

Charter of Young People

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In early 2013, within the context of UNICEF Germany's 60th anniversary, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and UNICEF Germany launched a consultation process for young people as part of global deliberations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Over the past year, more than 500 young people have participated in a variety of different outreach events held to encourage WorldWeWant.de dialogue on a more just and sustainable future. The outcome of these consultations was presented at the 'International Youth Voices on Post-2015' side event, held on the same day as the opening of the UN General Assembly's session in New York. Following a successful start at national level, the focus this year has been on engaging in dialogue with young people from emerging and developing countries. The first WorldWeWant & friends workshop was held in Bonn, in May. It offered 20 carefully selected young people (10 from Germany and 10 from the rest of the world) the opportunity to discuss the most important issues for young people in their countries and help inform the new development agenda. The results were fed into a paper drafted by the young people containing recommendations for the post-2015 process which was then presented at the ECOSOC Youth Forum in New York to an audience which included UN General Secretary Ban Ki-moon. The paper was revised in autumn 2014 to reflect very recent developments in the post-2015 process. It was finalised at a WorldWeWant & friends workshop held from 21 to 23 November 2014 and contains the findings and recommendations of the young people who participated in the WorldWeWant & friends process. It does not reflect the position of the BMZ.

Berlin, November 24, 2014

Outcome of the work of the WordWeWant.de & friends International Workshop on Post-2015 Development Agenda

Young people currently number 1.8 billion (10-24 years old). Youth do not constitute a homogeneous group; their socio-economic, demographic, and geographical situations vary widely both within and between regions. The vast majority of the world's youth lives in developing countries and face challenges such as limited access to resources, education, training, employment, and broader economic development opportunities. Despite their share of the population, young people do not get a fair share of resources. 77% of 5.16 million respondents who took the My World 2015 UN Global Citizens' Survey are young people below the age of 30. Their Top 5 priorities are Good Education, Better Healthcare, Honest & Responsive Government, Better job Opportunities and Protection against Crime & Violence. Over the past few years, youth forums have taken place across the globe to identify barriers and suggest solutions for empowering young people. There was a clear consensus from the youth forums that voices and partnerships are strengthened when united. Providing the platform for youth to interact and develop such recommendations will not only empower the youth, but allow them to incorporate entrepreneurship into the development programme.

The following key issues for a youth centric Post-2015 Development Agenda highlight core goals and content for a new global agenda. By no means are these key issues meant to be exclusive or complete, but they include what we, as young people, believe to be fundamental elements of a comprehensive post-2015 agenda. We want systemic change because we see a huge opportunity to make the lives of current and future generations better. We want to see radical changes in our economic and political systems, and in our approach to education. We also want to change humanity's relationship with the planet. We must accept that the earth is our source of life, that the resources of our planet are finite and that we need to live in balance with nature. Mankind already understands the interconnected nature of many of the major challenges that we face. Our economic troubles, the environmental damage we are causing and the yawning gap between rich and poor are all parts of the same problem. They stem from our current worldview and our obsession with economic growth. At the same time, we are aware that solutions to these problems do exist, and that their effects would be beneficial to the vast majority of people.

With Ebola, Syrian refugees, world hunger and many more crises on international agendas, the governments' financial contributions remain far below what was promised. Credible negotiations over a comprehensive Post-2015 agenda or new climate targets are not possible on this kind of foundation. There is almost no dispute that the worst performance of all Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) was registered on MDG 8, the Global Partnership for Development.

In 2015 the international community has the historical chance to chart an ambitious and transformative agenda that truly pays heed to the tri-dimensional nature of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. But leaders should not forget that the ambition and transformative power of the agenda will only be as real as the means of implementation offered to support it. A major shortcoming of the MDGs was the failure to clearly spell out the resources required for implementation. The latest proposals for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) attempt to do so more comprehensively, in a more meaningful spirit of partnership. But will these proposals survive, and who will be monitoring? Ultimately, the most important means of implementation will be the political will of global leaders, which hopefully will be reflected in the "Declaration" in the final document. The global public's vigilance should seek to keep the feet of political leaders to the fire by constantly reminding them of their commitment to end global poverty and "*leave no one behind.*"

The new sustainable development agenda must ensure accountability to children & youth. It must further their economic and personal security, support improved access to health, education and basic services, deliver decent and full employment and foster an enabling environment that enhances participation, active citizenship, and freedom from age related discrimination across the life course. It is imperative, with 2015 looming close, to create, foster and guarantee mechanisms, opportunities and structures for them to participate in the political and public life of their communities; in short, for them to claim their human rights. If we are to create a better world, our biggest challenge is to change the way we think.

