

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT

26TH AND 27TH AUGUST, 2001

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA.

PROGRAM ~ LAST DRAFT: AUGUST 3, 2001

DESCRIPTIVE PROGRAM:

International Youth Committee & Youth Task Team

Morning Session AM

26th August

Sunday

27th August

Monday

07:00 – 08:00

Arrival of Participants!

08:00 AM – 05:00 PM

Registration of participants the whole day!

Note: ONLY 26th of August. [7:00AM - 5:00PM]

09:00 – 10:00

Free

Youth Panel:

Title:

Contemporary Manifestations of Racism and Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance.

Composition:

Two youth representatives.

One political leader

Two practitioners

Moderator: youth.

Time:

7 minutes per speaker

10 minutes for break

45 minutes for questions and answers.

10:00 – 10:10

Free

Break for 10 minutes.

10:10 – 11:00

Free

Question & Answers period!

11:00 – 12:00

Free

Organization of the: Thematic Commissions Session (Distribution of rooms and sign in to different commissions).

Noon Session

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12:00 – 01:00

Free

Lunch Break

01:00 – 02:00

Free

Thematic Commissions Sessions!

Education

Health

Environment

Justice (legal Measures)

Poverty & Economy

(Globalization)

Media & New Information Technologies (Internet)

Minority Rights

Intersection (Multiple forms of Discrimination / Young Women).

Human Rights and Citizenship

Colonialism & Foreign Occupation.

Slavery and Slave Trade: Compensation & Reparations

Contemporary Manifestations of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and New Forms of Apartheid.

1:00 pm ~ 5:00 pm (4hours)

02:00 – 03:00

(OPTIONAL)

Open: Regional Meetings:

Regional Definitions

Briefing: Methodology & organizational procedures for the Summit! [LOGISTICS]

Briefing: Global Framework & Objectives of the Youth Summit [RULES OF PROCEDURE]

Follow Up Mechanism

1. Thematic Commissions Discussion

03:00 – 04:00

Continuation.

Continuation.

04:00 – 05:00

Continuation.

Report back to Plenary

05:00 – 06:00

Dinner Break

Follow Up Process

Night Session

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06:30 PM – 07:00 / 9:00 PM

Official OPENNING!

[Cultural Program]

Free

07:00 PM -09:00 PM

Continuation.

Note: The official inauguration to be done by:

1. Major of Durban
2. Young South African Women
3. Graca Machel

Dinner: Official CLOSING!

Note: The official closing to be done by:

Mary Robinson

4 regional political leaders to speak for 5 minutes per speaker.

Note: Program proposed by the Youth Task Team and the International Youth Committee meeting at the third Preparatory Committee of the UN World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and related Intolerance, Geneva, Switzerland 30 July-10 August 2001. For more information or comments, please contact the representative of the International Youth Committee in your region.

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH COMMITTEE

COMPILATION OF YOUTH DECLARATIONS

World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance
I.

AFRICA

CHILD [AND YOUTH] DECLARATION AND

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A PROGRAMME OF ACTION

South African Consultative Child and Youth Workshop

Warmbad, Northern Province

6-7 March 2001

DRAFT Declaration

Preamble:

We, some 30 representatives of South African non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other civil society actors, meeting in Warmbad, Northern Province, from 5 to 7 March 2001, within the framework of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

Recalling the triumph of the human spirit in the defeat of Apartheid and the important contributions that children made in the struggle against legalized racism;

Acknowledging the impacts of the legacies of colonialism, slavery, apartheid and other forms of human exploitation on the development and well-being of South African children and regretting that children in this country continue to be victimized by circumstance they did not initiate;

Acknowledging the fact that a healing nation cannot exclude its future citizens and that children must become the foundation of a healthy nation;

Recognizing that too many South African children are adversely affected by poverty making them vulnerable to poor nutrition, inadequate health and social services, lack of clean water, sanitation, basic education, inadequate social security and inadequate protection from abuse;

Recognizing that children in this country are exposed to being used for commercial purposes as a result of the absence of adequate legislation;

Acknowledging the adversities and pain inflicted upon children as a result of the AIDS pandemic, with particular attention to those children who have been orphaned or themselves affected with the virus;

Bearing in mind that it is often intolerance, rejection and abuse that forces migrant children along with their parents to flee their country of origin and that it is all too often intolerance, rejection and abuse they face once they have reached South Africa;

Emphasizing that hopes for a future without racism, racial intolerance, xenophobia and related intolerance rests on a collective commitment to quality education for all children;

Reaffirming the South African constitution and international human rights instruments, specifically, the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, in safeguarding the dignity and rights of the children.

HEREBY:

Call upon the memory of child victims of racism and racial discrimination, colonialism and Apartheid in South Africa and throughout the African Continent;

Also affirm that the consequences of racial discrimination, colonialism and apartheid have resulted in

lasting economic, political and cultural damages to African peoples;

Note with concern that economic imbalances in our country continue to have grave ramifications on our

children's health, physical development, quality of education, safety, freedoms and fundamental rights;

Express concern over the reality that the majority of our children are vulnerable to harassment and discrimination by perpetrators of racism, tribalism and xenophobia;

Recall that without the necessary political will to address historical injustices and their contemporary forms and repercussions, programmes of action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance will not change deeply ingrained prejudices or reach the goal of a South Africa united in diversity;

Acknowledge the responsibility of South African and International non-governmental organizations in safeguarding the well-being and safety of our children

Recommendations for a Programme of Action:

Recognizing the urgent need to translate the objectives of the Declaration into a practical and workable Plan of Action, we therefore recommend the following:

Children must be given a sufficient platform at the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to voice their concerns and meaningfully participate

in the outcome of the conference.

The Organization for African Unity and the United Nations must improve upon their monitoring mechanisms and their ability to act on child rights' violations against member states.

Children must be mainstreamed in all government legislation, programmes, policies and delivery services. Also, government departments and non-governmental organizations should coordinate their efforts to promote the welfare and protection of children.

As a measure which [that] will improve the protection of children, the imbalances of the past in the allocation of resources must be addressed. Moreover, compensation and reparations must be dealt with within this context.

Sustainable programmes must be implemented to promote racial harmony and the integration of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

The use of an African language and inter-cultural activities should be elevated at an early stage of schooling.

Individuals or institutions in violation of the rights of the child must face harsher penalties.

Emphasis should be placed on integrity of the family whenever possible. Moreover, single parents should be provided with a wide range of services to assist them in caring for their children.

Greater attention must be paid to the plight of HIV/AIDS orphans. In this respect, care models need to be introduced to empower caretakers of HIV/AIDS orphans.

In an effort to curb the transmission of HIV/AIDS in children, pre and post-natal medications must be made readily available to all.

II.

AMERICAS

DECLARATION OF THE AMERICAS REGIONAL YOUTH CAUCUS

PREPARED FOR THE NGO FORUM OF THE AMERICAS FOR DIVERSITY AND PLURALISM
QUITO, ECUADOR. MARCH 12-16, 2001

AND THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE
AGAINST RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA, AND RELATED
INTOLERANCE

SANTIAGO, CHILE. DECEMBER 3-7, 2000

PREAMBLE:

Considering that young people, particularly young Indigenous Peoples, Afro descendants, Rom Peoples and peoples of oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within their State, have been discriminated against, excluded from, and marginalized in the decision making processes, resulting in the limiting of their full and active participation politically, economically, socially and culturally;

Observing the limited participation and representation of children and adolescents, particularly of Indigenous Peoples, Afro descendants, Rom Peoples, and peoples of oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a State in fora and international events, which do not permit us to know the positions of such peoples about these issues that also involve them. We urge organizers of upcoming events to guarantee the effective participation of children and adolescents by opening spaces for those sectors.

Identifying that youth representation has traditionally been marginalized by government delegations to regional and international conferences by having "token" youth or young people that do not represent the views, aspirations or struggles of the young people of the State;

Realizing that many young people throughout the Americas do not have access to information about the United Nations World Youth Forum, as witnessed by the Youth Caucus of the Conference of Citizens Against Racism, Xenophobia, Intolerance and Discrimination, and the Youth Caucus of the Forum of the Americas for Diversity and Pluralism;

Realizing that there is no method for young people of the South, particularly, Indigenous Peoples, Afro descendants, Rom Peoples, migrants and immigrants, oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a State, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and transsexuals; persons with HIV/AIDS; and persons with disabilities, to effectively participate in or be part of the selection process for delegates to the World Youth Forum, as a result, having no effective voice in the process of the Forum;

Strongly affirming the Youth Caucus' extreme disappointment in the scheduling of the World Youth Forum, which will make it difficult, if not prohibitive, for young people to attend both the Forum and the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

Considering that there is no specific forum for young people around the world to come together to discuss and formulate solutions to racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination;

Because of the concerns stated above, we strongly recommend the following:

DECLARATION:

We demand a World Youth Consultation to be held in Durban, South Africa, one day prior to the NGO World Forum, sponsored and financed by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and UN Member States, to be an official part of the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. The design, process and outcomes should involve the participation of young people.

