



Youth for Alliance of Civilizations:

Promoting Dialogue, building a Culture of Peace

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Global Youth Solidarity Fund and Programme



Alliance of Civilizations
تحالف الحضارات



Youth Cooperation for Culture of Peace and Dialogue

Survey Results and Proposal

Global Youth Solidarity
Fund and Programme

September 2006

FOREWORD

BY FEDERICO MAYOR

I am very pleased to introduce this survey of youth and youth organizations addressed to decision-makers of the generation now in power: government and United Nations officials and diplomats, business leaders, donors, leaders of civil society organizations, teachers and school and university officials, community leaders, parents, etc.

As one of those decision-makers, now co-chair of the Alliance of Civilizations Initiative at the United Nations, and formerly the Director-General of UNESCO when the Culture of Peace became a priority of the United Nations System, I welcome this report and I believe that the demands of youth expressed in these pages should be accorded priority in all our deliberations.

This corresponds to the decision of the world's leaders, meeting at the United Nations in September 2005, which identified the Culture of Peace and Dialogue and Alliance of Civilizations as major priorities for the coming years. In paragraph 144 of their Summit Statement they welcomed the Alliance Initiative and said, "We commit to take action to promote a culture of peace and dialogue at local, national, regional and international levels, and request the Secretary-General to explore enhancing implementation mechanisms and to follow up on those initiatives."

Tomorrow's leaders are today's youth. Their education and participation is key to the world's future, yet they have not been accorded the attention that is required. As remarked by the Alliance of Civilizations in its initial phase of work: "Although young people comprise a majority of the world's population, their views and voices have few channels of expression. Those who have direct influence upon their lives, such as policy makers, generally do not view them as a powerbase and, therefore, make little effort to include them in local or national affairs or even in decisions that directly affect their lives."

In this survey, not only do we hear clearly the needs of youth, but also their concrete suggestions on how they could be supported to work for a culture of peace and solidarity among all peoples. They say it is a time for action, and I agree wholeheartedly. I can say it no better than one of the respondents, from Youth for a Sustainable Future Pacifika:

Please no more declarations and statements! Young people in the Pacific want real projects that have real outcomes!



Federico Mayor
President
Fundación Cultura de Paz
September 21, 2006

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TO CREATE A CULTURE OF PEACE

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¹ Each regional report follows the same structure: 1. Activities and projects proposed to promote a culture of peace; 2. Support needs; 3. Advice to governments and United Nations to promote youth and a culture of peace; 4. Suggestions for administering a fund; 5. Ways of reaching and motivating youth; and 6. General principles and statements about youth and culture of peace.

INTRODUCTION

This project is a joint production of the Fundación Cultura de Paz, based in Madrid, Spain, and The United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY), based in The Hague, Netherlands as a contribution to the United Nations Initiative for Alliance of Civilizations. It was conceived and supported by Mr Federico Mayor, President of the Fundación, and it was developed at a seminar at UNOY from July 8-12, 2006. An initial Youth Survey Team was formed at that time of 12 people, and later expanded to 21, as listed in the Credits at the end of the report. Together, we developed a questionnaire, listed at the end of this report, and a methodology, using e-mail, telephone and fax, to contact youth organizations, defined as youth-led or primarily youth-serving.

To ensure a universal and broad-based framework, the questionnaire was based on the concept of the culture of peace, as defined by the UN General Assembly in its landmark resolution A/53/243, Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, which includes:

1. Culture of peace through education.
2. Sustainable economic and social development.
3. Respect for all human rights.
4. Equality between women and men.
5. Democratic participation.
6. Understanding, tolerance and solidarity.
7. Participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge.
8. International peace and security.

During six weeks of intense work, the team contacted thousands of youth organizations and received feedback from 475 organizations in 125 countries, as listed at the end of the report. That information is presented in this report, which has two parts.

The first part is an analysis of the demand by youth for support from decision makers. In brief, the primary unmet needs of youth organisations are:

- Resources to support the efforts of youth for culture of peace;
- Opportunities for more youth from different regions, countries and ethnic or religious backgrounds to meet and work together;
- Incentives for different youth organizations to work together;
- Recognition and support of the above efforts by the United Nations and governments;
- Publicity and recognition of these efforts so that all youth can know about and take part in them;
- Access to communication technology such as Internet.

Second, detailed regional reports summarise the key findings in each region, according to the following structure:

- Activities and projects proposed
- Support needed
- Advice to governments and UN
- Suggestions for administering a fund
- Ways of reaching and motivating youth
- General principles and statements

The overall message of this report is that it is time for action! Youth and their organisations have many ideas and concrete suggestions for activities and for how their needs could be met. They also have specific demands on governments and the United Nations to assist them in this process. In order to meet their needs and demands, the proposal is made for a Global Youth Solidarity Fund and Programme, in which youth themselves have a decisive voice.



