



Network Launch Event



Monday, 15 April 2024
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
New York local time



Conference Room 8
GA Building, UN Headquarters
and Online via Zoom

BACKGROUND

To take place in a hybrid format under the theme "**Building Tomorrow's Leaders Today: Fostering Youth's Ownership for Africa's Future-Ready Leadership**," the United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) is organizing a launch event of "Africa's Youth Voices" (AYV), a network the Office will coordinate to ensure African youth's perspectives are embedded in its policy analysis, advisory and advocacy activities. The establishment of this network aligns with OSAA's mandate to advance Africa's interests and priorities on the global stage.

Recognizing the immense potential and invaluable perspectives of young Africans in accelerating the continent's sustainable development towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union's Agenda 2063, OSAA aims to establish AYV as a global network to amplify the voices of young Africans, bring their expertise and knowledge of the African context to the centre of multilateralism and harness a youth-led movement to influence more equitable policymaking. This is in line with the calls of the Secretary-General to implement "multilateral solutions for a better tomorrow" and his leadership in organizing the "Summit of the Future."

DRAFT PROGRAMME

OPENING REMARKS

- Cristina Duarte, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, United Nations

SETTING THE STAGE

- H.E. Mr. Max Andonirina Fontaine, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Madagascar
- H.E. Ms. Emma Theofelus, Minister of Information, Communication and Technology of Namibia
- H.E. Ms. Devika Vidot, Minister of Investment, Entrepreneurship and Industry of the Seychelles

INTERGENERATIONAL FIRESIDE CHAT

Co-hosts

- Cristina Duarte, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, United Nations
- Felipe Paullier, Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs, United Nations

Panellists

- Ms. Rakiya Abby-Farrah, Co-President, African Global Health Network
- Ms. Yasmina Benslimane, Founder, Politics4Her
- Mr. Kenneth Kungania, Executive Director, National African Student Association
- Mr. Ahmed Bening Wiisichong, Secretary-General, Pan-African Youth Union

Discussants

- Permanent Representatives
- Other officials and delegates from Member States
- Principals from the United Nations and external entities

CLOSING REMARKS

- Felipe Paullier, Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs, United Nations



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