A framework that realizes the principle of **leaving no one behind** will ensure to:

- **Recognise governments as primary duty bearers accountable to their citizens, youth included, and the international community.** Create structures and mechanisms where rights holders have a continuous dialogue with duty bearers (for example, academia, governments, the international community, media, the private sector, religious leaders, etc.).
- **Give priority to young people and create a youth-friendly environment.** Create an environment that is safe and based on respect and mutual trust, so youth can engage and dialogue with key actors at all levels (local, sub-national, national, regional and global) and in all settings (family, community, school, media, etc.).
- **Be gender-sensitive, and seek inclusive solutions that focus on those youth that are at risk and are discriminated against.** Policy makers and programmes must ensure a non-discriminatory and inclusive response that ensures the participation of indigenous and minority youth, migrant youth, youth with disabilities, young affected by HIV/ AIDS, youth affected by conflict, etc. Encourage work with male youth to promote gender equality and social inclusion.
- **Address unequal power structures, based on class, sex, ethnicity, age, caste, religion, etc.** Ensure that these power structures do not hinder or replicate in youth participation processes. Implement efforts to ensure a sharing of power, resulting in an empowering culture for all, especially the most marginalised young women and young men. It is crucial to address social norms and values that discourage youth expression and participation. Patriarchal structures and hegemonic norms of masculinities need to be made more inclusive.
- **Use participatory, non-discriminatory, inclusive and empowering approaches.** Implement efforts to breach the digital divide. Ensure affordable and efficient internet access to harness exchange of information and programs within and among nations.
- **Build partnerships and alliances for the empowerment of children and adolescents in order to realize their human rights to their full extent.** Develop intergenerational working groups to ensure that youth participation and human rights of youth are protected and fulfilled. Encourage partnerships with youth-led organisations and networks.
- **Establish local to global (glocal) structures that are bottom-up and promote youth's voices and partnerships for development.** Advance community action for policy advocacy at national and international levels to advance youth participation and human rights of youth.
- **Adopt a holistic perspective for a multi-sectorial response.** Ensure that youth participation is seen as crosscutting in all aspects of youth programmes ranging from social budgeting and national plans of action to thematic focuses in protection, health, education, environment, water and sanitation, etc.

- **Have an evidence-based and results oriented perspective.** Develop youth-centred systems that promote an active role of youth in knowledge creation and knowledge management, and in the development of youth led indicators for monitoring and evaluation. Strengthen collection and analysis of data on adolescents and youth, disaggregated by age, sex and marital status, to promote monitoring, evaluation, accountability and transparency and support advocacy and policy making.

The principle of 'leaving no one behind' means that no goals or target can be met unless it is shown to be met by all groups and this must include age.

Yet, we do not change our course. To put us on track, we would recommend:

1. Global Development: One World Approach: The development process is multidimensional insofar as it is affected by technological, geographical, economic, political, socio-structural and cultural factors and personality traits. At the same time, the holistic aspect of multidimensional development (along the lines of defining welfare/growth not primarily in GDP terms but in terms of welfare for everyone) only emerges when the interaction between these factors has synergistic effects.

2. We accept that the welfare of our planet is the foundation of our (economic) activity: we call for the environment to be classed as a global security issue. Future generations need to be given the fundamental right to be able to enjoy the planet as we do and they should be afforded representation in governance structures. We therefore call for the creation of a High-Level Representative for Future Generations. In the area of climate change, we call for clear international targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, with a detailed plan and timetable for these reductions. We must also now prepare for the consequences of the anthropogenic emissions that are already in the pipeline.

3. We set a proper value on natural and social capital: the costs of exploiting natural and social capital – ignored by our current economic model – need to be properly valued and paid for accordingly. Today, many of the costs of the goods and services that we use are overlooked. We call for taxes and incentives that encourage us to use fewer resources and better protect our environment. We also call for the creation of International Sustainability Councils with the power to establish binding rules, to ensure the same global standards are met.