David Adams



Jo Lofgren

Editors on behalf of Fundación Cultura de Paz
September 21, 2006

PART I

THE YOUTH OF THE WORLD
WANT TO CREATE A CULTURE OF PEACE

1.1. DEMAND : RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

What youth want to do

The most extensive part of the survey is the listing of the activities, projects, campaigns, work camps, intercultural exchanges, research, advocacy, seminars and conferences, development initiatives, media initiatives, training programmes, educational programmes both formal and non-formal, etc., which youth would like to do if they had the resources, training and encouragement. Reading the lists and descriptions of their proposals contained in the regional reports that follow offers a vision of the vast potential of youth, yet to be realized, to create a culture of peace. Just to list the proposals requires 24 pages in the different regional reports, and this, in turn, summarizes many pages of interviews and questionnaire responses.

As one can read in the pages that follow, there is a remarkable consistency among youth in all parts of the world in their dreams and hopes for a better world. From a village in Bangladesh to an island in the Caribbean or Pacific, youth yearn for the same opportunities to become educated and to educate others to achieve a culture of peace and solidarity. The following summary of proposals by youth from the Americas is typical and could serve to summarize the proposals in any of the other regions as well:

Most youth suggest training and workshops to be conducted for youth on issues such as the culture of peace, conflict resolution and mediation, values and human rights. Vocational training and employment programmes are also seen as vital for youth in promoting a culture of peace, as are activities to do with arts, creativity, music, theatre and dance. Intercultural and international exchanges, where youth get to know others, are also popular proposals in building a culture of peace, and many youth have also mentioned the need to meet internationally, to promote networks and to publish and document their work, distributing the information widely, both online and on paper and by radio in local communities.

What resources are needed

The most obvious resource needed is funding. According to one major global organization, they could only fund 25 percent of their needs and have to look for funds continuously even for that. Another organization states that young people will not get excited or imaginative about dreaming up creative peace action projects when they know - through bitter experience - that there are absolutely NO funds available.

Education is the most frequent and important demand, including the training of trainers and training of teachers for a culture of peace. Ironically, however, there is a shortage of higher education resources. Many institutions provide education for individual components of a culture of peace, but few are equipped to teach the culture of peace as an integrated programme linked to practice in the field. Those that have such integrated programmes, such; as the European Peace University and the University of Peace in Costa Rica, are limited by lack of resources. For example, the European Peace University would like to offer more scholarships to talented and needy students to learn

about conflict transformation and peacebuilding, but are constrained by the costs which they estimate to be 12,400 euros per student to study for one year.

Many non-financial resources are needed as well, such as:

- Qualified trainers and training opportunities;
- Networking systems for exchange of information and news and to facilitate the development of national and international partnerships and joint projects;
- Educational materials, including culture of peace reference materials, training manuals, etc. in local as well as major languages, both on paper and on-line, as well as audio-visual;
- Access to internet, video-conferencing and other ICT, along with the technical training and support needed to use and maintain them;
- Simple publicity materials for a culture of peace such as pamphlets, posters, pins, t-shirts, stickers, etc;
- Publicity for opportunities and offers; e.g. the publicity about scholarships and travel grants that are available for training and higher education;
- Institutional encouragement and endorsement (see following section on advice to UN and governments).

Advice to governments and the United Nations

First of all, youth everywhere want to be recognized and valued for their efforts by governments and by the United Nations. The encouragement and endorsement by authorities can give them the credibility they need to be effective in their educational work and developing partnerships.

Youth demand a role in the decision-making of governments. The summary for Europe is typical of all six regional reports:

When asked what they think governments should do to promote youth and culture of peace, youth organizations almost unanimously call for greater participation of youth in decision-making and for a solid youth policy that is more than a token piece of legislation. They also think governments should cooperate with youth organizations to a greater extent and to mainstream culture of peace methods and principles into formal education.

There needs to be a constant dialogue of listening and respect. In fact, the dialogue needs to be two-way; at the same time that youth should be given a voice, they need also to seek the advice of governments and keep them up-to-date on their actions. This becomes even more important, if, as youth of many countries and regions insist, funding for youth projects should not go through governments (see below).

The demands made by youth upon the United Nations are extremely diverse, reflecting the fact that the UN, in their eyes, is often a disappointment at the same time as it is their greatest hope. For example, youth in the Arab states point out that "the nations of the world through the UN have long agreed on the basic outlines of a solution, based on an

independent state for the Palestinians and security for Israel," but it still seems far from being achieved. In all regions it is said that the UN seems very "distant" and "invisible" and the UN is urged to find ways to engage youth and ordinary people at a national and local level.

