



International Youth Day 2013
***“A Global Interactive Dialogue on UN Youth Initiatives with the
UN Secretary General, Senior UN Officials and other experts”***

5 August 2013
10-11.30am
Conference Room 4, North Lawn Building, UNHQ

Introduction:

- International Youth Day 2013 represents a unique opportunity to highlight Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon’s firm conviction to work with and for young people.
- The Secretary-General in his Five-Year Action Agenda identified ‘Working with and for Women and Young People’ as one of his top priorities. His agenda calls for “addressing the needs of the largest generation of young people the world has ever known by deepening the youth focus of existing programmes on employment, entrepreneurship, political inclusion, citizenship and protection of rights, and education, including on reproductive health”.
- In 2013 for the first time ever, the entire United Nations has a common System-wide Action Plan on Youth (SWAP), which is intended to enhance coherence on activities around youth development and is guided by the World Programme of Action for Youth.
- In addition, to further his desire to bring the vision, creativity and aspirations of young people to the United Nations, the Secretary General will establish “The United Nations Panel on Youth”.
- Furthermore, to help advance this agenda, the Secretary-General appointed the first ever Envoy on Youth in early 2013 and has called for a UN Youth Volunteer Programme.

- In line with the synergy for which the SWAP on Youth calls, beyond the live conversation with the Secretary-General, senior officials of key UN entities working on youth and youth experts will continue the dialogue with the approximate 500 in person participants and over 125 young people connected from 5 remote locations around the world.

Purpose:

To facilitate an interactive dialogue between the Secretary-General, senior UN officials, youth panellists and young people from remote locations around the world and in New York to reaffirm that the priorities of youth are the most important mission for the 21st Century.

Objectives:

- Celebrate International Youth Day
- Engage close to 500 young people in New York and over 125 from 5 different remote locations with the Secretary General and heads of UN entities on what successful actions on their priorities would look like.
- Introduce progress on implementing Secretary General's 5 year action Plan on Youth, including:
 - Inter-agency Network on Youth and System Wide Action Plan on Youth (SWAP)
 - UN Youth Volunteer Modality
 - Appointment of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and adoption of his work plan
- Introduce participants to upcoming youth initiatives, such as:
 - Launch the Youth Envoy Online Platform and establishment of the UN Panel on Youth
 - UN Regional and Global Youth Forums
 - National Youth Advisory Groups

Partners: IANYD, UNFPA, UN Foundation and young people

The Global Conversation with the UN Secretary General (30 minutes)

- This segment of the event will be an opportunity for young people around the world to interact with the UN Secretary-General, moderated by the Envoy on Youth.
- With the support of the members of the IANYD, DPI and UN Foundation around 500 young people in the New York area will participate in person. There will be over 125 young people connected in 5 remote locations.

- Based on the top priorities for the post 2015 development agenda identified in the top voting countries in My World, young people will define what success would look like regarding specific issues. From the results of My World, the countries and issues would be as follows:
 1. Nigeria (Africa): Better healthcare
 2. India (Asia): A good education
 3. Belgium (Europe): Decent job opportunities
 4. Brazil (Latin America): Protection against crime and violence
 5. Lebanon (Arab States): An honest and responsive government
- With the support of UNFPA Country Offices, during the second week of July, 25-30 young people from each of these countries will be invited to define a creative asks/actions of what success would be in achieving their respective priority in their community, country or region.
- They will also prepare short summary statement/action to be presented by their spokesperson during the live conversation to the Secretary-General.
- On the day of the event **5 August**, the young people will be connected live, by UN Offices, to the global conversation with the Secretary-General.
- The Envoy on Youth will open and moderate the conversation between the Secretary-General and each one of the regions plus two interventions from the participants in New York.
- One young person per region will be given the floor at a time to make a short statement/call for action to the Secretary General. The Secretary-General will respond one at a time.

The Global Conversation with the Heads of UN Agencies (60 minutes)

- After the Secretary-General leaves the room, the conversation will continue for 1 more hour with Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of UNFPA, Ms. Lakshmi Puri, Acting Head of UN Women, and Ms. Sima Bahous, ASG and Regional Director for Arab States of UNDP. Mr. Charles Dan, ILO Special Representative on Youth and Social Inclusion, a young activist, the over 125 young people connected remotely and the 500 in New York. The Envoy on Youth will moderate this conversation.
- This segment presents an opportunity to showcase the coherent approach of key UN entities to working with young people and improving the well-being of young people from the perspective of their respective mandates. This will be a fluid and direct conversation between global youth and the Panellists.

- The heads of UN entities, youth panellists and Envoy on Youth will be organised in the centre of the conference room in a “Davos Style” format. They will engage in an interactive conversation with both the young people in the room and those connected remotely. The young people connected remotely would have met mid-July to discuss what actions/success would look like for their communities, countries and/or regions around the above mentioned topics. They will be given the floor one region at a time to pose their questions/calls for action to the panellists, who will in turn respond one at a time. The comments from the New York participants will be peppered throughout.
- The Global Conversation will be webcast live and heavily promoted in social media, enabling a continued interaction with young people throughout the world.