

**General information note on the
Ten-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth**

Revised 27 September 2005

1) Official meetings and related events

The United Nations General Assembly will commemorate the tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) in the fall of 2005. In its most recent resolution on youth policies and programmes (A/RES/59/148), the General Assembly decided to hold the following two events in relation to the ten-year review of WPAY:

6 October 2005 – Plenary meetings of the General Assembly

The General Assembly will hold two plenary meetings on 6 October, one in the morning and one in the afternoon, devoted to the evaluation of progress made in the implementation of the WPAY. During these meetings, Member States will present their views on this topic. Youth organizations and representatives are invited to observe the plenary meetings, however please refer to the document “Arrangements for participation of NGO Representatives” prepared by the NGO Section of the Division for Social Policy and Development, DESA (available at www.un.org/youth).

5 October 2005 – Interactive Roundtable on “Making Commitments Matter”

The General Assembly has also decided to hold, prior to the plenary meetings, an informal, interactive roundtable discussion on the theme “Young People: Making Commitments Matter”. The roundtable discussion will be open to the participation of all Member States, observers, organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental youth organizations.

4 October 2005 - Launch of the “World Youth Report 2005” and other events

Beyond these events, the ten-year review of the WPAY presents an excellent opportunity to highlight the implementation of the Programme of Action in concrete and practical ways, as well as to reinvigorate greater commitment to work towards a better, more secure future for young people worldwide.

The United Nations Programme on Youth will launch its publication called “World Youth Report 2005” on Tuesday, 4 October 2005, as part of this week’s events. In cooperation with Member States, UN Agencies and Programmes, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations, the Programme on Youth has also organized a series of other events throughout the week. Please note that the deadline to request a side event during this week was 30 August 2005 and we can no longer consider additional requests.

A complete programme of official meetings and side events is available at www.un.org/youth under the pull down menu “Our Work > WPAY+10”.

2) Expected Official Outcome

It is likely that during the plenary meetings, the General Assembly will adopt a resolution that reaffirms the World Programme of Action for Youth and stresses the importance of the Programme's effective implementation. The resolution will be negotiated by Members States prior and during the plenary meetings.

3) Accreditation and Pre-registration

In resolution 59/148, the General Assembly decided to facilitate access to United Nations Headquarters of non-governmental organizations to participate in the informal round-table discussions and side events to be held during the tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action. This includes:

- a) All non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- b) Non-governmental organizations that were accredited to the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998
- c) Interested non-governmental organizations that are neither in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) nor were accredited to the World Conference

To assist in making the necessary arrangements, organizations wishing to attend the General Assembly meetings and the roundtable discussion must have pre-registered on or before **12 September 2005**.

Due to seating limitations, there may be a need to limit the number of representatives from one organization to observe the plenary meetings of the General Assembly. Upon successful pre-registration, youth organizations have been sent a letter of confirmation for each representative, which contained further information about registration upon arrival at UN Headquarters.

4) Funding, accommodations and other logistics

Please note that the United Nations Secretariat is unable to assist your organization in covering the costs of travel, accommodation, or other expenses of youth representatives wishing to attend these events. Participants must make their own arrangements for accommodations in New York.

The UN Programme on Youth has compiled a short list of some of the hotels where youth delegates have stayed in the past. Please note that these hotels are offered for information's sake and are neither recommended nor endorsed the Programme on Youth. They include:

- The Vanderbilt YMCA 224 East 47th St. New York, NY 10017 Phone:(212) 756-9600 Fax: (212) 752-0210, starting at \$85.00 a night with shared bathroom. This is a five minute walk from the UN, very convenient. Reservations can be made online with a credit card.
- Hostelling International, 891 Amsterdam Avenue, NY 10025 (<http://www.hostels.com/en/availability.php/HostelNumber.1850>) Prices start at \$35.00 for a four-person dorm room. There are mail and female dorm.
- Pickwick Arms, (<http://www.pickwickarms.com>) 230 E. 51st Street, +1-212-355-0300, \$114/night, with current winter specials. Quite close to the UN too.
- The Seafarers International, 123 East 15th Street, NY. This is located near Union Square and is approximately a 15-minute subway ride from the UN. Rates start at \$120.00 a night for a single room.

- The Bedford Hotel (<http://www.bedfordhotel.com>) 40th Street between Lexington and Park, +1-800-221-6881, starting at \$135.00 a night. This is approximately a 15-minute walk to the UN.
- Radisson Lexington Hotel New York, (http://www.radisson.com/newyorkny_lexington) 511 Lexington Ave, New York, starting at \$175.00 a night.

5) Visa and Insurance arrangements

You will need a valid passport in order to enter the United States. You may also need an entry visa. Please contact the consular section of the nearest United States of America Embassy to determine your entry requirements for the United States. It is best to determine this information well in advance of your travel.

The letter of confirmation sent to pre-registered participants may be used to support visa applications. Beyond provision of this confirmation letter, the United Nations Secretariat is unable to assist with any related visas requirements.

Participants are also recommended to arrange for insurance coverage, including life, health and other forms you deem necessary, during their stay abroad.

6) Staying informed

If your organization cannot attend the meetings and events related to WPAY+10, but would like to stay informed of the process and related outcomes, please subscribe to the UN Youth Flash. The UN Youth Flash is an electronic information service provided free of charge and available in English, French and Spanish. All available information about the ten-year review of WPAY will be circulated via this service. To subscribe, please send a request to youth@un.org with the word “Subscribe” as the subject.