4. We call for a values quest in terms of our economic, political and social behavior: we must ensure that the values underpinning our economic systems meet the needs of future as well as current generations. Human nature and time are the greatest obstacles here. It is difficult to change values, and often takes a generation or more to do so. Social upheaval is frequently required, of the sort that comes from revolution, prolonged depression or even war. Hence it is better for us to try to change values consciously and carefully rather than to wait for change to be forced upon us. Once, the ancient Greek word oikos, meaning 'household', was at the core of our world. This is the word from which 'ecology' and 'economy' are derived. We believe that we need to put this concept back at the heart of our thinking and re-establish the connection between the environment and our economy.

Quality and accessible education for all:

Lifelong learning as the central theme in the post-2015 development Agenda: one of the Reasons why students may fail to be motivated to study is because the curriculum is perceived to be irrelevant. Some classes are seen to be as unrealistic and pointless. Likewise, assessment of learning tends to be focused on testing the Lower Order Thinking Skills (LOTS). By placing lifelong learning within the core curriculum, students will be more motivated to study and learning more likely to occur. Essential basic competencies for living should be taught along with global and local issues. There should be more elective opportunities. Outcome-based education should be provided when possible.

1. Ensure all young people achieve recognised and measurable learning outcomes at all levels, made possible through the provision of safe, relevant and quality education by a sufficient number of adequately and well-trained, supported teachers and education infrastructures;
2. Ensure all young people have access to quality formal, non-formal and vocational education and training in rural and urban areas, which can be provided through governments and partnerships with civil society organisations, private sector and youth organisations as to equip them with the relevant knowledge and skills to lead healthy and productive lives, to meet the demands of the job market and to foster global citizenship;
3. Ensure access to technical and vocational education and training, ICT, age-appropriate and culturally sensitive sexual education with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guidance, and life-skills, human rights, peace building, sustainability, entrepreneurial skills, global citizenship, and education for sustainable development and lifelong learning opportunities;
4. Increase national budget allocation to education and strengthen the accountability and responsiveness of national governments.
5. Improve the working condition and quality of teachers by the provision of appropriate teaching tools and resources; suitable training regarding pedagogy, content and inclusive education; appropriate performance-based salary; and imposing strict guidelines for teacher education curriculum and licensure exams.
6. Provide incentives like free lunches and transport and ensure good sanitation at schools.

Promote productive and decent work for young people:

Youth unemployment is a much bigger phenomenon than it is conventionally defined. Remaining out of work to actively search for employment is often either fruitless and/or unaffordable for many youths in developing countries if there are few wage and salary jobs to be had. Youth in these situations are forced to engage in any sort of livelihood activity they can muster, even if extremely marginal; or, if they can rely on their families for support, they may remain inactive after completing their schooling. Broader measures of employment inadequacy are needed to capture these two situations, but most of these measures will require new data collection practices. Although the challenge of youth employment in the developing world is linked to a complex interaction of economic, social and demographic factors, its recent prominence on the global agenda is clearly associated with the explosive growth (youth bulge) in both the number and share of youth in the population in recent decades in much of the developing world. The youth bulge phenomenon does not necessarily lead to adverse outcomes for youth. A growing number of young people has undoubtedly placed considerable stress first on educational systems, as young people go through schooling ages, and then on labour markets, housing markets and health systems, as they transition to adult roles. Nevertheless, youth bulge effects relating to education, health, and employment have varied considerably.

1. Reduce the number of youth not in employment, education or training and increase access to decent work and livelihoods amongst young people by providing access to learning opportunities, putting in place school-to-work transition policies, strengthening public private partnerships for better skills-matching, enhance access to financial and non-financial services to increase opportunities for youth-led entrepreneurship, and promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth.
2. Provide access to formal and informal innovative entrepreneurship, education and employment opportunities for young people irrespective of any kind of discrimination;
3. Strengthening and creating inclusive partnerships between all sectors and at all levels of society (e.g. governments, civilians, youth, private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders) to promote sustainable initiatives such as eco-tourism which will allow job creation, empowerment and economic growth at a local level;
4. Build strong linkages between the labour market and education sector, ensuring that courses are responding to skills needed in the labour market. This process will require a more holistic learning and teaching approach and a review of the education curriculum at all levels, ensuring that key elements such as education for sustainability, ICT, entrepreneurship, are not left behind;
5. Adopt meaningful efforts to close the school-to-work gap by implementing mentoring schemes (including skills and expertise sharing, career guidance, entrepreneurship avenues, etc.) whereby successful young professionals and entrepreneurs are provided with regular training in employability skills.

