



**World Assembly of Youth
Asamblea Mundial de la Juventud
Assemblée Mondiale de la Jeunesse**

2013

ANNUAL REPORT ●





RT. HON. DATUK SERI IR. IDRIS HARON

PRESIDENT OF WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH (WAY)

Coinciding with inauguration of our 2013 annual report, I would firstly like to extend my sincere gratitude to all members of Secretariat, Executive Committee and all WAY member organizations who continuously exhibit their ongoing efforts towards the service of youth and sustainability of their future as well as those of the subsequent generation.

It is my greatest admiration and pride to be the first person given an opportunity to verbatim greet our readers. This 2013 annual report contains and compiles all efforts and accomplishments of World Assembly of Youth (WAY) and other collaborative bodies towards serving youth, worldwide, for the whole course of the year 2013. It is our expectancy that this 2013 annual report is able to satisfy the curiosities of our members, partners and other respective parties regarding WAY's progress towards realization and fulfillment of our Millennium Plan of Actions 2010-2014.

Year 2013 has been a challenging year, but yet full of excitements and precious moments to treasure. A batch of activities and programmes has been carried out fruitfully contributing to government's policies, public investments and non-governmental organizations' plan of actions to excellently strive for youth-development and safeguard their welfare. In this year, we also take a step ahead by unfolding our wings of partnerships abroad with international community, private and public sectors. During the year of 2013, several Executive Committees' meetings have been productively conducted to further discuss the results of our past events and how they can be effectively adapted.

Looking forward, we anticipate that lifestyles of the future generation will be dominantly influenced by both globalization and Information Technology Revolution. In light of this, we shall attempt to tailor our future programmes and activities to fit this rapidly changing way of life. Through our unique combination of knowledge, innovation, bold efforts, partnerships and endless support, we remain positive and optimistic in achieving our fundamental aims. Year 2014 is not only a pioneer time for our future programs but also a groundbreaking period for our Executive Committees as it is a year that marks our 16th General Assembly.

At last, let me iterate to our esteemed colleagues, partners and leaders; our vocation, our youth, our lives, our hearts call not of subsidence, merely they all request to set adrift towards development as many of us promised to our youth and other dependents.

Let us join our hands together to harvest another successful year ahead!



MS. MASIELA LUSHA

GOODWILL AMBASSADOR OF WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH (WAY)

We are all defined by the principles and the values we stand for. Personally, it remains one of my greatest aspirations to be part of a larger humanitarian cause, better yet, one that is central to the interests of our future generations. Drawing from my childhood aspirations of becoming an educator, I come to realize that it is our inherent duty as a humane society, above any intangible responsibility, to invest in our youth's potential, passion and confidence, because with every youth labelled lost in this world, we lose a battle. Of course, this passion stems from a vivid realization that today's youth are ultimately tomorrow's young leaders and the world's future stars.

I am proud beyond expression, in being WAY's first Goodwill Ambassador and personally, admire all effort and hard work that has been devoted by WAY in its dedication to serving young people, worldwide.

I would like to extend my acclamation on the several utilitarian events conducted by WAY during the course of the year. In some of those events, I was fortunate enough to be featured, for the first time, as WAY's Goodwill Ambassador and I sincerely thank WAY for that precious opportunity. Accosting the coming year 2014, I am convinced that more enticing events and initiatives will be undertaken by WAY to further serve young people and members alike, in all notable aspects.

It is, thus, my humble anticipation to be counted and involved in more upcoming events and productive programmes by WAY and to be able to contribute to the best of my ability, as a humanitarian.

Let us consolidate our efforts in celebrating another successful year and working towards an even more successful 2014!

PREFACE



MS. EDIOLA PASHOLLARI

SECRETARY GENERAL OF WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH (WAY)

On behalf of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) Secretariat and Executive Committee, as Secretary General of WAY, I am proud to present our 2013 Annual Report. This 2013 Annual Report accommodates all details regarding our activities, meritorious publications and other relevant information. Besides the formalities, this report serves as a substantiation of the hard work contributed by all involved parties in ensuring 2013 yet another productive year.

With utmost gratitude, I would like to pay tribute to the volunteers and members of Secretariat; without whose determination, dedication and teamwork, our achievements may have been unattainable. Our appreciation goes to all of our distinguished colleagues on the Executive Committee and also those representing the member-organizations for their priceless support, contribution and invaluable trust, even in the face of volatile atmosphere of the year. Last but not least, our equally important gratitude is conveyed to all partners and other stakeholders, youth inclusive, for their absolute support of and confidence in our efforts towards serving young people and member organizations, worldwide.

Flashbacking the whole course of the year 2013, many challenges have been presented, but they did not make our journey towards the end to be less exciting and grateful. In spite of all the uncertainties and obstacles encountered throughout the year, WAY has prolifically kept on track in acting as a better and more youthful international organization serving as an advocate for youth around the world. In the year 2013, WAY also productively planned and organized six international events including those which were solely organized by our Secretariat as well as those which were co-organized with other parties. I am proud to highlight the appointment of our first Goodwill Ambassador, Ms Masiela Lusha, whose devotion and commitment to our work points to a brighter future on WAY's horizon.

Though it was not flawless, we are glad to announce 2013 as another fruitful year for WAY. With fortitude and endless resoluteness, we will strive for an even more productive 2014 with our main emphasis on expeditious effectuation of our 16th General Assembly in Tirana, Albania.

Enjoy reading this report and we surely welcome any responses. (For feedback, please write to us at info@way.org.my.)

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BACKGROUND

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY), since 1949, has taken an active role in taking up the position of the national coordinating body of 120 member organizations consisting of National Youth Councils and Youth Organizations 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;
3. 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;
6. 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

Founded in 1949, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has maintained a general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and worked side-by-side with several agencies of United Nations such as UNEP, UNICEF and UNAIDS. Up to today, WAY has acted as the internationally coordinating body of more than 120 members consisting of National Youth Councils and Youth Organizations around the world.

Maintaining such large network has enabled WAY to realize its aim of unlocking youth potential with cooperation and support from all of its members and volunteers. This year (2013), we underlined several relevant aims towards facilitating the collection of information about both needs and issues of youth; promoting the interchange of ideas between youth from different countries; assisting in the development of youth-based activities; and encouraging full participation, democracy participation inclusive, of young people in their countries' developmental process.

Sixty-four years since our founding, we always have, and continue to dedicate our fullest efforts towards providing and flourishing the right environment that allows young people to develop maximally. As part of our internal improvements, at WAY-headquarters, we continuously enhance our working system and resources to whole-heartedly serve the youth and member organizations.

Moving forward, we, as a team, have been developing and designing activities and programmes which have and will be implemented in line with our Millennium Plan of Actions (MPACs) that was specially designed to unlock the true potential of young people; to add value towards the advancement of societies as a whole. Besides all events which have been fruitfully concluded in 2013, we, at our Headquarters, in fact, have been offering a platform for youth to grow further through our volunteers programme.

As per our annual publications, 2013 has seen an aesthetic overhaul in the formatting and design, as well as the revamping of the WAY website, and a greater social media presence and interaction. We still maintained publishing our monthly e-bulletin, observed various UN international days and circulated the relevant press releases in our website, groups and social media. They were also forwarded to all member countries, UN Agencies and other youth related organizations.

Last but not least, we, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), will continue to iterate our focus on internal excellence and further expansion in geographical coverage to better serve young people and member organizations, worldwide.



TALK ON "THE UNTOLD STORY OF GAZA" BY HARRY FEAR

AUDITORIUM YAYASAN MELAKA, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

1ST FEBRUARY 2013

Introduction:

The Talk on the Untold Story of Gaza was organized in the realization and the importance of the role that peace and social justice plays for the young people today, who make more than half of the world population. Peace is the desire of everybody, but it takes a special kind of person to actively seek it. World Assembly of Youth (WAY) believes that young people have an essential role in our societies to act within the conflicts and in the promotion of non-violent values and attitudes. It is important that young people become aware that there are non-violent ways to deal with conflict and to provide them with knowledge and skills to change the aggressive trends of our societies.

That is why the Documentary Maker and Activist, Mr. Harry Fear was invited to share his experience and journey while living in Gaza Strip. Mr. Fear once said that "As I travel around the world, it strikes me that there is amazing humanity and compassion throughout, with networks of Palestine solidarity."

Objectives:

The objectives of the Talk on the Untold Story of Gaza were as follow:

1. To create awareness for the young people on the current conflict situation around the world;
2. To beget new and concurrent youth participation while adding value to achieve a positive impact of the humanitarian struggle for peace, equality and solidarity around the world;

Organizers:

The Seminar on the Untold Story of Gaza was organized by the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) and Melaka State Youth Council (MGBM) with the support of the Melaka State Government.

Participants:

Expected participants were between the ages 18 and 30, gender balanced groups, representing the respective youth organizations, Universities and other learning Institutions. The total number of the expected participants in this program was 650 youth and youth leaders.



MANNAM INTERNATIONAL YOUTH COALITION

“10km in their Shoes, Pledge for Peace”

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA 2013

Summary

The Mannam International Youth Coalition (MIYC) organized the *“10km in their shoes, Pledge for Peace”* awareness event, in collaboration with the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) and other key partners. MIYC was formed from groups of young people coming together with the vision and determination to unite people across borders, cultures, languages and races. MIYC aims to foster a spirit of appreciation and respect for the diversity of humanity, as well as for all individuals that create that diversity.

The purpose of MIYC is to unite major youth associations around the world in support of the development of their communities and in motivating their nation to actively pursue peace. MIYC aims to unite the youth of every nation, and pave the way to a peaceful future for our world. They strive to do this while respecting the beautiful diversity of humanity and restoring faith in mankind.

10km in their shoes, is an awareness campaign held annually in the name of peace. Holding the flags countries affected by war, people exclaimed for the end of war and prevalence of world peace. Through walking, awareness was raised to the prevailing crises around the world. These ranged from war, climate change, disaster and dictatorship. This particular walk was in the opposition of war therein; all participants walked wishing to show their

strong support to the anti-war movement, and the victims of on-going war.

Through this public activity the members of MIYC aimed to make their desire for peace known in all participating countries and spread the vision of a world united - a world without wars. Ultimately, they aspire to raise awareness on an international level and set an example toward a peaceful future.

Attached in our appendices is their pledge of peace.





1ST MA-CHN-DO YOUTH VOLUNTEERS WORK CAMP 2013

MELAKA WORLD HERITAGE CITY

16TH AUG – 29 AUG 2013

Melaka World Heritage City hosted her very first World Heritage Youth Volunteers Work Camp on the 16th of August to 29th of August 2013. The work camp that was promoted as MA-CHN-DO Work Camp was one of its kind for World Heritage Volunteers initiatives. The work camp was jointly coordinated by Melaka World Heritage Office, Chinese Society for Education Training Center (CSETC) and Indonesia International Work Camp (IIWC). IIWC and CSETC are well established NGOs from China and Indonesia and they were among the pioneer group of the first Youth Work Camp under UNESCO World Heritage Center and IICVS.

MA-CHN-DO is the brainchild of the 1st Asia Pacific Conference: World Heritage Site Managers and Youth NGOs Linking Network, in Seoul, South Korea, 2012. Melaka World Heritage Office was participating in the work camp for the first time and was honored to be the host. The initiative for the work camp was well supported by UNESCO World Heritage Center, Paris and World Assembly of Youth (WAY), Melaka. The work camp gathered over 80 participants from Malaysia, China and Indonesia whom are mostly students from various universities as well as a number of academicians and youth leaders.

The work camp received strong support from Melaka State Government, and the Honorable Chief Minister of Melaka who is also the President of WAY. He officially opened the Work Camp in a colorful cultural events attended by Melaka State dignitaries. Indonesia Government also sent their representatives from Indonesian National Commission for UNESCO. The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Kuala Lumpur participated by hosting the delegates from China for a meeting to discuss the next MA-CHN-DO Work Camp which will be held in China in 2014.

The Work Camp was organized into three main activities which were voluntary work on conservation initiative; social services and cultural exchange with local residents; and awareness campaign and educational activities with local school students. Participants were divided into six groups to work on the conservation of four historic buildings in Melaka World Heritage Site.

The youth volunteers were also invited to visit the WAY Headquarters in Melaka where they were welcomed by WAY Secretary General, Ms Ediola Pashollari, who gave them an overview of WAY. WAY as one of the supporting organization for Youth Volunteers Work Camp has inspired MA-CHN-DO participants to explore more opportunities on youth

activities around the world. On the final day, all participants were taken for a day excursion to Kuala Lumpur where they were treated for a lunch by Malaysia National Commission for UNESCO at a revolving restaurant at Kuala Lumpur Tower.

MA-CHN-DO Youth Volunteers Work Camp has provided a platform for many young students and youth leaders from China, Indonesia and Malaysia to discuss many common issues that span from culture, education, peace to unity. Indonesians and Malaysians have also discussed on the prospect of MA-CHN-DO initiative to promote cultural understanding among the youths of the countries where some issues on cultural ownership has been disputed by people from the two nations. CSETC is now ready to lead MA-CHN-DO for the 2nd cycle next year in China.





13TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE

'Youth Migration: A Step from Haven'

HANG TUAH WORLD HERITAGE HOTEL, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

12TH TO 14TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Summary

The 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) 'Youth Migration: A Step from Haven' was graced by more than 200 youth and youth leaders from every region as expected by the organizers. Among them, in attendance were; former WAY President, Hon. Datuk Seri Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam; the Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports (Malaysia), Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh; the Melaka State Executive Councilor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGO, Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sancy; Deputy Chairman of Youth and Heritage Melaka, Hon. Datuk Hj. Norpipah Binti Abdol; the Chief Servant of Niger State (Nigeria), Dr. Alh. Muazu Babangida Aliyu; High Commissioner of the High Commission of Mauritius, H.E Premdut Doongoor; Ambassador of the Republic of Albania, H.E Idris Konjari; the Minister of Plenipotentiary, Deputy Chief Minister of Mission, Embassy of Egypt, H.E Yasser Hashem; Minister Counsellor of Social and Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, H.E Akhmad DH Irfan; Chief Police Officer, Polis Diraja Malaysia, Hon. Dato' Chuah Ghee Lye; as well as members of the WAY Bureau and Executive Committee.

WAY firmly believes that increasing youth connectivity and harnessing the potential of the right to migration is key to stimulating social and economic benefits for the millions unconnected around the world. However, the public and private sectors must develop solid mutual understanding and operational partnerships, so that real benefits can 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 connectivity.

By recognizing the human right to migration and considering the carried out research, WAY made it an obligation that this year, the 13th MIYD would encompass migration as an enduring youth concern with the theme: ‘Youth Migration: A Step from Haven’ This theme had been recognized to fulfil the predominant opinions of young people. An interactive dialogue on this topic will be of significance to form, educate, increase awareness on the adversities and prerogatives of youth migration in the different levels of society that we represent.

The focal point of this year’s dialogue was migration as a right for young people. Essentially for those youth limited to opportunity as a direct result of barriers to migration including such factors as; economic, cultural and political barriers.

The dialogue agenda included plenary sessions, workshops and exhibitions, networking, working dinners, tourism and cultural visit.

Objectives:

1. To raise an informative generation on the current situation of youth migration with anticipated behaviour adaptation and consequently admission to decision making amongst youth;
2. To foster youth action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the societies;
3. To address the challenges and determinants of migration faced by youth today;
4. To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
5. To formulate the environmental, political, economic and cultural factors that are associated with migration;
6. To ascertain the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfil the right to freedom of movement for/among the young people;
7. To classify the role and the contribution of the national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining resourceful migration factors as a human rights issue;
8. To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing

youth migration for the present and future;

9. To integrate networking, collaboration and cooperation between public and private sectors, civil societies and other stakeholders to address the issue of youth migration.



WAY YOUTH SATELLITE EVENT

Youth Innovation: Ideas of Today, Realities of Tomorrow

CONFERENCE HALL 3, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), Kuala Lumpur, MALAYSIA

09:00am-06:00pm on Tuesday, 12th November 2013

Introduction

The World Innovation Forum (WIF-KL) is jointly organized by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation Malaysia (MOSTI) and Yayasan Inovasi Malaysia (YIM), capitalizing on the successes of the KL Innovation Forum (KLIF) Series held in 2010 and 2011. WIF-KL provides an avenue to bring thought leaders and creative minds from all over the world to discuss and share their experience. It is the region's premier annual event on innovation that aspires to create a new culture of innovation, and is to be held at the epicenter of economic growth, emerging technologies and innovation in Asia, Kuala Lumpur. The event runs over three days and consists of conferences, expositions and several satellite events. Following the success of the inaugural forum last year, the organizers of WIF-KL 2013 expect to see about 1,500 delegates from over 25 countries, and over 10,000 visitors throughout the duration of the event.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) partnered with the organizing committee of WIF-KL to offer young people an opportunity to share and gain knowledge and expertise through an innovative WAY Youth Satellite Event titled Youth Innovation: "Ideas of Today, Realities of Tomorrow". Through this satellite event, WAY aimed to highlight the importance of experts and young innovators coming together, to share experiences, discuss and deliberate topics and strategies on innovation for sustainable development.