We demand that the states of the Global North to financially support delegations of young people of the Global South with limited or no financial resources to participate in the full planning process and attend the Youth Consultation of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

We recommend an equitable method in selecting a representative group of young people, with particular attention to peoples of Indigenous and African descent, Rom people, migrants and immigrants, and other oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a State, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and transsexuals; persons with HIV/AIDS; and persons with disabilities, to participate in Youth Delegations to the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance through a criteria that was developed by the Youth Caucus of the Americas.

We demand the UN to provide institutional, financial and other related resources to support the development of a permanent worldwide youth network to be initiated during both the 2001 World Youth Forum and the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

a. We demand that the States and the international organizations recognize the people's rights for historic reparations and the adoption of immediate actions that should include the design and implementation of public policies addressing the needs of children, adolescents and youth who belong to peoples who have been historically discriminated against.

b. We demand that the States recognize slavery as a crime against humanity.

c. We demand that the States and international organizations recognize that a sexual orientation different from the established social order (heterosexual) is used as a basis for discrimination.

We demand that the States of the Americas value the importance of and distribute information about the work of the World Youth Forum.

We demand UN member states to provide the financial support to youth committed to the work related to youth issues in their states of residence in order for them to participate in the planning and implementation of the World Youth Forum.

We demand UN member states to guarantee the inclusion of disadvantaged and excluded youth, particularly peoples of Indigenous and African descent, Rom people, migrants and immigrants, and other oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a State, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and transsexuals; persons with HIV/AIDS; and persons with disabilities and other marginalized groups in the World Youth Forum process.

We demand that the Youth Caucus of the Regional Conference of the Americas as well as the Youth Caucus of the Americas for Diversity and Pluralism participate in the decision-making process for the World Youth Forum.

We demand that the member states of the United Nations address the above enumerated issues by providing the following corrective actions:

Legal Measures

Criminal Justice

Eliminate all laws and practices that portray youth as criminals, which are classifications frequently based on stereotypes of race, social class and/or sexual orientation.

Eliminate the substantive norms and judicial processes that condemn children, adolescents, and youth to sentencing as adults.

Promote the implementation of alternative programs that assure adequate social reintegration of young offenders; such as providing financial resources for cultural and community centers and skills building to prepare for useful participation in society.

Rights

Call for the design, unilateral acceptance, and ratification of a Universal Declaration of Youth Rights by all member states and its active implementation.

Legislation

We recommend that UN Member states integrate the Human Rights framework in their judicial systems; specifically the mechanisms of protection and international instruments, in order to ensure the existence and application of laws that protect youth.

Education

The majority of youth that belong to Indigenous Peoples, Afro-descendent peoples, Rom peoples, oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a state, migrants, immigrants, and young women do not have access to a free and quality education at different levels of learning.

Provide a mechanism for all youth to have access to free and quality education

Provide professional and institutional support for migrant youth and oppressed nationalities and ethnicities to deal with the trauma that can restrict their access to learning

Young people do not have access to technology

Provide equal access, through the public sector, to technology, specifically access to the Internet and corresponding training to use it effectively

Young people receive little education on true histories of their peoples

In respect to the lack of education of young people on the true history of the world, consult with UNESCO in order to rewrite educational texts to include the histories of traditionally oppressed peoples of the world.

Young people do not have access to education in their own language

UN member states should provide concrete mechanisms in order to ensure access to free and quality public education in the native languages/mother tongues of young people.

Art and Culture

That the States distribute and promote the creation and implementation of programs on the local, community and national levels. Also to provide the necessary resources in order to put this into practice.

We demand that the States recognize all the especially artistic ethnocultural works of young people who belong to peoples who have been discriminated against and those oppressed nationalities within States. By itself, we demand the design and implementation of programs meant to promote these works of art.

Xenophobia and Discrimination

Because Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent, oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a state, migrants, immigrants, women, people with disabilities, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgendered persons and people with HIV/AIDS are seen as "different", they are discriminated against

To promote dialogue and sensitivity sessions for both governments and civil society to encourage understanding among Afro-descendent, Indigenous, and Rom young people, mestizos, oppressed nationalities and ethnicities within a state, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transsexuals, transgendered people, people with HIV/AIDS, and disabled persons who suffer discrimination in other areas.

Youth are unable to gain access to quality employment

States should provide meaningful skills training for discriminated against youth to prepare them for meaningful participation in society.

Globalization

Noting the lack of Intellectual Property Rights and the denial of traditional medicines to young people

Demand that multinational corporations no longer be allowed to patent the resources of Indigenous Peoples and people of African descent or to deny them access to their traditional ways of life

Young people often have to work for multinational corporations in order to help families survive

Insist that multinational corporations that employ young people provide for safe and humane work conditions at living wages which allow them to provide a meaningful income to their families

Insist that all multinational corporations be prohibited from using the lands and territories of Afro-descendent and Indigenous peoples

We demand that the States adopt the most effective methods in order to discourage sex trafficking and labor practices that are exploitative of young people. With emphasis on conducting an investigation of the role of globalization in the increased profits from sex trafficking and labor practices that are exploitive of young people.

Sex tourism and exploitation of the cultural values of Indigenous peoples, African descendants, migrants, immigrants and women are negative forms of multinational political economies and represent intersectional forms of discrimination based on gender, race, class, age, and ethnicity. We demand that the private sector provide humane and safe conditions for all workers, paying special attention to young workers; that allow them to be employed and to receive job training.

Health

Young people do not have access to adequate healthcare, especially in regarding to preventative care, education, and treatment of HIV/AIDS as well as other infectious and sexually transmitted diseases.

To provide free universal healthcare to all young people, regardless of health problems they face.

To protect, promote, and respect the reproductive and sexual rights of young people.

To recommend that the States reform their health systems on all levels, to bring specific attention to areas of mental health, while, at the same time, they continue to maintain a primary focus on preventive medicine with an emphasis on attention towards young people.

Military Violence

Military and police violence profoundly affect children, adolescents, and youth - particularly, Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent and other groups that are discriminated against through the actions taken by the army, the police, paramilitary groups, and guerrillas.

We demand that the Member States of the United Nations assume a real commitment to stop the violence.

We demand that the United Nations intercede in a direct manner in order to stop the violence fomented by States that commit resources that create the violence, for instance in the cases of Plan Colombia, the situation in Chiapas, Vieques, and others.

Police brutality and institutionalized racist and intolerant practices in diverse rural and urban areas continue to decimate poor, traditionally marginalized, and immigrant youth in every country in the world.

We demand that the UN urge member States to implement corrective measures on the national and local levels. For example, prosecuting police and paramilitary groups that have been found guilty of racist, lesbophobic homophobic, , and violent practices

Homeless Youth

We believe that the existence of homeless youth is rarely recognized by the States or agencies that provide services for the homeless. Moreover, the states that have infrastructures that attend to homeless youth apply inefficient measures, while others do not have the resources for such infrastructures.

We demand the States Members of the UN create and/or implement effective public policies to eliminate the causes and consequences of homelessness in the Human Rights framework.

Environmental Racism and Environmental Discrimination

Environmental racism refers to the actions or lack of actions by any government, military, industry, or other institution that generates a negative environmental impact and that causes disproportionate damage – whether intentional or not – to populations of Indigenous, Afro descendents, Latinos, Asians, displaced migrants or other ethnic groups in the environments in which they live. As a consequence of such discrimination, the residents of these areas see their quality of life affected. The increase of environmental racism and its destructive impact has mobilized communities towards the creation of an Environmental Justice Movement.

We demand the governments to design and implement laws and public policies for the protection of Indigenous, Afro descendents, and Rom peoples, and diverse oppressed nationalities in the territories or environments where they live, based in respect and mutual justice.

Appendixes for the Americas Declaration:

Declaration of Indigenous Youth

Indigenous nations are not recognized as nations, and this is a form of racial discrimination that deeply affects us as indigenous youth. We therefore demand that countries acknowledge our indigenous nations as such, taking into account the articles 1 of the Civil and Political Rights Pacts and Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.

It is as well a reality that these countries, fixed spaces of civil society, offer very little participation for indigenous youth. In the same way, international conferences and meetings give little and often no participation to indigenous youth. It is our desire that the consultation and participation in both national and international meetings of vulnerable sectors of society in the Americas is immediately taken into consideration, giving emphasis to indigenous youth, one of the most marginalized sectors of these societies.

We demand the immediate incorporation of the oral history of our peoples into official education programs at all levels.

We demand that school book texts are changed to incorporate the knowledge of our indigenous Nations and their contribution to humanity, particularly in the areas of history and philosophy, to eliminate the stereotypes and racial myths that current school books maintain.

We propose the effective implementation of bilingual and intercultural education including the obligatory instruction of the rights of Indigenous peoples into educational systems.

We urge the implementation of programs for indigenous youth that work to fortify cultural identity.

We demand the active participation of indigenous youth in the politics of our countries and in the making of decisions that affect us.

