

UN YOUTH FLASH

Service of the United Nations Programme on Youth

13 April 2005

WELCOME to the UN Youth Flash, a service of the UN Programme on Youth, keeping you up to date on the youth agenda of the UN and partnering youth organizations around the world. We encourage you to forward this Youth Flash to people in your network. Below you will read more on:

- News from UN Headquarters in New York
- News from UN Agencies around the world
- Feature: the new website of the UN Programme on Youth
- Calendar of Youth Events
- Interesting websites

News from UN Headquarters in New York

To read the UN Youth Flash in Spanish, visit:
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/documents/flashapril05s.pdf>

Visit the NEW WEBSITE of the Programme on Youth at: www.un.org/youth

>> Theme for International Youth Day: "Making Commitments Matter"
On 12 August, young people around the world will celebrate International Youth Day. This year's theme is: "Making Commitments Matter - the tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth". Youth around the world are encouraged to celebrate their role in society and to review what their countries have achieved in youth development in the past ten years. The Website of the Programme on Youth will list various events taking place that day. To add your event, send an email to youth@un.org. More info can be found on: <http://www.un.org/youth>

>> Final reminder: submit your WPAY evaluation before 30 April <<
Please be reminded that the deadline to submit your evaluation of the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth is 30 April. Inputs received before the deadline will be considered for a report that is submitted to the General Assembly. The Toolkit "Making Commitments Matter" is developed to support youth in this review process. You can download the Toolkit for free in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese on <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/untoolkit.htm>. You can send your inputs via email to youth@un.org or via fax to +1 212 963 3062.

News from UN Agencies around the world

The World Bank's World Development Report 2007 will be on youth! More information will follow in due course.

Feature: New website UN Programme on Youth

Last year, the youth delegates to the General Assembly suggested to the UN Programme on Youth to change its website, to make it more 'youth-friendly' and easier to navigate. The challenge was taken on and soon a New York based young designer was hired to create our new site. The result can be seen at: <http://www.un.org/youth>

Some of its features:

>> The site is available in English, French, Spanish and Russian (not all pages are translated yet).

>> The calendar of UN events for youth offers an up-to-date overview of important activities.

>> Under 'resources' you will find free downloads of the latest documents, including resolutions and World Youth Reports.

>> Also under 'resources' you will find many links to youth ministries of governments, UN Agencies, and youth organizations in the world. Suggestions to add or remove organizations can be sent to: youth@un.org.

>> Info on International Youth Day can be found under 'our work'. You can share information about your planned events via this page.

>> Most frequently asked questions are answered.

>> There is a special section on 'opportunities for young people', which includes info on internships, youth delegates, volunteering and organizing a model UN.

>> You can read more about the people currently working at the Programme on Youth.

>> and much more ...

Let us know what you think of this new site, email us at youth@un.org!

Calendar of Youth Events

NB: Some events are open for participation by invitation only

>> 11-22 April 05: "Commission on Sustainable Development"
Water, sanitation and human settlements are on the agenda of the 13th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Youth are one of the "major groups" participating in the Commission's work. Some of the activities on youth issues:

- The inputs of young people to the Commission will be coordinated through the Youth Caucus. The Caucus is composed of representatives of youth organizations and youth delegates. The latter form part of the official delegation of their country to the UN.
 - 18 April, 6.15-7.45 PM: SustainUS and the UN Programme on Youth host a side event on "Youth in Sustainable Development Science: the 2005 Citizen Scientists".
 - 19 April, 1.15-2.45 PM, conference room 8: The UN Programme on Youth will host an open discussion on the role of young people in achieving the MDGs. The discussion will highlight some of the main points from the paper "Youth and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs): Challenges and Opportunities for Implementation" (<http://www.mdgyouthpaper.org/>).
- More info on the CSD: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/csd13/csd13.htm>

>> 15-17 April 05: "Global Youth Service Day"

Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is an annual global event led by Youth Service America with the Global Youth Action Network. The goals of GYSD are: to build the capacity of organizations to promote youth participation, service, and learning; to educate the public, the media, and policy-makers about the year-round contributions of youth around the world; to mobilize youth and adults to meet the needs of their communities through volunteering; and to share effective practices in youth service and civic engagement. On Global Youth Service Day, millions of young people in countries everywhere highlight and carry out thousands of community improvement projects. Visit: <http://www.GYSD.org>

>> 22-24 April 05: "re:Act Perspectives on and methods for interaction in a global neighbourhood"

Arboga, Sweden. The National Board of Swedish Youth Organizations (LSU) and the Swedish National Commission for UNESCO organize "re:Act - Perspectives on and methods for interaction in a global neighbourhood" - a global conference for people between 15-30 years old from all over the world, who are active in organizations. The aim is to provide the delegates with a smorgasbord of workshops and lectures on contemporary issues such as democracy, Human Rights and environmental sustainability, how to improve organizational accessibility and how organizations succeed in reaching their goals. For more info: <http://www.youthinteraction.net>, or contact Johan Genneby at johan.genneby@lsu.se

>> 30 April 05: "Deadline submissions review WPAY"

In 2005, the United Nations General Assembly will review the achievements made in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY), ten years after its adoption. Your input is important! Reviews received from young people before 30 April 2005 will be considered into a report that will be submitted to the General Assembly. To assist you in this review, the United Nations Programme on Youth has developed the booklet "Making Commitments Matter, a toolkit for young people to evaluate national youth policy". You can download this toolkit from <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/untoolkit.htm>