The event was structured as a forum, with each speaker carefully chosen to present, showcase, and deliberate in one of four predetermined sessions namely; Science and Technology, Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Alternative Innovations. The participants

were granted freedom to ask questions, and give their insights on the presentations, and were encouraged to discuss further amongst themselves.

The World Assembly of Youth, firmly believes that the youth should be at the epicenter of innovation, as they are the future custodians of today's innovation and have a strong responsibility to advancing these innovations further, to the advantage of younger generations after them. Youth Innovation: "Ideas of Today, Realities of Tomorrow" was thus an undertaking, to offer young people an opportunity to share and gain knowledge and expertise with the key aim of highlighting the importance of experts and young innovators coming together to share experiences, discuss and deliberate topics and strategies on innovation for sustainable development.

Objectives:

1. To create a platform for young people and experienced speakers to share and exchange ideas.
2. To showcase and promote youth innovative ideas in a bid to motivate young minds.
3. To pave way for opportunities in innovation development from the youth perspective.

PUBLICATION





Melaka, 1st Feb – THIS morning the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) and the Melaka State Youth Council (MGBM) conducted a half day event; Talk on “The Untold Story of Gaza” held at the Melaka Foundation Auditorium in Melaka, Malaysia. In this event more than 650 young people participated from various youth organizations and educational institutions.

This talk commenced with the welcoming remarks from the WAY President, Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron, where he saw the need for awareness, to be brought to the young people, on the current conflict situation that is happening around the world. He also mentioned that young people need to realize the added value towards achieving a positive impact of the humanitarian struggle for peace, equality and solidarity around the world. He proceeded by introducing the Guest of Honor, the Chief Minister of Melaka, Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Mohd Rustam and the Keynote Speaker, a Documentary Maker and Activist, Mr. Harry Fear.

The Guest of Honor, Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Mohd Ali Mohd Rustam, began his address with the history of Palestine and its enduring conflicts. He went on to remind the audience of the Malaysian contribution towards the humanitarian support provided to the children, youth and women of Palestine as they are the most innocent affected victims of any war. He asserted, to the young people, to be united and smart in making sole decisions towards their own security so as to sustain peace in the country.

The keynote address made by Mr. Fear, started off at a high note by sharing his experience and journey as a journalist while living in the Gaza Strip during the 8 days of war in October 2012. His address brought light through respective audio visuals displayed to give actual scenario of the situation of people living in Gaza. Some of the photos and videos can be viewed in the following links www.harryfear.tv or <http://www.harryfear.co.uk/blog/gaza-report>. Being an activist and a traveler, he shared his realization that there is amazing humanity and compassion throughout the world, with networks of Palestine solidarity. In his talk, he motivated and encouraged the young people present to work towards making a difference by taking a stand to live peacefully and spread the idea of peace far and wide.

The talk went on with the reading of the Peace Pledge written by the WAY Secretariat. Interim to the signing of the Pledge, tokens of appreciation were presented and exchanged to the speakers and organizers. The event was concluded with a photo session and all participants were hosted to lunch.

The words of social justice are simply implied as justice exercised within our social-life particularly among the various social classes of that society. Presently, the implementation and achievement of pedagogy related to social justice are greatly dependable on the principles of equality and solidarity; an implication of the recognition and value of human rights denoting dignity and equality as human beings. The concept of social justice has greatly initiated the movement toward a socially just world in which human rights are manifested in the lives of every person and in all levels of society. However, realizing the fact that no country in the world has completely achieved all degrees of being just, many movements are taking place in working collaboratively towards achieving this.

Understanding the importance of social justice, United Nations General Assembly decided to celebrate the World Day of Social Justice annually on 20th February. It is an unfair disadvantage and denial of equal status, imposed upon groups and individuals and is in dire need of global attention as it poses a threat to the youth and society as a whole.

On this day, countries around the world arrive at new ways to eliminate various barriers of race, class, gender, religion, culture or even sexual imparity. Emphasis is made more on the areas of providing reasonable employment, the equal opportunity of embracing decent work, environmental health, gender-equality and ways in combating poverty in order to achieve social welfare.

In fact, many efforts and commitments have been made by most administrative bodies to achieve “a society for all” by creating a framework with strategic actions that focus on promoting social justice at regional, national and international levels. These bodies have been working hard in promoting equitable distribution of income and greater access to resources through equal opportunities for all.

As the contribution of World Assembly of Youth (WAY) in observing the World Day of Social Justice, we find it crucial to involve the individual society especially young people in achieving a socially just world. Today, the youth are highly in tune with social networking and the vast empowerment which has provided for society as a whole. However, many continue to remain oblivious to the various social injustices that continue to erode the very fabric of society. Hence, it is substantial to raise awareness to all members of society regardless of their background to know and understand their basic human rights including the right to equal access of resources in order to benefit their society. Therefore, we encourage you to engage in stimulating discourses to bring widespread attention to them and promote the elimination of negative stereotypes generally practiced in this modern-society. Such stereotypes will create barriers hence dividing our society into classes

especially amongst youth.

American author Charles Bukowski once wrote; *“All a guy needed was a chance. Somebody was always controlling who got a chance and who didn't.”* To be pursuant of social justice, is to seek to break down and eradicate the barriers created by these very injustices, in favor of a society with a more level playing ground where all are afforded equal opportunity and consideration, if not for us, for the future generations. We, at WAY, truly believe that to foster greater social justice, we should make it a requirement and implement it ourselves!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL MOTHER LANGUAGE DAY: “MOTHER TONGUE INSTRUCTION AND INCLUSIVE EDUCATION”

DATE: 21ST FEBRUARY 2013

The year is 1952; the streets of Dhaka are filled with picket sign wielding students. They ask for one thing and one thing only; for the recognition of their language Bangla as one of the two national languages of then ruled by Pakistan, currently known as Bangladesh. Those students were shot and killed by the police.

21st February 2013 marks the fourteenth year commemorating these students from the University of Dhaka and Dhaka Medical College who peacefully demonstrated that day. Since February 2000, the International Mother Language Day has been observed worldwide for the purpose of promoting, preserving and protecting all languages used by the peoples of the world.

In an ever changing world, barriers are broken down and cultures merged, we look to language as an instrument for preserving and developing heritage. Mother tongues are equivalent to other tangible heritages as they contain immeasurable historical values which clearly indicate linguistic diversity and variety of cultural traditions throughout the world.

Such valuable and intangible heritages have to be preserved and protected against the linguistic extinction especially those languages listed by UNESCO as endangered languages of the world. Realizing the importance of diversified mother tongues, many movements have been initiated in order to raise awareness toward diversification of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world.

Here in World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we look to promote the issue as well as encourage linguistic diversity and multicultural education. We greatly encourage all society especially young people to appreciate their and other languages. Mother tongue instruction is vital for everyone to enjoy their right to quality education and key to reducing discrimination, promoting inclusion and improving learning outcomes for all.

We turn to you, the youth and task you with bringing more awareness to linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world. Let us celebrate this day with the intention to inspire solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: 'CALL TO END GENDER BASED VIOLENCE'

DATE: 8TH MARCH 2013

Brigham Young quoted, "You educate a man; you educate a man. You educate a woman; you educate a generation!" Women, who are the backbone of a new generation, shall be treated with respect and love. Without their existence, the world will be dull due to the absenteeism of their devotion and compassion. Virginia Wolf was once quoted as saying, "For most of history, Anonymous was a woman!" This explains the story of a successful man in which a woman is often considered the hidden figure behind all of his hard work. This expression greatly describes a value of compassion, loyalty and adherence which is devoted by women around the world.

However, women-endowments do not stop to an extent of their family. In modern life today, especially in developed countries, many women have been making substantial achievements in educational, economic, social and political aspects leading their contributions to be acknowledged and appreciated equally to that of men. Sadly, such equal privileges are not enjoyed by every woman in the world, especially in less developing countries where gender-impairity is highly practiced.

Realizing an exceptional role that a woman plays and all injustice issues encountered, 8thMarch has been marked as a celebration day of women internationally. Every year, on this day, the greatest gratitude is openly shown to denote endless appreciation toward every woman of the world regardless of her ethnic, cultural, linguistic, economic or even political backgrounds. Thirty-eight years since the first International Women's Day, many efforts still lack accomplishment towards a tolerant and cohesive society which appreciates the role of women.

Thus, this year, a full devotion is awarded to honor countless struggles encountered by women against gender injustice which typically leads to gender based violence. United Nations chose the International Women's Day theme this year to be "A promise is a promise: Time for action to end violence against women".

As our way of contribution in honoring women this year, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has highlighted the theme 'A Call to End Gender Based Violence'. We have focused the issue of Gender Equality in several of our previous activities, including the Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), in 2009 themed "Youth and Gender Equality. In this dialogue, we and other stakeholders combined our efforts based on the realization of the need to increase awareness, educate and promote gender equality among youth. With the many recommendations made and adopted as a declaration, we profoundly urge and request youth, and youth leaders alike, to not halt their efforts towards ending gender based violence but endure the implementation of these and other struggles that render youth

development in all parts of the world. (You may find more information in our website link <http://www.way.org.my/others.html>)

We consider it substantial; to reiterate the call to end gender based violence. Our greatest aspiration is that every young person, especially young men, ought to cease their misperception of gender-stereotyping, which is often a root-cause of gender-based inequality and violence. After all, every young person has that one particular woman who is the closest to their heart. So, before any violent action is shown to a woman, remember that she is also a sister, a friend, a wife, a mother, or a teacher whom someone deeply adores and cares about. Thus, let us all join the forces of round up the cause against gender based violence, in commemoration of the women we adore!

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

COURTESY VISIT FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MALAYSIA-PALESTINE YOUTH
MOVEMENT (MPYM)

DATE: 08TH MARCH 2013

Melaka, 8 March – ON Saturday morning a delegation of twenty two young people from the Malaysia- Palestine Youth Movement (MPYM) paid a courtesy visit to the headquarters of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY). This delegation was touring Malaysia from 28th February to 9th March 2013 with the aim to enhance the power and potential of youth development and peace building for Palestine. This tour focused on three-point agendas for dynamic transformation including Education, Economy and Social Development.

The delegation consisted of youth leaders and social activists from both Malaysia and Palestine. The first 11 members were led by joint-President from Malaysia, Mr. Shahrul Nasrun Dato' Kamarudin while the other 11 members were headed by the joint-President from Palestine, Mr. Mohammad Hasna. As part of the agenda, the delegation visited various youth organizations in Melaka including WAY. Upon arrival, they were greeted and welcomed by the Secretary General, Ms. Ediola Pashollari and other officers of the WAY Secretariat. During this visit, an introductory presentation of WAY was conducted followed by questions and answers on the work and activities of WAY, past and upcoming.

Mr. Hasna thanked the WAY officers present for taking their time to receive them and went on to provide information on the MPYM and youth in Palestine. He stated that more than half of the current population in Palestine is youth; therefore a significant body as that of WAY would be applauded. The delegation raised queries on the opportunities of involving Palestinian youth in WAY through membership either as an organization or individuals. In response, Ms. Ediola recommended for the formation of a national youth council or body and its importance, as it will serve to represent the youth and their issues in Palestine. She went on offering the assistance of WAY for the facilitation of its formation.

During the discussion on current issues faced by youth in Palestine, the gathering exchanged probable concepts to further strengthen their nation. Mr. Hasna suggested for the WAY Secretariat to invite and involve the Palestinian youth in its upcoming activities. He went on to request a mutual collaboration with WAY for the Palestinian youth in organizing an international program founded not only to confront the issue of Peace but also Education, Social Development and exploring methods of incorporating youth participation in the decision making. In response, Ms. Ediola requested for a formal proposal to be submitted with regards to the international event intended. She assured them that WAY would fully support such an initiative. She also welcomed the delegation and Palestinian youth to participate in our upcoming activities and visit the WAY Headquarters as the doors of WAY are always open for all the youth around the world.

In his last words and on behalf of MPYM, Mr. Hasna expressed his appreciation and assured the selection of a representative to liaise with WAY and endure the communication on how to implement all that was discussed and recommended during this visit.

Ms. Ediola responded by thanking the delegation of MPYM for visiting the WAY headquarters and reiterated the importance of Palestinian youth and the role they play in the development of the society. She then directed the delegation to refreshments served which later concluded with a photo session.



The fulfillment of all fundamental human needs is largely dependent on water and access thereof. Be it socio-economic development, environmental preservation, even poverty eradication, none of these goals can be fully attained, without water. Yet today, fresh water remains a scarce resource and access to it has even posed as a root to conflict across regions and communities alike.

In identifying our mutual interdependence on water and underlying need to preserve it; it is essential to engage in cooperation at all levels. This is with the intent to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of water resources in order to reap the mutual benefits and achieve better standards of living. As such, World Water Day is aimed at drawing attention to the importance of water and advocating for sustainable management of freshwater resources and promoting public awareness on the issue.

The theme chosen this year, 'Water Cooperation,' is in line with the designated United Nation International Year on Water Cooperation. It is aimed at promoting widespread public awareness to the significance of the water crisis and provoking a shift in the minds of people as of the importance of cooperating to address it. Cooperation on the management and governance of the water resource may be fundamental to overcoming inequality in access to water and reinforce collaborative efforts to poverty eradication, and improvement of living conditions especially for the youth.

We at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), look to the youth not only as the future beneficiaries of current action on the matter, but as key instigators of change and initiative within their very own communities. Cooperation on such a vital issue may contribute to overcoming several, political, cultural and social tensions and pose as a catalyst to building trust and peace across borders, between different groups, communities and societies alike.

As at one time quoted by Antoine De Saint-Exupery (1900-1944); *"Water has no taste, no color, no odor; it cannot be defined, art relished while ever mysterious. Not necessary to life, but rather life itself. It fills us with a gratification that exceeds the delight of the senses."*

Join us on this day, in facilitating dialogue on the issue as well as raising awareness to the potential challenges for water cooperation and promoting innovative solutions for nurturing water cooperation.

Let us sustain water for a better tomorrow!

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION: ‘A BEAUTY OF DIFFERENCES’

DATE: 21ST MARCH 2013

Take a second; Imagine the world is black and white! Visualize all flowers share one common color, all food one taste, and all music one tune. To picture this, is to envision a world with no beauty or splendor, a world without different shapes, colors or sizes. A similar synopsis may be directly applied to a civilization that celebrates differences in race, color or creed; a civilization that holds one demographic in higher regard than another. Now, suppose for a second, you are playing by a set of rules that determine right or wrong, good or bad, grounded on where you are from, or the color of your skin, a world that is racially discriminated.

International Day for The Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which falls on 21st March annually, is a commemorated obligation of the international community to work on disputes and eliminate any acts of racial discrimination. Sadly, fifty-three years since its initiation, racial and ethnic discrimination still occur in our daily lives. The root to racial discrimination is often ethnic hatred, which in its extremities may drive one, to disregard the basic human principles that today govern society and social interaction. To have such judgments among society is to have a constant threat, to the very fabric of civilization, and social cohesion.

Abraham J. Heschel once referred racism as a gravest threat to man; the maximum of hatred for a minimum of reason. It is disgraceful to witness civilized people like us, divided into different groups as opposed to unifying into one big family and agreeing in one concept of having only one race, the human race!

This year, in light of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, United Nations selected the theme of ‘Racism and Sport’. This theme was designated based on the intent to combat racism and discrimination, through sport. The various sports today are seen as an international center-stage for racial interaction, and to combat discrimination on this scale is to set an example for the millions of viewers and supporters all over the world, which is essentially, to tackle the issue on a global scale.

In light of this matter, we at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that racism is not born but taught, and trust that the best way to combat the issue is to approach the concern with companionship and solidarity. At the WAY Secretariat for instance, we relish in a beauty of differences, where all personnel hail from different religious, racial, country and culture backgrounds. Despite these differences, we are blissfully united. The same beauty is depicted also in our events where youth and youth leaders come from different backgrounds, gather together to share and discuss pertinent youth issues at hand. We thus encourage you, youth and leader, to integrate and incorporate the values of respect,

fairness and teamwork in your daily endeavors as well as abhor from the racial agendas within your communities.

Race, color or creed, we must all stand together and cherish the beauty of our differences!



A busy and hectic lifestyle is a mutual experience for most of us today, especially in metropolitan cities. Active young people are often faced with several stressful obstacles, particularly during their most taxing activities in their academic and working life. A lack of proper rest, coupled with skipping meals and an imbalance diet are some of the accepted norms associated with today's frantic lifestyle; the biggest repercussion of such patterns being hypertension (HTN) also known as High Blood Pressure. It is a shocking fact that between 1989 and 2002, the number of teenagers who have high blood pressure increased from 1 to 5 per cent, meaning that within 10 young people, one to two of them have been diagnosed with Hypertension.

