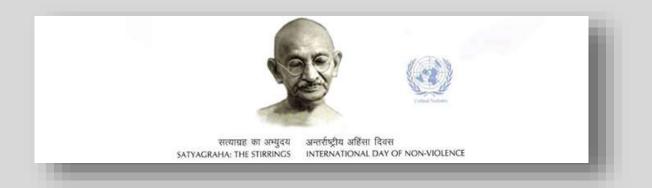
The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations in 1981 as a day dedicated to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace both within and among all nations and people. This day promotes the notion that awareness of the potential for peace provides enticing incentives for opposing sides to reach non-violent solutions.

The theme for this year is 'The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace'. The Sustainable Development Goals are integral to achieving peace in our time, as development and peace are interdependent and mutually reinforcing. Sustainability addresses the fundamental needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Modern challenges of poverty, hunger, diminishing natural resources, water scarcity, social inequality, environmental degradation, diseases, corruption, racism and xenophobia, among others, pose challenges for peace and create fertile grounds for conflict. Sustainable development contributes decisively to dissipation and elimination of these causes of conflict and provides the foundation for a lasting peace. Peace, meanwhile, reinforces the conditions for sustainable development and liberates the resources needed for societies to develop and prosper.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) understands and values the International Day of Peace. We believe that people can help in contribution of peace through the act of donation as well as volunteerism, attending events on peace and simply sharing information on social media. We work to inspire and have been creating a platform for young people's activism through a series of regional and international events, aimed at bringing young people from different backgrounds to help build the global youth voice. We believe that young people's voices in peace building are present everywhere, but not given due recognition by Public Sector and other stakeholders. To patch that up, programmes on peace are therefore the key which can in turn lead to world peace. Thus, we urge all stakeholders to join us in educating young people about conflict mitigation and management so that peace affairs will be an integral component of youth policy at local, state and regional levels.

Once again, we, at the World Assembly of Youth, wish you a Happy International Day of Peace!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE DATE: 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2016

Non-violence is also known as love in action, a positive power. It is unleashed when potentially negative drives like fear or anger are transformed into creative equivalents like love and compassion. For some people, non-violent action is a beneficial system for dealing with conflict or bringing about social change; for others, non-violence is a moral vital or even a way of life.

The International Day of Non-Violence is marked on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. At a time of escalating conflicts, violent extremism, displacement and humanitarian need, the courage and determination of Mahatma Gandhi are, indeed, both inspiration and motivation for all of us. Gandhi showed the power of peacefully opposing oppression and hatred. He proved on how cooperation and tolerance can prevails over injustice and demonstrated the great value of the rule of law in breaking vicious circles of vengeance.

The principle of non-violence is frequently used as a substitute for pacifism. Since the midtwentieth century, the term of non-violence has been adopted by many movements for social change which do not focus on opposition to war. One key principle of the theory of nonviolence is that the power of rulers depends on the consent of the population. Therefore, it seeks to undermine such power through withdrawal of the approval and cooperation of the populace.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) strongly stands by the principle of non-violence and continues to aim for its understanding and achievement in the societies. We advocate for the youth to exploit their minds as a weapon against all the injustices and promote non-violence in their communities. We believe proper education and productive utilisation of the leisure time are the two substantial keys in preventing the occurrence of delinquencies behaviours among young people. We would like to urge all young people to place their responsibilities above their enjoyment and prioritize their education over rebellious activities.

On this year's International Day of Non-violence, let us recall the achievements of Mahatma Gandhi and renew our commitment to non-violence and lives in the dignity of peaceful and harmonious world for all. Happy International Day of Non-Violence!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY: 'DIGNITY IN MENTAL HEALTH-PSYCHOLOGICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID FOR ALL' DATE: 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016

Thousands of people with mental health conditions around the world are deprived of their human rights. They are not only discriminated against, stigmatised and marginalised but are also subject to emotional and physical abuse in both mental health facilities and the community. Poor quality care due to a lack of qualified health professionals and dilapidated facilities leads to further violations.

World Mental Health Day is a day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy. It was firstly celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health, a global mental health organisation with members and contacts in many countries. On this day, thousands of supporters observe an annual awareness program to bring attention to Mental Illness and its major effects on people's lives worldwide.

It is observed on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October every year, with the overall objective of raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilising efforts in support of mental health. The day provides an opportunity for all stakeholders working on mental health issues to talk about their work and what more needs to be done to make mental health care a reality.

The 2016 theme for World Mental Health Day is 'Dignity in Mental Health-Psychological and Mental Health First Aid for All', that focuses on the goal of taking mental health out of the shadows so that people in general feel more confident in tackling the stigma, isolation and discrimination which continuously plague people with mental health conditions as well as their families and careers.

We, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that there is a great need to provide more information on mental wellness around the globe. The fact that mental health condition often goes unnoticed leads to serious concern understanding that it has substantial effect to the development of its patients. It is, therefore, important to support public sector in adopting mental health policies and integrating them into both public health policy and general social policy in order to address this issue responsibly.

World Assembly of Youth wishes you all a Happy World Mental Health Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION: 'LIVE TO TELL: RAISING AWARENESS, REDUCING MORTALITY' DATE: 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016

Worldwide, women and children are up to 14 times more likely than men to die in a disaster and roughly 60% of preventable maternal deaths and 53% of preventable under-5 deaths take place in conflict and disaster settings. Other groups affected disproportionately include persons living with disabilities, older persons and indigenous people.

The International Day for Disaster Reduction began in 1989, after a call by the United Nations General Assembly for a day to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction. Celebrating every 13<sup>th</sup> of October, the day serves as a reminder on how people and communities around the world are working hard to reduce their exposure to disasters and raising awareness about the importance of reining in the disaster-related risks.

This year's theme marks the launch of the new "Sendai Seven" campaign by UNISDR, centred on the seven targets of the Sendai Framework, the first of which is reducing disaster mortality. The campaign seeks to create a wave of awareness about actions taken to reduce mortality around the world. It also provide an advocacy platform for public sector, disaster management agencies, UN agencies, NGOs, Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, civil society groups, private sector, academic and scientific institutions and other interested groups to demonstrate support for implementation of the Sendai Framework. Moreover, this day aims to highlight achievements and challenges related to Sendai Framework, particularly, with a focus on life-saving measures in 2016.

The goals include substantially reducing global disaster mortality by 2030 with a lower average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020-2030 compared to the period 2005-2015, reducing the number of affected people globally by 2030 with a lower average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020 - 2030 compared to the period 2005-2015 as well as increasing the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), support the goals for this year International Day for Disaster Reduction, by raising awareness about the importance of reining in the disaster-related risks that people face, especially young people.

We are going to be part of the considerably enhance international cooperation to our member countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement national actions for implementation of Sendai Framework by 2030.

Therefore, let us join hands and fight to reduce disaster-caused mortalities in our communities.

Happy International Day for Disaster Reduction!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD FOOD DAY: 'CLIMATE IS CHANGING. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MUST TOO' DATE: 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016

In recent years, World Food Day has used its annual day of celebration to focus on different aspects of food security and agriculture, including fishing communities, climate change and biodiversity.

World Food Day is closely related to "Zero Hunger", the first Global Goal which is a worldwide longing to achieve it. We have 15 years to end hunger for every child, women and man around the world saving countless lives and building brighter futures for us all.

World Food Day celebrates the furtherance of food security all over the world, especially in times of crisis. The launch of the Food and Agriculture Organisation by the United Nations has played a huge role in taking this worthy goal forward. Its annual celebration serves as a marker of the importance of this organisation and helps to raise awareness of the crucial need for successful agriculture policies to be implemented across the world to ensure there is ample food available for everyone.

The theme for this year's World Food Day is "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too." One of the biggest issues related to climate change is food security. The world's poorest - many of whom are farmers, fishers and pastoralists - are being hit hardest by higher temperatures and increasing frequency in weather-related disasters.

At the same time, the global population is growing steadily and is expected to reach 9.6 billion by 2050. To meet such a heavy demand, agriculture and food systems will need to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change and become more resilient, productive and sustainable. This is the only way that we can ensure the wellbeing of ecosystems and rural population as well as reduce emission.

Growing food in a sustainable way means adopting practices that produce more food with lesser resources and wiser strategy in the same area of land. It also means reducing food wastes before the final product or retail stage through a number of initiatives including better harvesting, storage, packing, transport, infrastructure, market mechanisms as well as institutional and legal frameworks. WAY believes that everyone can make a difference by changing their daily habits and making simple decisions in response to the climate change and issue of hunger. We highlight areas needed for action and contribute in the recommendation for tackling climate change and hunger in accordance with the common focus stipulated by the United Nations. Our aim is to raise awareness on these issues around the globe, educate and enhance young people's intellect on agricultural productivity and their understanding on its importance.

Help us to ensure the world does not forget the promise that we have made by sharing #Zero Hunger in your community.

Happy World Food Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY: 'MOVING FROM HUMILIATION AND EXCLUSION TO PARTICIPATION: ENDING POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS' DATE: 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016

Poverty is a complex reality, but it is not inevitable. It is universal issue impacting all countries from the South to the North causing misery, especially to women and girls. While further weakening those who are already affected, factors, such as conflicts, climate change, economic and financial crises, create new poor people in every society.

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is celebrated every year on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October. Its objective is to draw attention to the importance of poverty eradication for building sustainable futures for all.

People living in poverty face increasingly difficult challenges as climate change, environmental degradation and rising food prices threaten their livelihoods and survival chance. The path to sustainable development must ensure that people living in poverty are included in decision-making processes and that concrete action is taken to respond to their needs and demands. Through resolution adopted on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 1992, the General Assembly invited all States to devote this day to presenting and promoting concrete activities with regard to the eradication of poverty and destitution.

This year theme is "Moving from Humiliation and Exclusion to Participation: Ending Poverty in All Its Forms". This selected theme in consultation with activists, civil society and non-governmental organisations highlights how it is important to recognise and address the humiliation and exclusion endured by many people living in poverty.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal to "end poverty in all its forms everywhere" explicitly recognises that poverty results not only from the lack of just one aspect, but also from many different interrelated aspects that affect the lives of people living in paucity. This means we must go beyond seeing poverty merely as the lack of income or what is necessary for material well-being such as food, housing, land, and other assets – in order to fully understand poverty in its multiple dimensions.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that building a sustainable future requires us to intensify our efforts towards eradicating extreme poverty and discrimination as well as ensuring that everyone can fully exercise their human rights. The full participation of people living in poverty, particularly in the decisions that affect their lives and communities, must be at the centre of policies and strategies to build a sustainable future. In this way, we can guarantee that our planet and our societies can fulfil the needs and aspirations of everyone, without leaving anyone behind, especially those of youth and future generations.

Therefore, let us work together to achieve the total eradication of poverty in all its forms throughout the world.

Happy International Day for the Eradication of Poverty!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE UNITED NATIONS DAY DATE: 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016

The United Nations, as an inter-governmental organisation, is well known to everyone around the world. They participate and organise activities as well as provide assistance in times of disaster, armed conflicts and other required emergency situations.

United Nations Day marks its founding anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter, with the ratification of this naissance document by the majority of its signatories, including its five permanent members of the Security Council. Since 1948, 24<sup>th</sup> October has been celebrated as United Nations Day. In 1971, the United Nations General Assembly recommended that the day be observed by Member States as a public holiday.

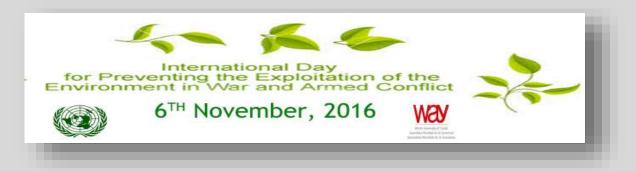
Recalling back on the history, the United Nations was known at earlier days as the League of Nations. The foundations for a League of Nations were laid in the Treaty of Versailles which was one of the treaties that formally ended World War I. The League of Nation aimed to encourage disarmament, prevent outbreaks of war and encourage negotiations as well as diplomatic measures to settle international disputes and to improve the quality of life around the world. Nevertheless, the outbreak of World War II suggested that the League of Nations needed to take on a different form.