The UN is called upon to encourage its Member States to live up to the ideals of the United Nations and to involve youth as described in their advice to governments.

As in the case of their demands on governments, youth want recognition and participation in the decision-making of the UN, as well as support of all kinds for their efforts. They also call upon the UN to increase its support for the culture of peace in all of its programme areas, including campaigns such as the Manifesto 2000 campaign that was so effective by UNESCO in 2000, engaging 75 million people, many of whom were youth.

Advice in general

Here are some typical excerpts from the extensive advice provided in the regional reports:

There should be more interaction between youth from different social classes and different races or ethnic and religious groups. This way they would get to know each other and only based on that, on increased equality, would they be able to build consensus, coordinate collective action and truly build a culture of peace.

Asociación de Scouts de Bolivia, Bolivia.

I believe the best way to promote a culture of peace amongst young people on an international level is by bringing groups of them from different backgrounds and nations together to discuss these issues themselves. It is important however, that the young people selected have networks they can go back to disseminate the information they received.

National President of United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand

To prevent alienation, youth should be made equal partners in processes that concern them. Lack of understanding and dialogue between the adult world/structures and young people need to be addressed in terms of communication, institutions etc. Government officials should be trained in youth dialogue and young people should be part of carrying out that training.

British Youth Council, United Kingdom

... include the topic of culture of peace into school curricula in an non-ideological way contrary to the times of communist oppression, when they were speaking about peace but fighting against the "capitalist world", which totally destroyed the meaning of peace for many generations.

Czech National Youth Council, Czech Republic

Ask for presentation of applications that are well established and balanced from associations, institutions, federations or foundations that have already presented effective results, practical knowledge and responding to criteria established by the United Nations.

UCJG-YMCA France

Given that youth in Western countries have more access to resources, a fund needs to focus on local grassroots initiatives by young people, especially in the South.

Students at UNESCO International Leadership Programme

We are international organisations and we need an international body to think without borders – invite participants without having previously specified how many from what countries ...European Voluntary Service idea working well in bridging borders between youth. We need something like that on the global level.

Service Civil International – Europe

If funds were available for the purpose, the synergy among like-minded youth organizations could be greatly facilitated. Too often NGOs compete with each other rather than sharing their expertise and complementary resources. However, it would help to have some financial incentive to encourage cooperation across organizations.

Executive Secretary of the World Alliance of YMCAs

They [youth] can be reached through the media, and through the use of powerful figures or heroes whom certain groups of youth identify with, who (heroes) can come in as role models, to motivate, empower and encourage the youth.

Children's Gift, Uganda

Here in [country] the youth is always expected to be organized directly under the ruling party and never give them a chance to establish their own association that could challenge and work at the same time in partnership with the government. Policies that give rooms for the youth to establish their own association without being linked to the government should be advocated and adopted.

East African non-governmental organisation²

There are very few young people who have access to computers and the use of technology in advancing themselves – only one out of 1 000 households in Zambia has access to computers. Since the young people feel left out when they cannot communicate and work on the Internet as young people in other parts of the world do, there is a danger that they might revert to destructive behaviour. Therefore, we can only involve our young people on a large scale when we introduce information and communication technology.

Director of Global School Missions, Zambia

² Organization name and country withheld by request.

Differences among regions

In general the desires and needs of youth are similar throughout all regions, as indicated in the regional reports that follow. Several differences are instructive, however, as they underscore the importance of the work to be done, potential partners and potential sources of energy and enthusiasm.

In the Arab States, responses from youth organizations were especially difficult to obtain during the time period of the survey (July-August 2006) because of the current violence in the region. As the Arab States regional report states:

The situation made many young people not want to participate in responding to the survey based on their feeling that peace is like a fairy tale, or an inapplicable dream in that troubled region of the world.

Nevertheless 45 organizations did respond and their responses indicate that they still have hope for a safer world based on peace and justice.

In Europe, responses from youth organizations included many from National Youth Councils, more than in any other region. This shows the relatively advanced state of youth involvement in the European political system, and it suggests that the European experience may prove to be especially useful as a basis for expanding support to youth for a culture of peace in other regions of the world.

The largest number of organizational responses came from youth organizations in Africa which testifies to the great enthusiasm and energy of African youth in their search for a more peaceful future. Clearly, this needs to be matched by a special effort to help African youth gain access to the resources that they need to realize their potential.