In recognition of the risks that modern persons are exposed to with regard to today's metropolitan lifestyle, the World Health Organization (WHO) has specially elected the theme of Hypertension for this year's World Health Day. In light of the theme set by WHO, we as an organization, who specialize in youth related issues, feel that it is substantial to raise the awareness of young people around the world toward the importance of having a healthy body and mind. At the World Assembly of Youth, we do believe that within a healthy body, lives a happy soul! Being healthy is substantial for every one of us in order to remain productive and efficient in our daily lives. In fact, a good health is fundamental to a lively and creative mind, which in turn, is pivotal to the pursuit of goals and desires! It is a common saying that; most of the things in this world have a price, except our happiness and health.

Unfortunately, the increasing number of youth diagnosed with Hypertension in today's modern life is a solidly unavoidable fact. Underlying to that fact, thus, is an obligation for us, to reiterate our call toward the commencement of healthy lifestyles among youth! Our previous 12th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), for example, had focused on prioritizing the health of young people worldwide, as one of their fundamental rights. During this dialogue, we and other key stakeholders shared our ideas and thoughts towards agreeing in efforts of educating, promoting and raising awareness regarding youth health, at different levels of society.

As of today, together with the World Health Day, we urge our young friends from all around the world to undertake more healthy lifestyles. An unhealthy and improper diet, is one of major drivers toward excessive body weight; and in combination with insufficient physical exercises and excessive stress, heightens the risk of Hypertension.

In the end, you are what you eat! Eating a balanced diet and sparing fifteen minutes of your time a day for a basic exercise, such as jogging, is only beneficial to your long term health. Moreover, it is important for every one of us to remember to have sufficient rest, after a

hectic day of working or studying. Being hard worker is important, but being healthy is equally substantial!

After all, prevention is better than cure. So, start now, live healthy, it will never be too late to practice a healthy lifestyle!

HAPPY WORLD HEALTH DAY! WE WISH YOU A HEALTHY LIFE AHEAD!



Mother earth has provided us for billions of years with comfort and prolific space to live in. Considering the multitude of beauty and benefits rendered to us, it is distressing to know the current contribution that the society is almost nothing in repayment. Instead, we were and continue to be agents to many challenges by engaging in pollution, deforestation and other forms of degradation. We all need to ask ourselves a question, "How far can SHE endure?"

In light of the current environment situation, for this year's Earth Day, we at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) are observing the carefully selected theme "The Face of Climate Change" which aims to highlight the devastating impact that we face nowadays. We strongly believe the time has come to call to an end, all actions which demean and ruin our mother earth, our future. We should cease playing the blame game and unite to take responsibility by increasing efforts of raising awareness; taking initiative by promoting environmental preservation; and rectifying the wrongs of our ancestors by shaping the minds of the next generations.

Over the years, we have vested our efforts towards integrating and implementing several programs, principles and policies related to environment towards achieving a sustainable development. Our efforts and aspirations have been guided by our second and third Millennium Plan of Actions. It is of grave importance to create a sense of responsibility, for current and future generations, to enjoy sufficient resources, while generating a new social contract that places the planet at its center.

Hence, we urge youth and youth leaders worldwide to build their sense of optimism and efforts towards transitioning communities rapidly to become sustainable societies of responsible governance. We believe that with the support of an engaged people, these sustainable societies will be able to assure the elimination of relevant issues related to climate change.

Several frameworks have been created through various world class initiatives and now it is time for us to join and continue the exertion of such lay outs as keepers of mother earth. For change to take place urgently, it has to start somewhere and by someone. We are empowered people therefore we should commit to take daily action towards environment conservation and preservation, as it will be cherished by current and future generations. We owe a great deal to mother earth; for every bright and beautiful day, every intake of breath, and every fruit and vegetable she produces for us. We call for all the youth and youth leaders around the world to be involved in implementing the existing frameworks to curb human-caused climate change well within manageable dimensions; you are the future safe keepers of the earth!

I am a ship to lands of treasure,
I am a key to wisdom's pleasure.
I will always lead you on an upward trek
I have so much to tell you but cannot speak
If you can guess who might I be...
I will tell you all about the mysterious sea!

The answer to this riddle must be easy to guess for those who have experienced the adventure of reading a book. It is grim to think of a world in which thoughts and imaginations are only whispers in the night fold. As Charles William Eliot once said "Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers."

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has specially selected 23rd April every year as the World Book and Copyright Day with the objective to promote reading, publishing and copyright. Moreover, this day signifies the commemoration of world renowned authors and to that spirit they encourage everyone, and in particular young people, to discover the pleasure of reading and gain a renewed respect for the irreplaceable contributions of those who have furthered the social and cultural progress of humanity.

Books are articulated thoughts or ideas which are tangible in form, intangible in content. Therefore, expressing the mind of an author and discovering sense in the imagination of readers. The work of the likes of Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega, have shown the readers the originality, creativity and brilliance that was not only their own but inspired from the work of their predecessors. In order to honor these traits one should acknowledge that innovation is not inherited but motivated.

Books are often the most powerful forms of dialogue between individuals, within communities, between generations and with other societies. This unique means of dialogue must be protected. The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has published three books entitled: Global Response to HIV/AIDS Pandemic; Youth and Globalism: A Perspective; and Youth and Drug Abuse. These books were written to inform, educate and highlight the pertinent youth issues in a given period.

WAY also recognizes that young people grow up in incredibly varied circumstances, with different priorities and perspectives especially in this digital age where technology applies to their psychological and social development. The dawning of digital books has encouraged us

to expand our publication platform in order to broaden our reach.
We encourage young people to continue reading so that they heighten their imagination
and sail through the mysterious seas.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES: 'ADVANCING SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND INTERGENERATIONAL SOLIDARITY'

DATE: 15TH MAY 2013

Family is one of nature's greatest masterpieces in which its members are to be intimately acquainted without having a proper introduction to each other. The bond is just embroidered naturally from the first day of our lives when warm hands embrace our bodies and hearty smiles comfort our cries. The closest family to us is our parents who are the only ones obligated to adore us; compared to the rest of the world whose affection needs to be earned.

To acknowledge the significance of family, 15th May has been specially observed as the International Day of Families. This day aims to promote awareness of issues relating to families. This year's theme, Advancing Social Integration and Intergenerational Solidarity, realizes the fact that in every family consists of members who come from different generations thus challenges of having a fruitful intergenerational relationship are encountered.

In light of this year theme, we, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), realize that the creation of positive intergenerational relationships can assist in building strong family-bonds. We do believe that through a positive intergenerational relationship, an efficient avenue can be created allowing preservation and smooth transfer of historical, cultural and traditional values over generations.

Together with this year International Day of Families, we also reiterate our encouragement to young people from all around the world to embrace intergenerational solidarity and tolerance in their families. Opening your heart to the leeway of friendships with our elders can facilitate advancement of social integration and eventually bring in a new level of harmonization within the family as well as society. A small step can be started today by having one or two hours of your evening time spent with your elder family-members. It takes simple steps like spending time with your elders by sharing simple stories or exchanging stories about your day.

Though it might look trivial, maintaining constant conversations with elder family-members may help young people to understand their way of thinking and gain some of priceless knowledge throughout the process. If face-to-face conversation seems to be impossible, utilizing a means of communication technology will be another great option! So, what are you waiting for? Pick up your cell-phone and dial their numbers! You can start by wishing them

To quote Albert Einstein, "Bear in mind that the wonderful things you learn in your schools

are the work of many generations. All this is put in your hands as your inheritance in order that you may receive it, honor it, add to it, and one day faithfully hand it on to your children,”

We at WAY wish you all HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY: 'ICTS AND IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY'

DATE: 17TH MAY 2013

The current global statistics on the situation of road safety paints a gloomy picture in which 3,400 people die daily cause of road accidents, 1.24 million lives' lost annual globally on our roads. Young adults, aged between 15 to 44 years, account for 59% of this figures. It is crucial to note that this population represents the majority of the work force within our societies, thus the economic loss is significant.

With advances in ICT, we have become more connected than ever. Information transfer and access has been made easy with development of smart phones and other ubiquitous technology. ICT has enabled us to chat with friends and family in different continents, transfer information at high speeds; get first hand news of events happening around the globe, all this available at the touch of a button. With this, we have become more distracted from our everyday duty of being cautious when on our roads. The result has been increased deaths on our road, with 1.3 deaths globally of which 59% of those being young adults of ages between 15-44 years. This represents a significant group that drives most economy's, thus the economic loss is significant.

Contrary to all this, ICT has benefited our road safety campaigns through development of intelligent solutions such as anti-collision systems, intelligent highways that monitor traffic flow, global positioning systems that warn us about road conditions to night vision systems that have made driving at night much safer.

The theme for the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) 2013, "ICTs and Improving Road Safety", endeavors to bring awareness on the role of ICT towards road safety improvement. It is our hope that even as we progress with new developments in ICT, we should at all cost strive to avoid distractions caused as a result while on our roads. Let this day be the first step we take towards achieving the goals set out in the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) would like to call all youth, youth leaders, members, and partners as well as supporting organizations to address this issue of ICT and road safety improvement with the uttermost importance, through innovative and collaborative ICT solutions. We believe the generation today should be the most responsive part of societies when any changes are felt due to the existence of new technological advancements. They should avoid the negative fortuities that result from it by informing others on the risks and becoming more informative on safeties. As Ernest Greenwood once said, "Accidents, and particularly street and highway accidents, do not happen - they are caused."

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD DAY OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT: 'DO ONE THING FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION'

DATE: 21ST MAY 2013

All of us are part of something of greater importance and necessity; something we depict in our mundane lives. Our unique cultural identity and self-definition is formed by our knowledge, experiences, beliefs, and values. Nowadays we are privileged to witness cultural diversification frequently. For example, greeting gestures vary from person to person; from a wave, bow, handshake, nod, a bob, to tipping of the hat, these are just some of the various ways people differ.

The World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, 21st May, is specifically celebrated annually to remind people of the importance of intercultural dialogue, diversity and inclusion; build a world community of individuals committed to support diversity with real and every day-life gestures and; improve understanding and cooperation among people from different cultures.

We at World Assembly of Youth (WAY) recognize that the world, as a society built from integrity, is enriched with different cultures and people must understand that each individual enriches others' lives through this diversity. It is in our dissimilarity that there is a strength hidden and for every overlap of those differences, there is a comfort found.

A Senegalese poet, Yo Yo Ma, was once quoted as saying, "In the end we will conserve only what we love. We love only what we understand and we will understand only what we are taught. We must learn about other cultures in order to understand, in order to love, and in order to preserve our common world heritage."

Ensuing this, 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 recognizing, acknowledging and embracing these similarities, we become one intrinsic nature and value, we become united. We covet youth from all around the world to perceive the relation of cultural diversity and the ideal concept of unification; the more diverse the society the stronger the bond created.

Furthermore, we supplicate youth leaders and other stakeholders to foster cooperation in coalescing activities that result in tangible actions to support youth and diverse societies. We trust that such support from these important people in implementing the theme "Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion" prompts young people to express gratitude and emulate such action in their everyday lives.

At the WAY headquarters, we have over the years molded an environment which embraces

the freedom for people; by accommodating inter-ethnic respect and fostering international understanding and cooperation whilst promoting tolerance, understanding, solidarity and cooperation among young men and women irrespective of race, sex, language, religion or political orientation.

We have started; How about you? With the contribution from all societies, the ideal world where cultural diversity is recognized and appreciated as a grace will be just a few steps ahead. After all, harmonization is realized when there is unity amongst individuals working towards building a cohesive society.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY: 'BAN TOBACCO ADVERTISING, PROMOTION AND SPONSORSHIP'

DATE: 31ST MAY 2013

Even as we continue to struggle with this pandemic that is preventable, cigarette smoking continues to be among the leading causes of preventable deaths in the world. Every six seconds someone somewhere in the world dies due to a tobacco related illness and this accounts for one in 10 adults.

The observation of the World No Tobacco Day, marked around the globe since 1987, is aimed at increasing awareness of the deadliness of tobacco. The World Health Organization (WHO) in 2013, stated in their fact sheet that a number of countries have legislations restricting tobacco advertising, and regulating who can buy and use tobacco products, and where people can smoke. Nevertheless, the number of smokers continues to increase in developing countries by approximately 3.4 per cent each year, while developed countries continue to experience a decrease in the smoking rates.

The surge in cigarette smoking rates in developing countries can be attributed to the fact that smoking has become less acceptable and profitable in these countries. This has forced tobacco companies to direct their attention to markets that offer fewer restrictions, regulations and public health warnings. According to the Gates Foundation, the poorest households in Bangladesh spend almost 10 times as much on tobacco as they do on education.

Experts have also stated that vulnerable and curious youngsters make for a "soft target" for tobacco companies who glamorize their product, as the age of onset of experiment with cigarettes or other form of tobacco worryingly fell to a startling 11-12 years. Therefore, it is pivotal for collective collaboration from all stakeholders especially amongst those with direct influence to the youth to intercept the problem of intake of tobacco and eradicate it.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we reiterate our commitment towards addressing youth health and therefore advocate for clear-cut policies and laws that protect the youth from unwarranted enticement, through advertisements, towards this epidemic. We therefore join the global community as we observe this day, the World No Tobacco Day, by calling on a ban to the advertising, promotion and sponsoring of tobacco usage for our youth. Youth and others are misled by advertising and promotions of tobacco way to penetrate their social-lives.

Moreover, WAY urges young people to be more informed and educated on the risks of tobacco-consumption so that they will understand all the consequences associated with it. Let us today say NO to tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship; ensuing that one day in the future, we will all breathe cleaner and healthier air.

Did you know that every night, when we rest soundly, 1 in 7 people go to bed hungry? Even worse, every day, 20,000 children under the age of 5 die from hunger; while in another part of the world, people, youth inclusive, tend to waste their food.

Based on a survey conducted by UN Food and Agriculture Organization, approximately 1.3 billion tons of food is annually thrown away. While food-resources are scarce and limited to sustain world-population which currently reaches 7 billion people and is still expected to grow, most of us seem to fail to appreciate the value of foods. Considering these and other facts, the World Environment Day this year has been themed ‘Think, Eat, Save’ with the purpose to raise global awareness to take positive actions and initiations in sustaining food resources.

We at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), on several occasions have deliberated on the provision of necessary basic resources to youth. One of the concerns that we aim to tackle is clearly highlighted in the WAY Millennium Plan of Action 3 (MPAC 3), goal 2 in which we are working and planning necessary actions to reduce the number of people affected by hunger and malnutrition. In our work, we especially advocate that all stakeholders mobilize the youth, educate them on the urgency of sustainable development issues while encouraging them to involve themselves in the negotiation process and engage them in simulations that encourage other societies to jump onto the bandwagon to host their own simulations, albeit from a distance. We trust that once everyone is conversant with the issue, we will come up with innovative ideas that can restructure the current processes and restore hope in them.

In this manner, we can engage the youth locally and get them to THINK of how to provide adequate results, encourage them to EAT healthy while supporting to SAVE the environment. In our opinion, this way gives people the opportunity to get involved and experience a reality-like negotiation where they can be the action doers. You can start today, before you order in or cook your meal, we urge you to consider the quantity of food by thinking smartly instead of a good deal. By doing so, you will have contributed in reducing food-waste, saving money, and also minimizing the environmental impact of food production.

So, remember to THINK before you EAT and you might be able to SAVE lives!

Happy World Environment Day!

It is a priceless blessing to bask in the freedom to live; the provision to basic amenities of a home; reliable protection; access to transportation.

In practice, not everyone is as fortunate as us; millions of refugees migrate for reasons of safety or civil rights from their own country. They are usually in danger of losing their life. Humanities basic rights and safety are at risk. They leave because of the exposure to war, danger or the threat of imprisonment to themselves or their loved ones. They have no choice but to leave if they want to continue to live. Driven into a state of depression, starvation and fear, many refugees, from women to children inclusive, have to live in the poorest conditions and are even forced to seek asylum in different areas. This certainly is distressing as refugees have often been misunderstood or largely ignored by the international community therefore, attracting little of the public’s attention.

Reports today have expressed concern of the fragility of the refugee experience underlined by situations in Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq and Syria, causing 7.6 million people to become refugees in 2012; the total number now greater than at any time since 1994. In light of this and other similar cases, the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has specially chosen 20th June as the World Refugee Day to globally express the concern of societies towards such vulnerable groups and assist them to begin their lives afresh.

It is through little things and very personal anecdotes which often define a magical turning point when refugees who may have spent years or even decades in flight and in refugee camps suddenly realize that a new better life has just begun. As young people comprise a growing percentage of the total number of refugees in the world, we at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), join other organizations on this day in acknowledging refugees as well as aid officials from all around the world. We extend our encouragement, support and respect to their strength to sustain, persist and struggle against suffering.

We call upon partners to assist us in improving collaboration between humanitarian and development actors at all levels. Such partners will prove beneficial in order to assist in becoming involved in areas where there is a clear link to economic growth. Indeed, if refugees could be seen as ‘agents of development’ rather than as burdens.

In order to implement this, we believe the first step would be to see refugees as agents of change and being able to fulfill their potential. This can only be achieved by involving government ministries, international organizations and international dialogues. Bringing forth the issue will require that development actors at all levels be informed to the fact that

refugees require wider engagement by the stakeholders.

