



**High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth  
“World Programme of Action for Youth at 30: Accelerating global progress through intergenerational collaboration”**

Thursday, 25 September 2025

United Nations Headquarters, New York

**CONCEPT NOTE**

The high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth under the theme “World Programme of Action for Youth at 30: Accelerating global progress through intergenerational collaboration.”, will be convened by the President of the General Assembly on Thursday, 25 September 2025 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York during the general debate of the Assembly at its eightieth session, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [79/289](#).

**Background**

The World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 50/81 of 14 December 1995 and 62/126 of 18 December 2007, provides Member States with a useful policy framework and practical guidelines for improving the situation of youth. It covers fifteen youth priority areas, contains proposals for action in each of these areas, and has served as a framework for national and international efforts to address the needs and aspirations of young people.

Today, the world is home to 1.2 billion young people (15-24 years old), with nearly half of the global population under the age of 30. Young people play a vital and positive role in advancing peace and security, promoting sustainable development and human rights, and driving progress across societies. Their full, effective, and meaningful participation in policymaking and decision-making is not only essential, but also indispensable to building a more just, equitable, and sustainable world as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Young people are key to identifying new solutions to secure the transformative changes our world urgently needs. However, they are also particularly affected by global issues, including persisting inequalities, ongoing conflicts, and digital transformations. As future custodians of the planet, they also stand to lose the most if societies become more insecure and unequal and if the climate crisis continues unabated.

The thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, as the first-ever high-level meeting on youth taking place during the General Assembly high-level week and mandated by Member States, marks a decisive moment to advance the global youth agenda and place youth



affairs high on the agenda of the General Assembly. This milestone also coincides with other important moments: the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, one year since the adoption of the [Pact for the Future](#), three years since the adoption of the General Assembly resolution 76/306 on the establishment of the [UN Youth Office](#), the acceleration of the [UN Youth Strategy \(Youth2030\)](#), the [30th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#), the [10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN Security Council resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security](#), and the final five years to achieve the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#).

### **Objective**

The high-level meeting will serve as a global platform to address the challenges young people face in realizing their full potential and human rights while strengthening the political commitment to policies and programmes involving youth and promoting meaningful youth participation at both national and international levels. Recognizing that young people are essential drivers of innovation, economic growth, peace and social progress, the meeting will emphasize how investing in youth creates a multiplier effect to the benefit of the entire society. By empowering young people to participate meaningfully in decision-making processes, nations can harness their fresh perspectives and transformative energy to build more resilient, inclusive, and forward-thinking communities that serve all generations.

The meeting will also provide an opportunity for sharing perspectives, experiences, and good practices to advance the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth as well as for identifying challenges and proposing actionable solutions to accelerate progress in advancing the youth agenda globally through intergenerational collaboration.

### **Format**

The high-level meeting will consist of an opening segment, a plenary segment for general discussion, two intergenerational multi-stakeholder panel discussions and a closing segment. The panels will address the following themes:

#### **Panel 1: Advancing implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to leave no one behind.**

##### *Guiding Questions:*

- **Question 1:** What progress has been made in implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth since its adoption? What are the most pressing remaining gaps, especially to ensure no youth is left behind?



- **Question 2:** What good practices or national policies have successfully supported the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth? How could they be potentially replicated?
- **Question 3:** How can intergenerational and multistakeholder partnerships contribute to accelerating the promises of the World Programme of Action for Youth while building synergies with other intergovernmental commitments such as the 2030 Agenda, the Pact for the Future, and the Declaration on Future Generations?
- **Question 4:** What resources and investments are needed to scale up the efforts to implement the World Programme of Action for Youth to leave no one behind and advance youth affairs at all levels?
- **Question 5:** How can the World Programme of Action for Youth remain relevant to today's challenges—such as climate change, digital transformation, peace building and address ongoing conflicts?

**Panel 2: Full, effective and meaningful youth participation, at national and international levels, for the benefit of current and future generations.**

*Guiding Questions:*

- **Question 1:** What progress has been made in advancing the full, effective, and meaningful participation of youth at international and national levels? What are the biggest remaining gaps, especially to ensure no youth is left behind?
- **Question 2:** What good practices or national policies have successfully supported the full, effective, and meaningful participation of youth in policymaking and decision-making processes? How could they be potentially replicated?
- **Question 3:** What role do youth-led organizations, networks, and movements play in shaping national and international policies? How can they be better supported and strengthened?
- **Question 4:** How can intergenerational collaboration and leadership help accelerate progress in advancing the youth agenda globally?
- **Question 5:** How can we ensure full, effective, and meaningful youth participation at international and national levels, building on the World Programme of Action for Youth, the Pact for the Future, and other intergovernmental commitments?



### **Programme outline:**

<b><u>Time</u></b>	<b><u>Segment</u></b>
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. CR-4	Opening segment
9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CR-4	Plenary segment
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CR-3	Panel 1: Advancing implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to leave no one behind.
12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Lunch break
2:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. CR-4	Plenary segment
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. CR-3	Panel 2: Full, effective and meaningful youth participation, at national and international levels, for the benefit of current and future generations.
5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. CR-4	Closing segment

A detailed programme will be circulated in due course.

### **Participation**

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 79/289, Member States, members of the United Nations specialized agencies and observers of the General Assembly are invited to participate in the high-level meeting, including the panels, at the level of Head of State or Government or at the highest possible level.

Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies are strongly encouraged to include in their delegations to the high-level meeting, as appropriate, youth, representatives of relevant stakeholders, such as parliamentarians, representatives of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, youth-led and youth-focused organizations, Indigenous Peoples, persons with disabilities, people of African descent, community organizations and faith-based organizations, academic institutions, representatives of workers and employers and the private sector, with due regard to gender balance.

The list of speakers for the **plenary segment** of the high-level meeting will open through the edeleGATE portal on **Tuesday, 26 August at 10 a.m. and close on Thursday, 18 September at 5 p.m.**



The time limits for statements at the plenary segment will be three minutes for individual delegations and five minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of States, which will be strictly enforced by means of automatic microphone cut-off.

The two **intergenerational multi-stakeholder panel discussions** will not have a pre-established list of speakers. However, for planning purposes, Member States will be invited to express their interest to participate in **one of the panel discussions** of the high-level meeting through the edeleGATE portal beginning on **Wednesday, 27 August, at 10 a.m. until Friday, 12 September, at 5 p.m.**

To provide an opportunity for maximum participation given the short duration of the panel discussions, the time limit for all interventions will be three minutes, which will be strictly enforced by means of automatic microphone cut-off.

The United Nations Webcast services will provide live streaming coverage of the meeting as well as on-demand coverage (recorded video) in all six UN official languages plus floor language, through the UN Web TV website at: <http://webtv.un.org>.

### **Outcome**

As mandated by General Assembly resolution [79/289](#), the President of the General Assembly will prepare a concise summary of the high-level meeting and bring the summary to the attention of Member States, relevant United Nations entities and other stakeholders.

### **Accessibility arrangements**

Delegations are requested to inform the Secretariat of the accessibility requirements of their delegates to facilitate participation in meetings. Upon request, adjustments can be made to seating arrangements with a view to enabling the participation of persons with disabilities. For individual requests, please contact the Meetings Support Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (email: [accessibilitycentre@un.org](mailto:accessibilitycentre@un.org); phone: 212 963 7348/9) no later than three working days prior to the meeting.

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