1.2. RESPONSE: A GLOBAL YOUTH SOLIDARITY FUND AND PROGRAMME

Global youth solidarity fund

First of all, an action response, to be effective, needs to answer the most fundamental demand which is for funding. It is often said that funding should go directly to youth-led and youth-serving organizations that have demonstrated their capacity to carry out effective programmes. According to the experience in some countries and regions, funding should not go through governments, although, as remarked above under Advice to Governments, there is need for transparency so that governments are fully informed. The point is also made by global and inter-regional organizations that they would like to cooperate more with other organizations on a global level, but that incentives, especially financial incentives, have been lacking.

What is needed, therefore, is a Global Youth Solidarity Fund. It should support youth-led and youth-serving organizations on the basis of application for training programmes, projects, campaigns, and intercultural exchanges promoting one or more of the eight programme areas of a culture of peace, as defined by the United Nations (see above). In addition to support to individual organizations, support should be extended to cooperation among multiple youth organizations.

Also, in view of the unmet needs for culture of peace training by institutions of higher learning, these institutions should be encouraged to apply for support to develop appropriate curricula, to provide substantial scholarship aid to youth for study, training and research for a culture of peace, and to include all aspects of a culture of peace in the training of teachers. In addition to institutions with ongoing programmes in Europe and Central America, key institutions of higher learning in all other regions should be encouraged and supported to establish and maintain such programmes.

Throughout the survey, youth make it clear that they want a role in decision-making. Therefore, the administration of a Global Youth Solidarity Fund should include a decisive representation of youth from youth-led and youth-serving organizations. Many other suggestions for administration and management may be found in the regional reports, and these can serve as an important source of advice for those who establish the Fund.

Priority criteria

In view of the preceding analysis and responses in the regional surveys, a Global Youth Solidarity Fund should give priority to initiatives that:

1. Involve organizations with a proven record of accomplishment;
2. Are/will be sustainable and contain a strong aspect of monitoring and evaluation;
3. Involve cooperation of youth from different cultures and civilizations and across the lines of international conflicts;
4. Promise large-scale visibility and outreach to youth;
5. Give priority to young women as actors.

Global youth solidarity programme

As mentioned constantly in the survey, the needs of youth organizations are not only for funds but also for services, recognition and publicity. Many of these needs can be provided by systematic encouragement and funding of appropriate project proposals. However, this implies more than just a fund, but also an ongoing Global Youth Solidarity Programme that is complementary to the Fund and should advocate with the Fund to:

- Solicit and support proposals that help develop services such as: availability of skilled trainers; educational materials in local as well as major languages; networking to facilitate development of international partnerships and joint projects; and online data systems that include vital information and reference materials.
- Give recognition to those who participate in projects sponsored by the Fund. Hence, project applications to the Fund should be encouraged to include a request for support for "identity resources" (for example, caps and t-shirts) bearing a standard design to be supplied by the Programme. This would help to mainstream the culture of peace concepts and approaches among youth.
- Generate publicity among youth for programmes, projects, campaigns and exchanges; hence applications to the Fund should be encouraged to include a request for financing of publicity, using effective methods to reach youth in the localities concerned. The Programme should enlist celebrities that are well-known among youth to help provide publicity.

Advocacy and complementary proposals

It is clear that not all of the demands of youth can be met by a single Fund and Programme. Many institutions have a role to play, including the various United Nations institutions, governmental and inter-governmental agencies and the civil society. Therefore the Programme should develop partnerships and advocate for complementary programmes such as the following:

- The European Union and Council of Europe, with their rich experience of cooperation with youth organizations in that continent, should be invited to cooperate in order to learn from their experience and develop appropriate synergies on a global scale.
- UN country offices and host countries throughout the world should be encouraged to establish youth facilities with ICT access such as Internet and video-conferencing, as well as places to meet, with access provided, among others, to those participating in the Global Youth Solidarity Programme.
- National educational systems, teacher training and youth policies should be encouraged to include the eight programme areas of the culture of peace in their curricula at all levels.
- Development agencies and relevant United Nations agencies, including UN Volunteers, should be approached for partnerships and sharing of resources in order to increase the employment of youth in development projects.

- All initiatives that make it easier for youth to travel freely, meet and collaborate across the boundaries that separate them should be recognized and supported, in order to reduce the misunderstanding, stereotyping and alienation that has resulted from their separation.

1.3. CONCLUSION

If we listen closely to the voices of youth in the following regional reports, we hear a potential for both progress and danger. On the one hand, youth make it clear that they can make great progress toward a culture of peace and solidarity if their efforts are supported. They are the leaders of tomorrow and their training today can make possible a better world. On the other hand, they are also surrounded by the culture of war and intolerance. As one international youth organization explains:

The current situation often leads people in South countries (thus youth who are the main part of the population) to feel oppressed, betrayed and exploited). This leads to the development of organizations such as Al Qaeda, tragic situations or discouragement ... a long term dangerous situation, the starting point of a time bomb.