During the development of initiatives, targeted development assistance should be united to promote refugee protection and durable solutions taking place on a bilateral level, an interregional level, or a multilateral level.

However, we have confidence that a multilateral dialogue provides a context within which an overarching discussion of 'best practices' could take place and basic principles agreed upon in order to assist these people meet their basic needs.

Happy World Refugee Day!



Music is the universal language of mankind. It is an effective means of communication within and across cultures; a powerful form of expression and communication; and a source of inspiration for some of us. It serves as a remedy, soother of depression, for many of us. Whatever the value that it holds for every individual. Music is certainly a treasure of art whose civilization generates.

The significance of music to all people is indeed unquestionable. Imagine living without music; a colorless, tasteless and dull life close to emptiness. Plato once expressed the importance of music by quoting, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything."

The worth of music on human-life was fore grounded in the year 1982 in France. This brought forth the annual celebration of World Music Day on 21 June to continuously illuminate the intensity and essence of music for the world.

Utilizing the slogan of "F ate de la Musique" which simply means "Make Music", World Music Day aims to encourage musicians from all around the world to never stop generating inventive music for future generations.

People commemorate this day, by receiving amateur musicians to perform live in the streets and openly holding free concerts for public audiences. It is a day when music is pealed and played all nights given that certain regulations and restrictions are closely obeyed by the performers.

As in World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we truly respect the role of music in the lives of all people particularly those of young people. Being young, lively and creative, youth always seek ideas and stimulations through listening to the beautiful rhythms of music. We, at WAY, believe that the involvement of young people should not stop at the point of being passive listeners. In fact, young people should be actively involved in music-generating processes as it assists in perfecting their creativity and brings the best out of their skills. The involvement of young people to become music-generators will nurture their appreciation towards professional musicians' masterpieces and this in turn prevents them from supporting pirate-related activities.

Thus today, we support all young people to be musicians for a day. Now is a perfect time to call up all of your friends and gather together to create music of your own. You will be surprised what you are capable of. Extend your wings of creativity today, through those musical notes. Leopold Stokowski once beautifully compares a painter with a musician in

following quotation, “A painter paints pictures on canvas. But musicians paint their pictures on silence”.

HAPPY COMPOSING!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
STATEMENT
THE STATUS OF THE SPANISH YOUTH COUNCIL
DATE: 24 JUNE 2013

Melaka, 24th June - THE World Assembly of Youth (WAY) is taken aback by the Spanish Government decision to subjugate the independency of its National Youth Council (CJE). For the past 30years, CJE has been serving as an independent body for youth organizations and youth representation associations.

At no time in WAY existence, have we witnessed a government attempt to minimize the legal nature of its youth representative especially taking into consideration that youth in Spain comprise between 14.6 to 37.6 per cent of the total population. This decision demonstrates that youth voices in decision making concerning a nation's administration, economic and social matters are deformed and dismissed. One now wonders what it will take for governments to start acknowledging youth.

The government decision to merge CJE with The Youth Institute (INJUVE); a government body, that is responsible for providing youth services, will prove to be impossible because the two entities play different roles. This goes against the principles of having an impartial national youth council that is independent of Government interference.

CJE is the only organization that has been serving as a channel for youth participation and has been representing young people as well as advocating for the improvement of their wellbeing. It is its duty to defend, according to the law, the interests and rights of young people in Spain. Given the current economic situation, CJE has endured setbacks but has continued to deliver on the youth agenda. CJE creates a framework with strategic actions that focus on promoting social justice at national and international levels. To put the organization under rails is a strong aggression to youth participation and to democracy as well as to the present and future of young people.

We supplicate all stakeholders; public, private and media to move toward one coalition and work towards developing concrete action. With all honesty, this is a crucial time for governments to consult and mobilize with national youth councils such as CJE, towards addressing issues affecting the country. With the unemployment rate as high as 55 per cent among young people today , the Spanish youth need a voice, a platform that is relevant enough to act on their behalf to tackle this issue, and the CJE is the best candidate for this.

This is why we at WAY urge the government to come to a reasonable compromise and try to understand the role CJE plays. There are many ways to deal with this current situation than dissolving the youth council. The change proposed by the government undermines the essence of the youth council because CJE functions cannot be carried out without its independence. We do hope that the government goes back on its decision and do right by its youth.

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING: 'MAKE HEALTH YOUR 'NEW HIGH' IN LIFE, NOT DRUGS'

DATE: 26TH JUNE 2013

There has been considerable concern about the perceived number of young people around the world who are using illicit psychoactive substances. The widespread concern about the use and abuse of illicit drugs is reflected by its high status on health, educational and political agendas in many countries.

In 2010 alone, around 210 million people, youth inclusive, were predicted to take illicit substances at least once, causing drug-trafficking to be one of the largest criminal offence that brings in the most significant social impact to the communities. If strategies to reduce the use of drugs and associated harms amongst the younger population are to be developed, particularly within the health education arena, it is vital that we improve our understanding of the roles that both licit and illicit substances play in the lives of young people.

Illicit drug trade is not only confined to the supply and demand but starts from cultivation offering young people new opportunities to participate. Research has shown that drug cultivators are a very diverse group: although cultivation is the most prevalent money-generating crime for gang members, girls and otherwise conventional youth are also involved in high numbers. There is therefore a need to design policies that concern not just the prevention of drug use among youth, but also youth involvement in the supply of drugs.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY) we prefer to articulate that youth are the central actors and vehicle for change. Any program to curb drug abuse and its trafficking must bear in mind that change starts with the involvement and participation of youth in the formulation and implementation of activities designed to wean and dislodge them from drug use and trafficking. The youth and their peer groups' perspectives of their involvement in drug sale and trafficking are crucial inputs to the design of program strategies and techniques for any anti-drug programs. Research with a focus on young people has sought to identify motives for illicit drug use.

Support of community officials and institutions is a key factor in the success and replication of any activity to curb drug use and its trade. Therefore, we assert that Government policies and programs must also recognize the central roles of the community officials and institutions. These policies should also support gender sensitive drug issues.

The policies and programs developed should also recognize the need for protection and support for youth drug users especially in relation to their health. In light of this year's theme, Make Health Your 'New High' In Life, Not Drugs, we feel that it is necessary to raise

the awareness and advocate for the importance of having a healthy body and mind for the young people.

Together we can make it happen and have a world free from the abuse of drugs, and individuals free of drug dependence who can contribute to our common future. It takes a man's faith to believe that it can happen and action to bring it to pass so let us all have common conviction for the good of our own health, youth and communities.

Get high on Life, not on drugs!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE: 'REHABILITATION, A KEY TO RE-INTEGRATION'

DATE: 26TH JUNE 2013

To deliberately inflict pain on another human being is the most animalistic human trait by far. Everyone has the right to be mentally and physically freed from any form of torture. It is time the world stood together to put this ill treatment to a total halt.

It is disheartening that this sinister act is still happening, and could be going on in our backyards without even knowing. The United Nations has condemned the act of torture as one of the vilest and irresponsible actions committed by human beings to each other. To further express their support towards the victims of torture, they have specially chosen 26th June annually as International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. This year's theme is rehabilitation, which is selected to acknowledge its pivotal function to reintegrate the victims back to societies.

The truth is that young victims frequently encounter difficulties during the rehabilitation process. This is often caused by the difference in age between the rehabilitators and the young victims of torture. The margin between their ages makes it hard for them to relate to each other. It is therefore advisable that the rehabilitation teams should include youth so as to eliminate communication barriers.

In line with that, we, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), urge young people from all around the world to jointly commit themselves in volunteering activities especially those related to rehabilitation of tortured victims. Utilizing young volunteers in rehabilitative facilities will not only give them a precise picture about the disadvantages of torturing related acts but also give victims an approachable role model so that the reintegrating process will be easier to be achieved. After all, rehabilitation is a key to reintegration; rehabilitation will prepare victims of torture, build back their confidence and equip them with necessary skills before they are ready to be reintegrated back to their societies.

Today let us be a part of the movement in support of victims of torture and their road to healing. Join us to promote solidarity, eliminate any form of pain inflicting act, and raise international corporations to assist victims of torture by addressing its causes and restoring the well-being of the victims.

Together we can bring lasting solutions to end torture throughout the world and to ensure torture victims get the necessary help through rehabilitation. Choose to be part of these solutions.

The world consists of a population of over 7 billion. Where, 16 million of this population is girls under the age of 18 who give birth each year, whereas 3.2 opt to undergo unsafe terminations of their pregnancies. This goes on to show just how severe the situation of adolescent pregnancy is worldwide, especially in developing countries where numbers seem to be higher than those of developed countries.

A large population has often been linked with good economic growth, the larger the population, the better the economy. However, quantity does not always win over quality because with the number of young girls giving birth, quantity is now a cause of concern. Reasons for adolescent pregnancies may vary from child marriages, rape, and lack of education on safe sex to sexual coercion. Many of these young people are introduced to sexual intercourse at an age where they are oblivious to what they are doing and do not know how to protect themselves, not only from pregnancy but sexual transmitted diseases as well.

In accordance with World Population Day themed "*Halt to Unsafe Adolescent Pregnancy*", the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has taken up various measures to address this issue and other related issues. The safety of these young girls is our first priority. Regardless of the situation these young people are in, we believe that if they get enough education about sexual intercourse and reproductive health, a lot of them will be saved from adolescent pregnancies. This education should not end with just the children, parents as caretakers must learn the dangers their children may encounter if they fall pregnant at such a young age, that way they will be able to protect them against child marriages and other social ills that may contribute to adolescent pregnancies. We whole heartedly are against the violations of girls and young women rights which are great contributors to various cruel treatments against women.

We have taken a step further by addressing the issue of adolescent pregnancy under goal 4; Gender Equality and Women Empowerment and goal 9; Improving Maternal Health in our Millennium Plan of Action 3 (MPAC 3). In line with that, we have conducted several programs and produced various publications to raise awareness to all stakeholders towards minimizing the risk of unsafe motherhood. For instance, we published a press release to commemorate the International Women's Day that was themed 'Call to End Gender Based Violence', as gender based violence is one of the key factors of adolescent pregnancies.

WAY has also conducted several international events like the annual Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) to bring awareness to the youth about their rights as citizens of the universe. Our 12th MIYD 'Health, It is My Right!' aimed at maximizing the equal access of

public services, health-care to be precise. One of our aims was to raise awareness on the current situation of youth health with anticipated behaviour adaptation and consequently admission to decision making among the youth.

We reiterate our support towards education to young women and girls as the major preventive tool of the issues related to unsafe adolescent-pregnancy.

Happy World Population Day and let us protect our children and young women from early unprotected sexual activities and say NO to unsafe adolescent pregnancies.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

MASIELA LUSHA APPOINTED AS GOODWILL AMBASSADOR FOR WAY

DATE: 16TH JULY 2013

Melaka, 16th July 2013 - THE World Assembly of Youth (WAY) announced the appointment of Ms. Masiela Lusha as its first Goodwill Ambassador on 11th July 2013. Ms. Lusha is an author, poet, producer, actress and humanitarian and has actively been involved in altruistic deeds from an early age. Her designation took place during the commemoration of the World Population Day with the theme "Halt to Unsafe Adolescent Pregnancy".

WAY President, Rt. Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron warmly welcomed her to the team and stated that "Ms. Lusha has taken up this role at a time where the fight for youth rights is at a peak and I believe her contribution will be highly commended." He went on saying that "With her in our midst and as our representative, we foresee greater growth for our organization and better exposure. It is an honor to have her as the very first Goodwill Ambassador for WAY and we hope that more people of her caliber will come forth and be part of our organisation for youth empowerment towards a sustainable development."

Through the diversity of her humanitarian deeds, Ms. Lusha has proven to be a role model to many young people. She has worked hard since the early age and has made a desirable name for herself. She published and translated several books and has been growing into a budding public figure. Meanwhile, her humanitarian trait began in 2006, when she founded a non-profit organisation called the Children of the World Foundation. She donated 10 acres of land for the Foundation to build a community center that shelters, educates and promotes healthy communication.

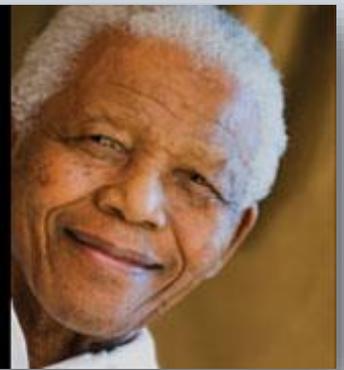
As the newly minted Goodwill Ambassador, her efforts are geared towards raising awareness on the various youth issues and WAY activities. She stated that "From its inception in 1949, WAY defines and empowers the progress and safety of our youth. And, with every youth elevated to his or her potential, our humanity lifts and expands to fit bigger dreams, and higher goals." She also mentioned that "As WAY's Goodwill Ambassador, it is an honor to commit to a vision that elevates humanity, and unites the world's youth."

In her capacity as WAY's Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Lusha will use the influential voice of the entertainment industry to engage in public advocacy, mobilize youth to embrace more sustainable lifestyle and sort fundraising opportunities for various designating youth issues and causes.

As a well accomplished young woman, we believe that her role will bring great contribution to youth empowerment. For more information on her achievements, please find enclosed her summarized bio-data.

NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY

18 July For freedom, justice and democracy



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
NELSON MANDELA INTERNATIONAL DAY
DATE: 18TH JULY 2013

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”/ Nelson Mandela/

Every story needs a hero. A representation of everything that should be right for this world, everything we should aspire to. Today’s hero is Nelson Mandela. A decent man, a man that spent the best years of his life, 27 years in jail, to fight for what he believed to be right and stood strong not only for himself, but also for the rights of others.

Never has there been a greater triumph of the human spirit in recent history, so that the United Nations decided to annually dedicate 18th of July, Mr. Mandela’s birthday, to commemorate his achievements of life as the Nelson Mandela International Day.

Nelson Mandela is the embodiment of values such as freedom, equality, respect and values that we, the youth need to embrace, as we aspire to a brighter future, which we hope to be engulfed by world peace and harmony. Nelson Mandela International Day is a global call for people to recognize their ability in order to have a positive effect on others around them, by being persistent, determined and dedicated to their core values and principals.

As an interesting initiative, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, supported by the UN, calls for people to devote 67 minutes of their time to help others, as a way to mark this precious day. These 67 minutes shall represent the 67 years he had spent fighting for social justice and many philanthropic endeavors. This allocated time shall be put forward in spreading love and compassion to your fellow human beings, those less fortunate than you, and those just like you.

On his 95th birthday, let us all thrive to ensure that the work and accomplishments of this great visionary man will never be forgotten. This is the best moment to celebrate the life and work of ‘Madiba’, as the father of all humanity. The man who has overcome so much heartfelt obstacles still continues to stand strong even during his recent recovery in health.

We at WAY, would like to wish him the most prosperous health and shall continue to make every day a Mandela day, by striving liberty for the youth and help them to overcome the challenges ahead. We urge youth and youth leaders to continue instigating change, positivity and progress within their communities and society at large.

WAY aims to raise awareness by celebrating the Nelson Mandela International Day and encourages young people to take a moment in doing something virtuous for one and other. Youth are the drivers of change and the future leaders of the world.

Let us make this world with more Nelson Mandela alike people who shall be full of compassion, respect and kindness.

Happy Nelson Mandela International Day!





WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY: 'YOUTH MIGRATION: MOVING DEVELOPMENT FORWARD'

DATE: 12TH AUGUST 2013

'Young men are fitter to invent than to judge; fitter for execution than for counsel; and fitter for new projects than for settled business.'

/Francis Bacon/

Young people make up one-sixth of whole human population while their curiosity and passion has no boundaries. Youth with their bursting energy and enthusiasm are the key to the world's future development.

The United Nations (UN) has always aimed to encourage young people to be actively involved in positive change within the society and help to motivate their environment for the best. In order to acknowledge and realize the importance and great role that young people play, UN has selected 12th August as the International Youth Day (IYD) to annually commemorate the youth. Through this initiative, UN intends to raise awareness regarding youth-related issues and recognize the efforts of youth from all around the world in enhancing global society. The idea emerged by young people in Vienna, Austria at the first session of UN's World Youth Forum in 1991 and was first put into practice in 2000.

This year's International Youth Day's theme is 'Youth Migration: Moving Development Forward' has been chosen based on the recognition of the fact that youth migrants make up 30% of overall international migrants.

Acknowledging all the risks associated with migration, migration offers young people precious opportunities to contribute to the positive development of their communities. Thus, by picking youth migration as a theme, this year International Youth Day is expected to raise awareness and share knowledge regarding both the risks and opportunities of Youth Migration.

In line with this year's theme, we at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), have realized the importance of Youth Migration in the lives of young people today. To emphasize the

importance of the topic we have chosen 'Youth Migration: A Step from Haven' as our theme for the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) which will be held between 12th-14th September 2013.