Signed by youth from Indigenous Nations from the following organizations:

- Indigenous Association of the Republic of Argentina
- Ixa Ca Vaa Association for Indigenous Development and Information, Costa Rica
- Aymara Inti-Marka Association, Chile
- Parliament of the Quiliana-Aymara Nation
- Fundacion Wangky Luhpia - Nicaragua
- Miskitu Indigenous Youth Association - Nicaragua

- MADRE – International Human Rights Advocacy Program – Nicaragua / USA
- Kuna Youth Movement, Panama
- Mapuche Student Coordinator, Chile
- CAPAJ and CADMA
- Aboriginal Pastoral Coordinator
- Mapuche Youth Collective "Wynoy Kuifikenewen", Chile
- International Consul of Indian Treaties

Final Declaration of Youth of African Descent

Youth, more than a period in a person's life, can be an important determining force in the future of society. In practice, however, things do not happen this way, and we are forever victims of age discrimination. For those in this period of their lives, we do not see our needs identified in any of the programs directed towards other age groups. After childhood, we lose the protection of our families and the state, however we are not even considered adults, since we lack "life experience". This situation permanently excludes us – for example, in matters such as access to employment and fair remuneration.

This situation is much more serious for youth of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean since we live in conditions of extreme poverty in all the cities of the continent; it is a situation that makes us more vulnerable than other sectors of the population. We are constantly victims of human rights violations, specifically in regards to our access to education, health, employment and the making of decisions. We are equally victims of human rights violations in the hands of the authorities, who consider youth of African descent potential delinquents, which leads to our unjust imprisonment and mistreatment.

In the area of education, youth of African descent show the worst levels of scholastic achievement, which is directly related to the lack of educational programs that work in accord with the social, economic, and cultural conditions of our population. In the same respect, we find that African-American youth feels excluded from distinct public national and international institutions of power, and therefore we find that our possibility of taking part in the making of decisions for our countries has been negated.

In the majority of countries on the continent, young people are obligated to be a part of internal armed conflicts. First, through the armed forces military service is obligatory. Second, because groups on the margin of the law recruit principally youth from popular sectors who in great part are youth of African descent, this makes us the principal victims of this type of violence. In the same way, urban city centers with high concentrations of people of African descent is where we see the greatest amount of violent deaths.

Recommendations:

Carry out united actions within national and international organizations to improve the living conditions of the African-American population and eradicate the discrimination towards the youth of these communities

Implement in all states policies which give access to education for all youth of African descent in Latin America and the Caribbean taking into account their contributions to the social construction of the continent, as well as their cultural, social and political particularities. To do this it is necessary to make curricular changes that will permit this objective.

It is necessary that the states prioritize and promote programs of social development for youth of African descent, which will allow us to generate conditions of justice, especially in regards to the next generation, health, and the strengthening of education, among others.

Establish permanent participation of youth of African descent in the public offices of our countries.

Impel definite actions to consolidate the proposal of social development for youth of African descent with the participation of diverse international organizations.

Form a Humanitarian Aid Youth Commission for people of African descent who suffer from conditions of extreme poverty and/or risk which would be supported by the United Nations.

Establish an international commission, entrusted to design a plan to promote the participation of youth of African descent in the social, political, and cultural lives of their countries, through which we can be offered better guarantees for the possibility of development.

The United Nations should urge states to guarantee the security of children and youth who are victims of internal armed conflict.

We ask that international organizations like ONU and OEA create an organization that would deal exclusively with the rights and development of youth of African descent, with the power to guard sanctions against countries that do not comply with these accords.

Exclude youth of African descent completely from armed conflicts, through measures such as the total abolition of obligatory military service.

We the youth, ask that international organizations grant corresponding support to the governments of each country that offer us the right to take active participation in the social, political, economic, and cultural lives of our countries.

When the barriers of hypocrisy and ignorance have fallen, there will be equal rights for all human beings.

The most difficult issue we face at the moment is as well the most difficult in history, for all that it signifies as an unjust and cruel matter – it is without a doubt that which relates to racism. And this is not a problem of people of African descent, by chance we are no more than a copy of bloody racism from other parts of Latin America, but we don't have our own, and when we speak of singular racism, we are referring to the true danger of manifesting a feeling of racism, aberration and hate against others.

When racism hides and fortifies against something natural and known, and its terminology doesn't worry those who teach and those who should learn, it becomes a sentiment. A sentiment is suffered, and it is not easy to eliminate it from the impunity that surrounds it.

III.

ASIA / PACIFIC / WESTERN

Youth Declaration and Programme of Action

28th May 2001

Philippines

ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Declaration:

*The youth in the Asia Pacific region note with concern the persistence and increasing spread of various forms of racism, racial and ethnic discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in all continents and regions of the world.

The Asia Pacific region is rich with a diversity of cultures, languages, religions and peoples. However, the nation-building process in the region has resulted in some groups being rendered stateless, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, and being discriminated on the basis of their cultures, languages, caste based discrimination and religion.

Elimination of all forms of racism, racial and ethnic discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance is essential for creating peace and establishing respect for human rights.

Many women, especially young women, experience multiple discrimination due to racism and patriarchal attitudes, often compounded by religion, caste and culture. This makes women vulnerable to a range of violations of human rights including trafficking for the purposes of economic and sexual exploitation, slavery and slavery-like practices. Another is the systematic pattern of violence including incest, rape and sexual abuse.

Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance have a special and heightened impact on individuals, groups and communities including women, children, young people, refugees, Indigenous and tribal peoples. They result in disproportionate power, privilege, and status. There is multiple alienation of young people due to class, caste, race and gender hierarchies.

*The discrimination against Dalit youth begins at birth, when they are assigned their low caste status. From this time on, their future is bleak unless they can break free from the shackle of the caste system – they will be denied basic education, forced to work in the most disgusting jobs from a very young age, segregated from their peers, treated as ‘untouchable’, subject to sexual harassment and violence, and discriminated in every sphere of their lives.

*Dalit youth face discrimination in the field of employment. They are denied access to jobs that do not relate to the occupations prescribed for them by the caste system. Dalit youth are often expected to do the most disgusting, degrading, inhuman, menial work possible, for example, ‘manual scavenging’ (the cleaning of human excrement from toilets and sewers). If Dalit youth attempt to enter into other fields of work, they often face serious discrimination within the workplace, or worse, violent repercussions for attempting to break free of the caste mould. The forms of work prescribed for Dalit youth sometimes leads to alcoholism and domestic violence. An estimated forty million people in India, among them some fifteen million children, are working in slave-like conditions in order to pay off a debt as bonded laborers. Due to the high interest rates charged, the employers’ control over records, and the abysmally low wages paid, the debts are seldom settled. Bonded laborers are frequently low-caste, illiterate, and extremely poor, while the creditors/employers are usually higher-caste, literate, comparatively wealthy, and relatively more powerful members of the community.

Demands for payment of proper wages and other basic workplace rights often lead to violence against Dalit workers.

Dalit girls face sexual harassment and abuse in the workplace and in the community. They are often raped with impunity by ‘upper caste’ men, and there are some cases of girls committing suicide because of rape and other extreme forms of abuse in the workplace. The practice of untouchability is only breached for sexual exploitation.

There is also a devadasi system in southern India, where around 15,000 Dalit girls per year are 'donated' to temples at the time of puberty, to become 'temple prostitutes' for the 'priestly' upper caste (Brahmins), and later forced to continue as prostitutes in the cities and towns

*Despite state assistance in primary education, Dalits also face an alarming drop-out rate.

According to the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' 1996-1997 and 1997-1998 Report, the national drop-out rate for Dalit children – who often sit in the back of classrooms – was a staggering 49.35% at the primary level, 67.77 % for middle school and 77.65% for secondary school. Naturally, without education, Dalit youth have even less chance to break free from the jobs with disgraceful conditions and pay that have been prescribed for them by the caste system.

*There are many cases of torture and extra-judicial killings of Dalit youth in police custody after being arrested on false charges. In many other cases, despite the existence of applicable legislation, those who commit atrocities against Dalit youth are given impunity.

*Burakumin in Japan and Dalits of South Asia are prevented from marrying those from a higher descent group or caste. Attempting to marry outside of these restrictions can result in extreme forms of violence and ostracism.

*Children of Migrant have heightened experiences of the impact of restrictive and exclusionary immigration laws, attitudes and practices in receiving countries that disallows family reunification. They are denied socio-economic, cultural and political rights on grounds of being non-citizens. The children and youth experience the entrenched xenophobic attitudes about their social intergration into the receiving countries.

In the sending countries of the Asia-Pacific region, state mechanisms for protection and support for families of migrant workers are limited if not completely absent. Young people, particularly young women and girls are especially vulnerable if they belong to oppressed caste groups, ethnic and other minority communities and other groups victimized by racial discrimination.

*The Asia-Pacific youth and NGOs wish to call your urgent attention as well to the worsening human rights situation of the Palestinian youth in both the occupied territories and those living within Israel.

Recommendations for a Program of Action:

Nationally governments must act to uphold their own constitutional principles and international treaty obligations and work towards the full enjoyment of rights by all citizens regardless of caste or descent. Globally, the international community must take advantage of the opportunity this World Conference represents in making progress on one of the world's most severe and forgotten abuses. Specifically,

All governments and in particular those of countries whose citizens suffer from caste or descent-based discrimination and abuse, should ratify and fully implement the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination.

These governments should also support efforts to implements the resolution on discrimination based on work and descent adopted by the UN Sub-Commission on Human Rights in August 2000.

Concerned governments should extend invitations to the Special Rapporteur on racism to investigate caste-based discrimination and other forms of discrimination based on descent in these respective countries.

All nations should ensure that caste-based and similar discrimination against marginalized populations in Asia and Africa is explicitly addressed in the declaration and programme of action of the WCAR.