Gender Equality & Discrimination:

Governments should implement their obligations under international human rights instruments as well as implementing the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of the World Conference on Human Rights and other programmes of relevant United Nations conferences. Negative cultural attitudes and practices as well as gender-based educational processes including curricula, educational materials and practices, teachers' attitudes and classroom interaction, reinforce existing gender inequalities. Discrimination and neglect in childhood can initiate a lifelong exclusion from society. Many societies currently face adverse social conditions, such as widening inequalities and marginalization. Social integration was one of the key goals of social development and the aim of social integration was to create a "society for all". Many people are left behind by economic progress and sustainable development. The exclusion of these people (LGBTQI, young women & girls, young people living with HIV/AIDS, ethnic minorities, informal settlers, people with disabilities) from society and a failure to address their specific needs are factors that will lead to an unbalanced society for all. It is essential to include their particular knowledge and experience in the development of policies. In order to achieve inclusion, the following points must be addressed:

1. Support and promote youth involvement in the reduction of gender-based violence and ensure social protection through awareness and advocacy;
2. Promote strong and durable frameworks and financial support for the inclusion and active participation of youth irrespective of gender and abilities within all policy-making and planning processes at national, regional and international level;
3. Support and strengthen the efforts to address inequalities across all gender identities and sexual orientations;
4. Develop and strengthen the implementation of a human rights framework for all people of every gender identity and sexual orientation (LGBTTIQ), young persons with disabilities, girls and young women, persons living with HIV and STIs, indigenous people, informal settlers and marginalized groups;
5. Ensure that fundamental structural and transformational changes are made to promote gender equality in decision-making processes and at all levels of implementation;
6. Encourage all stakeholders to take actions to overcome all discriminatory barriers, irrespective of their gender identities, sexual orientation, ethnicities, social, cultural, economic backgrounds and disabilities to promote and ensure the access of quality education, health, employment and other services to youth, in both formal and informal settings, rural and urban areas.
7. Ensure the full engagement of men and boys as strategic partners and allies in promoting gender equality and preventing and eradicating gender based violence against women and girls, discrimination and harassment.
8. Emphasize the need to put an end to the culture of silence surrounding gender based violence.
9. Legalize the marriage between homosexuals everywhere in the world and the creation of families.
10. Encourage everyone to reflect his or her own gender identity and sexual orientation in order to achieve not only tolerance but understanding.

Environmental Sustainability, Disaster Risk Reduction and Youth Centered Urbanisation:

We call for the environment to be classed as a global security issue. Future generations need to be given the fundamental right to be able to enjoy the planet as we do and they should be afforded representation in governance structures. If we do not take serious steps to combat climate change, it will destroy our entire basis on this planet. Two main drivers of greenhouse gas emissions and the exploitation of natural resources and people are the way we use energy and the way we consume. If we are to stop this, every country, and especially the developed countries, must make strenuous efforts. The rich developed countries must lead by example with strong and binding efficiency targets and high growth rates for renewable energies. One possible way forward could be a cap-and-trade mechanism in order to make the price of CO2-consumption noticeable. We are calling for an information label to be applied to all products stating the natural resources required for its manufacture, its greenhouse gas emissions and the wages paid to its workers. This type of label would raise consumer awareness and motivate companies to reduce their social and ecological footprint.

1. Call for stronger commitments from all countries under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) when adopting the global agreement on climate change by 2015;
2. Ensure that scientific research, information, formal and informal education, and communication programs for climate change and environmental sustainability are provided in accessible formats and at all levels of society to provide and inclusive education of these topics;
3. Promote the use of renewable energies to tackle the effects of climate change and reduce the fossil fuels consumption. In the specific case of developing countries, we call for strengthened financial support from the international community to access to these types of energies;
4. Recognition of the importance of engaging the young generations in the climate discussions, keeping in mind the special needs of young people in developing countries, especially in Least Developing Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, Small Island Developing States.
5. Call for improved and inclusive strategies to address the consequences of greenhouse gases emissions, by implementing immediate fast tracking methods and having both, the polluter pays principle and common but differentiated responsibilities principle as a basis.
6. Explore the proposed High Commissioner for Future Generations as well as other relevant mechanisms on the topic as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations entitled 'Intergenerational Solidarity and the need for Future Generations'.
7. Improve strategies to prevent and mitigate the risks of disasters to include youth, ensuring inclusive participation in the development and monitoring of plans and indicators to reduce community risks and resilience guidelines.
8. Promoting long term sustainable urban planning that takes into account population growth, natural resource utilization, eco-system preservation, public space accessibility, efficient transport and waste management improves living conditions and prioritizes the rights and needs of the slum dwellers and informal settlers.