Through this dialogue, all participants ranging from young people, youth leaders, public and private sector officers, and NGO representatives are going to gather to call for action and structure experience on the issue of youth migration. The outcome of this dialogue is projected not only to educate and increase awareness on the adversities and prerogatives of Youth Migration, but also to enhance youth contribution to the 2013 World Youth Report.

We would like to encourage young people to actively participate and partake in activities related to the International Youth Day as well as to take advantage of being able to develop ideas on how to further improve the policies which are beneficial towards Youth Migration. Don't hesitate to take the lead and be the change and the energy that helps to move Youth Migration to a greater level.

In commemoration and conjunction with this significant day for the youth, WAY is launching its brand new website, where young people can get informed about youth related issues based on UN Development Goal's guidelines as well as national youth councils and national youth policies of each country.

Happy International Youth Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY “THE WORLD NEEDS MORE”
DATE: 19TH AUGUST 2013

“A person who has sympathy for mankind in the lump, faith in its future progress, and desire to serve the great cause of this progress, should be called not a humanist, but a humanitarian, and his creed may be designated as humanitarianism.”/ Irvina Babbitt/

Year after year, we see doctors, nurses, psychologists, engineers, logisticians, programme officers, information managers, security advisors and the rest of the humanitarian community worldwide give up the comfort of their homes while they go out into difficult territories and put their lives on the line to help those in need. They embark on dangerous missions to countries and parts of the world characterized by catastrophic conditions such as natural disasters, war and conflicts, droughts and poverty. They endure bad conditions with lack of good health facilities and close to none basic needs and yet they still continue to persevere in their missions.

The theme for this year World Humanitarian Day “The World Needs More” draws the world into coming up with solutions to what the world needs more. It is a campaign of words in support of those who are victims of the humanitarian crisis. In the past and in most recent times, a lot of humanitarians have lost their lives and have been victims of rape, torture, kidnapping, while they were working on missions in various parts of the world. The numbers keep escalating and this is a cause for concern, hence most missions have been pulling out of high risk areas in order to protect humanitarians.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY) we recognize and acknowledge the struggles and achievements of all the humanitarians. Their great effort to bring aid is well appreciated. WAY is also playing its role by raising awareness on issues such as eradicating hunger and poverty, gender equality, environmental sustainability and many more. We also encourage volunteer programs that are involved in counteracting these issues.

The World Needs more people of Mother Theresa, Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela caliber, people who cherish peace, are selfless, humble and brave. Only then can there be peace, and can the efforts of our humanitarians be highly appreciated and their safety be intact. Youth around the world should look up to such figures and work on making the world a better place by taking part in humanitarian activities

The World Needs LOVE.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

COURTESY VISIT FROM THE DELEGATES OF MA- CHN- DO WORLD HERITAGE
YOUTH VOLUNTEERS TO WAY HEADQUARTERS

DATE: 23RD AUGUST 2013

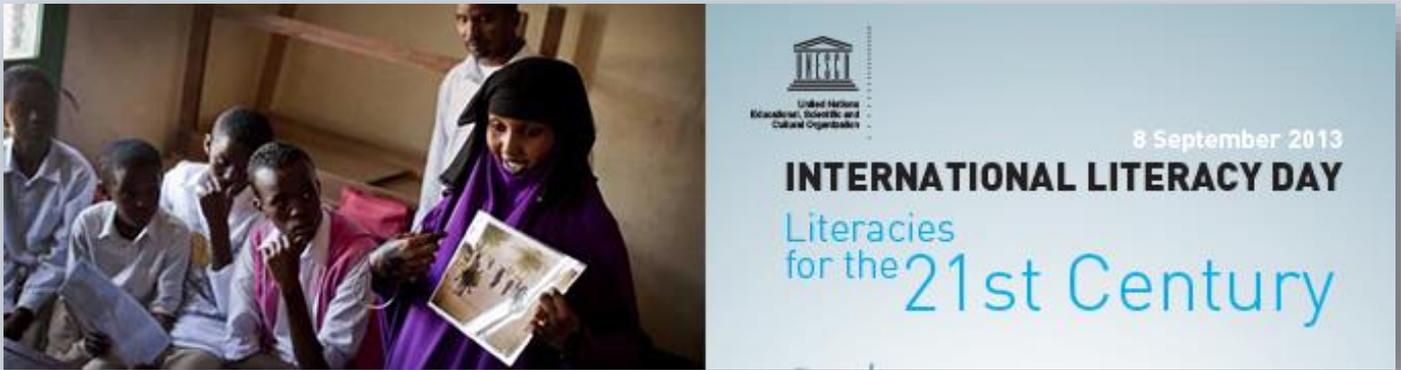
Melaka, 23rd August – TODAY afternoon over 90 young volunteers visited the premises of the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) headquarters as one of their site activities. They are participants of the first MA-CHN-DO World Heritage Volunteers Work Camp 2013, a two week camp from 16th to 29th August 2013 held in Melaka, Malaysia. MA-CHN-DO is a one co-operation World Heritage Volunteer Project which represents the World Heritage principles and values related to the educational, scientific and cultural areas.

WAY in conjunction with Melaka World Heritage Office, China Society of Education Training Center (CSETC) and Indonesia International Work Camp (IIWC) joined hands in organizing of the first MA-CHN-DO work camp. The main purpose of this collaboration between Malaysia, China and Indonesia to form MA-CHN-DO is to support and follow up on the World Heritage Volunteers program introduced by World Heritage Center UNESCO and CCIWS in the 1st Asia-Pacific World Heritage Regional Forum of Site Managers and Youth NGOs: Linking Networks Seoul, Republic of Korea on last August 2012. This camp also aims to promote and introduce international voluntary service as an initiative of youth volunteers in order to promote the World Heritage and promote the culture of peace in three countries Indonesia-Malaysia-China, as well as increase the contribution by the youth and voluntary service organizations to World Heritage promotion and preservation.

During the official opening ceremony of the event, on 21st August 2013, the president of WAY cum the Chief Minister of Melaka, the host state, Rt. Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron in his speech commended the efforts of MA-CHN-DO. He congratulated the young volunteers for their tireless endeavors, and encouraged the continuity of hosting the work camp among the key member countries, with China next in line to host the program followed by Indonesia.

Today, we had an honor of hosting the young volunteers, in our premises and have various presentations and discussions related to youth issues and volunteerism. Our Secretary General, Ms. Ediola Pashollari addressed the young people with her main focus being: youth volunteerism and WAY's contribution in youth empowerment via WAY Volunteer Programme. She urged the young people to continue with their work and remain committed toward the sustainable development of the society.

After the session with the Secretary General, the volunteers were motivated and eager to be part of the WAY Volunteer Programme to extend their reach and support to the international level. This courtesy visit ended with various photo session and exchange of souvenirs and contacts.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY: 'LITERACIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY'

DATE: 08TH SEPTEMBER 2013

"Literacy is much more than an educational priority – it is the ultimate investment in the future and the first step towards all the new forms of literacy required in the twenty-first century. We wish to see a century where every child is able to read and to use this skill to gain autonomy"

/Irina Bokova, UNESCO Director General/

Approximately, more than 774 million of the world's adults (nearly two-thirds of whom are women) do not know how to read or write, and roughly 123 million children lack those same skills, and are often denied any access to education. Put simply, one in five adults are still not literate and two-thirds of them are women 60.7 million children are out-of-school and many more attend irregularly or drop out.

The 8th of September every year is set aside by the United Nations to recognize International Literacy Day. Since 1966, UNESCO has celebrated the day as a reminder to the world that literacy is a basic human right and even more essential to social and economic development. This year's theme is "Literacy for the 21st Century", which aims to highlight the importance of literacy in the century of globalization, and the lack there of in many a country.

In order to promote the importance of literacy within society, several initiatives have been put in place including; the United Nations Literacy Decade and the LIFE initiative, both of which offer a framework for UNESCO to advocate for literacy, however, addressing the global literacy challenge remains difficult.

As such, we at the World Assembly of Youth, call upon you, the youth, to be the instigators of change and the leaders of this battle against illiteracy within society. Many young people and refugees migrate thousands of miles in pursuit of the opportunity to receive a decent education. We urge you to be the facilitators of this opportunity and the architects of a future free of illiteracy, and with strong grounds for literacy as a basic human right.

As you all know, in two days we are holding the 13th annual Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) themed “*Youth Migration: A Step from Haven*”. One of the key issues being addressed at this dialogue is youth migration in search of better education and the duty of key stakeholders to address the causal factors of this form of migration as well as promoting basic standards for education and educational facilities in every country.

The struggle for literacy as a basic human right and necessity is not something that can be achieved in a single day. It is an initiative that requires all citizens of the world to play a significant role and contribution. That contribution begins with you, and remains your responsibility to ensure that action is being taken within your community, to promote literacy.

Happy International Literacy Day!



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 13TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE
“YOUTH
MIGRATION: A STEP FROM HAVEN”
DATE: 12TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Melaka, 12 September 2013. THE Opening Ceremony of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) was held today at Hang Tuah World Heritage Hotel with the honorable presence of Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh, Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia, Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy, Melaka State Executive Councilor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGOs, Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia cum Vice President of the World Assembly of Youth, YB. Datuk Hjh. Norpipah Binti Abdol, Deputy State Executive Councilor for Youth and Heritage Melaka, and our very own Ms. Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General to WAY. We also had the presence of some of WAY Vice Presidents, WAY Executive Committee members and various other government representatives from all over the world.

The Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth, Ms. Ediola Pashollari, during her welcoming remarks introduced the theme of the MIYD and took the participants and delegates throughout the journey of the dialogue. She welcomed the participants both to the dialogue and thanked all the youth organizations, government bodies, donors, speakers, delegates and dignitaries for having taken their time to make themselves available for the event.

We had an honor to be addressed by a lady who will go in history as the WAY first ever Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Mashuela Lusha. She devoted her time to make a video of her speech so that we all know she is part of the movement for change and to show her support. She reinstated the importance of migration; that it is not only for the youth but for the future generations and for the future of our world. She encouraged the participants to share the passions they have towards youth migration and to listen with open hearts and ears to their esteemed acquaintances.

Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy on behalf of the President of WAY, Hon. Datuk Wira Ir. Idris Haron confirmed the implementation of youth actions towards impacting the world by bringing reformation to policies in existence through Youth Organizations and National Youth Councils. He reaffirmed the youth of WAY's Millennium Plan of Actions towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by tapping on the potency of youth, governments and private sectors. He continued to encourage the youth to collectively work together, respecting other's rights when bringing out ideas on migration and its issues in general.

Hon. Datuk Jamil Salleh, Secretary General to the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia in an effort to bring awareness on migration concerns, acknowledged the dangers that young people encounter during migration process. He declared that he will ensure that injustices

faced by young migrants will be addressed, that the young migrants rights are fought for and each of their voices are heard. He went on to urge all parties concerned to go into this dialogue with a clear objective and that they should all play their role in changing the current youth migration status. He reminded the youth that their rights are in fact their greatest weapons against challenges they endure and encouraged them to fight for them at all times until they are granted.

The opening ceremony was then concluded well with the presentation of tokens of appreciation to the guest of honors and dignitaries present and took photos with representatives from different countries. The day was continued with three plenary sessions; Brain Waving Youth Migration, Challenges and Opportunities on Youth Migration, and Sketching Prospects of Youth Migration. Presentations from government representative bodies, academicians, youth organizations, NGOs and private sectors from various countries shared their thoughts and expertise by joining forces to equip and empower the youth on youth migration from different perspectives.

Migration should not be an issue, it should be embraced, and we should all adhere to different state laws if at all we want to see change in our system. Thus far the participants have proved to be very active and we therefore look forward to having interactive and informative workshops that will deliver a fruitful outcome, for the next two days.

We concluded our day with cultural performances from the participants and WAY volunteers, which saw a variety of talent among all present here for the 13th MIYD.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE 13TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE
DATE: 14TH SEPTEMBER 2013

Melaka, 14 September 2013 - THE closing ceremony of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue was celebrated with many interesting events. The day began with the reading of the draft declaration which was later 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 two days.

Later during the day, the participants were taken on a field trip to the Anti- Human Trafficking Victims Camp in Tanjung Kling. It was during the visit that the participants were enlightened on the procedure done once a victim reports their fate to the authorities. It was a humbling experience for the participants as they showed concern and asked various questions and most of them extended a helping hand.

Ms. Ediola Pashollari, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) Secretary General welcomed all to the farewell gala dinner and closing ceremony later at night. In her welcoming remarks, she mentioned how grateful she was for the development of the declaration and the level of commitment demonstrated by everyone present during the entire dialogue. She also acknowledged the input of all dignitaries, and organizers and she hoped for a continuous link between the youth, WAY, National Youth Councils, Youth Organizations and Government Youth Representative Bodies. Her welcome remarks were followed by a speech from the WAY Goodwill Ambassador, Ms. Masiela Lusha.

In his speech, the president of WAY encouraged everyone present to take upon themselves to make sure that the declaration presented today becomes a reality in their respective organizations. He noted that youth should use their power as the middle man between the young and old generation to good use and be the picture and voice of legal migration. In addition to officially closing the dialogue, the President invited all present to celebrate with WAY their 64th Anniversary. The anniversary was celebrated with cutting of the cake.

The closing ceremony was attended by various persons of honor including; Datuk Seri Haji Mohd Ali bin Mohd Rustam, former President of WAY; Hon. Pohamba Shifeta, Deputy Minister of Environment and Tourism, Namibia cum Vice President of WAY; Hon. Datuk MS Mahadevan Sanacy, Melaka State Executive Councilor for Company Affairs, Human Resources and NGOS; Hon. Datuk HJH. Norpipah Binti Abdol, Deputy Chairman of Youth and Heritage, Melaka; Mr. Hussein Abdullah M. Al- Ahmed, Vice President of WAY, Yemen; Dr. Alh. Muazu Babangida Aliyu, The Chief Servant of Niger State, Nigeria; His Excellency Premdut Doongoor, High Commissioner of the High Commission of Mauritius; His Excellency Indris Konjari, Ambassador of the Republic of Albania; His Excellency Yasser Hashem, Minister of Plenipotentiary, Deputy Chief Minister of Mission, Embassy of Egypt; His Excellency Akhmad DH Irfan, Minister of Social and Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the Republic

of Indonesia; Hon. Dato Chuah Ghee Lye, Chief Police Officer, Police Diraja Malaysia; and Mr. Al- Hajj Mohammad Fazlul Haque, EXCO member of WAY

The closing ceremony was concluded with a dinner, followed by certificate and awards presentation, souvenir presentation and photo session. The night was ended with a performance by one of the local bands, Black Velvet and dignitaries, participants, organizers and volunteers celebrated the end of the dialogue as one.





WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY: 'STRENGTHENING VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY: TO UNDERSTAND, TO EMBRACE AND TO INFLUENCE'

DATE: 15TH SEPTEMBER 2013

"Democracy arises out of the notion that those who are equal in any respect are equal in all respects; because men are equally free, they claim to be absolutely equal." /Aristotle/

According to preamble of resolution of International Day of Democracy, Democracy is defined as 'a universal value based on the freely-expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems, and their full participation in all aspects of life'. In other words, Democracy simply is from people, by people and for people; People are its only possible spark and drive!

After the meaning of Democracy has been well understood, one has to embrace it in his or her heart because the heart is the greatest root and motivation of man's actions. This concept is also in line with what has been taught by Mahatma Gandhi, 'the spirit of democracy is not a mechanical thing to be adjusted by abolition of forms. It requires change of heart'. Once, Democracy is embraced in the heart, it is then possible for one to effectively influence others to believe in the value of Democracy and desire to its existence in their daily lives.

It is undeniable that every citizen dreams to live in a country where equally free opportunities are not only a vision but a factual realization. In order to realize these opportunities, there is a need for responsibility and mutual respect among one another. Democracy offers elements of freedom, opportunities, responsibilities and respect. The ability of each individual to voice out how they prefer to be governed is the central principle of democracy.

From its conception, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has always regarded democracy as core value of society. Among our aims, we aspire to promote the democratic participation of young people both in their own organizations and in the life of society as a whole. In light of

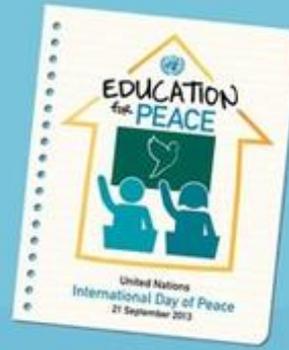
this year theme of 'Strengthening Voices for Democracy' which aims to emphasize the importance of people's voices in today's political, economic, social, environmental, technological and developmental matters, we, at WAY, feel inspired to combine and integrate the concept of 'To understand, To embrace and To influence' as a stimulant in strengthening voices for democracy, especially if it involves young generation.

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY!



WHAT WILL YOU DO FOR INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE?

21 SEPTEMBER 2013



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE: 'EDUCATION FOR PEACE'
DATE: 21ST SEPTEMBER 2013

'Establishing lasting peace is the work of education; all politics can do is keep us out of war'.
/ Maria Montessori (1870 - 1952)/

We live in a world where selfishness, thirst for power and conflicts emerge on a daily basis and peace is a universal dream we all hope to achieve one day. Various stakeholders have come up with many possible solutions and ways to bring the world together and to establish peace among nations, and among people.