Dalits in South Asia, Buraku people in Japan and other populations in similar situations should be explicitly acknowledged as groups of people who have been subject to perennial and persistent forms of discrimination and abuse on the basis of their descent.

Concerned governments should:

Establish a program and timetable to enforce the abolition of untouchability, segregations, or similar practices.

Enforce and where applicable enact, laws related to child labour, bonded labour, manual collection of human waste, and forced prostitution or similar practices.

Monitor and publicize the extent to which existing laws to end caste discrimination have been implemented.

Allocate adequate funds for programs for the socio-economic and educational support of communities that have faced discrimination on the basis of caste or descent.

Ensure greater participation by the affected communities in governments administration of justice machinery, such as the police and judiciary.

Ensure that all necessary constitutional, legislative, and administrative measures, including appropriate forms of affirmative action, are in place to prohibit and redress discrimination on the basis of caste, and that such measures – including those already instituted in Japan and India – are continued until discrimination is eliminated.

Launch nationwide public awareness campaigns regarding legal prohibitions on discrimination on the basis of caste or descent. This campaign should explain in simple terms what actions are legally prohibited and what recourse is available to victims of discrimination and abuse.

United Nations Development agencies should pay particular attention to caste violence and caste discrimination, assess the impact of their existing programs with regards to caste, and development programs and strategies designed to curb abuse and encourage accountability.

First Australian Youth Consultation

On the World Conference Against Racism

Forum Recommendations

Adelaide, April 10th, 2001

Organized by Cross Cultural Links, Youth Affairs Council of South Australia

DEFINITIONS

The World Conference recognizes that racism stems from fear, ignorance, and hatred, and incorporates an intentional bias against, and intolerance of, those who are different, based on their skin colour, ethnicity, cultural or religious values, physical features. Racism can be based on genuine differences, but it is also used by a dominant ethnic or homogenous social group, to assert power over individuals or minority groups, power that is manifested through the unequal distribution of social, economic, and physical resources, such as land.

Racism can display itself in many ways; it includes physical violence towards and oppression of minority groups and individuals; it can operate to exclude ideas, beliefs and values which do not reflect the majority view; it can also operate much more insidiously and become well-entrenched

within social structures, allowing discrimination to continue without being exposed. Young people often experience racism through bullying, teasing, and name-calling, as well as physical harassment. Racism is also experienced in different ways and can be incorporated into experiences of intersectional discrimination which also includes sexism, homophobia, ageism, and disability discrimination.

In countries with Indigenous populations, histories of white settlement, and more recent migrant populations, such as Australia, racism is more difficult to name and define because of the rapidly growing, multi-ethnic demography of its population. In these countries, governments, non-government organizations, and civil society must be made aware of, and combat, the subtle ramifications of racism.

The World Conference recognizes the cyclical ramifications of racism, which can affect individuals who have suffered racism throughout their lives, and can have societal ramifications by entrenching barriers to education, employment, and social opportunities for minority groups. Racism engenders racism: racism encourages distrust, aggression, anger and fear, and further divides and destroys communities.

The World Conference acknowledges that racism results in encouraging conformity and assimilation, in entrenching value-laden differences between groups which distinguishes what is 'normal' and 'acceptable', and what is not. This value system has severe societal consequences, especially for young people: high rates of suicide, crime, depression.

SITES OF RACISM

The World Conference recognizes that in many developed countries, such as Australia, with Indigenous populations, and increasing migrant populations, policies on multiculturalism and aboriginal issues have only resulted in a narrow focus on apparent commonalities between different minority groups, rather than a comprehensive understanding of the issues, interests and values of each different group of people. This superficial approach has entrenched existing stereotypes about minority groups, which act as barriers for members of those groups to accessing their full social, economic, educational and civic rights.

The World Conference recognizes that Government structures and processes can be inherently racist, for example, Governments can perpetuate racism with allocations of funding, and this dictate society's attitudes to the needs of minority groups through their budgetary priorities. Parliaments, whether state, regional or federal and local councils, also perpetuate racism through the enactment of legislation and regulations with racially discriminatory outcomes: for example, mandatory sentencing legislation in the Northern Territory and Western Australia which had a disproportionately higher impact upon young Indigenous offenders.

Racism can also be perpetuated through the racist attitudes prevalent within the legal system: research documents the discriminatory police and judicial attitudes towards young offenders of minority backgrounds.

The World Conference recognizes that racism can be perpetuated by the media, both mainstream media, and government propaganda (eg; government sponsored advertising on television and radio), which portray negative stereotypes of minority groups.

The World Conference recognizes that racism is prevalent in educational institutions, such as schools and universities, where only one way of teaching/learning is accepted, and that curriculum is often very Western-oriented; this allows for one 'world view' which can discriminate against the teachings, histories and values of other cultures and nationalities.

ACTIONS

The World Conference urges non-government organizations and services, and government departments, to conduct grass-roots consultations with diverse populations, to document a comprehensive understanding of racism issues in each country. This consultation process must incorporate young people's views and recognize that racism can be a causal, rather than a peripheral, factor in rates of youth suicide, youth depression, and youth unemployment.

The World Conference urges Governments to investigate and address Indigenous, immigrant and refugee youth's lack of access to welfare and social services, including the way these services are structured, promoted, and resourced. Further, that Governments prioritize funding culturally sensitive services for young people of diverse backgrounds and allocate funding for community workers to liaise and work with young people of diverse backgrounds at a grassroots level, to ensure that they are accessing all the social services, educational and employment opportunities available.

That the World Conference urges the Australian Government and all Australian political parties endorse the recommendations of the HREOC Bringing Them Home report, which include an apology and acknowledgment of past atrocities.

The World Conference calls upon participating States with Indigenous populations to incorporate Indigenous studies, including Indigenous history, cultures and languages, as a compulsory component of primary, secondary, and tertiary school curriculum. Further, that the World Conference encourages States to recognize the value and importance of different styles of teaching and education, such as the passing down of oral history, and to implement these different approaches as appropriate into educational curriculum. The World Conference urges States to work with educational institutions to incorporate anti-racism strategies within curriculum to allow students a more comprehensive understanding of history and cultures.

States and educational institutions must also encourage zero tolerance for racism on campuses and within schools; this can be achieved, for example, with the establishment of a merit system which values and rewards anti-racist attitudes and engenders attitudes which are NOT racist.

The World Conference encourages Governments to recognize prior educational qualifications of refugee and migrant peoples and to grant them similar qualifications in their adopted country.

The World Conference urges all Governments to mandatorily train educational personnel, such as teachers and university professors, and legal personnel, such as police officers, barristers, and judges, in cross-cultural sensitivity and youth issues, and that this training be recognized as necessary professional qualifications.

The World Conference urges States to ensure that media professionals are trained in cross-cultural sensitivity issues, and encourages responsible reporting of issues and events about minority groups which do not rely on stereotypes or sensationalism. Further, that States use the media, as a primary social agenda and perception-setter, to launch educational programmes nation-wide to break down stereotypes and racist assumptions about Indigenous, immigrant and refugee peoples, in a sensitive and responsible manner, as relevant to each country.

The World Conference recognizes that to eradicate racism, we must involve civic society, and urges States to initiate and broaden awareness-raising, anti-racist campaigns which focus on the grass-roots level and have effective strategies. This can not only involve a national merit system appreciating anti-racist programs and projects executed by individuals and

organizations, but the national recognition of the religious and cultural festivals and special days, such as Hanukkah, Ramadan, Diwali, Easter, for example, of the different ethnic groups within each country.

The World Conference recommends that United Nations, States, and non-governmental organizations structures need to be reviewed to assess the most effective and representative way that Indigenous, immigrant, and refugee young people can participate within those structures and processes. The World Conference asserts that this includes representation of these discriminated groups on boards and communities, as well as support at all levels of the collective voices of Indigenous, immigrant and refugee youth voices.

The World Conference urges Governments to implement human rights, anti-racist conventions into domestic legislation and policy. States must also develop an 'inclusive' culture and promote much more inclusive, diverse national identities. The World Conference urges States to enact and strengthen racial vilification laws, and ensure that the penalties for breaching these laws also focus on constructive change, which can include education of the perpetrators of racism, rather than a strict penalty system of fines or imprisonment.

The World Conference urges non-government organizations to mobilize support for anti-racist campaigns and issues, through the organization of public meetings and rallies that will encourage open discussion of racism within society and how to combat it; this will challenge communities and provide opportunities for discussion, debate and consultation on racism issues, especially for young people. Non-government organizations should also undertake to monitor Government implementation of human rights conventions, including the Convention Eliminating Racial Discrimination, and put pressure on States to fight racism in all its forms. Non-government organizations can also educate the community through cultural awareness-raising campaigns, and awareness of racism to all its manifestations, from blatant racist violence to more insidious, subtle racial discrimination.

IV.