>> 9-12 May 05: "Pacific Youth MDG Summit"

UNDP, Apia, Samoa. The Pacific Youth MDG Summit is organized by Youth for a Sustainable Future (YSF), a group of young people in the Pacific, together with the UNDP office in Samoa. The Summit will bring together 60 delegates

from 20 countries to empower youth living in the South Pacific to take positive actions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). For more info: <http://www.peacechild.org/ysf>

>> 15-19 June 05: "African Development Forum V devoted to youth issues" UNCC, Addis Ababa. The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) brings together stakeholders in Africa's development - including heads of state, ministers, heads of international organizations, civil society leaders, research institutes and Nobel Laureates - to debate and discuss policy alternatives and emerging strategic issues for Africa's development. In order to put the issue of youth on the African development agenda, the fifth African Development Forum will be devoted to youth development issues. For more information, please contact: Kwabia Boateng, Office of Policy and Programme Coordination, UN ECA, kboateng@uneca.org.

>> 30 July - 08 August 05: "3rd World Youth Congress" Stirling, Scotland. Peace Child International (PCI), together with its worldwide network of some 700 partner groups in 155 countries, will organize a third World Youth Congress on the theme: "Young people working for a sustainable world community". The first Congress was held in Hawaii in 1999 and the second in Morocco in 2003. The Congress series provides a forum for young people who are active in development/poverty eradication, to meet and develop their network. Anyone between the ages of 18 and 25 can apply and attendance is free! For more information, please visit <http://www.scotland2005.org>

>> 12 August 05: "International Youth Day" This year's theme will be: "Making Commitments Matter - the tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth". Youth around the world are encouraged to celebrate their role in society and to review what their countries have achieved in youth development in the past ten years. The Website of the Programme on Youth will list various events taking place that day. To add your event, send an email to youth@un.org. More info on: <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/iyouthday.htm>

>> 30 Sept-2 Oct 05: "Fourth UNESCO Youth Forum" UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. The fourth UNESCO Youth Forum will form an integral part of the 33rd UNESCO General Conference - the highest decision-making body of the Organization. [The Youth Forum](#) will be a unique opportunity for young people to express and exchange their ideas, make their voices heard and ensure their views are integrated in UNESCO's programmes and policies. More info: http://portal.unesco.org/unesco/ev.php?URL_ID=21069&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&reload=1105960886

>> 6 October 05: "Evaluation of the World Programme of Action for Youth" UN Headquarters, New York. The UN World Programme of Action for Youth will be evaluated by the General Assembly during two plenary meetings. Youth organizations are not able to participate, but can attend if they have an entrance pass to the UN building. The day before the plenary meetings, an informal interactive round-table discussion will be organized on the theme "Young people: making commitments matter", which will be open to participation by non-governmental youth organizations. A summary of this round-table will be presented by a youth representative from a Member State

to the General Assembly at the beginning of the plenary meetings the next day. More information can be found at:
<http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unyin/ga60.htm>

Interesting websites

>> UNFPA/UNAIDS: Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS <<
The Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS is an alliance of close to 600 youth and adult allies around the world working to fight the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. The coalition was initially proposed by youth attendees of the XIV International AIDS Conference in Barcelona 2002 and the XV International AIDS Conference in Bangkok 2004, and has grown to include other youth leaders in HIV/AIDS. The Coalition prioritizes building capacity, sharing knowledge and best practices, advocating to increase political commitment to fighting HIV/AIDS, and preparing for international conferences, especially the Toronto International AIDS Conference in 2006. Please visit:
<http://www.youthaidscoalition.org>

>> UK Youth Delegates to the General Assembly <<
UN Member States have adopted various resolutions that encourage youth participation at the UN by including young people in official delegations to General Assembly meetings. In October 2005, the United Kingdom will send a youth representative for the first time. You can learn more about the recruitment process by visiting the website:
http://www.mcsource.net/sites/uk_un_youth_delegate/Index.aspx

>> TakingITGlobal web special on the MDGs <<
With support of the UN Millennium Campaign, the youth NGO TakingITGlobal launched an attractive multimedia theme page on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The site offers a MDG Card Game to test your knowledge (you can win a prize package!). There are MDG e-cards to send to friends. Action blogs give young people the chance to post their work on the MDGs and help others in finding an idea that suits them. As part of this monthly theme, TakingITGlobal also launched an art and writing contest on the MDGs. Submissions for the contests are due by 31 May. Visit the site at
<http://mdg.takingitglobal.org>.

Contact information

UN Youth Flash is a free service of the UN Programme on Youth, of the Division for Social Policy and Development, within the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) at the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

Currently working with the programme are Joop Theunissen (Focal Point on Youth), Fred Doulton (Associate Social Affairs Officer), Julie Larsen (Associate Social Affairs Officer), Charlotte van Hees (Associate Expert on

Youth Policies and Programmes), Sylvie Pailler (Administrative Assistant) and Eyyub Hajiyeu (intern).

To subscribe and unsubscribe to the information service, please send an email to: youth@un.org, with 'subscribe' or 'unsubscribe' as the subject line.

>>>>>>>>>> VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT <http://www.un.org/youth> <<<<<<<<<<<<