United Nations in its devotion to achieve World Peace, created International Day of Peace which is celebrated on 21st September annually to commemorate and spread the ideals of peace among all nations and people. As an organization that worked for decades in support of a peaceful world for the young generation, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has been contributing by defending youth rights.

In light with that, the theme for this year's International Day of Peace, 'Education for Peace' has drawn a lot of attention from WAY because we believe education is a key to a bright future and can open many doors for young people. Through education, the concepts of solidarity, mutual respect and tolerance can be embroidered in the hearts of youth and with these qualities, a ground for peace can easily be set.

In addition, we also believe that instillation of peace-based values should start from an early age. It is believed that through children, peace can be attained. Albert Einstein shares these same sentiments as he once stated, 'we must begin to inoculate our children against militarism by educating them...I would rather teach peace than war, love rather than hate'.

WAY would like to embrace the International Day of Peace by reiterating our mission of implanting the peace-culture amongst our youth. We believe it is necessary to include peace-education in formal academic-curriculum; it can also be initiated as early as possible from the home front. Parents are advised to construct a sound atmosphere where children can clearly feel and learn the value of tolerance and mutual respects not only towards

family-members but also to the general members of society. Parents should also be their children's role models by embracing and practicing a peace-culture in their daily lives.

We encourage young people to show their contribution by setting examples for their peers on how to properly apply the values of tolerance and mutual respect in creating the perfect peace that our world and its population are craving for. We believe that one's single smile is capable of turning others' entire day brighter; now, imagine what respect and tolerance can do for our world! HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE!





सत्याग्रह का अम्बुदय अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय अहिंसा दिवस
SATYAGRAHA: THE STIRRINGS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE
DATE: 2ND OCTOBER 2013

“There are many causes that I am prepared to die for, but no causes that I am prepared to kill for”

/Mahatma Gandhi/

Often described as “the politics of ordinary people”, the principle of non-violence rejects the use of physical violence in order to achieve social or political change. The current situation only perpetuates and points to the relevance and importance of striving for the widespread recognition of this principle. Across the globe hundreds of thousands of lives are being lost more frequently, as people resort to violence and armed conflict as the ultimate means of putting their views across.

The International Day of Non-Violence is marked on 2nd October in tandem with the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and renowned pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. This day is recognized and commemorated by the United Nations as a means of reaffirming the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence and the desire to secure a culture of peace, tolerance, and understanding.

The World Assembly of Youth (WAY) strongly stands by the principle of non-violence, and will continue to thrive for its recognition and implementation across societies. We urge the youth to utilize their minds as their best weapon against all the injustices they are faced with, and promote non-violence within their communities and to their governments.

The repercussions of violent conduct are extensive and only breed more violence and destruction, once again quoting from Mahatma Gandhi “an eye for an eye, makes the whole world blind”. Let us join hands in celebrating the lifelong work of this great visionary and ensure that his words echo through time and history, in favor of worldwide peace and harmony.

Happy International Day of Non-Violence!



13 October

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION 2013

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR DISASTER REDUCTION: 'LIVING WITH DISABILITY AND DISASTER'

DATE: 13TH OCTOBER 2013

Today was selected by the United Nations General Assembly to raise awareness on the importance of Disaster Risk Reduction and to encourage every citizen and government to take part in building more disaster-resilient communities and nations. This year the theme focuses on a vulnerable population of the society, persons living with disability.

Estimated at 15%, people living with disability make up a large portion of the world population. In an event of a disaster, persons with disabilities are often the ones affected the most due to neglect of their special needs. Disaster does not see the ability or disability among the people and when it strikes it does so without discriminating. Even though the risk of disaster is equal among all people, able people can cope with the disaster better than disabled people.

People living with disabilities have a plight that they are not reached out to in the event of a disaster. In the case of a sudden disaster alert, only 20% of disabled people can escape without any problem, 74% need a little assistance and the remaining 6% cannot escape at all unless they are fully aided. However, if there was ample communication before hand, the statistics of those who can escape without difficulty almost doubles.

We at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) believe that communication is the key to solving this issue. There is a need for awareness among societies on how to handle disabled people when disaster occurs. Young volunteers can be utilized during this time to help those in need. We urge the youth to be on the forefront in giving aid all the way from the communication stage, they should be the voice and ears for the disabled at all times.

We urge governments and responsible bodies to ensure that warnings reach all members of the community regardless of any mobility or communication challenges. They need to include persons with disabilities in disaster resilience initiatives and policy planning.

People with disabilities are resourceful agents of change. Happy International Day For Disaster Reduction!



HEALTHY PEOPLE DEPEND ON HEALTHY FOOD SYSTEMS

Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition
World Food Day • 16 October 2013

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE

WORLD FOOD DAY: 'SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION'

DATE: **16TH OCTOBER 2013**

Understanding the struggles societies face, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has decided to observe 16th October annually as the World Food Day. The day is widely used as a channel for creating solidarity among a variety of stakeholders nationally and internationally. It is a drive for these stakeholders to work together to eradicate hunger and malnutrition, especially in developing countries where poverty is high. The day is also used as a tool to educate societies on the roots of global hunger and methods to end it.

The theme for this year's World Food Day is, "Sustainable Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition". This theme focuses on finding out and achieving progressive agricultural development that has sustainability in food security for future generations. Many members of society have unhealthy diets that create health complications. It needs to be understood that it is not about the quantity of food but it is about the quality of food that people eat.

The manner in which food is handled today shows that our current food-systems will not be sustainable in the long run. Moreover, with the situation of poverty that affects over a billion people who are chronically undernourished, the lunacy in our food systems has to be called to a halt!

At the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we believe that what we eat not only reflects who we are, but also reflects how we sustain our food systems. Concurring with this year's theme, we urge for more profound changes in our agriculture and food systems. In fact, we do understand that actualizing such preferable changes takes a huge amount of effort and supports from different parties but it still a possibility.

Each of us has the power to drive the changes in food consumption and the food system. Through choosing to eat nutritious food, agriculture sectors will eventually adjust to our eating habits and improve their systems to be more sustainable.

HAPPY WORLD FOOD DAY!

17 October

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty



poverty



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASES

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY: 'WORKING TOGETHER
TOWARDS A WORLD WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION: BUILDING ON THE EXPERIENCE
AND KNOWLEDGE OF PEOPLE IN EXTREME POVERTY'

DATE: 17TH OCTOBER 2013

"Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity; it is an act of justice. Like Slavery and Apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is man-made and it can be overcome and eradicated by the actions of human beings. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great. YOU can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom." /Nelson Mandela/

Today, poverty remains one of the worst injustices against humanity. Within civilized societies, where the equality of rights is highly sought after, it is frustrating that today, not everyone is afforded their basic human rights. A large portion of society, still struggles to attain a spoonful of food, let alone a modest shelter to rest.

Acknowledging the threat that poverty poses to the future of society, the United Nations has decided to observe 17th October as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which is designated to promote awareness on the need to eradicate destitution, as a violation of basic human rights. It is also presents an opportunity to formulate a newly effective strategies towards thoroughly eliminating poverty.

In line with the above, the theme for this year's International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (IDEP) has been realized by the United Nations as **'Working together towards a world without discrimination: Building on the experience and knowledge of people in extreme poverty'**. In order to achieve the aspirations for the theme, it is essential to advance a new set of programmes and policies that are soundly effective and efficient.

We, at the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), believe that these initiatives have to address the needs of people living in poverty as they are the ones being directly affected. Thus, the involvement and action of the youth is pivotal towards addressing the plight of our impoverished peers, and advancing their economic status within society.

As such, we recognize that the contribution of the impoverished population, particularly their experiences, remain valuable assets in formulating, implementing and evaluating both

policies and programmes related to stakeholders' efforts in eradicating poverty. Overlooking and ignoring such assets is a great loss in advancing our societies and is one of the main reasons behind several futile attempts at eradicating poverty.

Therefore, we reiterate our encouragement of mutual cooperation between the marginalized people living in poverty and the proactive youth population in order to voice out their plight and draw the attention of concerned stakeholders. Together, with mutual cooperation and a united effort, a world without poverty is a step closer!

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY!





WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
UNITED NATIONS DAY: 'PARTNERSHIPS FOR GLOBAL PROGRESS'
DATE: 24TH OCTOBER 2013

"More than ever before in human history, we share a common destiny. We can master it only if we face it together. And that, my friends, is why we have the United Nations."
/Kofi Annan/

Picture a world void of the United Nations (UN); a global community possibly characterised by heightened international conflict, chaos and turmoil. Without the intervention of the United Nations, one might argue that the principles of Freedom, Human Rights, Democracy and Justice, might be perceived as less significant over the individualistic ideologies of many.

Founded in 1945, post-World War II, the UN has worked continuously towards defending and protecting the sovereignty of all nations, large and small. Instigated in 1948, 24th October was then declared the anniversary of the founding of UN's charter and remains to be known as United Nations Day.

It is a day devoted to making known the work, role and achievements of the UN and its family of specialized agencies. These have been spectacular, particularly in the fields of human rights, support in areas of famine, eradication of disease, promotion of health and settlement of refugees.

Today, we live in societies where justice, equality in human rights and peace are highly sought and advocated for. This indeed, may be seen as a direct result of the UN's hard work, but more importantly, the contribution of the citizens of the world who choose to observe and support them. As told by former Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, *"In the 21st 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 World Assembly of Youth, believe that global partnerships remain key to the vitality and continuity of the global community. In line with the 68th anniversary of UN Day, we urge you all, to continue thriving towards actualizing the missions set by the UN, within your own

communities and on a national level, to the benefit of the global community.

For the valiant and determined young people out there, we urge you to continue spreading the spirit of volunteerism and collaboration helping out where you may and urging your peers to do the same. Let us today, transform ourselves into the extended hand of the UN, reaching out to those in need and thriving for the future they deserve.

HAPPY UNITED NATIONS DAY!





WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASES

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PREVENTING THE EXPLOITATION OF THE
ENVIRONMENT IN WAR AND ARMED CONFLICT: 'ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE'
DATE: 6TH NOVEMBER 2013

“What we are doing to the forests of the world is but a mirror reflection of what we are doing to ourselves and to one another.” /Mahatma Gandhi/

Our earth, with all of its beauty and sumptuousness, has been a home for human beings and other living creatures for over a billion years. Known as the most remarkable planet because of its rich resources, Earth never fails to provide and sustain the lives within it.

Unfortunately, as said by Mahatma Gandhi, “Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's needs, but not every man's greed”, we humans remain known for our siphoning of natural resources without considering environmental sustainability. According to history, the depletion and damage of our earth and its environment have been highly related to events of war and armed conflict.

The environment and natural resources alike have been both the reason, and victim of war and armed conflict. A study conducted by United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), found that at least 40 percent of conflicts have been driven by the exploitation of natural resources such as gold, oil, and even spices. Forests and crops are normally burned down, water-sources are polluted, soils are poisoned and animals are killed for the sake of gaining military advantage.

Understanding the correlation between environmental exploitation and armed conflict, 6th November was declared as the International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict which serves a purpose of educating and bringing awareness to the damaging effects of war and armed conflict.

At the World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we support this year theme of ‘Environmental Governance’ and believe it is one of the solutions towards preventing further depletion of our natural resources as well as promoting both peace keeping and building strategies.

Going forward, an insufficiency of natural resources poses a detrimental threat to the human-civilization and its sustainability. A global understanding on the matter is thus

instrumental to achieving environmental sustainability and ensuring the longevity of the human population.

The implementation of Environmental Governance especially at international level, equipped with cooperation from all countries and preservation of natural resources can be achieved. Distributive management of resources should be followed to control functions of every country's access. Peace building should be established and every country must respect mutual relations as both producers and consumers of natural resources.



KUALA LUMPUR, 15 November 2013 – THE WAY Satellite Event, Youth Innovation: “Ideas of Today; Realities of Tomorrow”, took place on the 11th of November 2013 at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia as a prelude to the World Innovation Forum 2013. The event aimed to highlight the importance of experts and young innovators coming together to share experiences, discuss and deliberate topics and strategies on innovation for development. A total of 120 delegates from over 16 countries were present at the event.

The event was declared open by Ms. Ediola Pashollari, Secretary General of World Assembly of Youth (WAY). In her speech, which was delivered by Mr. Louis Muhamiriza the programme coordinator of WAY, she highlighted the importance of paving the way for opportunities in innovation development from youth perspective, and showcasing and promoting youth innovative ideas in a bid to motivate young minds. Moreover, she emphasized on creating a platform for young people and experienced speakers to exchange ideas.

The first session focused on Science and Technology, as the speakers showcased how in this era, science and technology remains vital and yet subtle, in our day to day lives. The second session focused on innovation and arts, as the speakers demonstrated how innovation can build new avenues of creativity for young artists.

Before the lunch break, the participants were welcomed by Dr. Mazalan Kamis, the CEO of Malaysian Innovation Foundation (YIM). In his remarks, he thanked the participants for taking part in making World Innovation Forum 2013 a great success and urged all the delegates to participate in innovation workshops in the coming days.

The third session entitled “humanities and social sciences” encompassed talks about methods and technologies enhancing the work done by NGOs and academic institutions as they excel in magnifying their impact domestically, regionally and globally. Whereas, the last session entitled alternative innovation explored other platform in which innovation can act as the main catalyst for a breakthrough.

Closing remarks were given by Ms. Sharmila Mohamed Salleh, Senior Programme Manager at YIM, one of the main organisers of World Innovation Forum 2013. She emphasized on the critical role of young people in driving our society forward as she strongly stressed that innovation has rapidly become the tool for the young people to reshape the future they desire.

The event was concluded with the exchange of tokens of appreciation to all speakers and group photo session.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' DAY: 'BE INSPIRED TO TAKE A STEP FURTHER
TOWARD IMPROVISATION!'

DATE: 17TH NOVEMBER 2013

The crucial role of a student is described as a new seed of invention and innovation. Without the presence of students, the forward growth of knowledge, social progress and human civilization will remain in status quo.

Though their existence is substantial, in the world today, the students themselves, governments and society, often underrate students' involvement and contribution in society. In the past, students considerably partook in many improvements and even revolutions of the greatest countries of today.

One of the undaunted movements led by students was the demonstration against the Czechoslovakia's occupation, which, then, led to the closing of all higher education as well as the execution of 9 students and professors on 17th November 1939. As a result, this day of execution was remembered as the origin of International Students' Day, which is celebrated annually on 17th November until now. This year International Students' Day is specially commemorated with the emphasis on the students' movements and their importance in education.

Every year, on this day, the celebration of the International Students' Day highly inspires students from all around the world to participate in positive movements and events which will result in tremendous improvements to the society. It is not unusual for students to take this opportunity to voice out their opinions and rigidly act against injustice whether it is defending human rights or even opposing inequality in accessing facilities, education-facility inclusive.

Acting as the international coordinating body of national youth councils and organizations, we, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), have been working closely and side-by-side with young people. Due to that, we understand that the creativity, curiosity and dedication of young people should be appreciated and further sharpened to encourage the birth of great

youth-leaders who will reward our societies in the future.

In line with that, we have been continuously urging young people to take part and contribute in decisions that affect their societies as a whole. For fleshing out our encouragement, we have been organizing events and activities, such as our annual event of Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), which not only provides platform for young people to voice out their problems but also offers opportunity for them to discuss on the matters that concern them the most.

It is clear that at WAY, we truly agree that young people, students inclusive, should be actively involved in projects that develop and improve the lives of their societies. With this year International Students' Day, we hope that young people out there will be INSPIRED to bravely take a step further toward improvisation that will benefit societies. Happy International Students' Day, be inspired!



MELAKA, 15th November 2013, - THE World Assembly of Youth (WAY) exercised its humanitarian right and obligation in response to the destruction caused by the super typhoon Haiyan which shredded the Philippines district of Leyte, Tacloban and Samar Island on November 4, 2013. Typhoon Haiyan is the second deadliest Philippine typhoon that affected at least 9.8 million people, leaving more than 659,200 people displaced and more than 10,000 people feared dead.

The President of WAY, Rt. Hon. Datuk Seri Ir. Idris Haron during the WAY Humanitarian Aid mission to the Republic of Philippines meeting at the Chief Minister's office on Friday said that "WAY will channel humanitarian aids in the shortest time possible and we are still waiting for the 'green light' from the National Security Council to go there." The organization together with Mamee Double Decker (M) Berhad donated overall 5 intermodal containers of foodstuffs and vital goods. They also raised funds amounting to RM 100,000.00 to aid during this hard time.

The President went on to say that, "Other than that, WAY is also requesting the Ministry of Defense, Malaysia to use the military plane to bring the food and mineral water to ease distribution of the humanitarian aids to the affected areas later". As the rest of the world, WAY is also concerned about the livelihood of the people of the Republic of Philippines and is looking for a faster way for this aid to reach there in time.