EUROPE

Minorities of Europe

AGGREED UPON BY THE MINORITY YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS FROM 28 COUNTRIES IN EUROPE WHO MET AT THE COVENTRY 2000 EVENT 'VALUES HAVE NO BOUNDARIES – ACTION FOR THE MILLENNIUM' HELD IN COVENTRY, UNITED KINGDOM FROM AUGUST 10-16TH, 2001

The principles of equality is the main foundation of Human Rights laws, across the world. Many countries within Europe are introducing Human Rights laws, even as we speak. Unfortunately, many of these countries adopt a top down approach, regarding issues, which affect young people, both directly and indirectly. Governments and decision-makers alike fail to recognize the importance of including these young people in the decision-making processes. All too often we hear how young people are the citizens of tomorrow, what many fail to recognize is that this is incorrect, young people are in fact the citizens in their own right, both present and future, therefore entitled to the same treatment as other members of their communities. Minority Young People in particular are even more vulnerable to such belief and are marginalized and discriminated against in every sphere of life.

We the youth of various minorities from across Europe:

Concerned by the wide spread levels of prejudice and discrimination that most minority young people face across Europe;

Believe that the World Conference Against Racism provides an opportunity for all people to examine their attitude toward minorities within their own communities.

Feel that it is time for governments and decision-makers to address ALL minority issues, including disability, gender, language, race, religion, nationality, legal status and sexual preference.

Consider it essential for the core principles of equality and consultation to be incorporated into future policy formation and decision-making.

Feel that the time has come for governments, European structures, INGOs, NGOs to learn through inclusive dialogue, the issues facing minorities, within both the European and the global society.

Believe that Solidarity, in which minorities from all backgrounds combine to work for equal opportunities, is seen as a vibrant dimension in effective campaigns against racism and all forms of oppression.

Children must be given a sufficient platform at the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances to voice their concerns and meaningfully participate in the outcome of the conference.

The Organization for African Unity and the United Nations must improve upon their monitoring mechanisms and their ability to act on child rights' violations against member states.

Children must be mainstreamed in all government legislation, programmes, policies and delivery services. Also, government departments and non-governmental organizations should coordinate their efforts to promote the welfare and protection of children.

As a measure which will improve the protection of children, the imbalances of the past in the allocation of resources must be addressed. Moreover, compensation and reparations must be dealt with within this context.

Sustainable programmes must be implemented to promote racial harmony and the integration of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees.

The use of an African language, and inter-cultural activities should be elevated at an early stage of schooling.

Individuals or institutions in violation of the rights of the child must face harsher penalties.

Emphasis should be placed on integrity of the family whenever possible. Moreover, single parents should be provided with a wide range of services to assist them in caring for their children.

Greater attention must be paid to the plight of HIV/AIDS in orphans. In this respect, care models need to be introduced to empower caretakers of HIV/AIDS orphans.

In an effort to curb the transmission of HIV/AIDS in children, pre and post-natal medications must be made readily available to all.

Training and educational systems are also vulnerable to racism and related intolerance.

Prejudice can only be challenged with knowledge, understanding and tolerance. The main weapon for achieving this is education. Consequently, schools and other institutions should be educated on how to prevent and deal with these forms of pernicious abuse.

We therefore call for the incorporation of social and intercultural education into the formal and non-formal education systems of every European country.

We call for the Empowerment of minority young people as an essential key in opening the doors to anti-oppressive practices. With this in mind, we recommend training activities that enhance minorities and their organizations to acquire the necessary skills for increasing their confidence and self-determination. In this, sustainable and long term project work, lobbying, and dealing with oppressive practices through intercultural dialogue should form a core part of any educational and awareness policy.

Address REAL issues and engage the RIGHT people in the process:

For too long issues of racism and related intolerance has been a lip service for the politicians and coffee table gestures for those who claim to work for the victims of racism and related intolerance. This must STOP!! If Europe actually learnt from the scars of Slavery, the Holocaust and the traumas of the first and second world wars, We would not be convening another meeting which will only unfold the continuous crime against Humanity, but celebrating the good practices put into force after those traumatic years. The reason for this is self evident.

We therefore call for Policies, which advocate for the inclusion of grass-root communities in as experts in fighting against racism and related intolerance.

We call for the recognition of community groups who are not necessarily organized at statutory level, due to lack of funds, expertise and long legal procedures.

We call for policies to be well researched from the grassroots up, before their introduction to ensure that they address the actual issues affecting the communities and individual victims.

We call for long-term moral, technical and financial support for minority organizations from the local, national and European structures, so that their members are helped in contributing positively to their communities as active citizens.

We call upon all delegates to recognize and support the continuous work of minority young people and European platforms to promote Human Rights and the fight against Racism, Anti-Semitism, Xenophobia and intolerance in Europe.

The dynamic force of Young People drove the success of the 'All Different All Equal' campaign.

We therefore call upon all to recognize the efforts of all those young people, youth organizations, and European youth platforms and in particular the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe for their tenacious efforts during the campaign in 1995.

EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM

POSITION PAPER

On the occasion of the UN World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and related Intolerance.

Durban, South Africa, September 2001

Adopted by the European Youth Forum

19-20 May 2001

The European Youth Forum acts in respect of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and is deeply involved in the Human Rights Education Youth Programme of the Directorate of Youth and Sports of the Council of Europe. The European Youth Forum fully supports art. 13 of the Treaty of Amsterdam: "Without prejudice to the other provisions of this Treaty and within the limits of the powers conferred by it upon the Community, the Council, acting unanimously on a proposal from the Commission and

after consulting the European Parliament, may take appropriate action to combat discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation"

Introduction

Europe has always been a continent where many cultures, religions and languages have met and lived together. It is this diversity which has contributed to make Europe a continent full of rich multicultural societies. "... Europe is all about unity in diversity. Therefore, it needs us to respect and reap the rewards of diversity. European integration has always been about diverse peoples with varied cultures learning to live and work together, discovering shared values and shared sense of identity... diversity is one of Europe's greatest treasures".

Unfortunately, Europe today is witnessing again the rise of a new phenomenon of racism, xenophobia and intolerance. Acts of racism are unfortunately found in different forms at all levels in European society and culture. News on racist attacks and behaviours, on cases of unmotivated discriminations, on intolerance towards particular categories of the society are an everyday worrying reality. Acknowledging the existence of the problem as something peculiar to the whole Europe, from North to South, from East to West, is the first step in addressing the problem and the first step towards its solution.

Racism undermines social cohesion in Europe and it is at the European level and in the European context that the problem needs to be addressed and fought against. There is no country and no society, on the continent, that can declare to be unaffected by these problems. The phenomenon of the flux of migration has become more and more important in Europe in the last decades and it concerns the whole of Europe. Sadly we have witnessed in the past years a rise in intolerance towards foreigners and people from minority backgrounds and the strengthening of the support given to political parties which make the spread of racist and intolerant ideas one of the main points in their programmes. An increase in intolerant and discriminatory views in all the European countries has also become evident within public and private spheres. Thus, integration and respect for people we perceive as different has to be one of our main objectives and so too must be the aim to break the media stereotypes of the 'other' living in a 'host' society.

Recently, the phenomenon of religious prejudice and intolerance has seen to be on the increase, with at least two academic reports in the UK indicating that Islamophobia is on the rise. While Europe is very aware of the consequences and evil of Islamophobia and anti-Semitism, it is essential that as a society we are able to curb the tide of prejudice against minority religions to ensure a peaceful and harmonious future.

Whenever acts of racism, xenophobia, intolerance, discrimination and hate occur, it is the protection of human dignity which is in danger and the fundamental rights of human beings that are violated. Education for Human Rights values has to be seen as a priority in the fight against these phenomena both in the formal and the non-formal education sectors. The European Youth Forum has always been committed towards the defence of the more disadvantaged young people and has made Human Rights Education one of its main priorities.

Youth in Europe – Geared up for Change

Young people are one of the main actors in the European fight against racism, xenophobia, intolerance and discrimination. Youth are not merely a tool capable of facilitating change, they

have also become victims of these human rights violations. It is impossible to eradicate these problems without the involvement of the European young people and youth organisations. Youth organisations in Europe value diversity because young people too are diverse. Young people are concerned not only with age, but also with issues such as race, religion, sexual orientation, class, mental and physical disability, national and ethnic origin, indigenous status and language.

The European Youth Forum and its member organisations are concerned with raising these issues and feel the need and the necessity to intervene in the fight against racism, intolerance and hate. Youth organisations working at local, national and international level play a fundamental role and bear a great responsibility in the awareness raising and in the creation of action schemes aimed at eradicating racism directed towards young people both in formal and non formal education settings.

The Need to Eradicate Discrimination

Discrimination will not disappear without changing the attitudes of people and identifying the right mechanisms to combat discrimination. In this respect, it is essential that Governments accommodate young people and youth organisations in a coherent search for a real democratic society.

Youth organisations regularly work with disadvantaged young people, with the socially excluded and with those discriminated against therefore they are well aware of the situation and the real dimensions of the problem.

There are a number of ways in which people are discriminated against, these include:

Direct and intentional discrimination: referring to the difference in treatment and consequent disadvantage as the result of an intentional act that is clearly motivated by the fact that the subject is of a different race, religion, gender or of disability and so forth.

Indirect discrimination: referring to the presence and application of certain specific practices, such as religious or traditional.

Institutional disadvantage: to live and work within social, political and economic institutions whereby you are a minority. So often is the case that these places are not designed to accommodate for example religious obligations or facilitate for physical disabilities, thus, raising a barrier to their full participation in these areas.

Youth organisations are perhaps in a better position to have more of an impact in all areas of discrimination but they are also undoubtedly accountable. They have the capabilities and more importantly the responsibility to break all boundaries and barriers to create the due respect for all human beings for generations to come.

