



14TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE

“YOUTH AND EDUCATION: TAKING ACTION, GETTING RESULTS”

23RD – 25TH JUNE 2014

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DECLARATION

1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 We, the participants of the 14th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) convened in Melaka from 23RD – 25TH June 2014 for an annual program organised by the World Assembly of Youth which brings together young people and youth leaders from around the world to discuss pertinent and topical youth issues.
- 1.2 By recognising the vital role of youth and education, based on extensive research, WAY made an obligation to encompass education as an enduring concern faced by the youth and themed the 14th Melaka International Youth Dialogue, “Youth and Education: Taking Action, Getting Results”.
- 1.3 This theme has been recognised to fulfill the predominant opinions of young people hence an interactive discussion on this topic has been of significance to form, educate and increase awareness on the adversities and prerogatives of youth education at different levels of society that we represent.

1.4 Therefore, with the above mentioned theme, participants and all relevant stakeholders present such as the young people, youth leaders, public and private sector, academia, international, regional and national organisation representatives gathered to call for action and structure experience on the youth education issues. This outcome document is expected to enhance youth contribution towards promoting a more humane approach towards youth and education.

1.5 After thorough deliberations through paper presentations, plenary sessions, workshops and field trips, we, the participants, have put together this document with the following recommendations that we strongly feel ought to be implemented by all the stakeholders to ensure that the rights of various categories of youth and education are acknowledged and protected.

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

- To raise an informative generation on the current situation of youth and education with anticipated behavior adaptation and consequently admission to decision making amongst youth;
- To foster youth action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the societies;
- To address the challenges and determinants of education faced by youth today;
- To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
- To formulate the environmental, political, economic and cultural factors that are associated with education;
- To ascertain the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfill the right to freedom of movement for/among the young people;

- To classify the role and the contribution of the national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining resourceful education factors as a human rights issue;
- To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing youth education for the present and future;
- To integrate networking, collaboration and cooperation between public and private sectors, civil societies, youth organisations and other stakeholders to address the issue of youth education;

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Public Sector

- 2.1.1 To formulate, review, implement and evaluate policies and programmes on youth education in line with the Education For All (EFA) goals.
- 2.1.2 To ensure the implementation of coherent national, regional and international policies and guidelines with regards to youth education.
- 2.1.3 To include youth in the decision making process, review, implementation, monitoring and evaluation with regards to education mainstreaming in the Post 2015 Development Agenda.
- 2.1.4 To create awareness and disseminate information on existing and newly formed policies and programmes on youth education.
- 2.1.5 To provide adequate resources to all stakeholders on education for effective implementation of policies and programmes on youth education.

- 2.1.6 To establish accessible resource centres that should provide reliable, verifiable, and credible up to date data and information on youth and education.
- 2.1.7 To form policies that will provide equal opportunities for all youth to pursue quality education and employment.
- 2.1.8 To formulate and implement policies to embark on youth education and human value based programmes.
- 2.1.9 To enforce compulsory primary and secondary education for all in order to prevent child labour.
- 2.1.10 To increase the teacher to student ratio in order to improve the effectiveness of quality education delivery.
- 2.1.11 To review the existing educational curriculum to reflect the national, regional and global demands.
- 2.1.12 To develop, implement and promote peace education through value based education programs to overcome challenges such as, but not limited to, extremism, conflicts, religious radicalism and terrorism.

2.2 Private sector

- 2.2.1 To inspire and encourage private sectors to embark on youth education and human value based programmes through their corporate social responsibility.
- 2.2.2 To collaborate with stakeholders to provide consistent quality education and training programmes for the youth.

- 2.2.3 To establish training centres that will provide soft and hard skills for the youth.
- 2.2.4 To encourage and provide resources to the young entrepreneurs.
- 2.2.5 To support other stakeholders by providing resources for formal, non-formal and informal education.
- 2.2.6 To make expertise, experiences and opportunities available through internships and apprenticeships.
- 2.2.7 To provide educational support to marginalized groups.

2.3 National, Regional and International NGOs

- 2.3.1 To establish peer-to-peer and participatory awareness programmes aimed at addressing youth issues.
- 2.3.2 To embark on sustainable projects that aim to address challenges to education for all.
- 2.3.3 To increase participation of youth organizations in community services and encourage voluntary work in education.
- 2.3.4 To encourage collaboration among various organisations and maximize their individual capacities in order to tackle educational issues and challenges.
- 2.3.5 To foster synergy and strengthen the efforts of both, the public and private sectors in addressing youth and education issues.

2.3.6 To encourage policy makers and relevant stakeholders to identify, adapt and implement best practices in order to tackle youth issues.

2.3.7 To develop, implement and promote peace education through human value based education programs.

2.4 Media

2.4.1 To encourage relevant stakeholders to utilise all forms of media in disseminating current policies and programmes related to youth education and development issues.

2.4.2 To establish platforms where all youth could share relevant information and effectively communicate educational opportunities and address challenges.

2.4.3 To maintain independence, transparency and neutrality in reporting problems on youth and education.

2.4.4 To create specific channels dedicated to youth and education, in local dialects and other languages.

2.4.5 To advocate to society the importance of education through programmes that tutor, mentor and coach youth.

2.4.6 To embrace and promote education for all in addressing sustainable development and peace.

3 GENERAL COMMENTS

- 3.1 To encourage all stakeholders in youth development to strengthen partnerships towards achieving education for all.
- 3.2 To include youth participation in the creation, development and the promotion of the Post 2015 Development Agenda.
- 3.3 To promote national, regional and international opportunities to educate young people.
- 3.4 To encourage collaboration among stakeholders in providing access to internships, apprenticeships and thereby guaranteeing employability of educated young people.
- 3.5 To strengthen and promote youth participation at all levels of the decision making process and the implementation of youth, education and human value based programmes.
- 3.6 To firmly stand against any form of aggression and violence that hinders education for all.

4 CONCLUSION

We, the participants of the 14th Melaka International Youth Dialogue, acknowledge the importance of education for young people as a fundamental human right, regardless of their social, economical and geographical status. We seek to generate youth dialogues and advocate for legislations, policies and programmes at all levels of society in order to achieve education for all (EFA) and inclusion in the post 2015 development agenda.

Appendix

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Albania	Namibia
Azerbaijan	Nepal
Bangladesh	Nigeria
Botswana	Pakistan
Brunei Darussalam	Palestine
Cambodia	Philippines
Canada	Romania
China	Saudi Arabia
Croatia	Somalia
Czech Republic	South Africa
Djibouti	Sri Lanka
Egypt	Sudan
Eritrea	Syria
Ethiopia	Tunisia
Fiji	Uganda
Ghana	United Arab Emirates
Hungary	United Kingdom
India	United States of America
Indonesia	Uzbekistan
Kenya	Vietnam
Libya	Yemen
Macedonia	
Mauritius	
Malaysia	
Maldives	
Mongolia	

