

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 7 SEPTEMBER 2015

**Applications Open for the 2nd International Youth Job Creation Summit**

**Location**: Rabat, Morocco 8th-10th November

**Theme**: Creating Youth Jobs in the Green Economy

Peace Child International (PCI) is proud to announce the 2nd International Youth Job Creation Summit, which will address Sustainable Development Goal 8’s bold target to achieve ‘full employment and decent work for all young people by 2030’?

The Summit will include youth-led workshops, roundtable discussions and a high level segment, giving young people from around the world an opportunity to co-create, with high-level UN officials, policymakers and politicians, job creation strategies that will help build a green sustainable economy. It will also deliver a Road Map to Full Youth Employment by 2030, and a bank of ideas for what can youth themselves can do better to prepare themselves for a shifting labour market.

*“2015 is a pivotal year. The world is about to embark on a new journey guided by new goals that will define our path for development,”* says David Woollcombe, PCI’s Chair of Trustees. *“Unless we engage young people in solving the unemployment crisis and building the green economy, we will fail to reach the Sustainable Development Goals that governments and the UN have set for themselves.”*

[**Applications**](http://peacechild.org/international-youth-job-creation-summit/) **for the Summit open on Monday 7th September**. Young people age 18 to 30 with an interest in youth unemployment issues and the building the green economy are encouraged to apply by 27 September. NGOs, employers and other organisations interested in participating to run workshops and promote proven job creation policies, please contact PCI at, david@peacechild.org.

The Government of Morocco will cover the costs of the accommodation, meals and domestic transport for the selected delegates and facilitators. The only cost to participants is their travel.

PCI is actively seeking funds to be able to provide travel scholarships for young people with good stories to tell about their experience of youth job creation strategies. If you are interested in giving deserving young people the chance to get their voices heard, please contact Adriana Poglia, adriana@peacechild.org or donate directly on their site at peacechild.org.

**Notes for Editors**

●      Contacts: Adriana Poglia, adriana@peacechild.org or David Woollcombe, david@peacechild.org Tel: +44 (0) 1763274459

●      Visit peacechild.org for more information about the Summit and PCI’s work.

●      The 2nd International Youth Job Creation Summit builds on the success of our 1st International Youth Job Creation Summit in London in September 2013, hosted by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills.

●      What is the problem? “The youth unemployment crisis is a ticking time bomb for us all,” said Zambian Finance Minister, Alexander Chikwanda. With the largest cohort of citizens aged 15-25 ever in history, World Bank statistics tell us that 75 million young people are registered unemployed, 620 million are not in training or seeking work and 600 million will enter the job market in the next decade with only 200 million jobs awaiting them. That means the world has to create a billion jobs in the next decade - a million jobs a month in Africa alone, 83% of them in the ‘unwaged sector’ – ie. self-employment. Yet African schools still teach youth as though, if they work hard and get good qualifications, each one of them is going to be able to apply for, and get, a decent job on graduation. It’s never going to happen: in Africa, university graduate unemployment is higher than High School leavers, which is higher yet again than primary school leavers. Often, if you want a job, it’s better to stay home, not go to school and work on the family farm.

●      What is the Opportunity?  UK Secretary of State, Justine Greening, put it this way: *“The flip side of this is, if these young people were to have productive work then income levels in the poorest countries could increase faster than at any other time in their history. So, peak youth could equal peak growth.”*Peak youth, or the demographic youth bulge, can, if good job creation policies are implemented, be transformed into a demographic dividend, and the demographic time bomb can be defused. Finding, articulating and getting governments, the UN and youth together to promote and implement those ‘good policies’ – this is what our Summit is all about.

●      **Peace Child International** is a UK-based youth development INGO focused on creating jobs and improving livelihoods. We believe young people have the power to change the world because time and again, we’ve seen them do it. We provide employability and entrepreneurship programmes globally, encouraging young people to get informed and giving them all the tools and support they need to create positive change in their own lives and their communities. Learn more atpeacechild.org.