We call on more organizations, individuals and the private sector to give a helping hand to assist in disaster relief in Philippines. For those that are interested to donate anything, be it food, clothes, funds, etc. please do not hesitate to contact us at <http://way.org.my/contact-us>.

This effort comes as one of the major topics that were discussed during the WAY Executive Committee Meeting held in London last week, where the committee urged that WAY continue in helping the society.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:
'ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: UNITED ACTION SPEAKS LOUDER THAN
WORDS!'

DATE: 25TH NOVEMBER 2013

"One in three women may suffer from abuse and violence in her lifetime. This is an appalling human rights violation, yet it remains one of the invisible and under-recognized pandemics of our time."

–Nicole Kidman

Stop and observe your surroundings; your neighbors, your friends or your relatives! You will be surprised to find out that the closest females around you might be victims of violence.

Violence against women is blind-folded; it victimizes without discrimination regardless of their geographical, economic, cultural, social or even educational boundaries. This violence is done in all kinds of ways from sexual harassment, rape, genital mutilation, domestic violence, forced marriage to any type of human rights violation that denies both women's basic freedoms and rights.

The widespread of violence against women appears to be uncontrollable causing it to be brought up as a major concern of most nations. Globally, up to 70 percent of women are subject to one kind of violence. Simplifying that statistical number, every 7 out of 10 women worldwide are exposed to the risks of being raped, abused, beaten or mutilated. For the case of genital mutilation itself, approximation of 100-140 million girls and women are victims of this inhumane practice.

Realizing these devastating phenomena, United Nations has specially marked 25th November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Commemorating it annually, United Nations aims to raise public awareness regarding the corrosive consequences of violence against women by encouraging governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and societies to contribute in activities that have a single purpose of eliminating violence against women through projects that can help women to escape from violence-behavior or simply educational campaigns. For further

exploitation of the motive for halting violence against women, 25th November also marks the start of '16 Days of Activism' ending on December 10 which is also celebrated every year as Human Rights Day.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we have been holding tight on two of our main missions which are, eliminating gender-inequality and ending violence against women. As a part of our rigid contribution, 9th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD), 'Youth and Gender Equality' was one of our successful activities aiming on promoting gender equality of opportunities and eliminating unlawful discrimination as well as gender-based harassments (read more on <http://www.way.org.my/program-outcome/item/miyd-declaration-2009>).

Sixty-four years of our efforts-continuation, we believe that women empowerment is the key to call gender-based violence to halt. Governments should provide more opportunities for women in terms of political, economic, social and even educational aspects to ensure that equality in opportunities is achieved. Laws, policies and any regulations should be reviewed and reconstructed by repealing any section that pose as a threat to discriminate against women. In fact, the support toward women-empowerment could be started at the smallest colony of societies, the family. Conducive environment in the family is equally substantial to build up the confidence and breaking down the 'invisible gender-boundaries' amongst family-members. By empowering women and girls, they will not be misjudged as subdued targets; instead their status will be upheld by society.

Through unity we can stop violence against Women. HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN!

WORLD AIDS DAY 2013

Open up and reach out for change. Everyone has a right to live a full and productive life with dignity. Join us in calling for global transformation for zero discrimination.

#zerodiscrimination



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

WORLD AIDS DAY: "GETTING TO ZERO: ZERO NEW HIV INFECTIONS. ZERO DISCRIMINATION. ZERO AIDS-RELATED DEATHS"

DATE: 1ST DECEMBER 2013

"We live in a completely interdependent world, which simply means we cannot escape each other. How we respond to AIDS depends, in part, on whether we understand this interdependence. It is not someone else's problem. This is everybody's problem."

/Bill Clinton/

Of all the age groups young people are the most affected by the AIDS pandemic especially girls in the Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2012 alone an estimate of 35.3 million people were living with HIV with Sub-Saharan Africa being the most affected with 69% of the people in the area living with HIV.

The 1st of December has been selected to commemorate World AIDS Day yearly since 1988. The theme for this year's World AIDS Day continues to be "Getting to zero: zero new HIV infections. Zero discrimination. Zero AIDS-related deaths" a theme that speaks not only to the progress that has been made in the worldwide effort to eliminate HIV/AIDS, but also the work we must continue to do to achieve our "zero" goals. This theme seeks all stakeholders to work together as one and share responsibility towards the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Halting and reversing the spread of HIV/AIDS is a key Millennium Development Goal and a challenge that the World Assembly of Youth (WAY) has given principal priority in all its development activities. Adopting a multi-sectorial approach that solicits committed participation of all stakeholders in the fight against HIV /AIDS has been and remains a high priority for action throughout all our work from both behind the office desks to the field.

It is the time to work hand in hand and build defenses to save our future generations and to protect the people infected and affected by the epidemic. We, at WAY, acknowledge this challenge and commit to respond with renewable responsibility, sensitivity and vigor.

We should not let all our past efforts to combat this disease go to waste; it is only a matter of time for us to achieve our goal. Like President Barack Obama said, "An AIDS-free generation is within our reach", we need not despair.



International Day of People with Disability

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: "BREAK BARRIERS,
OPEN DOORS: FOR AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY AND DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL"
DATE: 3RD DECEMBER 2013

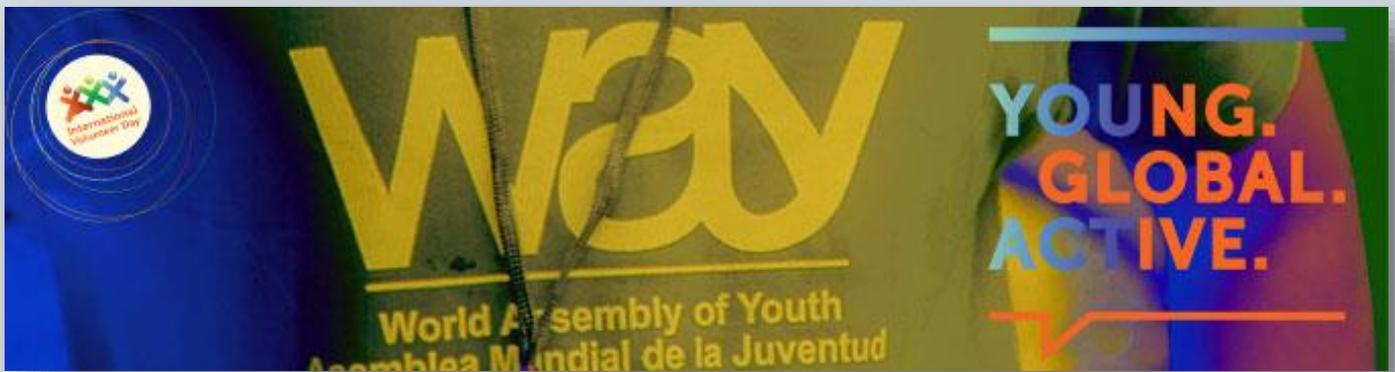
"A true friend knows your weaknesses but shows you your Strengths; feels your fears but Fortifies your faith; sees your Anxieties but frees your spirit; Recognizes your disabilities but Emphasizes your possibilities" /William Arthur Ward/

The 3rd of December has been picked out by the United Nations to celebrate over one Billion people who live with some form of disability. This day has been commemorated since 1992. The theme for this year, "Break Barriers, Open Doors: An Inclusive Society For Development And For All "addresses how persons with disabilities face physical, social, Economic and Attitudinal barriers That exempt them from taking part fully and Effectively as equal members of society worldwide.

Many people living with disabilities around the world, Remain Marginalized and Lack equal access to basic necessities, color: such as education, employment, healthcare and social and legal support systems. They suffer from higher rates of mortality and most of them live below the poverty line due to being subject to exclusion and Lack of Opportunities. In spite of this situation, disability has remained largely invisible in the mainstream development agenda and its processes.

At World Assembly of Youth, we stand for equality for all regardless of who you are. That is why it is essentials for us to Emphasize the Importance of Including young disabled people in society all developmental plans. That we believe Opportunities should be given to all without being biased. That today we hope will pave way for further Awareness of disability to be raised and for accessibility to be put in place. We have to ensure that all types of barriers are removed, and to emphasize the full and equal participation of persons with disabilities in society and shape the future of development for all.

Let us use this global observance to reflect on the theme and what we ought to do so that we see a difference tomorrow.



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

PRESS RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS DAY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT:
“YOUNG. GLOBAL. ACTIVE”

DATE: 5TH DECEMBER 2013

‘Volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.’
/Sherry Anderson/

Volunteerism remains the backbone to progress within society. The efforts and endeavors of young volunteers today, are fundamental to attaining the aspirations to a better tomorrow.

The 5th of December was particularly chosen to show appreciation to the voluntary deeds of many, and encourage acts of benevolence within society in pursuit of a world free of opportunism and rich in compassion, selflessness and generosity. This year in accordance to the theme, young people are celebrated as agents of change within their communities and globally.

Today, World Assembly of Youth (WAY) joins the many other organizations in celebrating WAY Volunteers as well as the masses of young people engaging in selfless acts worldwide. Volunteers deserve all the praise and acclaim due, for it is not easy to find people willing to give their own time, to the greater benefit of another.

WAY aspires to nurture youth volunteerism, by encouraging young people to partake in communal service and promote the principles of charity. We have inaugurated a volunteers program with which we seek to foster a dedicated group of young minds, willing to assist in WAY programmes and initiatives around the world.

In so many ways we wouldn’t have succeeded in our events and activities without our dedicated volunteers who offered their time, skills, and resources when called upon.

WAY appreciates volunteerism, the world appreciates volunteerism. Happy International Volunteers Day!



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH
PRESS RELEASE
HUMAN RIGHTS DAY: “20 YEARS: WORKING FOR YOUR RIGHTS”
DATE: 10TH DECEMBER 2013

“Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

/United Nations, Universal Declaration of Human Rights/

What would become of the world without humanity? The results would be shattering and beyond comprehension. This year we celebrate 20 years since the inauguration of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In December 1993 the United Nations General Assembly formulated the mandate of High Commissioner to safeguard and promote all human rights. It is today that we emphasize on informing our communities on their rights and privileges and the prominence of maintaining them. Special focus should be made most on the most vulnerable sectors of our societies.

The OHCHR has been thriving in its efforts to benefit vulnerable groups worldwide over the past 20 years. It did a tremendous job working to advocate women rights, migrant rights, the rights of indigenous people and minorities, and the rights of children. Through the implementation of treaties, individual complaints and promotion of freedom expression the OHCHR has managed to bring human rights issues to the forefront in development matters.

At World Assembly of Youth (WAY), we recognize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the basis of our action and services. We are committed to the promotion and protection of human rights. We ensure that young people understand that whatever their place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language, or any other status, we are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination.

Let us continue in our efforts to create more awareness by allocating more academic programs for human rights and let us encourage the participation of more international non-governmental organizations on matters related to human rights.

Happy Human Rights Day!



Youth Bulletin

Bringing Youth News From Around The World

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

QUARTER ONE: JANUARY TO MARCH 2013

Click This Link to View Our [January 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [February 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [March 2013 Bulletin](#)

QUARTER 2: APRIL TO JUNE 2013

Click This Link to View Our [April 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [May 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [June 2013 Bulletin](#)

QUARTER 3: JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2013

Click This Link to View Our [July 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [August 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [September 2013 Bulletin](#)

QUARTER 4: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2013

Click This Link to View Our [October 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [November 2013 Bulletin](#)

Click This Link to View Our [December 2013 Bulletin](#)



FINANCE REPORT

WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

INCOME / EXPENDITURE STATEMENT - JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2013

INCOME (RM)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	Total
Balance b/d	5,395.98	(4,203.37)	26,264.92	1,856.86	(21,218.41)	6,381.76	(33,813.71)	(38,648.24)	(4,148.09)	68,164.82	30,754.27	3,207.17	5,395.98
Membership Fees									1,550.50				1,550.50
Corporate Donations-WAY		50,000.00							30,389.80				80,389.80
Government Funding-WAY	10,000.00					10,000.00							20,000.00
Corporate/Govt. Sponsorships-events others / loan		20,000.00		4,000.00	53,000.00		23,000.00	86.24	150,000.00			40,000.00	150,086.24
Conference Fees/sponsorship -MIYD13								1,388.10	72,489.40				73,877.50
-other events(WIF)										30.00	840.00		870.00
Insurance Refund	208.00	200.00	1,736.00	118.00	505.00		1,798.00	466.00				321.00	5,352.00
Air Ticket Refunds													0.00
Rent													0.00
Management Fee													0.00
Total Income	15,603.98	65,996.63	28,000.92	5,974.86	32,286.59	16,381.76	(9,015.71)	23,292.10	250,281.61	108,194.82	31,594.27	43,528.17	577,522.02
EXPENDITURE (RM)													
Salaries	14,558.00	15,387.00	17,472.00	17,600.00	17,584.00	15,987.00	19,747.00	19,598.00	19,335.00	17,829.00	21,836.00	22,202.00	219,135.00
Incentives													0.00
Utilities	762.60	809.20	1,086.81	1,528.26	2,074.89	1,570.85	1,356.18	1,395.33	1,415.84	1,387.15	1,424.50	1,122.17	15,933.78
WAY Conference / Meeting -MIYD12		10,000.00								43,090.00			53,090.00
WAY Conference / Meeting -MIYD13				332.80					157,041.20				157,374.00
WAY Events/workshop										7,405.00	1,853.25		9,258.25
Air Tickets													0.00
Travel Allowances					884.90	23,267.60		1,560.60		1,293.00			27,006.10
Creditors													0.00
Staff Claims	1,855.80	3,186.85	2,266.75	2,323.15	1,334.30	4,459.25	5,308.25	1,546.80	1,887.00	3,631.00	1,291.00	2,688.51	31,778.66
Bank Charges	4.00	4.00	2.00	20.00	17.00		4.00	2.00	19.00	2.00		15.00	89.00
Printing & Stationery	376.10	127.95	81.15	202.45	84.85	149.05	180.00	160.55	284.70	263.25	162.35		2,072.40
Postage		42.20	80.00		370.00	30.00			12.00	27.95			562.15
Subscriptions	93.00	132.40	108.90	106.00	108.00	110.40	103.80	101.10	96.60	106.50	101.70		1,168.40
Fuel, Tolls & Parking	450.00	636.00	763.00	932.50	552.50	816.50	628.50	513.00	806.00	872.70	100.00	616.20	7,686.90
Insurance		6,417.91											6,417.91
MV - maintenance, Insu. & Tax	116.50	207.00	1,872.00	653.00	1,861.99	1,160.82	1,250.00	1,115.76	284.00			351.00	8,872.07
MV-installments													0.00
Visitors													0.00
Deposit													0.00
Office expenses	483.70	518.15	392.10	248.40	318.95	359.75	275.40	481.05	202.85	423.30	310.60		4,014.25
Office Equip -Maintenance & serv.	507.65	1,663.05	1,419.35	296.71	113.45	1,684.25	179.40	366.00	132.60	509.70	707.70	140.95	7,720.81
Rent	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	600.00	7,200.00
Audit				1,528.00									1,528.00
Accounting				822.00									822.00
Donations cash in hand												2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Expenditure	19,807.35	39,731.71	26,144.06	27,193.27	25,904.83	50,195.47	29,632.53	27,440.19	182,116.79	77,440.55	28,387.10	29,735.83	563,729.68
Balance c/f	(4,203.37)	26,264.92	1,856.86	(21,218.41)	6,381.76	(33,813.71)	(38,648.24)	(4,148.09)	68,164.82	30,754.27	3,207.17	13,792.34	13,792.34



WORLD YOUTH
INSTITUTE

Introduction: The world has changed dramatically.

Week Of April 15th

The world is more peaceful now than at any time in human history. What does this mean for us?

Week Of April 22nd

The threat of a population bomb is turning into a population bust. What kind of leadership model is now needed?

Week Of April 29th

We are slowing down. Is this a good thing?

Week of May 6th

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is officially in decline. What lessons were learned by leaders?

Week of May 13th

We are getting rid of capital punishment. Is there a shift in how our justice systems are working?

Week of May 20th

Semester Exam #1.

Week of May 27th

Week off

Week of June 3rd

Collective Impact is becoming the way to get things done. How can we implement this process?

Week of June 10th

There are fewer jobs but more income earning possibilities. How do we make this new way forward work for our communities?

Week of June 17th

Week off for WAY conference

Week of June 24th

World poverty is decreasing. How do we further this trend in our communities?

Week of July 1st

More of us are practicing yoga and meditation. How can this empower our communities?

Week of July 8th

Infant mortality rates are dropping. What does this good news say about the state of women in the world?

Week of July 15th

We are re-evaluating the idea that guys in suits know everything. How can we advance indigenous and local wisdom?

Week of July 22nd

Semester exam #2

Week of July 29th

Week off - Summer/Winter break

Week off - Summer/Winter break

We are engaging in Meatless Mondays. What can this mean for food security in the world?

More and more of us are riding bikes. How can we leverage this green approach to transportation to support other green causes?

We are going back to breast feeding. What other ways can we lead for the better health of young people?

We are rethinking what it means to be intelligent. What is indigenous wisdom?