Youth organisations with their privileged position towards young people have great power and a great responsibility in the educational process aimed at convincing all young people of the necessity of respect for the « diverse », regardless of her or his background.

Phobia Prejudices

Immigrant and minority communities have made an enormous contribution to cultural, religious, linguistic, ethnic and social diversity in Europe. Young people are not only the main actors in the fight against racism. Young people are both the perpetrators and the victims of increasing racist behaviour and attacks. Minority young people in particular are very vulnerable, marginalised and discriminated against in every sphere of life. Some young people have to face particular barriers because of their ethnic background, disability, gender, language, religion and sexuality, the fact

that they are young make their situation even more difficult. Xenophobic immigration rules and negative images of immigrants in most European countries perpetrate the lack of mobility of minority young people and prevent them from having access to full participation in society. They are affected by institutional racism as the result of the structure of different institutions, which easily excludes them. Institutional racism, unfortunately, affects young people's lives by denying them the right to be treated equally and to have access to the participation in society at all levels. Certain groups are treated far worse than others, who are subjected to unnecessary harassment and discrimination from officials such as the police, courts, prisons, customs and excise, immigration, local authority, education system, social welfare services, media and many others.

Minority youth experience racism and discrimination at all levels in society and need to be empowered not only to give them the opportunity to fully participate but also to allow them to play a fundamental role in the creation of a real democratic Europe, embodying all aspects of human rights.

Defeating Intolerance and Young Women's discrimination

The true state of Europe today unfortunately bears witness to a combination of intolerance that cannot be accepted or deemed trivial by the European Youth Forum. Such narrow-mindedness of those intolerant attitudes affect people of various racial backgrounds, women from all spheres, those with physical disabilities, those wishing to embark on their religious practises and other unrecognised minorities.

Particularly, young women from minority backgrounds are a group that face higher barriers to full participation in society and are thus more likely to be victims of discrimination plus sexism perhaps more so than other young people or young women.

If young women in general, suffer from violence and discrimination in society, there are particular groups of women (black, Asian, Arab, migrant, disabled, homosexual) who face even greater barriers in society due to their personal situation.

Minority young women often face multiple discrimination. They are discriminated against because of their gender, their age and because they belong to a minority group. In this respect, minority women suffer from discrimination from the patriarchal society in which they live either by the men of their own community or from men belonging to the majority. They are discriminated against as members of a minority group from the members of the majority.

Minority young women often have to face daily racism and institutional racism. They are affected by daily experiences of racism and often are judged according to negative stereotypes. They are affected by institutional racism as a result of the structure of different institutions which easily exclude them. Institutional racism unfortunately, affects these women's lives in denying them the right to be treated equally and to have access to participate in society at all levels.

Women from minority backgrounds often have to face great disadvantages when it comes to issues such as participation, political power, access to education or to health care, employment and jobs.

Youth organisations can play a very important role in the inclusion of young women from minorities through their activities and in their structures. Particular attention should be paid to the way in which policies and positions taken can affect young women from minorities and their participation in youth organisations and in society in general.

Physically disadvantaged people are so often brushed aside as "invisible" beings of society. Although certain institutions do try to incorporate facilities and equal opportunities for those disabled, the reality is that many countries do not provide the basic essentials. Lack of facilities and undermining attitudes make potential contributors to society feel undermined and naturally discriminated against. This kind of intolerance should be overcome in a world where everyone is different and the 'norm' is undefined.

There are three main areas where the work against discrimination must take priority:

Law: There must be adequate legal protection and recognition of the minority whether racial, religious, sexual, or other.

Media: The media stereotypes of 'Others' needs to be addressed and there must be a more responsible attitude from the media, which all too often sensationalises issues to increase their circulation.

Education: Young people need to receive a balanced education and need to be aware of 'Others' practices and cultures so that ignorance can be replaced by information.

Institutional dialogue

In order to have a more effective fight against racism and more tangible results, young people need to be involved in institutional dialogue and in the creation of policies aiming to avoid that the escalation of racist behaviour continues. Governments need to understand the importance of the involvement of young people in these processes and have to seek to co-operate especially with those organisations acting at local level who have the power to really influence and make a difference in the improvement of the society. Discrimination will not disappear without changing the attitudes of the people and without identifying the right mechanisms to combat discrimination. In this respect, Governments have to allow enough space for young people and youth organisations in a coherent search for building of a real democratic society.

Education, training and awareness

It is important to include anti-racism in education and in school programs from primary school. Education must provide pupils with experiences which will develop their abilities and feelings of belonging in order to participate in a democratic society. Preventive education against all forms of discrimination must be a priority in specific sectors such as the workplace, schools, universities and youth organisations.

Mainstreaming and transversality of the struggle against racism and xenophobia

It is fundamental to integrate the goal of anti-racism in actions and community policies at all levels. Therefore, strategic planning, implementation of the action, follow-up and evaluation of the results and consequences, as well as new partnerships between the European Institutions, member states, community organisations, NGOs and all social partners should be created.

Recommendations

The United Nations call for a World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, will gather all Governments and Member States to commit themselves to strive and fight for a more humane and just world. The European Youth Forum stresses the importance of the involvement of young people in the whole process and intends to continue to play a fundamental role in the fight against racism at European level.

The European Youth Forum urges the European Union:

To work towards the implementation of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights as a legally binding document for Member States

The European Youth Forum urges Member Organisations to:

Work towards the UN World Conference in organising their participation both by seeking institutional support from their country, and also by allocating their own resources

Lobby their governments for the inclusion of young people in the official governmental delegations

Develop projects and programs aimed at involving young people from minority backgrounds to promote gender equality, religious representation and facilitate for those with disabilities. Such a contribution made within their structures will help in their attempt to fight against racism

Include intercultural learning, educational enhancements, awareness schemes and exchange trips within their training programmes

The European Youth Forum urges the Governments and the UN to:

Allocate enough resources to include young people and representatives from youth organisations in their official delegations

Include human rights education and intercultural learning in school curricula

Recognise the existence of institutional racism within governmental institutions, other institutions and society as a whole

Identify the right mechanisms to combat racism, discrimination and related intolerance

Allocate enough resources to include young people in the creation of a democratic Europe

Make funding schemes available that are specifically targeting educational projects aiming to remove prejudice and intolerance

Recommend minority awareness programmes to public servants, public figures and journalists

Encourage the involvement of relevant minority groups in the preparation of educational material and resources for schools

Involve people from minorities at all levels of planning and decision making, so that people do not feel alienated and marginalised

The European Youth Forum is committed to establishing a universal body of equal representation of today's society and hopes to embark with your help on its mission.

Last Draft: August 3, 2001

WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA, AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

AUGUST 26TH AND 27TH 2001

DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA

FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT

Title: International Youth Summit

Venue: ELANGINES HOTEL

Background:

The International Youth Committee (IYC) is an international body that was established in the process of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerances (WCAR). It is composed of approximately 15 youth representatives who

are responsible of organizing the International Youth Summit. The IYC is formed by youth from the four regions of the world:

- *Africa/ North/ South/ West/ East/ Central.

- *Asia/Pacific/ Western.

- *Americas/ South/ North/ Caribbean.

- *Europe/ Eastern/ Western.

As well as a large number of individuals and youth organizations and youth activists from all over the world who have expressed interest in the work we are doing in different regions and countries, communities, and neighborhoods who are also playing a fundamental role in organizing the Summit and providing the required input to the documents.

The International Youth Committee in a joint effort with the International Youth Caucus, and the National Youth Task Team based in South Africa, the South African National NGO Coalition (SANGOCO), and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights came together to plan and strategize for the WCAR, but most importantly to organize the International Youth Summit whose main objective is to propose concrete and concise youth demands throughout the process, but also to:

- *Organize international youth organizations and activists to celebrate their diversity and uniqueness, to learn from one another and to learn to respect diversity.

- *Give visibility to young people and youth organizations that work in the fight to eradicate racism, and racial discrimination.

- *Give young people a voice.

- *Adopt an International Youth Declaration and Programme of Action.

The IYC has accepted the responsibility of ensuring the success of the Youth Summit, because we know that the organizations and youth activists that belong to the International Youth Caucus have been committed to a program and agenda of implementing international standards in their daily work.

Now, it is fundamental to continue this process to improve the lives of young people, their families, and their communities in the various countries where we come from or live.

The goal is to provide a special space for young people in which open discussions concerning problems, plans, and proposals will be encouraged and fostered. Participants between the ages of 15-30 are welcome, and any other representative interested in allying with us in our struggle and in our strategy, are also welcome to participate in our open discussion day, to be included in our information sharing network, as well as in the series of parallel events and outside activities during the NGO Forum and the WCAR itself.

This need to have the youth from the width and breadth of the world converging, was born out of a vocal cry by many youth organizations and activists all over claiming that they are always at the receiving end when it comes to their full participation in shaping the destiny of their countries, regions and the world.

With the youth sector constituting a significant proportion of the entire world population, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights feels that their involvement in the upcoming WCAR is of capital importance for the world. Taking note of the great efforts made by so many young people at all regional processes the only answer acceptable was to convene the Summit and to ally with the youth activists in this long struggle.