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights:

The right to exercise control over one's own sexuality and reproduction is fundamental for all people. Sexual and reproductive health and the associated rights (SRHR issues) extend to the equal opportunities, rights and conditions of all people to have a safe and satisfying sexual life, and to be able to decide over their own bodies without coercion, violence or discrimination. SRHR is a difficult and controversial issue in international contexts. Today it is unfortunately common to withhold knowledge, and discrimination and oppression occur in terms of sexual and reproductive health and rights. There is also a marked increase in abuse which is often systematised in conflict, post-conflict and crisis situations.

1. Recognize the need and encourage provision of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as well as strengthen the actions for adolescents specified in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the review conferences.
2. Provide health, emotional and psychological support for teenage mothers. Eliminate child marriage to improve the health and development of children. Strengthen policies worldwide that address human trafficking to reduce the number of young people - both men and women - victimized by sex slave trade.
3. Ensure that health-care providers are apt with the proper youth-friendly training to encourage young people in seeking the information and service they need.
4. Governments must fund and develop - in equal partnership with young people and health care providers - policies, laws, and programs that recognize, promote, and protect young peoples' sexual rights as human rights.

Governance (Including Means of Implementation, Monitoring & Accountability):

A new global governance structure must be established because today's mechanisms are neither efficient nor effective. The new structure should be democratic and focused on long-term global issues. Its primary principle must be to enable nations to evolve independently of external forces and keep their culture and traditions intact, insofar as these do not damage the planet or harm any other society. There is a need for national governments to be given binding, measurable commitments to address our global problems and secure the world for future generations. We accept that such changes will be hard to achieve, because of the loss of national sovereignty that they imply. If the development of mechanisms for effective global governance should not prove possible, we would call on those nations and regions with a conscience to act and make progress together. The importance of local-level administrative bodies for the Post-2015 Agenda must be enhanced since local governments are the primary point for institutional contact for many citizens. Combating corruption and maladministration must be a core element of the agenda in order to implement its goals and standards. Greater transparency and responsiveness of government authorities must be promoted as a preventative tool to corruption. Most importantly, the causes and incentives of corruption must be eradicated.

1. One of the key ways to support young people's participation in governance processes is by increasing their capabilities and political empowerment. This can be achieved by: increasing their technical knowledge of the thematic issues they are likely to engage with; developing their skills and confidence to engage with adults, particularly local authority officials; increasing their public communication skills and self-confidence; and developing skills and knowledge on how to access institutional funding without intermediation by adult facilitators.
2. A community of practice for young people and practitioners working on governance and accountability should be created to give those young people working on governance across the world a forum in which to seek advice, share learning and understanding, and increase opportunities for collaboration.
3. The data revolution presents enormous opportunities for young people's participation and greater involvement in governance and accountability, from the local to the global level, using different forms of ICTs. In particular, generating real-time data that can contribute to young people's ability to monitor implementation and communicate findings can be an effective and immediate method of promoting accountability. There is thus an opportunity to use such data to foster good governance, transparency and accountability.
4. With respect to the SDG, a standalone goal on governance should be included, with specific reference to the engagement of young people in order to provide support for investment in and facilitation of young people's participation in governance processes at the national and local levels. Young people's engagement is important now, while they are still 'young', but as the timeframe for the SDGs elapses, today's young people can develop into tomorrow's active and engaged adults.
5. All governments should be provided with an efficient framework to implement and monitor the goals of the Post-2015 Agenda. An international fund should be established by UN member states in order to support governments which are not able to realize certain aspects of the agenda. Contribution to this fund must be based on national GDP.

Poverty Eradication and Food & Nutrition Security:

Hunger does not only mean the lack of sufficient food but it also appears in the form of hidden hunger or micronutrient malnutrition. Hunger usually implies underdevelopment – not only of individuals, but of whole economies. Solving the structural hunger crisis is a prerequisite to enable the end of poverty and economic development. Under consideration of the universality and indivisibility of human rights, the Post-2015 Agenda must therefore consider both forms of hunger and shall emphasize the outstanding need of children and adolescents to have a sufficient and nourishing diet. Enough food is produced worldwide to end hunger, but much of it is wasted or used to feed cattle or to produce biofuel. We must change our behavior as well as governments to end the hypocrisy and paradox of the global agricultural sector and return to a reign of common sense and compassion. Poverty reduction is not only about meeting our basic needs, it's also about participation, influence and power.