7) Briefing session for registered participants

In order to ensure the effective participation of youth organizations and youth representatives during the meetings and related events of the ten-year review of WPAY, welcome and briefing sessions for NGOs will take place on both the 3rd and 4th of October 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room A.

8) Official youth delegates

Youth participation in the events related to the ten-year review of WPAY is also made possible through youth representatives in national delegations to the General Assembly. Resolution 59/148 urges Member States to consider being represented by youth delegate to address the plenary meetings of the General Assembly, as well as during the informal round-table discussion.

For more information on official youth delegates to the meetings of the General Assembly, please consult www.un.org/youth under the pull down menu “Opportunities”.

9) Related documentation

There will be three official documents of the General Assembly specifically related to youth at the sixtieth session. These include:

- Report of the Secretary General entitled “World Youth Report 2005”

In resolution 58/133, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide it at its sixtieth session with a comprehensive evaluation of the implementation since 1995 of the priority areas identified in WPAY. The World Youth Report responds to this request and provides recommendations for future global youth policies.

- Report of the Secretary-General on “Making Commitments Matter –Young People’s inputs to the ten-year review of the World Programme of Action for Youth”

In resolution 59/148, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to provide an overview of inputs received from young people for the review of the Programme of Action. This report is a synopsis of the contributions collected from young people, through both consultative meetings as well as in response to a booklet entitled “Making Commitments Matter: A Toolkit for Young People to Evaluate National Youth Policy”.

- Report of the Secretary-General on “Global analysis and evaluation of national action plans on youth employment”

In resolution 58/133, the General Assembly invited the Secretary-General to provide a global analysis and evaluation of existing national action plans on youth employment. The report contains an analysis and evaluation of 39 national action plans on youth employment. It draws a series of conclusions from this analysis and concludes with recommendations regarding the role of the Secretary-General’s Youth Employment Network (YEN) as a mechanism for an enhanced peer exchange, support and review mechanism for catalysing action on youth employment at the national and global levels.

All documentation related to the World Programme of Action for Youth and its ten-year review, are available at www.un.org.youth under the pull down menu “Resources”.

10) Directions to United Nations Headquarters

United Nations Headquarters is located in 1st Avenue between 42nd and 46th street. (Mark by the star on the map below). The visitors’ entrance is located at 45th street.



BY SUBWAY: The closest subway station is Grand Central Station. Subway lines 4, 5, 6 and 7 connect to this station. Walk East upon exiting the station towards 1st Ave.

BY BUS: Closest bus routes include the M15, M27, M42, or the M104.

For more information on public transit for New York City, please consult: <http://www.mta.nyc.ny.us/>

Transportation into Manhattan from JFK, La Guardia and Newark airports

From John F. Kennedy International Airport (taxi or airport bus):

- **By taxi:** There is a flat (non-metered) fare of approximately \$30 from JFK to anyplace in Manhattan. To this fare may be added the cost of a toll for the bridge or tunnel into Manhattan, depending on the route taken by the driver (the cost of the toll is approximately \$5.00). The rate is per car, not per person, and does not include tip (customarily 10– 15%).
- **By bus:** There are frequent departures by the New York Airport Service bus from outside each terminal at JFK. It costs approximately \$15 one-way, and takes about 60 minutes to reach Grand Central Terminal, at 42nd Street and Park Avenue. Many hotels are within walking distance, yet those unfamiliar with New York City are advised to take a taxi to their hotel.

From La Guardia Airport (taxi or airport bus):

- **By taxi:** Fares from La Guardia are determined by meter, which the driver should set when the trip begins. The fare to midtown Manhattan will be approximately \$25. To this fare may be added the cost of a toll for the bridge or tunnel into Manhattan, depending on the route taken by the driver (the cost of the toll is approximately \$5.00). The rate is per car, not per person, and does not include tip (customarily 10 - 15%).
- **By bus:** Bus departures are frequent from outside each terminal at La Guardia. It costs approximately \$10 one-way, and takes about 30 minutes to reach Grand Central Terminal, at 42nd Street and Park Avenue. Many hotels are within walking distance, yet those unfamiliar with New York City are advised to take a taxi to their hotel.

From Newark International Airport (taxi, airport bus or train):

- **By taxi:** Fares from Newark to Manhattan are non-metered and determined by the airport taxi dispatcher before the trip begins based on the specific destination. The fare to midtown Manhattan will be approximately 40-45\$. To the fare may be added the cost of a toll for the bridge or tunnel into Manhattan, depending on the route taken by the driver (the cost of the toll is approximately \$6.00). The rate is per car, not per person, and does not include tip (customarily 10– 15%). Only use taxis at authorized taxi stands.
- **By bus:** Olympia Airport Express bus (approximately \$10 one-way) goes to the Port Authority Bus Terminal at 42nd Street and Eighth Avenue, or to the vicinity of Grand Central Terminal, at 41st Street and Lexington Avenue. Many hotels are within walking distance, yet those unfamiliar with New York City are advised to take a taxi to their hotel.
- **By train:** The Newark AirTrain runs frequently from the airport terminals to Newark International Airport Station from which connections on New Jersey Transit trains to New York Penn Station are available. A one-way ticket from the airport to New York is approximately 11\$ and the trip takes about 45 minutes in total. Due to problems of traffic congestion, particularly during peak hours, this is often the most reliable connection to New York City. From New York Penn Station, which is located at 7th avenue and 33rd street, it is advised to take a taxi to the hotel.