We are finally tackling food waste. What other food security success stories are out there?

We are moving from hierarchy organizations to lateral ones. What can we do to make this a successful leadership model in our communities?

Semester exam #3

Week off - Fall break

Week off - Fall break

We are responding to world crises better. How is that showing up?

Week of August 5th

Week of August 12th

Week of August 19th

Week of August 26th

Week of September 2nd

Week of September 9th

Week of September 16th

Week of September 23rd

September 30th

Week of October 7th

October 14th

Week of October 21st

What does it mean to be a genius? The old way of thinking is changing. How can this empower our communities?

Many more of us are meditating. How is that changing the way we handle day to day matters?

We are sharing more meals.

There is a huge growth in Social Entrepreneurship. What does this mean to the NGO?

The philosophy of Ubuntu is spreading. How does it apply in business as well as our social lives?

The Feminine Principle is spreading throughout the world. What is it and how can it affect our leadership models?

Semester exam #4

Presentation of Certificates

Week of October 28th

Week of November 4th

Week of November 11th

Week of November 18th

Week of November 25th

Week of December 2nd

Week of December 9th

Week of December 16th

CONCLUSION



Characteristic of 21st century civilization is the pursuit of technological advancement and progressive innovation. The prevalence of information technology and globalization have made the world we live in today, even more competitive than in preceding centuries. Such swaying and indefinite circumstances have the potential to interrupt youth-development and thus necessitate the implementation of comprehensive and accelerated actions.

Approximately 3.7 billion young people (almost half of the world's population), are at risk, mortgaging their futures to technological advancement and accelerated globalization. Nearly 50% of them actually reside in less developed countries (LDCs), struggling to meet their daily basic needs. Issues including marginalization, poverty, youth-unemployment, low progression in education and limited access to public facilities are yet to be overcome before advancement towards youth-development and prosperity.

As for today, the relatively slow progress in achieving the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015 in the past few years necessitates all stakeholders to pick up their pace. Being one of those who care about the welfare of the young, we, at World Assembly of Youth (WAY), have been joining other stakeholders, worldwide, in realizing UN's MDGs. In the past four years, we have worked towards realizing our third Millennium Plan of Actions (MPAC 2010-2014). In recognition of the fact that 2014 is the final year of our third MPAC, we shall work towards a more profound strategy and fight for another triumphant year.

Through this annual report, our accomplishments of the year 2013 are echoed; signifying all hard work, dedication and determination greatly appreciated by us. Although, the successful achievements of year 2013 are saccharine and pleasing, the rejoicing is just an incentive to continue sustaining our efforts so that more doors and opportunities are opened to further serve and assist youth and member organizations, worldwide.



APPENDICES



**13TH MELAKA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DIALOGUE "YOUTH
MIGRATION: A STEP FROM HAVEN"**

12-14 SEPTEMBER 2013

HANG TUAH WORLD HERITAGE HOTEL, MELAKA, MALAYSIA

DECLARATION

1 PREAMBLE

- 1.1 We, the participants of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue (MIYD) convened in Melaka from 12-14 September 2013 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 significance of youth migration and considering the statistics and research done, WAY made it an obligation this year that the 13th MIYD encompassed migration as an enduring concern faced by the youth with the theme: Youth Migration: A Step From Haven. This theme has been recognised to fulfil 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 migration at different levels of society that we represent.
- 1.3 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 migration issues. This outcome document is expected to enhance youth contribution towards promoting a more humane approach towards youth migration.
- 1.4 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 migrants, such as but not limited to political, economic, environmental and social migrants, are acknowledged and protected.

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

- i. To raise an informative generation on the current situation of youth migration with anticipated behaviour adaptation and consequently admission to decision making amongst youth;
- ii. To foster youth action towards implementation of ideas brought forward by the young people for the benefit of the societies;
- iii. To address the challenges and determinants of migration faced by youth today;
- iv. To promote equality of opportunities and facilities between young men and women;
- v. To formulate the environmental, political, economic and cultural factors that are associated with migration;
- vi. To ascertain the obligations of society to respect, protect and fulfil the right to freedom of movement for/among the young people;
- vii. To classify the role and the contribution of the national youth councils and other stakeholders towards improving and sustaining resourceful migration factors as a human rights issue;
- viii. To form and advance the national, regional and international policies governing youth migration for the present and future;
- ix. To integrate networking, collaboration and cooperation between public and private sectors, civil societies, youth organisations and other stakeholders to address the issue of youth migration;

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Public Sector

2.1.1 To formulate, review, implement and evaluate policies and programmes on youth migration in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2.1.2 To ensure the implementation of coherent national, regional and international policies and guidelines with regards to youth migration.

2.1.3 To involve youth in the decision making processes, review, implementation and evaluation with regards to migration.

2.1.4 To create awareness and disseminate information on existing and newly formed policies and programmes on youth migration.

2.1.5 To provide resources to all relevant stakeholders on migration for effective

implementation of policies and programmes on youth migration.

2.1.6 To establish accessible research centers that should provide up to date data (gender and age disaggregated), necessary and reliable information on youth migration.

2.1.7 To form policies that will provide an equal platform for both local and foreign youth with regards to employment, education, healthcare, security, housing, insurance etc.

2.2 Private sector

2.2.1 To collaborate with relevant stakeholders in order to provide and ensure decent jobs for young people.

2.2.2 To establish training centres that will provide vocational and professional skills for young people.

2.2.3 To provide resources for young migrants, for self-employment and others.

2.2.4 To support and adhere to basic employment regulations and rights of young migrant workers.

2.2.5 To comply with environmental laws in order to prevent environmentally induced migration.

2.2.6 To encourage companies to provide programmes for youth migrants as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) strategies.

2.3 National, Regional and International NGOs

2.3.1 To establish peer-to-peer and participatory awareness programmes aimed at addressing issues on youth migration.

2.3.2 To diversify the projects and carry out continuous programmes that will help spread awareness and address the need for youth to be actively involved in tackling migration issues.

2.3.3 To involve more youth organisations in community service and volunteering through projects related to youth migration.

2.3.4 To encourage collaboration among various organisations in order to improve their respective capacities with regards to youth migration.

2.3.5 To foster synergy and collaboration, and strengthen the efforts of both the public and private sectors for addressing youth migration issues.

2.3.6 To enhance the capacity of relevant stakeholders in order to fight stigma and discriminatory practices towards youth migrants.

2.3.7 To recognise and communicate best practices of implemented migration policies and programmes in order to encourage policy makers and other relevant stakeholders to tackle youth migration issues.

2.3.8 To encourage all the relevant stakeholders to utilise the traditional and new forms of media in disseminating current policies and programmes related to youth migration and development issues.

2.4 Media

2.4.1 To establish social network platforms where all youth can find relevant information and effectively communicate ideas on addressing migration challenges and opportunities.

2.4.2 To publish reliable and up-to-date information obtained from trusted and verifiable sources on migration issues.

2.4.3 To encourage investigative and critical journalism that addresses the leading factors of youth migration.

2.4.4 To produce, broadcast and publish informative programmes on migration focusing on legitimate procedures for young people.

2.4.5 To involve youth and other stakeholders in all forms of media programs related to migration issues.

2.5 Society

2.5.1 To foster positive public perception of every society and provide necessary support to the youth migrants.

2.5.2 To recognise that youth migrants have the say to make informed decisions regarding their rights.

2.5.3 To create a platform that promotes the socio-political, cultural and economic integration of youth immigrants.

2.5.4 To discourage and eradicate unhealthy practices including and not limited to discrimination and xenophobia towards young migrants.

3 GENERAL COMMENTS

3.1 To encourage all stakeholders to strengthen their partnership for the enhancement of youth migration and their rights.

3.2 To generate opportunities that would allow the youth to participate, create, develop and stand for rights of young migrants.

3.3 To promote local, national, regional and international development cooperation among stakeholders in origin, transit and destination countries or societies.

3.4 To urge collaboration among all the stakeholders in order to provide easy access to quality jobs, healthcare and education for young migrants.

3.5 To strengthen and promote meaningful youth participation at all levels of decision making on migration and implementation of programmes.

3.6 To ensure that migration and remittance does not replace long term development strategies or policies that are crucial towards youth development and self-actualisation.

3.7 To encourage youth to follow the appropriate legal channels of migration at all times.

3.8 To proactively engage youth-led activities to mitigate the challenges of youth migrants whilst enhancing their development potential.

4 CONCLUSION

We, the participants of the 13th Melaka International Youth Dialogue, realise and recognise the importance of fundamental human rights of young people, regardless of their migration status. We seek to generate youth dialogues and advocate for legislations, policies and programmes at all levels of society in order to ensure a “safe haven” for young migrants.



MANNAM INTERNATIONAL YOUTH COALITION

“10km in their Shoes, Pledge for Peace”

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA 2013

DECLARATION

Pledge of Peace

We, the Youth, know that we live in one world
We breathe the same air,
Tread the same earth.
We see by the light of the same bright sun,
And dream beneath the same moon.
From this day forward we will breathe the air
of a world in which Youth stand united,
rather than divided over the disagreements of our forefathers.
Together we will tread the same earth, walking along a path of peace and
understanding, towards a future of hope.
Together we will see the day dawn on which there will be an end to the wars waged by
nations but paid for in the blood of young people like ourselves.
Together we will work to make our dream - the dream of a world at peace - a reality.
We, the Youth, pledge to lay aside our differences;
to recognize and respect our common humanity, the rights that each of us share
irrespective of our nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, or other apparent differences.
We pledge to stop fighting the wars of our past
and to build new relationships, repaying all those young people who fought for our
freedom and right to stand here today.
We will redeem the value of their lives by working together to end all wars,
and to create a new world of unity, peace and freedom for all humanity.

The 24th International Youth Forum

New Paradigm in Youth Volunteerism

August, 7-14, 2013 Seoul and Goesan, Republic of Korea

Preamble

75 youth participants from 33 countries gathered in Seoul and Goesan, Korea from August 7th to 14th, 2013 to seek ways towards a “New Paradigm in Youth Volunteerism.”

The United Nations has suggested that there are three defining characteristics of volunteering:

1. The activity should not be undertaken primarily for financial reward, although reimbursement of expenses and some token payment may be allowed.
2. The activity should be undertaken voluntarily, according to individual’s own free will, although there are some gray areas here too, such as school community service schemes which encourage, and sometimes require students, to get involved in voluntary work and Food for Work programmes, with explicit exchange between community involvement and food assistance.
3. The activity should be of benefit to someone other than the volunteer, or to society at large, although it is recognized that volunteering brings significant benefit to the volunteer as well.

Declaration

The participants of this forum affirm that the above definition remains relevant to the youth of the represented countries. Volunteering can be undertaken from the local through to the international level and the activities that can be classified as volunteerism are various. While there is recognition of the personal benefit of volunteering to the individual, the participants feel that the potential impact on society is the driving force for most voluntary work.

Youth volunteerism in the 21st century is becoming characterized by an increasing alignment of volunteering with professional areas and is likely to become more specialized with time. Youth volunteerism is likely to be future-focused and a combination of planned activities and spontaneous volunteering opportunities. The role of technology and particularly social media, in countries where it is present, will increase and change the face of youth volunteerism during the 21st century.

Meaningful youth volunteerism has a tangible community impact, involves volunteers who are properly informed on the relevant issues and offers an opportunity for self-reflection after the completion of the activity. Those involved in the administration of volunteering will need to incorporate training and appropriate orientation, risk management and mechanisms for creating and maintaining a sufficient number of high quality opportunities.

Stakeholders in youth volunteerism include governments, educational institutions, private enterprises, the media, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and those involved in international collaboration related to volunteerism. These organizations play a vital role in promoting an environment in which youth volunteering can flourish. Through a continued active involvement in youth volunteerism, these stakeholders can support youth to achieve social goals that would not otherwise be realized.

The participants of this forum present the following recommendations to facilitate youth to work towards a “New Paradigm in Youth Volunteerism”.

Government

Government plays a key role in advancing causes that provide social benefits. We believe that youth volunteerism has a complementary role in helping government to achieve this part of their mandate.

We therefore recommend that governments (at national, provincial and/or local level):

- a. Allow youth to establish NGOs and encourage them to do this by simplifying procedures;
- b. Provide monetary and in kind resources including publicity and facilities to support youth volunteer organizations and youth volunteer projects;
- c. Create mechanisms that recognize and reward youth volunteers and organizations;
- d. Work with governments of other nations and non-governmental organizations to facilitate and ensure the safety and well-being of youth volunteers overseas;
- e. Work with organizations involved in the promotion of youth volunteerism between nations to advance youth volunteerism internationally; and

- f. Governments should closely work with other nations to adopt new volunteer strategies and revise and promote current strategies and policies.

Educational Institutions

Educational Institutions have a role in fostering youth volunteer programs that encourage students to access both local and international volunteering opportunities.

We therefore recommend that educational institutions:

- a. Incorporate core values such as empathy and provide students with opportunities to volunteer as part of their school curriculum. Educators' positive attitudes can strongly influence the likelihood of young people continuing to participate in service;
- b. Provide volunteer opportunities that are relevant to the skills and interests of their students;
- c. Offer classes in entrepreneurship, leadership and time management to foster awareness among students of the issues around them and give them tools through which they are able to implement solutions;
- d. Conduct forums for NGOs and other foundations to introduce themselves and their work to students and encourage the students to participate in various volunteering opportunities;
- e. Create structures that increase collaboration between high schools, vocational education centers and universities on service projects providing younger students with mentors, increasing college enrolment, and reducing project overlap; and
- f. Create more clubs in cooperation with NGOs, primarily those that correspond with youth interests, so that more young people can participate in volunteering.

Private Enterprise

Many private enterprises have become involved in corporate social responsibility (CSR) in an effort to brand a positive image of the corporation. The participants feel that it is essential that CSR initiatives have a tangible social impact and should extensively support youth initiatives.

We therefore recommend private enterprises:

- a. Work together and conduct projects as a team so as to improve the image of CSR and prevent overlap;
- b. Participate in youth volunteer projects by directly providing monetary and in-kind support to selected youth organizations so as to make youth volunteering more accessible;
- c. Provide youth with the opportunity to propose and evaluate CSR project ideas and action plans;
- d. Develop partnerships with various educational institutions or NGOs to organize events and to manage and train volunteers; and
- e. Actively promote youth volunteer opportunities through established consumer networks and encouraging employees to take part in the process.

Media

The media is a powerful tool able to disseminate information quickly to a wide audience while simultaneously educating the public about important social issues. The media has the ability to strongly support youth volunteerism into the 21st century.

We therefore recommend that the media:

- a. Advertise projects to increase volunteer numbers and expand impact, including in-kind support;
- b. Develop social media outlets and systems to connect youth volunteers with projects that interest them, share about their progress with friends, and give feedback and report results. This will increase the quantity and quality of volunteer projects increasing public and private support;
- c. Profile celebrities and correspondents who volunteer, providing youth with role models; and
- d. Runs stories profiling youth volunteer activities, highlighting their successes and the challenges that they faced, as commonplace to increase the profile of youth volunteerism and thereby expand its impact.

Non-governmental Organizations

We recognize that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play an essential role in youth volunteerism and this role can be further strengthened.

We recommend that NGOs:

- a. Use new technology and social media to create and update interactive databases that match local current projects with a volunteer's own interest;
- b. Work with the media, government, and international organizations to better advertise opportunities to volunteer especially through social media;
- c. Implement recognition and acknowledgement systems to retain and reward outstanding volunteers;
- d. Offer opportunities for volunteer feedback and be receptive to said feedback;
- e. Increase participation by providing opportunities to volunteer with friends, family, and neighbors; and
- f. Encourage youth to establish NGOs by simplifying regulatory procedures.

International Organizations

International organizations such as the United Nations perform a leadership role in coordinating youth volunteerism globally. The 24th International Youth Forum whose participants have compiled these recommendations stands as an excellent example of the results of effective collaboration between nations on the topic of youth volunteerism.

We therefore recommend that international organizations:

- a. Recognize and reward the services of exemplary volunteering organizations;
- b. Establish and promote additional international days of youth service aligned with major world sporting and music events;

- c. Bring global citizens together through international dialogues such as international volunteerism forum or conferences to come up with positive messages and share ideas; and
- d. Work between countries to facilitate and ensure the safety and well-being of volunteers overseas.

It is the hope of the participants of this forum that the recommendations of this declaration can make a meaningful contribution to youth volunteerism and expand its impact. In this way, youth volunteerism can continue in a proud tradition of effecting social change as the 21st century continues.



PHOTOS OF OUR ACTIVITIES



TALK ON “THE UNTOLD STORY OF GAZA” BY HARRY FEAR



MIYC – “10KM IN THEIR SHOES, PLEDGE FOR PEACE”



24TH INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FORUM









1ST MA-CHN-DO YOUTH VOLUNTEERS WORK CAMP 2013



13TH MIYD – “YOUTH MIGRATION: A STEP FROM HAVEN”







WIF KL 2013 – WAY YOUTH SATELLITE EVENT







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

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WAY Headquarters



World Assembly of Youth

