



## ABOUT THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is the international coordinating body of national youth councils and organisations. The full members of WAY are national youth councils. WAY has 124 member organisations from all continents.

Founded in 1949, WAY has consultative with various agencies in the United Nations system, including ECOSOC, DPI, UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNEP, UNESCO, WHO and UNCTAD. 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 the promotion of youth and youth organizations in programme areas such as: democracy, environment, human rights, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training.

As enshrined in its Charter, the World Assembly of Youth seeks to:

- ❖ Increase inter-ethnic respect and to foster inter-cultural and international understanding and cooperation.
- ❖ Facilitate the collection of information about the needs and problems of youth.
- ❖ Disseminate information about the methods, techniques and activities of youth organisations.
- ❖ Promote the interchange of ideas between youth of all countries.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Promote the democratic participation of young people both in their own organisations and in the society as a whole.
- ❖ Establish and maintain relations with the international organisations, both voluntary and governmental.
- ❖ Support and encourage the national movements of non-self governing countries in their struggle for national liberation.
- ❖ Promote tolerance, understanding, solidarity and cooperation among young men and women irrespective of race, sex, language, religion or political orientation.
- ❖ Encourage the full participation of young men and women in the development process of their countries.
- ❖ Improve the equality between young men and women.
- ❖ Act as a representative body of national youth councils to the UN and other appropriate governmental and non-governmental international bodies.