Today, we live in societies where justice, equality in human rights and peace are highly sought and advocated for. Achievement of equal human rights and peace are, indeed, the goal of the UN's hard work but more importantly, they need contribution of all citizens of the world who choose to observe and support them. To quote the former Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, 'In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, I believe the mission of the United Nations will be defined by a new, more profound awareness of the sanctity and dignity of every human life, regardless of race or religion'.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), owning the consultative status of various UN agencies, joins the celebration of the United Nations Day as it is a fundamental remembrance of the values which today organisations hold on to, including those are at WAY. We believe that for an organisation to be functional, it is pivotal to have an aim and prominent purpose of serving other in attainment of one common goal, a better future. We shall continue to serve young people as they are the backbone of today's progress and seed of brighter tomorrow.

We urge you all, especially young people, to continue thriving towards actualising the missions set by the UN, within your own communities and on national as well as regional levels, to the benefit of the global community as a whole.

Happy United Nations Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PREVENTING THE EXPLOITATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT IN WAR AND ARMED CONFLICT DATE: 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016

The devastation of war and conflict goes further than those dead, wounded soldiers as well as civilians, destroyed cities and livelihoods. The environments in which people live become a forgotten victim of war. Water wells are polluted, crops torched, forests cut down, soils poisoned and animals killed to gain military advantage.

Today, some 60 million displaced people are already fleeing from conflict and disaster areas. The only way to avoid those numbers swelling even further is to grasp and focus on the pertinent 17 Sustainable Development Goals and the pivotal elements discussed during the climate negotiations in Paris.

Furthermore, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has found that over the last 60 years, at least 40 percent of all internal conflicts have been linked to the exploitation of natural resources, whether high-value resources such as timber, diamonds, gold and oil, or scarce resources such as fertile land and water. Conflicts involving natural resources have also been found to be twice as likely to relapse.

International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict is celebrated every year on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November. It is an opportunity for everyone to reflect on the impact of war in damaging natural environments and discuss ways to reduce or even halt environmental destruction caused by armed conflict.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) attaches great importance in ensuring that action on the environment is part of conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peace building strategies. With that in mind, we tackled 'Youth and Armed Conflict: To Express without a Fear, To Progress without a Threat', in our 15<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue preceded the 16<sup>th</sup> MYID with a theme, 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care'. These one after the other themes were meant to fulfil the principal opinions and roles of young people towards combating armed conflict and promoting sustainable conflict free environmental sustainability.

WAY will continue working towards the realisation of Sustainable Development Goal 16 on building peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions. For countries recovering from violent conflict, natural resources often offer the first opportunity to help stabilise and revive livelihoods as well as other economic activity. Adopting a conflict sensitive approach for all environment and natural resource management projects pairing with capacity-building efforts will be essential.

Therefore, as what has been declared by former UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon, "we must use all of the tools at our disposal, from dialogue and mediation to preventive diplomacy, to keep the unsustainable exploitation of natural resources from fuelling and financing armed conflict and destabilising the fragile foundations of peace."

We, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), would like to wish you all happy International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD SCIENCE DAY FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT: 'CELEBRATING SCIENCE CENTRES AND SCIENCE MUSEUMS' DATE: 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

Established by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2001, the World Science Day for Peace and Development (WSDPD) is celebrated every year, on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November each year.

The purpose of the World Science Day for Peace and Development is to renew the national, as well as the international commitment to science for peace and development and to stress the responsible use of science for the benefit of society. The World Science Day for Peace and Development also aims at raising public awareness on the importance of science and to bridge the gap between science and societies.

The Day offers the opportunity to mobilise all factors around the topic of science for peace and development from public sector to media to societies, particularly young people. UNESCO strongly encourages all stakeholders to celebrate World Science Day for Peace and Development by organising their own event or activity during that day.

Science stands at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Action, and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. These agreements embody a new vision for prosperity, peace and the planet, to allow every society to create and share knowledge, to nurture every source of innovation and creativity, to craft a more inclusive, sustainable and just path to better future.

The 2016 World Science Day for Peace and Development is dedicated to its theme "Celebrating Science Centres and Science Museums". Science centres and museums play key roles as living laboratories of creativity feeding the hunger of curiosity for women and men as well as catalysing research and innovation. In the digital era, when we need innovative initiatives to promote the learning of science outside the classrooms, museums and science centres are privileged places for education. They provide excellent ways to encourage children, especially girls, to pursue careers in science to multiply their collective scientific capabilities.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that science museums and centres are podiums for dialogue, understanding and resilience. They bring about the delight and wonders that inspire their visitors, regardless of age and background, in an experience that brings all women and men together, especially young people with common values. In this spirit, let us invite all stakeholders to support, nurture and harness significant functions of science museums and centres in shaping a more inclusive and sustainable future for all.

Happy World Science Day for Peace and Development!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF TOLERANCE DATE: 16<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

"Non-violence is not a garment to be put on and off at will. Its seat is in the heart, and it must be an inseparable part of our being" ~ Mahatma Gandhi ~

In a world of diversity, tolerance is a prerequisite for peace. It is also a lever for sustainable development as it encourages the construction of more inclusive and thus, more resilient societies that are able to draw on the ideas, creative energy and talents of each of their members. Tolerance is often perceived as a minority idea and one that is sometimes threatened. The International Day for Tolerance is a time for people to learn about respecting and recognising the rights and beliefs of others. It is also a time of reflection and debate on the negative effects of intolerance.

Established by the United Nations, the International Day for Tolerance is held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November each year. The day is a focus for educating people about the need for tolerance in society and helping them understand the negative effects of intolerance. Over the past years, acts of intolerance, violence, terrorism and racism have been on the rise. They are often directed at the most vulnerable members in our society including: national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, refugees, migrant workers as well as immigrants.

The main aim of the day is to educate people about the need for tolerance in society and to help them understand the adverse effects of prejudice and hatred on any ground. It is often referred to a day for people to learn and imbibe the principles of respecting as well as recognising human rights.

Acknowledging all those facts, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that for effectively promoting peace, there is a need to educate young people about the value of tolerance, human rights as well as their fundamental freedoms not only in the schools but also at home. Young people should organise and be actively involved in a variety of activities in encouraging and nurturing tolerance in their immediate communities. We believe tolerance is the wonderful instrument which can lead people from diverse culture to get their ultimate objectives of living together peacefully and harmoniously.

On this International Day of Tolerance, let us call on all people especially young people and governments to actively combat fear, hatred and extremism as well as cultivate understanding and mutual respect.

Happy International Day for Tolerance!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN DATE: 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016

Violence against women is a gross human rights violation and global issue devastating lives causing untold pain, suffering as well as illness. It also incurs high economic costs. In fact, a recent study estimated that the cost of intimate-partner accounted for 5.2 per cent of the global economy.

One of the major challenges to prevent and end violence against women and girls worldwide is the substantial funding shortfall. As a result, resources for initiatives to prevent and end violence against women and girls are severely lacking. Frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which includes a specific target on ending violence against women and girls, offer huge promise, but must be adequately funded in order to bring real and significant changes in the lives of women and girls worldwide.

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was first marked as a day to combat violence and raise awareness in 1981 by activists. The United Nations General Assembly gave the day its official designation in 1999. The date is based on the 1960 assassination of three Mirabal sisters, political activists in the Dominican Republic, who opposed the dictatorship of Rafael Trujillo.

Observed each year on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November, this day is meant to symbolically link violence against women with human rights and to emphasise that such violence is the worst form of infringement of human rights.

To celebrate the 2016 International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) wishes to draw public attention to the effects of climate change and scarce resources that intensifies violence against women and girls. Climate change is a threat multiplier. It can contribute to crop failure and a decline in food production, the displacement of populations and species as well as increased economic pressure at home due to lost livelihoods following climate-induced natural disasters.

Even though entire populations are affected by climate change, it is women and girls who pay the heaviest price. Most often due to the traditional roles they take up, women heavily rely on natural resources and are responsible for securing food, water and fuel for cooking. In times of drought, the search for safe water can take up to 8 hours a day leaving them vulnerable to assault, rape or kidnapping. Realising those situations, we, at WAY, will continue aiming to raise public awareness and mobilising people everywhere, especially young people to bring changes towards more sustainable world. On this Day, we urge all governments, civil society, the public sector, individuals and young people to take responsibility and play their role though it appears to be least significant towards the eradication of violence against women.

We would like to wish you all a Happy International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE WORLD AIDS DAY DATE: 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2016

Our battle against HIV/AIDS is not over yet, but it can be if we tailor the response to individual needs at particular times in life. Whatever our individual situation may be, we all need access to the tools to protect us from HIV and access to antiretroviral medicines whenever it is required. A life-cycle approach to HIV/AIDS that finds solutions for everyone at every stage of life can address the complexities of this pandemic. Risks and challenges change as people go through life, highlighting the need to adapt HIV prevention and treatment strategies from birth to old age.

World AIDS Day is celebrated every year on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. It is a day dedicated to commemorate those who have passed on and to raise awareness about AIDS and the global spread of the HIV virus. As we commemorate World AIDS Day, we stand in solidarity with the 78 million people who have been infected with HIV and remember the 35 million who have died from AIDS-related illnesses since its first case was reported. The first World AIDS Day was held in 1988 after health ministers from around the world met in London, England and agreed on observing such day as a way of highlighting the enormity of the AIDS pandemic. It also aims to promote nations' responsibility to ensure universal treatment, care and support for people living with HIV and AIDS.

The world has committed to end the AIDS epidemic by 2030 as part of the Sustainable Development Goals. All nations worldwide are getting on the fast-track towards this commitment. In fact, more than 18 million people are on life-saving HIV treatment and country after country is on track to virtually eliminate HIV transmission from mother to child.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that World AIDS Day is imperative as it reminds the public that HIV has not gone away and that collectively, there is the need to increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education to maintain as well as achieve the objectives of each individual country as set out in the National Strategic Plan on HIV, STIs and TB 2012-2016. We aspire to continue encouraging all members to organise programmes in combating the causes of AIDS pandemics and other deadly diseases. We prioritise in bringing awareness about the HIV/AIDS issue to the youth globally. We believe that it is the opportunity for young people to work actively and collaboratively with partners and other stakeholders around the world to raise awareness about HIV and help us progress closer to the universal goal of an AIDS-free generation. Happy World AIDS Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: 'ACHIEVING 17 GOALS FOR THE FUTURE WE WANT' DATE: 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2016

"We mark this year's International Day of Persons with Disabilities in the wake of the adoption of the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This global blueprint for action summons us to leave no one behind." ~ Former Secretary-General of United Nations, Ban Ki-moon ~

A disability may be physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, developmental, or some combination of those. A disability may be present from birth or occur during a person's lifetime.

"Disability" is an umbrella term, covering impairments, and activity limitations and participations restrictions. An individual may also qualify as disabled if he or she has had an impairment in the past or is seen disabled based on a personal or group standard or even norm.

Since 1992, the annual observance of the International Day of Disabled Persons is celebrated yearly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. It aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilise support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities.

The theme for this year's International Day is *"Achieving 17 Goals for the Future We Want"*. This theme notes the recent adoption of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the role of these goals in building a more inclusive and equitable world for persons with disabilities.

The vital purpose of this day celebration is to improve the understandings of the people worldwide on all possible issues faced by person with disability. Through realising all of those, all stakeholders, together, will be able to support them to improve their self-esteem, well-being and rights in their immediate society. It also aims in increasing contribution and involvement of persons with disabilities in the society at each facet of life, including political, social, economic and cultural life.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), aspire to increase the awareness and understanding of public towards all issues encountered by disabled people. We take this opportunity to highlight how far we have come in recognising persons with disabilities as just another manifestation of diversity in our communities, and to stand in support of a society that embraces that diversity in all its forms and shapes.

So let us come together at this day, to acknowledge the achievements and contributions of persons with disabilities in our families, workplaces, schools and communities. Let us also reaffirm our commitment to embrace diversity in our lives. This is truly a DAY FOR ALL, an occasion to celebrate and welcome persons with disabilities as part of our beautiful human diversity.

Happy International Day of Persons with Disabilities!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: 'GLOBAL APPLAUSE – GIVE VOLUNTEERS A HAND' DATE: 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

International Volunteer Day is a juncture for individual volunteers, communities and organisations to promote the value of volunteerism to development at the local, national and international levels. By combining United Nations' support with a grassroots mandate, International Volunteer Day is a unique opportunity for people and volunteer-involving organisations to work with public sector, non-profit organisations, community groups, academia and private sector.

