CONCEPT NOTE

The High-Level Event “Youth 2030”
To launch the United Nations Youth Strategy
and the Generation Unlimited Partnership

Monday, 24 September 2018
Trusteeship Council Chamber, Conference Building
12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Overview

Today we are facing a critical time in history, with the world seeing the largest generation of young people ever – 1.8 Billion. From the outset of his mandate, the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has made it a priority for the UN System to reset its focus on youth and to reorient and mainstream its activities towards youth.

Building on the unique global convening role of The United Nations and its mandate to serve the world’s peoples, The Secretary General is presenting Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy, aimed at guiding the entire UN-System, as it steps up its work to empower young people to realize their full potential and stand up for their rights and ensure their engagement and participation in the implementation, review and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as other relevant global agendas and frameworks.

The Strategy is owned by all UN system entities and supported by a High-Level Steering Committee chaired by the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth. The launch by the Secretary-General of the UN Youth Strategy offers us a major opportunity to unite and galvanize member states, private sector and civil society to translate this momentum into political action and investment with and for young people.

With the Strategy providing an umbrella for the UN’s work with and for young people, one of the first new actions is launching the Generation Unlimited partnership, a multi-stakeholder partnership initiated by UNICEF that is bringing together UN agencies, private sector, civil society and youth. We are seizing this opportunity to launch this Strategy and Partnership - with new logos, look and feel that have been created in consultation with young people. It will convey the urgency and collaboration needed – working with and for young people.

Expected Outcomes

The expected outcomes of this launch are:

1. Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy is officially launched and introduced to the public and decision makers, leaders, influencers, private sector, foundations and youth organizations and networks are galvanized to invest and voice their support to the
implementation of the Strategy.

2. The Generation Unlimited Partnership is launched as one of the first new actions of the UN Youth Strategy. The partnership will contribute to delivering the UN Youth Strategy, creating synergies across partners to mobilize support and maximize results for young people in three areas - skills development, secondary education and empowerment of girls.

3. Youth voices are amplified to reinforce advocacy for countries to transform the way which they engage young people and apply the principles of meaningful and sustainable youth participation and engagement.

Format

The High Level Event “Youth 2030” on 24 September 2018, will see the launch of Youth 2030: United Nations Youth Strategy by the Secretary-General, and UNICEF’s Generation Unlimited Partnership, marking the beginning a new and improved way of working with and for young people at the UN.

This event will bring together inspiring young people, Heads of State and Government, Private Sector, Civil Society leaders and celebrities, Principles of UN entities, presenting commitments through tangible means, solutions or ideas aiming at facilitating increased global, regional and country level action to address the needs and advance the rights of all young people to build a better, more sustainable and peaceful world, as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Program

Monday, 24 September 2018 - 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

- Launch of the Youth 2030: The United Nations Youth Strategy by the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres; and presentation of Generation Unlimited Partnership
- High-Level Panel chaired by President of the 73rd UN General Assembly, Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa.
- “I Commit” A Plenary session which will present commitments from different public and private sectors.