Investment in youth is the best investment in the future, as pointed out in a concrete example by the Academic Director of the European University Center for Peace Studies:

In 1958, the first delegation of thirty Soviet students who came to study for a year in the United States with a Fulbright scholarship included Alexander Yakovlev. In 1985, he became Gorbachev's key adviser for perestroika, glasnost and democratization. The few thousand dollars for that scholarship probably did a great deal more to help end the cold war than billions that the United States spent for weapons, which only aggravated tensions.

In conclusion, we should heed the demands of youth and give our full support to the establishment of a Global Youth Solidarity Fund and Programme. Civil society and governments should endorse it and provide funding and other support. The United Nations system should welcome it and give it full cooperation.

PART II
REGIONAL REPORTS

2. GLOBAL/INTER-REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

2.1. ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS PROPOSED TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

Youth-led and youth-serving organizations need more resources to expand the many activities and projects already underway or to promote the various aspects of a culture of peace. Here are some examples cited by global and inter-regional organizations from their local affiliates, as well as some examples of what they would do IF they had more resources.

Non-formal education and training

Activities undertaken by affiliates of more than one organization:

- Training programs for skills of conflict-transformation.
- Training programs for the management of projects, organizations and finances.
- Raising awareness that violence is not innate and not inevitable.
- Youth peace-building workshops.
- Teaching people how to use the Internet.
- Training young people and teachers in conflict resolution and how to manage peer-tutoring and peer-counselling programs in schools to develop peaceful people.
- Seminars on human rights, including the language rights and the rights to education and culture.
- Training of trainers on cultural diversity for multipliers of youth organizations.

Proposals made by affiliates of particular international organizations:

- Expansion of current training programs in skills for a culture of peace for volunteers and interns (United Network of Young Peacebuilders).
- Popular education in rural areas about the political process and the Constitution (World Student Christian Federation).
- Para-legal training on how to document and protect against human rights violations (World Council of Churches World Youth Programme).
- Teaching culture of peace to youth through animation methods, popular theatre and music as done in India, Pakistan, Senegal and the Caribbean (Commonwealth Youth Programme).
- Development of a teaching/training module to address "Western-Arab" misunderstanding and lack of comprehension and stereotypes, based on universally-relevant reflections and dialogue among peoples no matter what background they come from (Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service).

We would get our member organizations involved at the national level in campaigns to raise awareness of the culture of peace... with workshops, media campaigns and capacity-building for youth to take action at a local level... We would facilitate the exchange of experience across continents, from Brazil to Nigeria, etc., a global connected network.

Member, Global Youth Action Network

A plan to develop training events at a country level for capacity-building of young leaders on issues related to a culture of peace for awareness-raising both at national and international levels with a possible follow-up of a global youth forum where they would all come together for continued training, sharing of good experiences, and perhaps they would come up with their own global campaign, building on what they have already done...

If funds were available for the purpose, the synergy among like-minded youth organizations could be greatly facilitated. Too often NGOs compete with each other rather than sharing their expertise and complementary resources. However, it would help to have some financial incentive to encourage cooperation across organizations.

Executive Secretary, World Alliance of YMCAs

Formal education and training

We invite the best specialists in their field from around the world, and emphasize interactive learning, with a high degree of active student involvement, and a combination of theory, practice, and personal motivation. Living together with other students from different cultures and political backgrounds is also a great learning experience.

Academic Director of the European University Center for Peace Studies

A culture of peace includes such themes as solidarity, democracy, sustainable development, human rights gender equality, peace education, etc and these are exactly the types of subjects, many of which are the focus of Masters Degree Programmes at the University for Peace (UPEACE). UPEACE is a UN affiliated University and while it works closely with the UN and its various branches, it maintains its own institutional autonomy. Our hope for UPEACE is to achieve intercultural solidarity and lasting peace through education. We are a small microcosm of the world here with 140 Masters students from some 40 countries studying in 7 different MA degree programs: peace education; international law and the settlement of disputes; international law and human rights; gender and peacebuilding; environmental security; media, conflict peace and security; and international peace studies. We also have a two-year masters program with American University in Washington D.C. in natural resources & sustainable development and international relations. In addition to our courses in Costa Rica we extend our mission through activities in other parts of the world and have offices in Toronto, New York, Addis Ababa and Geneva with plans for further work in other places, including Hungary, Korea, Jordan, Brazil and elsewhere.