The International Volunteer Day (IVD) mandated by the UN General Assembly, is held each year on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December. It is viewed as a unique chance for volunteers and organisations to celebrate their efforts, to share their values, and to promote their work among their communities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), United Nations agencies, public and private sector.

Apart from mobilising thousands of volunteers, the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme contributes to peace and development by advocating for the recognition of volunteers and working with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming.

This year's theme, 'Global Applause Give Volunteers a Hand' recognises volunteers worldwide and all their contribution in making peace and sustainable development a reality. It encourages people around the world to give volunteers much-deserved #GlobalApplause through social media engagement and various volunteers' appreciation activities.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we recognise the effort put in by our volunteers and their contributed time as well as energy in order to support us in achieving our goals and aims. Since its establishment in year 2006, the World Assembly of Youth's Volunteer Programme was initiated as a platform to link youth and to develop a dedicated group of young people who are willing to assist in WAY programs and activities around the world. This programme works towards the elevation of youth and their leadership development.

WAY Volunteer Programme aims at bringing together youth of different age, race, background, and ethnic groups to interact and share their ideas while fulfilling their duties as volunteers. It also strives to develop the youth by exposing them to an environment that allows them to realise their true potential and explore their untapped capabilities.

Happy International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development!



10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016 STAND UP FOR SOMEONE'S RIGHTS TODAY Human Rights Day 2016

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: 'STAND UP FOR SOMEONE'S RIGHTS TODAY!' DATE: 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

Justice in Human rights implies that all human beings are born free and equal in rights and that they are endowed with reason as well as conscience and thus, should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood. This is reflected with the words that are used commonly, such as: Equality, Freedom, Peace, Hope, Dignity, Rule of Law and Prosperity.

Human Rights Day was established in 1948, and ever since that auspicious day, it has stood as the first major stride forward in ensuring that the rights of every human across the globe are protected. From the most basic human needs such as food, shelter, and water, all the way up to access to free and uncensored information, those have been the goals and aspirations laid out that day.

It is celebrated every year on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December to honour the United Nations General Assembly for declaring the human rights universally. It was officially established in the meeting of United Nations General Assembly on 4<sup>th</sup> of December in 1950.

This year, Human Rights Day calls on everyone to stand up for someone's rights! Many of us are fearful about the way the world is heading. Disrespect for basic human rights continues to be wide-spread in all parts of the globe. Extremist movements subject people to horrific violence. Messages of intolerance and hatred prey on our fears. It is undeniable that in today world, humane values are under attack.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), go forward on human rights and aim to generate a more just globe by giving power to young advocators from around the world through a grouping of cross cultural human rights, volunteer services and sustained human rights activism associated with NGOs, policy makers and other stakeholders. Recognising the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all of our programmes and activities are guided by it. We acknowledge the significance of human rights as one of pivotal aspects that needs to be safeguarded as it is the key in solving most of youth-issues and way in advancing progress of youth worldwide.

We must reaffirm our common humanity. By doing so, wherever we are, in the street, in school, at work, in public transport, in the voting booth or on social media, we can make a real difference. It starts with each of us. Step forward and defend the rights of a refugee or migrant, a person with disabilities, a LGBT person, a woman, a child, indigenous peoples, a minority group, or anyone else at risk of discrimination or violence

Our time for this is now! Let us stand for our rights and together, we can take a stand for justice in humanity.

Happy Human Rights Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY DATE: 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

Migration has been a courageous expression of the individual's effort to overcome adversity and to live a better life. Today, globalisation, together with advances in communications and transportation, has greatly increased the number of people who have the desire and the capacity to move to other places. This new era has created challenges and opportunities for societies throughout the world. It also has served to underscore the clear linkage between migration and development, as well as the opportunities it provides for co-development, that is, the concerted improvement of economic and social conditions at both origin and destination.

International Migrants Day is celebrated yearly on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December. International Migrants Day is an international day observed for taking into account the large and increasing number of migrants in the world. On December 18, 1990, the General Assembly adopted the international convention on the protection of the rights of migrant workers and members of their families.

Migration is firmly on the global agenda. In fact, the first United Nations side event on migration took place last year. As for national agenda, the summit in Malta brought African and European leaders together to discuss pertinent issues on migration. Besides, Canada's new government has sounded a Clarion call, taking 25,000 thousand refugees in a rapid, regulated, and welcoming mass intake. In Asia, governments have gathered to seek a regional solution to the migration crisis in the Andaman Sea.

We, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY) tackled a theme 'Youth Migration: A Step from Haven' in the 13<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue. This theme realised to fulfil the principal opinions of young people and to form, educate, increase awareness on the adversities and prerogatives of youth migration in the different levels of society that young people represented. We seek to help all nations whenever it is possible to fulfil their responsibility to assist and protect mobile populations because migrants are more likely to be subject to hardship, human rights violations and discrimination in crisis situations.

Let's honor International Migrants Day with a call to action to lift up and respect human rights of all migrants, and to commit to challenge and end all forms of racism and Xenophobia.

We, at WAY, would like to wish you all a Happy International Migrants Day!



#### International Human Solidarity Day

Bridging the gaps to reach the Millennium Development Goals 20 December

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN SOLIDARITY DAY DATE: 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016

Solidarity is identified in the Millennium Declaration as one of the fundamental values of international relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, wherein those who either suffer or benefit least deserve help from those who benefit most. Consequently, in the context of globalisation and the challenge of growing inequality, strengthening of international solidarity is indispensable.

At the end of each year, solidarity is without a doubt the most important value to aspire in the increasingly smaller and convergent world we live in. Each year, December 20<sup>th</sup> marks International Human Solidarity Day, when universal values and core underlying aspirations among peoples from around the world are celebrated and encouraged. Young people more than ever are central to the process of building a more harmonious and integrated societies that strive against poverty, war, human rights abuses and intolerance.

This year's celebration of Human Solidarity Day comes after leaders of the world adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is a new, inclusive development agenda succeeding the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to eradicate poverty, protect the planet and ensure dignity for all. The new SDGs agenda is centred on both planet and its people, underpinned by human rights and supported by a global partnership determined to lift people out of poverty, hunger and disease. It will be thus built on a foundation of global cooperation and solidarity.

World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has achieved several goals since the last Action Plan that was issued. In our third and present Millennium Plan of Action, we focus on recent issues affecting youth around the globe which are now part of the Sustainable Development Goals. There is a need to call for awareness so as to train the youth and youth leaders to work together in solidarity and make essential changes in matters affecting them. We focus on these particular issues and setting our efforts towards developing young people in helping those who needed to create a better future for the youth and everyone around the world.

On this year International Human Solidarity Day, let us work collectively as one to halt all kinds of sufferings and achieve a brighter as well as sustainable tomorrow.

Happy Human Solidarity Day!

# BULLETIN 2016

The bulletins provided below are monthly compilations of youth related news and broadcasts from continents worldwide. These bulletins are central to keep our members up-to-date on proceedings concerning the young people.

#### **QUARTER ONE: JANUARY TO MARCH 2016**

Click This Link to View Our <u>January 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>February 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>March 2016 Bulletin</u>

#### **QUARTER TWO: APRIL TO JUNE 2016**

Click This Link to View Our <u>April 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>May 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>June 2016 Bulletin</u>

#### QUARTER THREE: JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2016

Click This Link to View Our <u>July 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>August 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>September 2016 Bulletin</u>

#### QUARTER FOUR: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2015

Click This Link to View Our <u>October 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>November 2016 Bulletin</u> Click This Link to View Our <u>December 2016 Bulletin</u>

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

					WORLD A	SSEMBLY C	F YOUTH						
									0016				
INCOME / EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2016													
INCOME (RM)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	Total
Balance b/d (WAY Aids Fund)	7,535.00												7,535.00
Balance b/d (Maybank)	9,217.89	9,216.30	(22.017.29)	(39,113.11)	(38,460.79)	(29,676.39)	(22 759 72)	(54,734.98)		(26,576.63)	(61,994.25)	(10.276.72)	9,217.89
Membership Fees	9,217.89	9,210.30	(32,917.28)	(39,113.11)	(38,400.79)	(29,676.39)	(32,758.72)	(54,734.98)	(76,705.05)	(20,570.03)	(01,994.25)	(19,276.72)	9,217.8
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·													
Corporate Donations-WAY													0.00
Government Funding-WAY													0.00
Corporate/Govt. Sponsorships- events					10,000.00		50,000.00						60,000.00
Loan	23,440.00		30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	30,000.00		92,000.00		75,000.00	60,000.00	400,440.00
Conference Fees													0.00
-MIYD16						56,319.11		1,400.00					57,719.11
-other events													0.00
Insurance Refund				37.25	42.94			40.59	141.10				261.88
Air Ticket Refunds													0.00
Others													0.00
Management Fee													0.00
Total Income	32,657.89	9,216.30	(2,917.28)	(9,075.86)	1,582.15	56,642.72	47,241.28	(53,294.39)	15,436.05	(26,576.63)	13,005.75	40,723.28	527,638.88
EXPENDITURE (RM)													
Salaries	20,670.00	20,598.00	21,384.00	19,970.00	20,230.00	20,020.00	18,408.00	17,923.00	17,335.00	16,467.00	17,014.00	16,950.00	226,969.00
Incentives													0.00
Utilities	43.40	2,338.60	1,523.95	2,037.63	2,207.12	2,096.28	1,711.35	1,428.12	1,596.17	1,527.70	1,317.21	1,211.01	19,038.54
WAY - General Assembly XVI													0.00
WAY Conference / Meeting - MIYD16			411.40	67.10	398.70	56,030.00	77,068.90		3,800.00				137,776.10
WAY Events/workshop						301.15							301.15

Air Tickets													0.00
Travel Allowances		10 222 20		1,967.15		2 750 75			10 170 25	12 012 05	6 107 45		
		10,333.30		1,967.15		3,759.75			10,178.35	13,012.95	6,107.45		45,358.95
Creditors													0.00
Staff Claims	937.00	4,299.40	2,057.25	1,232.25	1,702.30	2,404.75	2,196.85	563.00	3,354.00	1,785.45	3,670.70	1,101.30	25,304.25
Bank Charges	1.59		26.13	12.72	60.95	18.55	9.01	25.07	20.70	11.66	19.61	51.04	257.03
Printing & Stationery	585.40	180.50	230.90	449.20		177.00	255.05	142.30	180.30	160.50	180.40	131.80	2,673.35
Postage	36.90			350.00					9.55				396.45
Subscriptions	102.80	125.60	116.00	118.70	113.90	111.50	124.10	119.60	118.50	121.40	112.70	114.20	1,399.00
Fuel, Tolls & Parking	300.00	506.00	507.00	521.00	632.00	573.00	376.80	310.00	997.40	650.00	579.50	350.00	6,302.70
Insurance			8,285.85						1,096.51				9,382.36
MV - maintenance, Insu. & Tax		827.75	36.95	807.00	1,321.57	1,369.66	202.35	1,141.92	810.00	118.75	1,238.45		7,874.40
Asset		570.00							1,280.00				1,850.00
Deposit													0.00
Office expenses	331.50	332.20	327.30	326.85	345.70	332.70	286.30	350.80	356.20	361.55	351.05	363.25	4,065.40
Office Equip -Maintenance &	433.00	262.23	409.10	645.33	567.70	1,327.10	457.55	526.85		320.66	811.40	903.25	6,664.17
serv.		1 700 00	000.00	000.00	000.00	880.00	000.00	000.00	880.00	880.00	000.00	000.00	10.500.00
Rent		1,760.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	880.00	10,560.00
Audit					1,653.60								1,653.60
Accounting					1,145.00								1,145.00
cash in hand													0.00
Total Expenditure	23,441.59	42,133.58	36,195.83	29,384.93	31,258.54	89,401.44	101,976.26	23,410.66	42,012.68	35,417.62	32,282.47	22,055.85	508,971.45
Balance c/f (Maybank)	9,216.30	(32,917.28)	(39,113.11)	(38,460.79)	(29,676.39)	(32,758.72)	(54,734.98)	(76,705.05)	(26,576.63)	(61,994.25)	(19,276.72)	18,667.43	18,667.43
Balance c/f (WAY Aids Fund)													7,535.00

# CONCLUSION

Since its adoption on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS) have been a major focus of many organisations and parties at all levels in the societies. The year 2016 has been a runway for these 17 Global Goals resulting many awareness activities and educational campaigns conducted to introduce the goals to all stakeholders, especially to young people.