The International Youth Summit (26th and 27th August) will precede the NGO Forum (28th –30th August, 2001) and the WCAR (31st - 8th September 2001). One of the main objectives of the WCAR and the Summit itself is to develop action oriented mechanism and strategies that strengthen the existing international and national Human Right Framework which the aimed to combat and eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerances. The Youth Summit will also review and assess the achievements made as human beings in eradicating racism, racial discrimination, and xenophobia base on the Programme of Actions and Declarations agree upon during the past two World Conferences. The youth representatives will be able to take advantage of the momentum and use this historical space to also adopt new International Instruments that responds to the changed political and socio-economic conditions in the world of today and during the past decade; also to lay out the basis of a Global Youth Declaration and Programme of Action.

The methodology of the Summit will involve, among other things, a series of trainings on "WCAR and Regional Preparations from a Youth Perspective", as well as sharing information, updating relevant youth events and programs, and developing a strategy and concrete proposals for the involvement and participation of youth during the NGO Forum and perhaps the WCAR.

These methods will guarantee that the priorities of youth with a progressive agenda, from around the world will be taken into consideration both throughout the conference and afterwards in the follow-up and implementation of the Programme of Action.

While we speak, young people from around the world continue to commit themselves to the struggle for the equal distribution of resources between women and men. This is why we consider it important to understand youth's priorities, areas of interest, demands, and proposed solutions, etc. during the WCAR.

The goal of the International Youth Committee is to provide young people a safe and open forum for discussion and equality, as well as to begin the process of establishing and building an International Youth Network.

We therefore look forward to receiving comments, questions, and/or suggestions regarding the work we are developing.

The role we play in the WCAR, as well as in the local and regional meetings, and in our programs and projects we have participated in, is to bring the major concerns of young people to a global level and to the negotiation table.

If you in your capacity as an activist and youth organizer have any suggestions of organizations committed to a similar mission and vision, we would greatly appreciate the name of the organization, the nature of the work they do, their e-mail (if available), the country in which they work, their regional location, and the name of any youth we can contact.

Your participation is greatly needed to help us accomplished our goal!

We look forward to hearing from you in the near future! And making possible your active and effective involvement in this process, we are very much happy to open a space for you, but also to share the already open spaces.

Regional Preparations ~ The Youth Caucus:

The International Youth Summit is the result of continues pressure from gatherings of young people throughout the WCAR preparatory process. During the First Preparatory Committee of the WCAR, a group of young people, recognizing the lack of attendance and involvement of

young people in the process, organized and develop a resolution mandating the full participation of young people in the regional and international organizing bodies of NGOs.

From this gathering a Youth Caucus was formed to assure that young people would remain a critical aspect of the WCAR, and other international processes. As the Youth Caucus progressed, involving hundreds of young people in the Americas, Africa, Europe, and Asia and the Pacific, a committee was formed to ensure that there was full participation from all four regions of the world. The International Youth Committee was established to fulfill this need. However, it is of great importance to know that several regional preparatory meetings have been held and the results and conclusions of each of those meetings is an integral part of the preparations of the Youth Summit. Youth caucuses have advocated for organizing, preparing, and planning the Summit, it has been the regional youth caucuses the ones responsible for proposing what are the issues, the program, and the outside events that will take part of the process of the youth summit.

Since its formation, the members of the Youth Caucus have used a common approach in carrying-out the work of its development, interfacing with the various bodies of the United Nations system, member states, NGOs, community-based organizations, and individuals.

First, the large body of the Youth Caucus meets to determine our goals. Second, teams of members carry-out the work of the Youth Caucus based on the decisions of the large group.

Third, the team reports back on the progress of the work as it connects to the overall goals of the Youth Caucus, and we in a joint effort assess the achievement of the goals.

As a natural aspect of the Youth Caucus' the development of a team of members who accepted the responsibility of implementing the day-to-day functions was formed. The Youth Coordinating team works to ensure that the activities of the Youth Caucus remain in line with the overall purpose of building a Global Youth Network. Since the 2nd Preparatory Committee Session held in Geneva, Switzerland in June 2001, the International Youth Committee decided that the body was going to be a joint one, being now all the responsibilities in the hands of the IYC, its members and ally organizations.

Each regional, satellite, and expert youth meeting conclude it with a Youth Declaration, a Concept Paper, or a Position Paper; that reflected the spirit of the meeting but also the main demands and proposed recommendations. The IYC has compiled all and a Youth Consultation was organized the 28th of May 2001 in the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva. Youth representatives reviewed all youth declarations, and drawn the commonalities and the particularities from each region. As a result of that consultation a proposed structure for the Youth Statement was put forward that consist in a Preamble, a Youth Declaration and the Youth Programme of Action.

The Preamble focusing on providing a framework for youth issues, the Declaration on recognizing, and taking note of the issues, and the Programme of Action in proposing, the strategies and measures to eradicate, redress, compensate, promote the end of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances. The Programme of Action to be divided into eight chapters [Education, Health, Justice / Legal Measure, Environment / Natural Resources, Globalization / Poverty, Media / New Information Technologies / Internet, Intersectionalities / Women / Youth; and United Nations Support and others].

A Draft Youth Statement is been prepared by the IYC that will be available for commentaries, and any appendices of the regional youth documents is also going to be part of the general appendices of the International Youth Summit Declaration.

Organizers:

International Youth Committee

The International Youth Committee (IYC) was developed fill the need of an international body of young people that have been acting has contact people in their own regions to come together around one main objective: organizing the Youth Summit. Together with the United Nations, SANGOCO, and the Youth Caucus, the International Youth Committee has accepted the responsibility of ensuring the success of the Youth Summit and its outcomes.

National Youth Task Team

A support and preparatory committee was established to oversee at the ground all aspects related to the Youth Summit. This Youth Task Team is currently working in collaboration with the Secretariat of the NGO Forum and the International Youth Committee. In order to facilitate the coordination of the Youth Summit different working groups are operating with a specific focus and timeframe.

The working Groups are:

*International Group: Morapedi Lekalakala & Tali Nates morapedi_lek@hotmail.com

*Substance Group: Tali Nates toledu@mweb.co.za

*Program Group: Thabo Sebogodi ksyc@yebo.co.za

*Media Group: Clayton Peters cpeters@icon.co.za

*Finance Group: Clayton Peters & Yaa Ashante Waa ashantewaa@hotmail.com

*Logistics Group: Bonakele Jacobs nrc@mweb.co.za

For the specifics youth activist need to contact their regional contacts that are members of the IYC for more information.

SANGOCO

SANGOCO is the World Secretariat for the NGO Forum. All registrations, accreditations, and any other required documentation for the Youth Summit regarding preparations on the ground in South Africa need to go directly to the Youth Secretariat inside of the SANGOCO Team.

For the specific of the Youth Summit, a Youth Secretariat is in place, coordinated by Mokoke Seshabela saayc@sn.apc.org Director of the Southern African Association of Youth Clubs (SAAYC) that works very closely with the members of the Youth Task Team and the International Youth Committee.

The logistical support of SANGOCO has been fundamental for the development of the International Youth Summit and to ensure the success of the event.

NGO Liaison Office

The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has set an NGO Liaison office as part of the WCAR Secretariat. One of the objectives is to facilitate the information to the civil society and to serve as a bridge between UN officials, and the NGO community. This team has taken young peoples efforts very seriously and as a result a Youth Focal Point - Birgit Van Hout bvanhout.hchr@unog.ch was hired and coordinating efforts are underway.

Financial and Human resources support was provided when organizing several of the Satellite meetings for young people at the regional level, and planning meetings in Geneva. As well as

the provision of technical assistance in the preparations of the International Youth Summit and support to help fund raise for youth participation and involvement at the global level.

Logistical arrangements:

Youth Statement:

On the basis of the regional youth declarations, the International Youth Committee together with the Substance working group will develop and propose to the Youth Summit a Draft Youth Declaration and Programme of Action which will serve as a framework to be discussed by all youth representatives. The statement will be adopted by the International Youth Summit and presented to the Plenary of the NGO Forum and the World Conference against Racism.

The Draft Youth Declaration and Programme of Action will be circulated to all participants to the Youth Summit through the International Youth Committee list serve at

WCAR-YouthSummitt@yahoogroups.com and the regional contacts (who are involve in the drafting process) with a month in advance and an appropriate mechanism will be put in place to ensure all inputs are introduced to the Youth Summit Statement and can be presented for consideration on the 26th of August 2001 in Durban, South Africa.

All youth representatives once they arrived will receive a full information packet that will include a tote bag, a cap, a squeeze water bottle, all documentation for the summit and for the accommodation, and the transportation schedule as well as contact people for any other information and emergencies.

Accreditation

Youth organizations interested in participating in the UN Head of State meeting [1-7 September 2001] and the World Conference Against Racism are encouraged to seek accreditation [application form] from the World Conference Secretariat in Geneva, Switzerland by contacting Ms. Sandra Aragon at saragon.hchr@unog.ch or Laurie Wiseberg at lwiseberg.hchr@unog.ch. Youth who are designated as members of the official government delegations can participate in the World Conference and the Youth Summit after being accredited by their respective governmental missions to the United Nations. Any youth that is coming on Non Governmental Organizations delegations that have ECOSOC status or is accredited for the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance; DOES NOT need to go through a separate accreditation process, their names should be submitted with the list of representatives of that respective NGO. You can contact directly Sarah-Jayne Bodier at sbrodier.hchr@unog.ch at the UNHCHR in the World Conference Secretariat. Please find all required information at www.unhchr.ch

There is no separate accreditation required for attending the Youth Summit and the NGO Forum, all categories whether from a youth organization, and NGO representative and government delegate will have to register for the Youth Summit and cancel their registration fee of US\$100.00 per participant through the NGO Forum Secretariat "SANGOCO".