Rector of University for Peace

- High quality education in culture of peace by international universities such as the University of Peace in Costa Rica and the European University Center for Peace Studies (EPU) in Austria and the United World Colleges network.
- International fellowships for peace such as the Rotary World Peace Fellowship, with a priority of increasing the recruitment and participation of under-represented nationalities.
- Culture of peace education curricula at schools and universities worldwide such as the culture of peace curriculum of the Hague Appeal for Peace and the curricula of the Life-Link Friendship-Schools Programme.
- International university-level courses that promote comprehensive dialogue, proposed by Comprehensive Dialogue Among Civilizations.
- Apprenticeship for human rights in the curriculum for students of primary and secondary school (proposed by a member of the International Federation of Medical Student's Association).

The chance to travel and study the results of justice processes like the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa and the Gacaca system in Rwanda, for example, would be an incredible experience. Studying international law and conflict resolution on the ground to get the knowledge and skills to ensure that crises like the ones in South Africa or Rwanda could be prevented.

Staff member of the World Federation of UN Associations

Youth encounters

- Interfaith conferences (for example, the conference for Philippine youth of Christian, Muslim, Indigenous Religious faiths, supported by the World Council of Churches World Youth Programme, building solidarity to overcome violence).
- Post-conflict youth camps (for example the camp for youth who have lost family to the killings in the Philippines that enables them to acknowledge the deaths, share the burden, heal their spirits and reach out to other youth as a result - supported by the World Council of Churches World Youth Programme).
- Encounters and projects for women's empowerment (such as those proposed by youth staff members of World Federation of United Nations Associations).
- Cross-border initiatives aimed at conflict resolution, including youth exchanges and projects to twin schools and projects across border/ethnic/religious or cultural divides (as proposed by Pax Christi International Youth Forum).
- A conference of international school networks working for the various aspects of a culture of peace (as proposed by Life-Link Friendship Schools).
- Accompaniment programs such as those sponsored by the World Council of Churches that witness and help bring healing to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- A group from the YMCA Northern Ireland, including both Protestant and Catholic youth, went to the Middle East to meet with Arab and Israeli youth. The trip had very positive effects for everyone in both Northern Ireland and Jerusalem.

Work camps and projects

- Work camps and volunteering projects such as those run by affiliates of the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service and mentioned also by the International Cultural Youth Exchange.
- Tree-planting and clean-up activities (proposed by a member of Children and Youth Unit of United Nations Environmental Program).
- Training and re-integration of ex-combatants (supported by World Student Christian Federation).

Media initiatives

- Increased and more sophisticated use of the television, radio and Internet to promote the culture of peace (proposed by many respondents)
- Documentary films, such as those proposed by Peace Child, including a program on the World's Greatest Peace-makers with the public making choices by Internet.
- Publication and distribution of 105 project plans written by children for children to help governments achieve the 21 targets set forth in the UN document A World Fit for Children (Peaceways)
- Translation and dissemination of existing materials and media initiatives into more languages (Good News Agency), including Esperanto (Organization Internationale des Jeunes Espérantophones)
- Introduction of existing materials and media initiatives promoting culture of peace into formal educational systems

Developing youth-youth solidarity

It is not enough to just bring people together. CCIVS has developed an approach which provides a frame for the reflections that should take place during a work camp or any other kind of youth exchange project based on a dynamic and pluralistic vision of the world, which looks at any individual and community in its complexity and highlights the multiple facets constituting individuals, groups and territories... Voluntary service is seen as a tool for the transformation of volunteers and the people they work with, having an influence on their conscience and their way to actively construct the societies they live in. The work project is seen as a tool to achieve active solidarity as well as mutual and intercultural dialogue beyond easy stereotypes.

Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)

As described by the Programme Executive of the World Council of Churches World Youth Programme, previous participants in their accompaniment programmes concerning the Israeli-Palestinian conflict have come from Europe and then returned to advocate for peace in their home countries, but now the emphasis will be increasingly on South-South solidarity, such as the effective participation of youth from South Africa in recent years:

We would like to expand the South-South accompaniment by involving the All-African Council of Churches, and not only in Israel and Palestine, but in support of ongoing peace-building efforts elsewhere such as in the Sudan where there are workshops on education, skills-training, HIV-AIDS awareness and trauma healing. The international solidarity could be carried out on an even greater scale, for example, between Africa and Asia, bringing together young leaders to help each other.

Other projects and activities

Although actions are usually taken by their local and national affiliates, the international organizations facilitate the process and develop synergies among the actions³.

If there were such a fund, we would urge local youth church and ecumenical movements with whom we work to apply for support, and also seek support for international solidarity among these movements.