This year was indeed filled with many inspiring attempts in raising awareness on the pertinence of SDGs. Fortunately, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) have been providential enough to take part, jointly organise and even host many of those programmes and activities. This year was also a year to witness implausible dedication and commitment shown by young people coming from various background and nations towards attainment of SDGs and sustainable tomorrow.

In year 2016, major emphasis has been shown on the fields of environment and peace. In fact, our theme of 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (16<sup>th</sup> MIYD) was on 'Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care' which highlighted on young people roles towards combating environmental deterioration and achieving environmental sustainability. As well as, find innovative solutions by adopting sustainable living in which the coexistence with the nature shall be tailored in every activity and at all levels of the society. Besides, there were several other partnering programmes which also picked SDGs as their focus, particularly on the matters pertaining to the world peace, such as: the 2016 Global Youth Peace Fest (11<sup>th</sup> GYPF) and the 2016 Global Youth Peace Exchange (GYPE).

As for upcoming years to come, we shall mitigate awareness-based programmes and activities on SDGs and work on projects as well as action-based activities. We wish that year 2017 will be packed with executive strategy towards attainment of global goals. Bearing that in mind, we fully understand that collaboration and partnership are the keys to success. Moreover, we acknowledge that our achievements in year 2016 would not be made possible without joint effort with our member organisations and partners from all over the world. Thus, we wish that these well-built collaboration and endless support shall continue boosting our solid partnerships as we embark on a new year with fiery drive to make our ends meet.

However, it does not indicate that our journey in 2016 was flawless. Despite of all the challenges that we encountered, we were taught from our imperfection and hold greatly on result-based resilience. It is part of our tradition that at the end of each year, evaluation is performed to analyse and benchmark between the effort put and the apparent result. This report shall determine the level of accomplishments and possible improvements for the following year.

The WAY Annual Report 2016 shall serve as our forward measure towards better headway in the future and means of expressing gratitude to all involved parties during this year's journey.

Thank you all!

## APPENDICES

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ONLINE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016

"It's the fire in my eyes, and the flash of my teeth, the swing in my waist, and the joy in my feet. I'm a woman phenomenally. It's in the click of my heels, the bend of my hair, the palm of my hand, the need of my care, 'Cause I'm a woman phenomenally. Phenomenal woman, that's me. " ~ Maya Angelou ~

Women encounter challenges every day. Apart from sharing their communities, struggles over limited resources like jobs, many systematically face discrimination simply by virtue of being female. Young women around the globe possess the collective power to change their lives, their communities and even the world that we live in. Alas, that potential is often disregarded.

International Women's Day is annually held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March to celebrate women's achievements in the past, present and future days. It is a day when women are acknowledged for their accomplishments without regard to their individual division, nationality, ethnic, linguistic, cultural and economic background. It is also known as the United Nations (UN) Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.

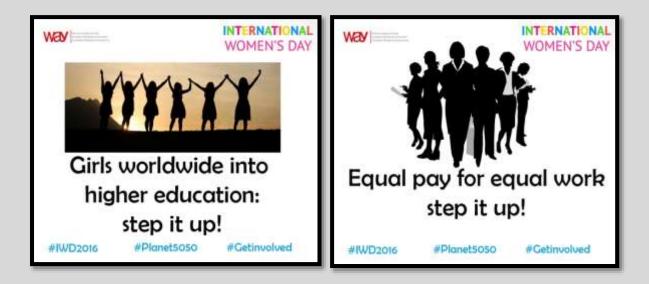
This Day aims to highlight the importance of creating conditions for the elimination of discrimination against women and their full as well as equal participation in social development. Since its celebration in early years, International Women's Day has assumed a new global facet for women in developed and developing countries

The 2016 theme for International Women's Day is '*Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality*'. The idea of this theme is to consider how to accelerate the 2030 Agenda, building momentum for the effective implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal number five -Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls- and number 4 –Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. The theme will also focus on new commitments under UN Women's Step It Up initiative and other existing commitments on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's human rights.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) believe that empowerment for women and girls are vital to the development of societies. Women and girls that are empowered to basic education are better equipped to fulfil their potential and contribute their best effort to the societies. They are essential for a sustainable development and constructive progress of all of their family members, the household, communities and their nation as a whole. By achieving gender equality, sustainable development will be inclusive leading to a balance in every aspect at all levels of the societies. So, let us this year step it up together in both promoting and espousing the practice of gender equality in every of our daily activity.













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**GLOBAL MONEY WEEK ONLINE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN** 9<sup>TH</sup> TO 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2016



#### **GLOBAL MONEY WEEK NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS FORUM (NIGERIA)** 22<sup>ND</sup> AND 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2016

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### BY EBRIKU JOHN FRIDAY, ABUJA To Re-double Effort On World Money Week: SEC Financial Literacy

Commission (SEC) of Nigeria in commem-Comrade Preye J. Ketebu-Brown in Compaof Youth (WAY) led by its vice president, ceiving delegation of World Assembly eracy programme for children and youths. 9, the Security Exchange Commission has to celebrate the 2016 World Money Week" oration of the week solidarity visit to the Security and Exchange ny of a national multi-stakeholders Forum and activities in the area of financial litreiterated it resolve to double its efforts As Nigeria joined the rest of the nations ed by Amb. Prince Felix Ihonre as part of The commission stated this while re-

is almost concluded, educational curriculum as initiated by SEC duding financial literacy education in the salam, expressed appreciation of manage-ment for the visit and the honour done SEC by her inclusion in the Global Money Week Corporate Communication, Mr. Naif Abdus-2016 celebrations saying that work on in-Director-General of Commission, Head of Receiving the delegation on behalf of the

nancial Literacy Clubs" in some schools He added that SEC has introduced "Fi

global ers of the ECOWAS Community (ROAJELF) such as the Network of Young Female Leadholder youth organizations based in Nigeria across the World including Regional stake-SEC on WAY's partnership with Child and and the Nigeria Youth Parliament (NYP). of Regional and National Youth Councils Youth Finance International (CYFI) at the across the tederation. Earlier, Ketebu-Brown enlightened the level to ensure full participation



meeting, held at the party's Secretariat in Abuja, yesterday, PHORO BY REMI AKUMENAN Ramatu Tijani; President Muhammadu Buhari and APC National Chairman, Chief Odigle Oyegun, during the APC, National Executive Council

# Peacekeeping: China Supports ECOWAS With Military Equipment

BY RALIAT AHMED-YUSUF, Adult

itary equipment. Republic of China has supported the ations, the Government of the People's rican Region in its peace keeping oper ECOWAS Standby Force (ESF) with mil-As part of efforts to assist the West Al

sion yesterday, at the Mogadishu Canly handed over to the ECOWAS Commis-The donated equipment was formal

equipment was in recognition of the trethe donation of the non-lethal military sador to Nigeria, Mr. Gu Xiaojie said tonment, in Abuja, Nigeria. cendous efforts of ECOWAS towards In his remarks, the Chinese Ambas

maintaining peace and stability in the

playing active role in maintaining peace of the United Nations Security Council is region. which is the reason China as a member nomic development and social cohesion, ful coexistence as a prerequisite for econa recognizes the importance of peace Xiaojie noted that government of Chi

assistance to the region within its capac-Chinese people will continue to provide around 5 million USD, was in line with and stability around the world tionship with Africa, he added that the the 5 point agenda of China in its rela donation of these equipment valued at The ambassador pointed out that the to ESE.

ity and capability

velopment. the integrating role of ECOWAS in bring ESF is a symbol of China's recognition of States, therefore the donation made to tionship with ECOWAS and its Member ing the region together for peace and deyears China had enjoyed excellent rela-He reiterated that for more than 40

the donation of the the government and people of China for the important role China is playing in the development of West Africa and thanked ident of the ECOWAS Commission, Mr Kadre Desire Ouedraogo, acknowledged While speaking at the event, the Pres La dal THOM

#### GLOBAL BUBBLE PARADE IN CONJUNCTION WITH YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION, MALAYSIA 28<sup>TH</sup> – 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 @ 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM BANDAR HILIR, MELAKA

"The foundation of every state is the education of its youth" ~Diogenes~

Young people are not only the leaders of tomorrow; they are the leaders of today. A nation's most valuable resource is its young people. Young people represent our national future and embody national prosperity. Youth require equal access to educational achievement that befits their innate ability no matter if they are from urban, rural or remote communities, regardless of their low socioeconomic, indigenous, homeless backgrounds, in situation of being a refugee or a young parent, in the juvenile justice system or in the care of the state.

International Youth Day (IYD) is the invention of the United Nations, and was first celebrated on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2000, after the UN General Assembly passed a resolution accepting the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in Lisbon in 1998. It is celebrated annually on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August focusing on the rights of young people to have full access to education, adequate healthcare, employment opportunities, financial services and full participation in public life as well as their contributions.

The theme of the 2016 International Youth Day is 'The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production'. This year's International Youth Day emphasises on achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly on the leading role of young people in ensuring poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development through sustainable consumption and production.

Sustainable consumption involves the use of products and services that meet the basic needs of communities while upholding the needs of future generations. The growth and promotion of individual choices and actions that increase the eco-efficiency of consumption and minimise waste and pollution are critical for achieving equitable socioeconomic development. Yet, many young men and women face barriers to certain green consumption choices. Those barriers to sustainable consumption choices include the high prices of goods and services and a lack of information about the available options.

Increasing resource efficiency and moving toward sustainable production can contribute significantly in meeting the basic needs of all people, including youth, by making food, water and energy more accessible and affordable to those living in poverty. Investing in sustainable production also creates new markets and employment opportunities which help to achieve social inclusion in the societies.

World Assembly of Youth (WAY) works for the promotion of youth issues and youth organisations in programme areas such as: youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training. As an international-scaled organisation whose aims are not only at its contribution of actively resolving youth-related matters but also its coordination of national youth councils, WAY has been known for its concern towards welfare of youth, worldwide.

Acknowledging the International Youth Day, we encourage everyone, youth inclusive, to be proactive in working together in order to make effective changes in improving the wellbeing of young people. Let us support the youth initiatives by giving righteous voices that they deserve as it is not enough to hope only for a better tomorrow, instead, we must progressively act now. Change is in progress and the drive to its success is in the hands of young people.

Happy International Youth Day!

#### "It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness." ~ Charles Spurgeon ~

#### "Happiness is the meaning and purpose of life, the whole aim and end of human existence." $\sim$ Aristotle $\sim$

What is happiness? Is it subjective or can we put an objective value on it? How can and should we pursue happiness? The word of happiness is used frequently in our lives, and most of us strive to be happy. However, defining happiness can be knotty as there are many diverse routes to happiness subjected to an individual priority of life.

The concept of happiness is indeed straightforward; it is a state of mind, pleasant emotion made of love, inner peace, joy, contentment and fulfilment. It is an art that can be cultivated by focusing and being grateful on small things in life which are often ignored, but carry a lot of meaning. We all do our utmost and spend our entire lives for achieving success, more money, better career and greater wealth in order to attain happiness. Oppositely, the truth happiness is derived from the contentment of what we have - health, relationships, peace of mind, gratitude, kindness, love, faith and so forth and being grateful of every opportunity given to strive for betterment. Happiness is, without a doubt, our choice.

Realising the value of happiness, International Day of Happiness is, then, celebrated globally on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2016. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The International Day of Happiness recognises the relevance of happiness and well-being as universal goals and aspirations in the lives of human beings.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), recognise this day as an essential human goal and we call upon countries, youth councils, NGOs and young people inclusive to approach public policies in ways that improve the well being of everyone. By recognising this day, WAY aspires to focus global attention on the idea that nation's growth must be inclusive, equitable and above all balanced, so as to promote sustainable development. We believe that by 2030 the plan for Sustainable Development is the time to realise a life of dignity for all people by progressing towards the interlinked Sustainable Development Goals; we can help spread happiness and secure peace for better tomorrow that we all wish for.