Registration

It is highly important that all youth delegates to the International Youth Summit fill out a registration form prior to the end of June 2001. The form is been circulated by different regional contacts and through the already established International Youth Committee.

At the moment the fixed registration fee continues to be US\$100.00 per participant. Registration is done through the NGO Forum Secretariat the details are: info@wcar.sangoco.co.za, the registration form is also accessible on the website of the secretariat at: www.racism.org.za

The International Youth Committee and the Youth Task Team does not deal with registration and accreditation and the logistics involved. When registering, please specify that you are also attending the "International Youth Summit" [from 25th to the 27th of August].

* Housing and Accommodation

Several alternatives have been search to help support youth that will be participating in the summit, however, there is up to this moment not a concrete answer of whether the accommodation will be provided for youth participants or not. The possibilities are to host 300 youth in college dormitories, or adometrices centers where you are located in a large room with several people on it.

Tents for young people around the venue of the summit are also a possibility but a definitive response will be available by the end of July 2001.

There is a commitment by the members of the IYC and the YTT to find the appropriate places to located youth, the problem is that base on the academic calendar of South Africa all schools will be in full session.

Food

The necessary arrangements were made for the provision of food and snacks for participants in the summit. Youth will have a right for two –three breakfasts, three lunches, and three dinners, with some intermediary snacks for in between sessions.

Youth from several regions had requested support for food for the following days, during the NGO Forum and the WCAR; there is not a concrete respond in this respect, but great efforts are being made in fund raising to make this possible. Youth representatives should calculated an approximate 30rms per day for expenses, which is approximately 3 to 5 US\$ dollars per day.

Internal transportation

Youth representatives are required to sent in time their arrival and departure information to the Youth Secretariat (SANGOCO), tours from the airport to the accommodation and housing facility where you are going to be located are going to be plan ahead of time. As well as schedule tours from your sleeping place to your meeting place and any outside or plan activity out of the area of meetings will be cover and schedule.

The US\$100.00 registration fee that you are paying to participate will help cover the expenses of the fuel and drivers salary for the days you will stay in town and any other related expense.

You will be assign to a particular bus line, a driver, and supervisors for more control and to help us keep track of any youth in Durban.

Communication and Internet accessibility

Internet and different communication means will be made accessible by providing either addresses of café Internets or the appropriate facility inside of the meetings place. Youth who have access to their private e-mail accounts, or have laptops, computers, printers, or any other equipment can bring it along to help support the team of organizers.

Durban, is a metropolitan area, you can access any communication and information system, however, the IYC and the YTT can financially responds to all requests, such provisions will be made available only for emergency cases on which the need for the communication is urgent.

Side events [seminars, workshops, meetings]

Out of the actual plan Youth Summit agenda, youth organizations and activist should bring along with them any related source of information they will like to share with other young people.

Seminars can be plan base on the proposals made by youth representatives, however, the translation equipment and facility is not going to be made available.

Workshops are mainly going to be concentrated in information sharing sessions, where youth who have not been involve in any regional processes can have access to that information, but also to provide some rules of procedure for the summit, the forum and the actual conference. Any planning or strategy meeting can be plan outside of the formal venue of the summit, either in restaurants, parks, gardens, the beaches, and any other interesting location in the city can be used for those close meetings and open discussions sessions.

It is fundamental for young people to know that translation facilities will only be provided for the formal settings of the summit, and they can start the networking component ahead of time, by asking other youth that will be presence if they are willing to volunteer in providing translation and interpretation to help support your sisters and brothers from other places of the world.

The facilitation and moderation of those meetings can be plan with the regional coordinators that will be elected on the first day of the summit, their role is mainly to coordinate the logistical arrangements of those smalls meetings and to dealt with the provision of information coming from other regions, and role that can be share by many youth.

The days available for activities are the 25th at night, the 26th and the 27th during the sessions or at nights. Also important to note, that if any youth organization is interested in planning any activity for the NGO Forum the WCAR, you will need to direct your requests to SANGOCO for such reservation. The International Youth Committee will be providing support for the daily youth caucus meetings either in the morning hours or at the nighttime during the 16 days of activism that we will plan for in Durban.

Sports and cultural events

A series of cultural events are also plan for different nights during our 16 days of activism.

Approximately 4 different cultural activities, each one under the responsibility of the different regions, their representatives in the International Youth Committee, their regional coordinators or facilitators, and the Youth Task Team who will continues to have the overall picture on any activity on the ground.

Sports events are only at the ideas stage, but there is the possibility of planning a Youth Tournament among the different regional representations. No final word or decision has been made in this respect. Any suggestions please direct your commentaries to the organizers of the event.

Framework for the Program of the International Youth Summit:

Objectives of the International Youth Summit:

The objectives of the Youth Summit are three fold: to create a global network of youth organizations and leaders committed to combating racism, to influence the political decision making process and to serve as a catalyst for action- oriented anti-racism initiatives at the international, regional and national levels with the full involvement and participation of the youth. As well as the above sated objectives. This is a CALL FOR ALL YOUTH to come together to re define a culture of Human Rights in which young people are subjects of rights and not portrayed as the problem or the cause of it, but on the other hand, on which we are portrayed as the large sector of the world who is building new nation-states, who is defining new information technologies, and who is respecting and learning to leave in a world that is diverse, that is both universal and particular when it comes to solutions and problems.

We are the future but most importantly we are the PRESENT!

Message to be transmitted in the International Youth Summit:

The message that will be transmitted in the Youth Summit is nothing else than a reflection of the problems, and the alternative proposed solutions for them that many young people have to face in their lives.

Young people will have different moments on which they can pass a message, but especially on the 27th in the evening. Youth can expect to bring along with them a message that they will like to share with all the other participants. This message should reflect the realities of which you live and give some sense of hope for the improvement and the betterment of those conditions that have been stated.

This message should not be long, no more than a one page and a half so that it can later be included in the "Scrap Book Call" project! Of the Youth Caucus, the idea came from the youth representatives from Latin America and the Caribbean in the Satellite Session in Quito, Ecuador where a conclusion was drawn to our attention. There is a real need to put together youth cases and best practices in our national experiences so it serves as an example for more generations to come after.

Activities of the International Youth Summit:

The activities that are been planned for the Summit are in different formats and at moments the main youth plenary will be used, but most often the youth regional platforms are going to be exercised, as well as the international workshops format or seminar formats to work the eight chapters of the Programme of Action and Declaration of the International Youth Summit.

Youth organizations and individuals will have a moment and a space to bring issues that are of importance at the national level, up to this moment this are the different formats that may be put in place.

- *Main Plenary

- *Youth Regional Platforms

- *National Delegations "National Councils and National Organizations"

- *International Seminars

- *International Workshops

- *Public visits & solidarity activities

- *Cultural activities

- *Sports activities

Activities of the Host country:

It is expected that the host country and some national youth organizations will be part of the programs, but the youth arriving will be visiting schools session, after school programs, and youth projects in the region.

A solidarity activity is plan that consist on a "join sell project ~ a post card" every youth will get a number of postcard and sell it for approximately 1.00 rams to all the other delegates, at the end of the day on the 27th a count, or sum will be made, and all contributions will be turn in as a donation to youth project or shelter.

How to participate in the International Youth Summit!

Participants & Youth representatives in the Youth Summit:

The Youth Summit will welcome NGO youth representatives, activists, human rights workers, youth on government delegations and the entire international community. Some + 500 young

adults are expected to participate. Representing the various geographical regions and with an appropriate gender balance, from all the most discriminated against, excluded from, and marginalized sectors of the society. However, it should be noted that the number is not set in stone, if logistical and financial arrangements are finalized, the number shall be communicated to all youth groups interested in been part of the Youth Summit.

The selection of NGO youth representatives to the Youth Summit will be the sole responsibility of the International Youth Committee in consultation with the youth organizations in their respective regions.

Youth representatives from the different regions need to go through the registration and accreditation process that is already set by the coordinating bodies, this should be done directly through the NGO Forum Secretariat or the WCAR Secretariat. All fees must be cover and all information needs to be provided for specific arrangements.

Furthermore, youth delegations will also be expected to join the NGO Forum that starts on the 28th of August and ends on the 31st August 2001. The idea behind linking up the Youth Summit with the NGO Forum is to strive to integrate youth demands in the Programme of Action of the NGO Community, ensuring in that way the outcome of both forums is complementary to each other.

Quota of Participants from each region

[Equitable geographical distribution] [No. # of countries in the region]

America / South / Central / North / Caribbean: 50 youth representatives.

Asia / Western / Pacific: 50 youth representatives.

Africa/ North / Southern / West / East / Central: 80 youth representatives.

Europe / Eastern/ Western/: 50 youth representatives.

Total: 230 youth representatives from all four regions.

The number is still to be confirm?