

International Youth Day - 12 August



Youth at the United Nations
www.un.org/youth



2005

Making Commitments Matter: 10 years since the World Programme of Action for Youth

This is an important year for youth at the United Nations. This year marks the 60th Session of the United Nations General Assembly that will have special meetings on youth issues. During the Assembly, Governments will review the achievements in the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY) since 1995.

Within two months of International Youth Day 2005, in early October, Governments will be getting together to make decisions that affect the lives of young people for years to come. So, now is the time to begin planning and lobbying Governments. Use the Day to make the voices of young people heard!

Two concrete ideas to commemorate the Day

1. Identify areas for priority action

Choose from the following 15 topics:

Education, Employment, Hunger and poverty, Health, Environment, Drug abuse, Juvenile delinquency, Leisure-time activities, Girls and young women, Participation, Globalization, Information and Communication Technologies, HIV/AIDS, Youth and Conflict, and Intergenerational Relations.



Use the **UN Toolkit: Making Commitments Matter** to evaluate your country's national youth policy regarding any one or more topics. Visit our web site and download a copy

of the UN Toolkit, available in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese.

2. Send a youth delegate to the United Nations

Plan a strategy to select a youth delegate to represent your country's young people at this year's session of the General Assembly at UN Headquarters in New York. Learn more from previous youth delegates to the United Nations and see how you can make this happen by visiting our website.

celebrate youth!

Team-up!

It is a great opportunity to rally support and get key actors involved - Governments, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, businesses, and young people - to focus on what has been done to further the World Programme of Action for Youth.

Organize!

Hold forums, public discussions and information campaigns in support of young people focusing on youth issues and how they can be addressed.

Celebrate!

Plan and organize performances everywhere to showcase - and celebrate - the fact that youth contribute to the societies in which they live. Convene exchanges and dialogues focusing on the rich and varied skills, interests and aspirations of young people.

Take action!

A major focus of the Day is practical action to further encourage the empowerment and participation of youth in the processes and decisions that affect their lives. The media have especially important role to play in support of the observance of the Day to promote public awareness of youth issues.

Send us your plans and ideas on how you will be commemorating International Youth Day in your country: youth@un.org.

Contact us for more information:

United Nations Focal Point on Youth
Programme on Youth
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
DC2-1318, 2 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017.
E-mail us at: youth@un.org