Let us make happiness our primary goal because life is yours and to live to its fullest is your choice!



To achieve a global peace, the youth must first learn how to love and respect people of different culture.



To achieve zero hunger we must teach the youth to become job creators instead of job seekers.



Gender equality must become a lived reality because it is not a woman issue, it is a human issue, It affects us all.



we are sure to get their quality participation in SDGs.



To achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs), we need the co-operation from all sectors including the military.

#### 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE "YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE, OUR CARE" 26<sup>TH</sup> to 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016 KINGS GREEN HOTEL, MELAKA

#### 16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE "YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE, OUR CARE" 26-30 JUNE 2016 KINGS GREEN HOTEL, MELAKA, MALAYSIA



#### DECLARATION

#### 1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 We, the 160 young people from 56 countries around the world, attended the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), convened in Melaka from 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2016 for an annual program organised by the World Assembly of Youth (WAY).
- 1.2 Recognising the vital role of young people on environment, and following the recent adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement, WAY has made an obligation to encompass the sustainability of environment as an enduring concern faced by the youth and themed the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue **"Youth for Environmental Sustainability: Our Future, Our Care"**.
- 1.3 This theme has emphasised on the actions that young people and other stakeholders should take towards combating environmental deterioration and attaining environmental sustainability. This dialogue has identified the roles and concerns of all stakeholders towards environmental issues, and declared that now is the right time and opportunity to act in partnership.

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

• To promote awareness and empower young people in advocating towards environmental sustainability;

- To advance the role of youth and actively involve them in the protection of the environment and the promotion of economic and social development;
- To foster action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the environment, as well as the society;
- To address the determinants of environmental deterioration and its impact to the society, young people inclusive;
- To identify the roles and contribution of different sectors i.e. public sector, private sector, NGOs and others, in supporting young people's effort towards environmental sustainability;
- To identify and gather good practices, challenges, experiences, and lessons learned from the national youth councils towards improving or amending the current policies in order to preserve the environment and promote sustainable living;
- To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing the preservation of the environment;
- To foster networking, collaboration and partnership among youth and all stakeholders in order to address the issue of environmental sustainability;

#### 2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

2.1 Participants have identified key recommendations for implementation by stakeholders including: public sector, private sector, NGOs/IGOs, media, and young people alike. In addition, participants also established commitments and outcomes in pursuit of a sustainable environment globally.

#### 2.1 PUBLIC SECTOR

- 2.1.1. To create, implement and enforce local, national and trans-national eco-policies related to biodiversity, eco-system, aquaculture, heritage, rainforest, green-living, flora and fauna, etc.
- 2.1.2. To strengthen existing environmental laws in line with global agreements, communique and resolutions.
- 2.1.3. To support environment friendly projects by subsidising investment in green and social initiatives.
- 2.1.4. To provide resources for youth-based programmes and initiatives, including youth organizations geared towards the attainment of environmental sustainability.
- 2.1.5. To impose Taxes on non-recyclable commodities in order to prompt relevant stakeholders in finding eco-friendly alternatives.
- 2.1.6. To provide for an equalisation fund that would preserve biotope and avoid further deterioration of environment.
- 2.1.7. To include theoretical and practical programmes on environmental sustainability in the curriculum, at all levels of formal, informal and non-formal education.

- 2.1.8. To provide adequate resources for environmental regulatory agencies, and promote severe penalties on violators of environmental laws.
- 2.1.9. To ensure that relevant stakeholders comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in order to mitigate the negative impact of their activities on the environment.

#### 2.2 PRIVATE SECTOR

- 2.2.1 To promote market research that would consider environmental protection at every stage of business development.
- 2.2.2 To invest adequate amount of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) resources for the pursuit of related environmental sustainability programmes.
- 2.2.3 To encourage eco-friendly behaviour by applying the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) in and out of the work place.
- 2.2.4 To offer affordable and accessible eco-friendly products and services through innovation in order to conserve the natural environment.
- 2.2.5 To take initiative, ownership and responsibility for effective waste management and design innovative solutions for waste disposal in an eco-friendly manner.
- 2.2.6 To pledge not to discharge hazardous materials into water bodies.
- 2.2.7 To create a linkage between economic and social development in order to achieve environmental sustainability.
- 2.2.8 To encourage partnership with relevant stakeholders, youth inclusive, using directed environmental awareness campaigns.

#### 2.3 NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

- 2.3.1 To design, support and carry out environmental programmes, projects and activities for the betterment of society.
- 2.3.2 To intensify community based engagement in environmental protection and preservation.
- 2.3.3 To research, monitor and form independent, grass-root based reports on the current status of environment.
- 2.3.4 To develop impactful and content-oriented awareness campaigns, using the latest tools: social media, crowd funding services, etc.
- 2.3.5 To streamline focus of NGOs and not to stray from the original path and goal towards the protection of environment.
- 2.3.6 To create training and capacity building programmes designed to empower the youth in the field of environment advocacy to the decision makers.
- 2.3.7 To appoint youth green-ambassadors who would propagate their efforts to the relevant stakeholders in order to strengthen cross-sectorial collaboration.

#### 2.4 MEDIA

- 2.4.1 To dedicate space in all media outlets that would promote environmentally related issues on a daily basis, to constantly remind readers on the danger of environmental degradation and deterioration.
- 2.4.2 To periodically share impactful environmental news, good practices, and green innovations to the broader public through public and private media.
- 2.4.3 To create educational programmes for young people in order to teach them about protection, preservation and methods of advocating for environmental sustainability.
- 2.4.4 To encourage the general public in taking an active role in the production of media content related to environmental issues.
- 2.4.5 To influence all stakeholders in developing and implementing vital policies for achieving environmental sustainability.

#### 2.5 YOUTH

- 2.5.1 To create and implement environmental awareness programmes and activities to be carried out by the youth for the youth.
- 2.5.2 To engage in meaningful activities those promote environmental sustainability and development for all.
- 2.5.3 To create trends those promote environmental sustainability via social media and other avenues.
- 2.5.4 To establish platforms that would strengthen the role of young people in the decision making process and implementation on environmental sustainability at the local, national, regional and international level.
- 2.5.5 To nurture positive values within their communities by continually applying the principles of the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) in their daily lives.

#### 3 CONCLUSION

We, the participants of the 16<sup>th</sup> Melaka International Youth Dialogue, recognise the importance of empowering and equipping the young people with the right knowledge, skills and proper attitude to protect and preserve the environment for the current and future generations. Recognising that in line with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement we, the young people should be at the forefront of universal transformation taking actions in order to save our Mother Earth. Hence, we believe that with the continuous support of all the stakeholders, we should reach our desired goal which is the environmental sustainability for all.

Albania Algeria Australia Azerbaijan Bangladesh Botswana Cambodia Chad China Colombia **Czech Republic** Djibouti Egypt Ethiopia Fiji Gabon Germany Ghana India Indonesia Iran Iraq Jordan Libya Malaysia Mongolia Myanmar Namibia Nepal

New Zealand Nigeria Pakistan Papua New Guinea Philippines Poland Romania Rwanda Saudi Arabia Senegal Singapore Somalia South Korea Sudan Switzerland Syria Tanzania Thailand Togo Tunisia Turkey Uganda **United Emirates Arab** United Kingdom United States of America Venezuela Yemen Zimbabwe

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IDRIS dan Wan Junaidi serta tetamu lain bersu Ke-16 di King Green Hotel, semalam. serta Program Dialog Bella Antarab



**KETUA Menteri, Datuk** Seri Ir. Idris Haron mahu golongan muda menjadi sebahagian daripada entiti penting dalam usaha menangani isu kelestarian alam sekitar di peringkat global dan berharap semua pihak menghormati suara orang muda yang turut berjuang mencari solusi terhadap permasalahan 3 tersebut.

#### EVENT/COMICS & PUZZLES



TUESDAY









#### 277TH INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM WORLD YOUTH AND HEALTH

#### 19<sup>th</sup> TO 26<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2016 SEOUL AND MUJU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

#### YOUTH DECLARATION

#### THE 27<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

#### PRE-AMBULATORY CLAUSES

Recognizing the gathering of 81 youths from over 29 countries in Seoul and Muju, Korea, to resolve various health issues,

Highlighting the importance of technology in everyday living was emphasized in the goal 9 of the sustainable development goals,

Noting that Global Health Technology Coalition was set up in the year 2009 to save and improve the lives by encouraging the research and development of essential health technologies,

Noting the extra support and education of the Russian government to help its indigenous group and providing of the mobile clinic boat for the people living in the rural areas by the Malaysian government,

Highlighting one of the main issues in environment and pollution is air pollution. In the ASEAN region, one of the main highlights is the ratification of the ASEAN Agreement on Transboundary Haze Pollution among ASEAN member states, which legally binds member countries to the requirement of acting on own or through collaborating with other member states to resolve the haze problem,

Noting the efforts of Germany in the use of solar power in the country to replace coal plants and to reduce carbon emissions,

Realizing that proper health care is more than just infrastructure, efficient services and safe environment play a vital role in delivering proper Healthcare,

Defining the role of education as deemed necessary in improving the health conditional in national and international level. The regional office of WHO for the Eastern Mediterranean has provided us many success story of the Implementation of health education in increasing the health of people. For example, worksite programs including Informational and

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educational strategies and also behavioral and social strategies have been proven to reduce weight, percentage body fat and body mass index to control overweight and obesity,

Noting that since the outbreak of SARS in 2003, a reported 8273 people died in a spar of 9 months. Due to successful measures conducted by WHO and several other organizations no causes of SARS have been documented,

Defining food is "Any beneficial substance that can be taken in by the body," and drug is "A substance produced for the consumption and benefit of a specific group," Inevitably, foods and drugs have many similarities. Food and drugs are, in essence for the people, by the people, of the people,

Recognizing that the health of international youth includes Mental Health, the definition of the respective terms encompassing more than 200 classified forms of mental illness including not limited to, depression, bipolar disorder, dementia, schizophrenia and anxiety disorders,

Recognizing that issues related to addiction are dealt with through tactics that are not conducive to the eradication of the addiction or mental illness they are intended to contain, this includes, but is not limited to, aggressive prosecution of abusive addicts and restriction of public information about treatment options,

Recognizing the efforts of the United Nations, International Organizations, and Non-Governmental Organizations, and the progress made by these respective organizations in improving the health and welfare of youth international in the field of Health,

#### **OPERATIVE CLAUSES**

#### COUNCIL: EDUCATION

**Paragraph 1**: As much as we can do, through our networks, we will build strong structures throughout the respective regions we belong to and dedicate ourselves to work with our national and local governments, including, but not limited to socio-civic groups and non-government organizations (NGOs). This is to basically have a strategic mechanism for disseminating information as to where and how youth can be a part of the processes which include healthcare service delivery, planning and implementation of health policies. Hence, making voices of young people heard in these processes. Despite having various policy frameworks put in place to improve global world health, it is evident that youth participation remains a concern. The potential of youth involvement has yet to be fully realized and requires further strengthening and to increase the participation and involvement of youth in the area of their own health issues, all programs (not only those pertaining to health) should be "youth-specific" and build upon youth channels of communication. Moreover, creating a healthy, safe and sustainable environment needs to be realized by including these concerns as point for discussion in the government, non-government and international organizations.

**Paragraph 2**: We would encourage youth to strengthen the spirit of volunteerism by joining institutions and organizations to educate people from the local communities (especially regions where access to programs is completely inadequate) regarding living a healthy

lifestyle. We see volunteerism as one of the preventive measures that can be maximized to increase awareness toward various health concerns. Hence, we will promote participation of youth in educational and community-based programs together with NGOs and health practitioners. We affirm that through the short-term programs held by NGOs, youth can be trained to have deeper understanding about the health issues and subsequently gain the membership to be a part of a certain group so that they can continuously contribute to the community by resolving health issues.

#### COUNCIL: ENVIRONMENT AND POLLUTION DECLARATION

**Paragraph 1: Education:** The youth will be instrumental in the combat against environmental pollution in the future. The youth will be the ones who staff governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations that are involved in addressing pollution issues. Thus, environmental issues should be incorporated into academic curricula to enhance awareness of environmental issues. Also, training and talent development programs can be introduced by governments across countries to build law enforcement capacities. This should also involve older citizens in organizations for the ease of implementation of the environmental policies.