Programme Executive, World Council of Churches World Youth Programme

Since the activities are undertaken by local and national affiliates of some very large international youth organizations, the potential for expansion of activities for a culture of peace is very great. For example, as emphasized by the Unit Manager for External Relations of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, there are millions of scouts in the world and 45,000 in Argentina alone, and the Movement recently celebrated its 100th anniversary by rededicating itself to creating a more peaceful world and linking with others having similar aims. Similarly, an executive secretary of the World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations speaks of work for a culture of peace by their 45 million members of YMCAs in 124 countries.

In addition to actions underway, there are other actions that could be done, once young people realize that they could find the resources that are needed. As stated by the President of Peace Child International:

It is a chicken and egg problem: young people will not get excited or imaginative about dreaming up creative Peace Action Projects when they know - through bitter experience - that there are absolutely NO funds available. Despite the lack of funds, we get regular requests for meetings of Indian and Pakistani youth on the issue of Kashmir and from Azeri and Armenian youth on the issue of Nagorno-Karabakh.

³ Please note that activities and projects of national and local affiliates are described under the various regional reports. Thus, for example, see the Arab States regional report for the Egyptian General Federation of Scouts, see the African regional report for coverage of the scouts of Mozambique, United Nations Youth organizations of Benin, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone and UNESCO clubs of the Gambia and Port-Bouët (Côte d'Ivoire). See the Asia region for the scouts of Australia, United Nations Youth Associations of Iran and New Zealand and UNESCO clubs of the International Christian University in Japan and Metro Manila in the Philippines. See the Americas report for the scouts of Argentina and Bolivia, Asociación Nacional de Muchachas Guías de Honduras, the United Nations Youth Associations of Peru and San Diego (United States), and see the Europe report for the Italian Catholic Association of Girl Guides and Boy Scouts, scouts of Poland, UNESCO Youth Association of Estonia and Armenian Federation of UNESCO clubs.

At the present time, funding is a major obstacle even when activities are undertaken. As described by the Programme Executive of the World Council of Churches World Youth Programme in speaking of projects mentioned above:

The youth budget of the WCC is not large enough so we could fund only 25% of their needs and we are having to look elsewhere to interest other donors.

The European University Center for Peace Studies estimates that it costs about 12,400 euros per student to study for one year and obtain a Master of Art in Peace and Conflict Studies. And as stated by a staff member of the World YWCA:

We would like to do more education for a culture of peace, including human rights, sustainable development, education for citizenship and democratic participation and inter-faith dialogue ... But for a lot of this, we would need financial support. We have the constituency, but we would need resources and people who have the expertise.

Priority should be given to local income generating project, so that they can become independent and self-sustainable: this was one of the conclusions of the participants at the UNESCO International Leadership Programme.

2.2. SUPPORT NEEDS

Although funding is the most pressing need expressed by organizations, a number of non-funding needs are mentioned by various respondents:

- Access to information about youth organizations and what they are doing, especially in the South. As stated by a representative from the Global Youth Action Network:

Access to knowledge, to the best practices of others, to stories and exchanges of experience can give you inspiration and ideas on what YOU can do.

- Skill-building resources, whether on the Web or through resources persons, showing how to start up a local peace-building project. Examples could be provided of what has worked for others.
- Measures to ensure youth the freedom of travel, especially in view of visa and legal restrictions surrounding the travel and stay of young people in other countries
- Measures to make more available the tools and resources of Internet and other information communication technology.
- Greater availability of qualified trainers in all the areas of a culture of peace.
- Publicity of opportunities, for example, in the case of the European University Center for Peace Studies, publicity to prospective graduate students.
- Opportunities for partnerships with established intergovernmental agencies and major international NGOs because it gives projects more legitimacy and consequently attracts more participants and donors.
- Educational and training materials that have been tested and shown to be effective

2.3. ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND UNITED NATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH AND A CULTURE OF PEACE

GOVERNMENTS

Several respondents call upon governments to establish, support and listen to youth parliaments in their countries. There should also be greater support of the National Youth Councils in the countries where they are found and to support efforts at creating others in regions where they aren't.

At the UN, governments (and the UN) could ensure participation of youth delegates from ALL Member states at each General Assembly each fall, by providing travel, food and accommodation support for them. It would also be essential that youth delegates are given attention by the Missions when speaking. At the UN, Missions could also be encouraged to invite youth delegates throughout the year to part in discussions in the Committees and the UNGA, particularly on relevant issues. At governmental level, more youth could be allowed seats at parliaments, in committees, in boards and in round table discussions on issues locally and regionally.