1. Advance economic policies that reduce income inequality and guarantee young people equal opportunities for development by ensuring gainful employment, education, food security, health, and decent housing.
2. Civic education and incentives that make agriculture more attractive to youths should be adopted and promoted in rural areas and institutions of learning and research by all governments. Ensure universal access to safe water for all people in rural and urban cities, especially slums and minorities, and each country should establish Sanitation and Waste management policy and strategy.
3. Increase efforts by governments and development agencies in partnership with the private sector to invest in value addition schemes to make agriculture and food production viable employment and entrepreneurial avenues for young people. Provide awareness for youth on food and nutrition including practices to reduce food waste and post-harvest crop losses.
4. Provide social protections to reduce the vulnerability of all young people, especially young people from marginalized backgrounds.
5. A just allocation of the available food products must be ensured. Billions starve while others throw away their food because they have too much. Enough food is produced worldwide to end hunger, but much of it is used to feed cattle or to produce biofuel. Governments need to counteract against this by incentivizing us to eat less animal products for instance with the help of high taxes on animal products in western societies. The voracity for meat, fish etc. – especially in western societies – is at cost of both the climate and the global south. It is paradox that fishing fleet fish in west-African waters just to use the haul for the feeding of salmon in Norwegian aquacultures. It is also paradox that Brazilian rainforest is lumbered to grow soy-monocultures which are used to feed cattle or to produce biofuel. The global food system is out of control and needs to be revised fundamentally.
6. Food speculation and biofuel must be forbidden.
7. Western countries must end their export subsidies for agricultural products.
8. Subsidies for public food programs in developing countries such as in India must be improved and supported by the international community in order to ensure access for the poorest to food stables.
9. The independency of local farmers in the global south has to be enhanced and investments in the agricultural sector must be increased. This must go hand in hand with a prohibition of patents on seeding material. The aim should be to regionalize the agricultural sector and to reduce dependencies from multinational companies.

Conflict & Peacebuilding:

“It is forbidden to kill; therefore all murderers are punished unless they kill in large numbers and to the sound of trumpets” (Voltaire). Over and over again, the international community proves to be incapable of both preventing and reacting to genocide, massacres and war. Policymakers draw red lines just to watch how they are trespassed. Most of us are far away from the omnipresent sorrow of conflicts – not only physically, but in our everyday actions and mindsets. The avoidance of genocide and war as well as the military protection of civilians must become key issues of the Post-2015 Agenda. The preservation of peace is vital in itself but it is also a precondition for progress and development. The silence and inaction of decision-makers, intellectuals and media about the wretched of the earth make us morally complicit in the butchering of thousands. In the first place, conflicts affect weak and vulnerable parts of society and young people. Therefore, we demand:

1. The strengthening of international law should not only focus on the physical protection of the youth against direct violence but also the protection of the rights of youth, especially in political or judicial processes. Institute mechanisms to promote a culture of peace and tolerance amongst young people that discourages their participation in acts of violence, terrorism, xenophobia, racial discrimination, gender-based discrimination, and trafficking in arms and drugs.
2. Incorporate provisions concerning youth, including youth and former child soldiers, into peace agreements and plan a smooth transition and recognizing youth as an asset in the reconstruction process.
3. Involve effective UN/international coordination between programs for youth to deal with former child soldiers who are now older than 18. Implement programs to trace and reunite separated youth with their families and other caregivers.
4. Support mental, health and psychosocial programs for youth survivors and victims of conflict-related violence, in addition, reintegration into society. Recognize the practical ways in which youth participate, including examples of how youth are engaged in efforts to enhance their own protection and their community's security at local and national levels.
5. Expanding the role and contribution of youth in UN field based peace operations as military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel. Incorporating youth perspective and decision-making into peacekeeping operations and ensuring that, where appropriate, field operations include a youth-related or youth-led component.
6. An immediate stop of the delivery of arms. We abhor the double standards of many governments, which promote peace and democracy on the one hand but traffic arms to autocracies and despots on the other hand. Arms are made to kill, not to pacify. This must go hand in hand with a global disarmament, both conventional and nuclear. We accept the loss of jobs in the armaments industry – the lives of millions are more important than the economic benefit of a few.