**Paragraph 2: Involvement in policy-making.** Governments should conduct questionnaires and polls through social media and community outreach programs to hear about the opinions of the youth in environment and pollution, which will then be duly considered in policy-making. A quota of positions should be created among non-governmental organizations to ensure youth representation.

**Paragraph 3: Youth's engagement in activism:** Increasing awareness through social media and other relevant programs among the youth and other older community members on ways to address environmental issues, informing the youth on community clean-up projects targeting the environment and sustainable ways of living in terms of transportation, food and energy choices.

#### COUNCIL: FOOD AND DRUG

**Paragraph 1:** At the global level, governments should cooperate to fight drug addiction by setting international standards. At the national level, governments should also cooperate with private companies and organizations to refine and enforce these standards in their respective countries. Governments should report their progress to international organizations such as the United Nations so these international organizations can analyze the effectiveness of the drug legislations and suggest future actions for the nations.

**Paragraph 2:** Youths undergo a time of rapid physiological change, mental stress, conflicts and various other anomalies and have to solve a lot of internal problems. The reason why youths abuse drugs is because personal and social factors such as family, school and society pressure youths in various ways. In order to establish effective preventative measures, first it is necessary to investigate the exact reasons behind youth drug abuse and analyze those results, as well as working with the families, schools to provide appropriate rehabilitation policies. Therefore, because there are many youths who do not have the ability to decide

what is right and wrong, appropriate education is necessary to set proper values to steer them away from drug abuse.

#### COUNCIL: MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION

**Paragraph 1:** Encourages that member states de-stigmatize mental illness and addiction among youth by initiating public information campaigns and promoting awareness through public media in light of the fact that addiction and mental afflictions are often ignored; socially discriminated against, and stigmatized in many societies internationally; making their treatment difficult; and awareness about treatment and improvement nonexistent; recognizing that that the health of international youth includes Mental Health, the definition of the respective terms encompassing more than 200 classified forms of mental illnesses including but not limited to depression, bipolar disorder, dementia, schizophrenia and anxiety disorders.

**Paragraph 2:** Urges member states to pursue policies that do not involve the incarceration and punishment of individuals afflicted with mental health issues, but rather treat their conditions as a matter of public health that is dealt with remediation and therapy which allows a more successful re-integration of an individual into society as a functioning member in light of the fact that issues related to addiction are dealt with through tactics that are not conducive to the eradication of the addiction or mental illness they are intended to contain, this includes, but is not limited to, aggressive prosecution of abusive addicts and restriction of public information about treatment options.

**Paragraph 3:** Calls for member states to establish educational programs that incorporate information about mental health and addiction into the curricula of school classes to promote the understanding that the health of youth is an imperative that we must pursue to ensure the social and economic vitality and quality of life that is connected directly with the state of public health.

**Paragraph 4:** Encourages the cooperation of member states with non-governmental organizations, in order to provide facilities tailored to local communities and specific conditions to continue to support the efforts of the United Nations, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations, and the progress made by these respective organizations in improving the health and welfare of youth internationally in the field of mental health.

#### **COUNCIL: MINORITIES**

**Paragraph 1:** This objective has a myriad approach in improving access respective to the issue being addressed. For people who speak in a language that is not as prevalent, there is a higher rate of attrition in failed treatment purely due to not understanding information available in English or some other major language. The youth can provide some translation services who know both the major language of the sourced information and then assist communities who suffer from this issue by providing this much needed service. Related to the issue of the single mothers in Korea who are forced to give up their child due to these monetary and support constraints, we aim to alleviate this pressure by improving on the existing support systems

such as the baby box and to introduce a more comprehensive program for family planning before a pregnancy or during one. The youth in this objective can offer their time to support these productive enterprises by direct assistive means. Youth can work in the baby box programs to assist in its effective procedure.

In many communities, it is believed that western medicine is not as effective as the treatment given by local traditional medicine. It is this line of reasoning that no matter how much effort is made into offering medical treatment, the appropriate response is not recorded. But programs in Russia have shown how it is possible to influence these communities. By targeting youth, they are able to expose them to the correct or favorable reactions to modern healthcare and once they are back in their communities, they are able to influence the elders. In Russia, this is achieved through providing the youth opportunities to come to more modern places to influence their opinion. Doing this globally and in these communities will greatly influence this perception.

**Paragraph 2:** A major issue in rural areas is the lack of medical professionals willing to work in these areas due to their being more lucrative positions elsewhere. These communities, as a result, suffer from lack of healthcare. Governments such as Malaysia provide a subsidy for medical professionals who choose to work in these areas by offering them an additional award for days worked.

Mobile clinics and these health professionals must be able to articulate the reasons for choosing to work in these areas. They can only logically work in these areas if the cost is at least reciprocated by the benefit that they will provide in economic sense. Youth, with their abundance of time, interest, and energy can choose to alleviate some of these costs by working the roles that are traditionally more labor intensive.

**Paragraph 3:** The influence that is held by governing bodies in both international and domestic can do much to help the minority groups. Lack of awareness for this small but severely marginalized group has devastating consequences. Bodies such as the UN and ministries of health in respective countries hold much political capital that can be expended to direct the efforts that we propose.

The youth in this situation hold a lot of influence in drafting this resolution. Advising boards of the UN hold youth ambassadorship positions that are created to specifically for this purpose: to bring referendums to the major ruling body in the UN.

**Paragraph 4:** Infrastructure is an extraordinary important aspect of healthcare. Both in terms of the structures built to service the populace and the transportation to reach this destination. Hospital structures and other dedicated health structures are very expensive and cost orienting parts of the healthcare industry. A dedicated structure won't be built unless there is ample proof that the cost of running and building the institution can be supported. In these cases, there are many examples of government subsidies for building projects. But in many cases this is still not enough.

To alleviate the remaining pressure of building, a Habitat for Humanity response for this seems to be very adept. By replacing costs with human capital we ask the youth to provide, this drives down costs enough to support these constructions.

#### **COUNCIL: REGULATIONS**

**Paragraph 1:** Governments should ensure the right to healthcare of young people is upheld through the provision of a comprehensive package of sexual and reproductive health services that are affordable, safe, accessible, confidential, youth-friendly and of the highest quality. These services must be developed and monitored using a rights-based perspective and with the active involvement of young people. The central governments should increase efficiency of local governments on health care services since they are easily accessed by youth.

**Paragraph 2:** Governments should provide a legal environment that empowers young people to claim and exercise their rights while eliminating any chance of gender discrimination in relation to health care. This should be aimed at ensuring that existing legislations (such as those on testing HIV and AIDS) are liberalized to remove any parental or spousal consent, notification laws and age restrictions on seeking health services.

**Paragraph 3:** The governments should push for the incorporation of comprehensive sexuality education. Reference made to the U.N. Comprehensive Sexuality Education an age-appropriate, culturally relevant approach to teaching about sex and relationships by providing scientifically accurate, realistic, nonjudgmental information, this type of education should be designed to provide opportunities for exploration of one's own values and attitudes and to build decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills about many aspects of sexuality. It should have a full range of information, skills and values to enable young people to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights and to make decisions about their health and sexuality.

#### COUNCIL: TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC MEASURES

**Paragraph 1**: The delegation acknowledges the inherent flaw in the accessibility of medical information, medical infrastructure and research facilities in developing countries. To address these intricate issues, there should be long term investment between the developing and developed world to promote technological advancement and exchange of research. WHO and global health technologies coalition should work with federal government along with youth innovators to assess individual nation needs and ultimately provide and promote partnerships including technological mentorship.

**Paragraph 2:** In addition to collaboration, nations should also consider adoptions of e-health programs improving accessibility of credible health information, services, medical care, and monitoring of patients in areas that need it most. These measures are economically advantageous due to their cost effective nature.

#### **COUNCIL: VIRUS**

**Paragraph 1:** Encourage their policy makers to give legal preparedness the relevance it deserves and to let partisan animosities not get in the way of passing the laws and regulations that their electorate so would desperately need in case of a viral outbreak. This includes Emergency Management Plans, Public Health Emergency Response Guides, Public

Psychological First Aid Protocols, Public Hospital and Town Halls Emergency Response Protocols, and Public National Emergency Response Protocols among many others.

**Paragraph 2:** Raise awareness on newly discovered viruses. Notwithstanding the role of traditional media, our familiarity with social media certainly puts us in an advantageous position to leverage the power of social media amidst a viral epidemics and pandemic. Thus we encourage the global youth to organize informative media campaigns, preferably for high risk populations, using videos demonstrating safe practices. Also, blogs which could centralize useful information such as degree of viral spread, recommended safety precautions, and others. We ask for this information to be shared responsibly, being demonstrably accurate and verified, and thus positively helping to improve the general understanding of viruses and symptoms, dispelling myths and correcting misconceptions. We also advise on youth to not forget the important role community leaders around the world can play.

**Paragraph 3:** To consider the creation of virtual platforms, such as mobile apps and others, for emergency two-way communication allowing constant delivery of feedback in case of an outbreak, and also to bridge the gap between parties when the usual channels of communication are offline through youth reporters. We also advise for youth to take an active role when additional assistance is required by volunteering and sharing opportunities to do so, and to help publicize the need for material, medical and financial aid. We ask on youth to call on governments and legislators to improve healthcare capacity in terms of infrastructure, technology and labor force to better address viral epidemics and pandemics. We suggest making sure that the density of physicians and the availability of equipment and primary health care level satisfies minimum national standards, to strengthen the prevention system when needed, to encourage and financially support biomedical research adequately, to develop appropriate protocols in infection control and prevention, to strengthen the role of social workers, and to increase cooperation between medical and social welfare centers.

**Paragraph 4:** Spread awareness that viral expansion is associated with the concentration of big pockets of population, allowing for a very high infection risk and the quick expansion of the focus of infection. But also to keep in mind that the same scenario goes on in any gathering of people at smaller scales. Workers in certain industries are at an increased risk of infection and we would like for youth to put a spotlight on working conditions and workplace safety around the world. Immunization is one of the most important prophylactic measures that we suggest. Also, considering the high costs of an outbreak in a work center, which include direct expenses, those required for medical equipment; and indirect expenses, which appear as a result of incapacity for work or decrease of work productivity, we suggest that the employees be allowed to demand home conditions isolation, if they are already infected, instead of a sick-list days-off. We encourage taking action so private enterprises with large numbers of employees, surely interested on a constant and stable cash flow, are obliged to stock in antiviral and immunomodulating medicines as well as dressings and other basic medical equipment in order to lead to a reduction in the number of sick workers. Companies should also perform basic workplace sanitization through obligatory moist mopping using Chlorum several times a day and ultraviolet irradiation apparatus, both the open and closed types, and to ensure proper ventilation in the workplace.

#### THE 67<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH "STRIVE FOR ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE WORLD" 24<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2016

Helping young people and youth leaders globally to reach their maximum potential is a top priority for us at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY). WAY fully recognises that young people need support to maintain good health and well being, access to education and strong youth community network. Besides, being concerned about their study, work, health and future, young people are thirsty for opportunities to get involved in amusing activities related to culture, sports and recreation. Importantly, they need to be safe and feel safe.

As our slogan states "In the service of youth since 1949", the journey of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has been significantly profound in the empowerment, advancement and transformation of youth all around the world. In the past 67 years, WAY has tackled and discussed pertinent youth issues and assisted in the establishment of youth related policies through the organised programmes, activities and events at different levels. These milestone accomplishments were made possible by the collaboration and partnership with various WAY Member Organisations, UN Agencies, Civil Societies, International Organisations and Institutions, Ministries Responsible for Youth, both Public and Private Sectors and many more.

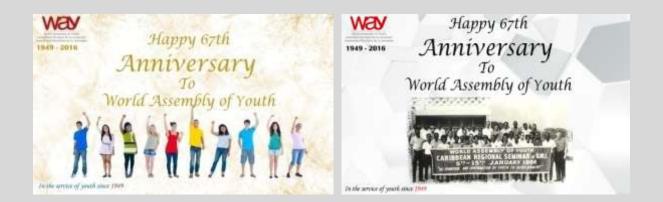
Today, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2016, we, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), commemorate the 67<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of our establishment as well as gratefulness of the 67 years of determined journey and devotion in serving youth worldwide. Almost 7 decades of our creation, WAY currently has 140 member organisations from all continents of the world.

In line with that, we have highlighted several relevant aims in assisting the collection of information on the needs and problems of youth from all around the world; promoting the interchange of ideas amongst them; supporting in the development of youth activities; and encouraging full and inclusive participation of young people in their countries' developmental process. Sixty-six years in continuously carrying out such purposes, we, at WAY, promise to always bestow our fullest efforts for the betterment of young people worldwide.

History has it, founded in 1949, WAY has been well known as international coordinating body of national youth councils and youth organisations, working devotedly for the promotion of young people and youth organisations in different programme areas such as youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training. WAY has a general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and work together with several agencies of United Nations including UNEP, UNICEF and UNAIDS. As we celebrate our sixty-seven birthday, we wish for the endless support from our members, volunteers, stakeholders, young people and the global community at large. Let us work together, side-by-side, in providing young people with the opportunities and platforms which not only abundantly develop their potential but also flourish their characters and inspirations. By joining our hands, let us recreate more youth-friendly environment where young people and future generations could blossom peacefully and maximally towards achievement of sustainable world that we all strive for.



In the service of youth stree 194



## THE 2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT "Transporting the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual UN DPI Conference Goals to United Nations Headquarters in New York, and More" 24<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016 UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Public Private Partnerships for the

Success of the Sustainable Development Goals

Recognizing the Success & Finding NGO Consensus to Move Forward After The UN DPI 66th Annual NGO Conference "Education for Global Citizenship: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals Together" 24, 25, and 26 August 2016 UNHQ



This informative session was free and registration was open to all. It was presented





with the endorsement of the Permanent Missions of Ghana to the United Nations. Bruce Knotts, Chair of the NGO DPI Executive Committee led the three-day proceedings, held in Conference Room #1 on the UN campus in New York City.

- The aim of this event was to continue discussions on NGO responsibilities for SDG implementation, reporting, and verification as a full partner in the UNs 2030 global challenge for development. What actual programming and partnerships will fulfill the challenges presented by the UN SDGs, the outcome documents, and other discussions concluded at the recent UN DPI Conference last May in the Republic of Korea? What other Public Private partnerships were possible that would help ensure SDG success?

 This three-day event enabled NGOs, the media, and others who were not able to attend the successful gathering in Korea, as well as prepare all those in civil society to answer the challenges and opportunities posed by the SDGs and provide input on future steps. The gathering reflected other efforts to move public and private partnerships, alongside UN efforts, to ensure maximum success for the SDGs over the coming 15 years. Moving forward from discussions to decisions was a major goal for the Summit.

 Historically, civil society may have had less of a role in planning the global development agenda. This summit empowered civil society to collaborate in a way that may in some ways shape the SDGs for years to come. The UNs 2030 Challenge has determined that an urgent call must go out to Member States, the UN global staff, and civil society, working together on the roadmaps for SDG success.

The Sessions opened with a welcome from the President of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Mogens Lykketoft, followed by official UN welcomes from H.E. Ambassador Oh Joon, Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the United Nations, offering the Host Nation Welcome from the 66th Annual UN DPI Conference last Spring, followed by H.E. Ambassador Marc-André Blanchard, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations, a long time supporter of civil society as an active participant in SDG success.







pictures from the conference

A highpoint of the Opening featured artist Jakob Trollback, the creator of the SDG visual element, who reminded us that communicating the goals in all ways was essential to people understanding and accepting them as their own.

Other welcomes were provided by representatives of the mayor of New York City, Helen Clark of UNDP, as well as Jeff Brez and Bruce Knotts, representing UN DPI and NGO DPI, who helped lead the initial conference on the topic in the Republic of Korea at the 66th Annual DPI Conference on May 31, June 1 and 2, 2016.

Part of the mission of this event was to support on public private partnerships in the civil society sector, in order to help promote SDG success across all sectors. The events began with a recap of recent past efforts, including the Korea DPI conference that brought us to the present. Titled: Coming from, Going to: Starting at the Outcome, Where Next?, it was moderated by a former DPI Conference Chair, Jeffery Huffines and featured the reflections of Ms. Diana Bas (Executive Director, UNDP), and Scott Carlin, DPI Conference Co-Chair, Korea.

From there the conference captured some of the highlight panels from the DPI Conference:

 The Right to Accessible, Safe and Inclusive Learning Spaces, moderated by Bruce Knotts, Conference Chair, with Panelists: Leslee Udwin, Founder and CEO, Think Equal, Joseph S. Akoro, Founder and CEO, RenfoCap Centre, Rurik Nackerud, Elisabeth Morrow School, Little School Technology Integration, and Carol Bangura, Doctor of Public Health Candidate, Senior Development Officer, NGO Representative to the United Nations.

2) STEAM for Global Citizenship to Power the SDGs, moderated by Dr. Eunhee Jung, Executive Director, IVECA International Virtual Schooling, with Panelists: H.E. Ambassador Riadh Ben Sliman, Permanent Mission of Tunisia to the UN, H.E. Ambassador Choonghee Hahn, Permanent Mission of Republic of Korea to the UN, Babette Allina, Executive Director, Government Relations and External Affairs, RISD, Dr. Robert Swap, Research Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Virginia Extraordinary Professor, Environmental Sciences and Management, the Potchefstroom Campus of the North West University, South Africa, and Ann Woo, Senior Director, Corporate Citizenship, Samsung Electronics in NA.

Several other important roundtable discussions ensued. These were based more generally on the topic of public private partnerships for the success of the SDGS:

 Global Citizens as Stewards of the Planet: Partnerships for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, moderated by Mr. Amir Dossal, Founder and Chairman, Global Partnership Forum, with Panelists: Bryan Maygers, Executive Blog Editor, Huffington Post, Dan Connors, Aris Wind and Solar, and Gopal Patel, Director, The Bhumi Project.

2) Small Island Development and the SDGs - An Ongoing Member State Discussion with Civil Society, Moderated by, Dr. Radhika Iyengar, Center for Sustainable Development, Earth Institute, Columbia University, with Panelists: H.E. Ambassador Caleb Otto, Permanent Mission of Palau to the UN, and H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Sareer, Permanent Mission of Maldives to the UN.

3) The SDGs in the Private Sector, featuring Special guests from "Capital Markets Global Summit: Aligning Capital with the SDGs", an upcoming conference to be held at the UN this Fall. Moderated by Tami Kesselman, Co-Chair, Capital Markets Global Summit at UN, with special guests from the Capital Markets conference, Chantal Line Carpentier, Chief of Office, UNCTAD New York, James Gifford, Senior Fellow, Harvard Initiative for Responsible Investment; Director of Impact for Tau Investments; former Founding Executive Director for UN-backed PRI, and Vanessa Grellet, CEO, Intentional Investments Holdings; Chair, Nexus Impact Investing.

4) And the panels closed with a call for greater youth involvement and 'ownership' of the SDGs: #GiveYouthaChance: Youth Empowerment for Agenda 2030 Action, moderated by Ravi Karkara, Senior Adviser Strategic Partnership & Advocacy to the Assistant Secretary-General/Deputy Executive Director of UN Women and co-chair UN Interagency network on youth development , with Panelists: Ms. Hanifa Mezoui, UNAOC and Focus on Youth, Miroslav Polzer, IAAI, Global Challenges Youth Music Contest - Informal Global Citizenship Education and Resource Mobilization with the Power of Music, Anam Gill, IAAI Pakistan (via skype), Youth led local action for global goals in Pakistan, Melody Yung Chang, Youthink Center, Youth Empowerment for Global Challenges, China, Cleopatra Mbali Masinga, IAAI NY and South Africa, Empowering social entrepreneurs, Esther Mc Farlane, UN Secretary General's Global Education First Initiative's Youth Advocacy Group (GEFI-YAG), Global Citizenship Education In fact, the conference closed with a rousing address from a Philippine youth, Madeleine Ramos, perhaps the world's first "Global Student." Ms. Ramos has been selected to study in each of the UNs 193 member states and at the end will receive a masters degree in international education from Harvard University and will appear on a Discovery Channel documentary on her journey.

Other important addresses on a variety of topics, challenges, and opportunities to public private partnerships for the success of the SDGS, by: MacDella Cooper, Founder, MacDella Cooper Foundation, Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General, World Assembly of Youth, Min Jeong Kim, UNESCO New York Liaison Office, Yoo Bin Cha, Filmmaker, Mariposa Foundation, and Maria Fare, UN Sustainable Development Campaign.

One final highlight featured a New Book Release: "Negotiating the Sustainable Development Goals: A Transformational Agenda for an Insecure World" by Felix Dodds, Ambassador David Donoghue and Jimena Leiva Roesch. Felix Dodds, Former UN DPI/ NGO Conference Chair, Author joined us to review his latest book, talk about his role as a former co-chair of the UN DPI Conference (Bonn, 2011), and his views on public private partnerships for the UN going forward.

The events opened and closed with music and dance ensembles from Korea and China, fitting bookmarks to demonstrate the need for all sectors, including the cultural practitioners, to join in the opportunities for partnerships and success within the United Nations 2030 Global Challenge: the Sustainable Development Goals.

Respectfully Submitted by Patrick Sciarratta, WDF September 8, 2016

Presented by the Permanent Mission of Ukraine
With Sole Sponsorship and Producer from the World Development Foundation

## 2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT FOR UN SDGS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

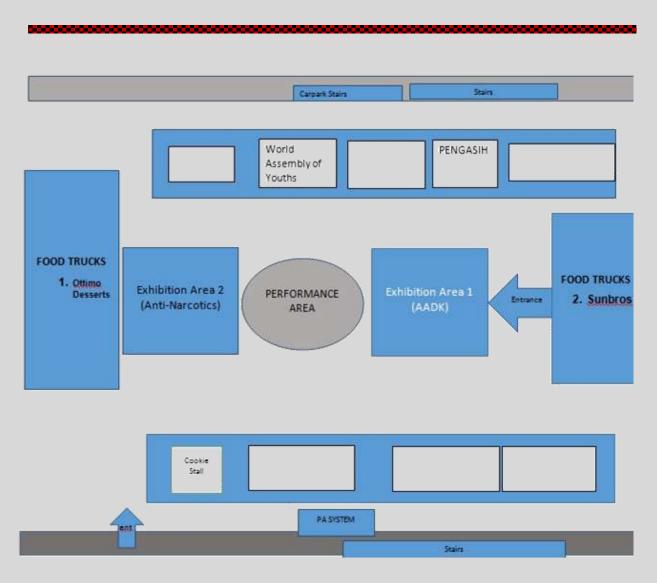
## Bringing the UN DPI/NGO Conference Home to UNHQ

24-26 August. 2016 UN General Assembly Hall and Other Locations at the UN Register at www.globalwdf.org

1) Participation is free.

 After successful application, all delegates will receive written confirmation. This document may be used by those who need to seek visas. No other document will be provided.
 For special requests (accommodations, pre- or post-meeting development, etc), contact Program Manager, Mr. Ihor Dlaboha at Ihor@vnclm.org with all requests.

## ANTI-DRUGS CAMPAIGN 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016 09.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. INTI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES SUBANG JAYA, SELANGOR



## 11<sup>TH</sup> GLOBAL YOUTH PEACE FEST PLENARY SESSION: GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION THEME: 'GLOBAL GOALS, OUR RESPONSIBILITY' 29<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016, 10.00 AM – 4.00 PM @ INDIAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS (ISB)



### **RESOLUTION OF 11<sup>TH</sup> GLOBAL YOUTH PEACE FEST**

#### VASUDAIVAKUTUMBAKAM FOR GLOBAL PEACE AND HARMONY

We, the youth from 33 countries – who assembled in Chandigarh from September 28, 2016 to October 2, 2016 for the 11<sup>th</sup> Global Youth Peace Festival (GYPF) -- solemnly affirm that we are all part of one global family – Vasudaiva Kutumbakam – aspiring to establish peace in every corner of the globe.

As we met and embraced each other over the past week, we connected to the aspiration of the world as one family in the hearts and minds of every participant at the GYPF.

We all agree that there is an urgent need to **explore meaningful participation of young people in establishing the culture of peace by actively pursuing the 2030 sustainable development goals and connecting to the universal yearning for peace.** The GYPF has shown the way to build a global culture of voluntarism and service.

We recognize that the world is younger than ever before and the youth has been hailed as a positive force for promoting and maintaining peace, development and change in the world, but at the same time, youth is affected by high rates of unemployment, armed conflict and global terrorism.

We call upon Governments of our countries and international bodies to support youth programmes and projects, involve youth in planning and decision-making processes at local, national, regional and global levels.

Bearing in mind, the main theme of the GYPF which was celebrating youth leadership and transformative change, the discussions at the GYPF took place around four key sub-themes – Educate Girls: Empower World; Green Citizens; Sustainability Thinking and Action; Global Citizenship Education and Youth Leadership and Transformative Change. It was unanimously agreed that

- Youth should effectively participate in implementing and achieving the sustainable development goals and build actionable projects for transformative change;
- We are all part of one family and we should develop an action plan to educate and train people to promote co-existence and tolerance;
- Human rights violation is serious concern and we should help by collecting data, providing legal services and supporting the vulnerable and marginalised youth population;
- Universal education and skill development are the key to addressing most of the problems affecting young people and they should be enforced as a matter of right;

• Skill development must be more robust to reduce unemployment. We should also aim to reduce drop-out in education by ensuring that legal provisions around child marriage and early pregnancy are strictly adhered to.

The young people decided that they would remain actively associated with each other and report the progress in achieving the goals in the next GYPF.

## SIGEF 2016 "SOCIAL INNOVATION AND GLOBAL ETHICS FORUM" 9<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2016 MARRAKECH, MOROCCO





## THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEST AFRICAN YOUTH CAMP (WAYC) "LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA: WEST AFRICAN YOUTH IN PERSPECTIVE DEVELOPING SDGS & AFRICA AGENDA 2063" 12<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2016 MONROVIA, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA

## COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> WEST AFRICAN YOUTH CAMP 2016 HELD IN MONROVIA, REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA THEME: "LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA: WEST AFRICAN YOUTH IN PERSPECTIVE DEVELOPING SDGS & AFRICA AGENDA 2063" December 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

#### PREAMBLE

We the about two hundred young people of West Africa are proud to gather here in Monrovia to participate in the 2nd West African Youth Camp, organized by the West Africa Youth Conference in collaboration with the Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY) and the Liberian Ministry of Youth & Sports with supports from the President of the Republic of Liberia, H. E. Madam Ellen Johnson-Sir leaf, UNDP, ECOWAS, UNICEF, MRU, World Assembly of Youth, Paynesville City Corporation, National Transit Authority, General Auditing Commission, and the Liberia Ministry of State. The camp is moored by the pillars of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and African Union Agenda 2063 which include but not limited to: Pan Africanism, a prosperous Africa based on inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law, ending hunger and poverty through productive agriculture, good health and wellbeing, quality education, gender equality, a peaceful and secured Africa, clean water and sanitation, an Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth, tackling climate change. We are convinced that these pillars of the two development policy papers are unifying thematic focus which will be addressed in this joint communiqué. Unarguably, West Africa's greatest asset is its exuberant youthful population which makes up more than 55% of the region's citizenry.

If the young people of West Africa are empowered through education, skill trainings, innovation, employment, entrepreneurship, science and technology, agribusiness and access to finance, the region and continent can defeat almost all of the social vices that have time without numbers contributed to the backwardness of West Africa.

We recognize the resilience and support of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals and African Union's Agenda 2063 to contribute to the unleashing of the potentials of youth,

Being cognizant that, prioritizing, and placing of premier on youth empowerment by West African governments and partners must run in parallel with the commitment of the young people to execute with sincerity initiatives that have the possibilities of unleashing their talents and skills.

Being given direction and guidance to create awareness on regional treaties like the African Youth Charter, National Youth Policies in West African countries, the African charter on democracy, elections and good governance, the Act of the AU, ECOWAS protocols using the media cannot be over emphasized.

Adhering to the calls made by global leaders in motivating young people worldwide to think outside of the box and make tremendous changes in our status quo, we are moved by the willingness of the productive calibres of young people here at the 2<sup>nd</sup> West African Youth Camp to champion a pro-poor cause in the interest of West African youths.

## WE THEREFORE SEND OUT THESE WAKES UP CALLS TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF WEST AFRICA:

- 1. Despite the lack of will from our political leaders to empower us, young people should above all odds endeavour to make themselves productive agents that will contribute to humanity;
- 2. To understand that young people must prioritize their skills in agro-entrepreneurship;
- 3. To realize that young people of West Africa must buttress AU and ECOWAS's efforts in promoting continental unity;
- 4. To reinforce our cooperation in achieving West Africa's Self-Reliance in the Agenda 2063 and the SDGs;
- 5. To in our individual capacities, take as a priority to fight against corruption; a menace to West Africa's development. We must pressurize government through robust civil society activism in order to strengthen anti-corruption institutions; and
- 6. To make best use of the various media platforms in order to have effective and efficient information dissemination among youth in the region.

#### WEST AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS

- 1. Support affirmative actions that seek to increase young people participation and representation in the governance process;
- 2. Particularly, support and develop programs to build and establish an enabling environment for entrepreneurship skills, youth mentoring and counselling, increased access to quality education (formal and vocational) and employment, particularly for young girls and youth with disabilities;

- 3. Invest and monitor efforts to reduce significantly the high rate of infant and maternal mortality in by developing infrastructures which supports expectant mothers and unborn babies in the process of child bearing;
- 4. Ensure the ratification and proper implementation of the African Youth Charter;
- 5. Involve young people in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation process of youth related projects, programs and policies; and
- 6. Uphold the tenets of democracy through popular political participation, smooth transition, respect for the rule of law, and protecting the intrinsic rights of the human person.

#### ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

- 1. Support and fund initiatives targeted at youth development to facilitate their empowerment and promote accountability of such measures with the active participation of the youth as primary beneficiaries;
- 2. Encourage member states to create youth desk in all government ministries and agencies as a key step to ensure the active participation of their youth in decision making processes for development in West Africa;
- 3. Develop strategic plans to combat the emerging pandemic of maternal mortality which is killing a large number of young and adult women in West Africa;
- 4. Establish a **WEST AFRICA YOUTH FUND** that will provide access to micro finance for young West African social and agro- entrepreneurs;
- 5. Ensure the establishment of the **WEST AFRICAN YOUTH COMMISSION** a platform that will set the basis for West African youth to be heard in the context of West African development;
- 6. Ensure the establishment and full operations of a youth centered and oriented media platform that will strengthen information dissimilation, development through communications and the awareness of the activities of young people in West Africa;
- 7. Ensure the establishment of a **WEST AFRICAN YOUTH INSTITUTE ON LEADERSHIP AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT** which will be responsible to train young African leaders in effective leadership, entrepreneurship, agriculture, education, etc; and
- 8. Promote regional trade with free movement of labor and capital in the region.

#### THE MEDIA

1. To join the advocacy campaign for governments to ratify the African Youth Charter;

- 2. Disseminate information on the African Youth Charter and national youth policies;
- 3. Engage in rigorous promotional activities for youth involvement in governance and create awareness about opportunities for young people;
- 4. Disseminate information on structures, policies and programs that contribute towards the achievement of the SDGs and the Africa Agenda 2063;
- 5. Ensure the voices of young people are heard; and
- 6. Create a platform of training West African Youths in the Area of the media and continentally connecting them through a single most platform.

#### ALL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS IN WEST AFRICA SHOULD:

- Focus on financing positive youth projects and programs which contribute to the development of the African youth. Particularly, the establishment of sustainable platforms including state and non-state organizations that facilitates and promotes youth development;
- 2. Particularly, support efforts to develop and implement a framework for improving access to credit and land for young entrepreneurs, improving mentoring skills and increase access to higher education;
- 3. Support the operationalization of all youth related policies in West Africa;
- 4. Promote sustainable partnerships, networking and integration of youth in national development efforts; and
- 5. Support campaign against Sexual and gender base violence as well as gender inequality.

#### AGREEMENT:

- We also agreed that the West Africa Youth Institute on Leadership and Entrepreneurship Development be sited in Burkina-Faso; and
- We also agreed that the next West Africa Youth Conference be held in Ivory Coast in 2017.

#### CONCLUSION

We want to collectively thank the Liberian government for the leadership role in providing a favorable environment, financial and moral supports. We also value the courage and support of our host, the Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY) for the successful facilitation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> West African Youth Camp. Furthermore, we will ever be grateful to the Ministry of Youth & Sports, UNDP, ECOWAS, UNICEF, MRU, World Assembly of Youth, the Paynesville City Corporation, and the Liberian National Transit Authority, the Liberia General Auditing

Commission, and the Liberia Ministry of State for the timely support and interest in the West African youths.

The conference is hereby committed to further engage our leaders in West African countries and other local and international organizations to see reason to help us implement our stated recommendations and make appropriate provisions for our short term, medium term, and long term needs for the development of the Sub-region and all African nations at large.

We are credibly proud to propose!!!!

\*\*\* Done this at 16<sup>th</sup> Day of December, A.D. 2016 \*\*\*

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# PHOTOS OF OUR ACTIVITIES

YOUTH ACTIVISM CAMPAIGN 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2016 @ 09.30 AM to 04.30 PM MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY, MELAKA CAMPUS MELAKA, MALAYSIA







"In the service of youth since 1949"

GLOBAL MONEY WEEK NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS FORUM (NIGERIA) 22<sup>ND</sup> AND 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2016 ABUJA, NIGERIA











GLOBAL BUBBLE PARADE IN CONJUCTION WITH YOUTH DAY CELEBRATION, MALAYSIA 28<sup>TH</sup> – 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 @ 09.00 AM to 05.00 PM BANDAR HILIR, MELAKA, MALAYSIA









"In the service of youth since 1949"

16<sup>TH</sup> MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE "YOUTH FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY: OUR FUTURE, OUR CARE" 26<sup>TH</sup> to 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2016 KINGS GREEN HOTEL, MELAKA



#### GLOBAL YOUTH SUMMIT 8<sup>TH</sup> – 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016 NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA







"In the service of youth since 1949"

27<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM "WORLD YOUTH AND HEALTH" 19<sup>TH</sup> TO 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016 SEOUL AND MUJU, REPUBLIC OF KOREA











THE 2016 NGO GLOBAL SUMMIT "TRANSPORTING THE 66<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL UN DPI CONFERENCE GOALS TO UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK, AND MORE" 24<sup>TH</sup> – 26TH SEPTEMBER 2016 UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA











#### ANTI-DRUGS CAMPAIGN 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016 09.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. INTI INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGES SUBANG JAYA, SELANGOR











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# GLOBAL PEACE YOUTH EXCHANGE $7^{TH} - 12^{TH}$ NOVEMBER 2016 BANGKOK, THAILAND















SIGEF 2016 "SOCIAL INNOVATION AND GLOBAL ETHICS FORUM"  $9^{TH} - 11^{TH}$  NOVEMBER 2016 MARRAKECH, MOROCCO









"In the service of youth since 1949"

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Cross section of Delegatos Group Photo with Dightaries at the WAYC, Hon. Leen Eugene, Minister of Information, Lberia, Representing N.E. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, Hon. Saah Charles NTow, Minister of Youth and Sports, Liberia, UNIDE Work: Event Benet Averor Coard Mon. Textern



Cross Section of Participants during the WAYC



Cross section of Delegates Group Photo with Dignitaries at the WAYC. Hon. Leen Eugene, Minister of Information, Liberia, Representing H E. Ellen Johnson-Sirlead, Hon. Saah Charles N Tow, Minister of Youth and Sports, Liberia, (WINP Worth Exercise Device Hone: Creat Hen, Externation



Hon. Ibrahim, Hon. Saah, Comrade Uyero, Hon. Seedy and Comrade Mamoudou



Saah Charles N'Tow, Hon. Minister of Youth and Sports Republic of Liberia and Hon. Seedy S.K. Njie, Youth Representative in the Parliament, Islamic Republic of Gambia



Grogery Coleman, Inspector General of Police, Republic of Liberia, Mr. Lawrence Morris



Comr. Tamba, Comr. Uyero, Hon. Madiah, Comr. Taylor and Comr. Williams Organizing Team of WAYC



Hon. Saah Charles N'Tow with Gambia Delegates



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

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