Rotary World Peace Fellow

Children want peace and they would keep peace issues at the front of the minds of governmental policy makers and make the establishment of a permanent culture of peace more possible.

Peaceways

In general, governments could help youth overcome the visa restrictions that keep so many youth from being able to travel. Visa-free zones should be developed like what exists now in Europe. The European Union has completely changed and empowered European youth to travel and study in other countries. I would say that the freedom of travel of European youth has contributed greatly to tolerance and mutual understanding. Can you imagine how similar developments could help in Africa? Right now it is easier for our African interns to go to Europe than to go to other African countries!

Member, Global Youth Action Network

Upgrade the status for educators and teachers working with peace education programmes at their schools and within their communities, and promote youth immigration and integration programmes.

Life-Link Friendship Schools

UNITED NATIONS

In order to ensure and improve the flow of information, the UN needs to participate in greater outreach to any and every legitimate organization working to implement culture of peace goals and ideals. Implicit in this is UN assistance in networking these organizations with one another so that they can make use of each others resources and expertise toward their common goals. The UN also must implement clear information

policy and increase its level of information dissemination to these organizations and the public at large.

Comprehensive Dialogue Among Civilizations

In some countries YMCAs have access to good ICT facilities, for example video-conferencing which they need to take part in planning international initiatives, but in other countries these facilities are not available ... Perhaps the UN country offices could help make available ICT facilities to youth working on these projects...

The UN does try to involve youth in its work, but there should be better coordination of its youth policy, as there are many initiatives that re not "joined-up". There should also be more effective consultation with international youth organizations and better mainstreaming of its World Program of Action for Youth and youth voice in the MDGs.

Executive Secretary, World Alliance of YMCAs

- It is perceived that many organizations work for culture of peace indirectly/in their own ways but don't focus on pushing for the implementation of the UN resolutions on culture of peace.
- There is also a lack of awareness about culture of peace among many peace organizations. It is important to disseminate information such as the Manifesto for a Culture of Peace more systematically as a text with reflections that every one can understand.
- The UN should provide information to young people, because today young people don't know how the United Nations works, and what declarations and treaties their governments have committed to and can be held accountable for. They don't know enough about the culture of peace. It is in the UN's long-term interest to educate young people about its work.
- Youth participation in the UN Volunteers could be greatly expanded, especially engaging more youth from the South:

I have heard that 60,000 young people apply each year for volunteer work with UN Volunteers (UNV), but only about 2,000 can now be accepted, because of financial restrictions. That number should be vastly expanded. And most youth never even hear of UNV, otherwise many more than 60,000 per year would apply.

Academic Director, European University Center for Peace Studies (EPU)

2.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING A FUND

Administration/Management

Many respondents consider it important that youth representatives from youth organizations should have a major voice in management and administration of a fund.

- For example, both the Programme Executive of the World Council of Churches World Youth Programme and an executive secretary of the World Alliance of YMCAs consider that it should be "youth-driven" and a youth staff member of the World Federation of United Nations Associations says that there absolutely must be youth involvement in the management of such a fund; the organizational committee to set it up should involve youth nominated by youth organizations.
- Along the same lines, the United Network of Young Peacebuilders suggests a consultative process that involves youth-led organizations and youth-serving organizations.
- There are suggestions for adult representation on a steering committee as well as youth. For example, the President of the Copen Family Fund that initiated the iEARN schools initiative, suggests a Board of Directors that has proven experience working with youth organizations as well as Education, and another respondent suggests a cross-sector board including governments, businesses, INGOs and the United Nations, capable of not only good fiscal practice/monitoring, but representative of all the different areas of a culture of peace.
- As for youth involvement, some call for a minimum percentage (25%, 35%, 50%, etc.), and one organization (Peaceways) suggests that people from 15-24 years of age should be included in the administrative body.
- Another frequent theme is that the administration should involve people who are actively engaged in culture of peace activities on the ground.

It is important that the decision-making body is composed of people who are themselves engaged in culture of peace activities so that they know what is involved. For this reason, there cannot be a permanent bureaucracy, but a steering committee or council that convenes once or twice a year to make decisions and then return to their work in the field. Decisions should not be taken by people who are far from the field of practice.

Member Global Youth Action Network

From an NGO perspective it will be important that funds be managed as close to the ground as possible, avoiding layers of bureaucracy and report-writing. Experience shows that it is not worthwhile for organizations to apply for small sums of money when the guidelines are too strict and where the follow-up reports are so cumbersome that they take time away from implementation.

Executive Secretary of the World Alliance of YMCAs

- The apparent contradiction between administration and working in the field may be overcome, as suggested by the youth participating in the UNESCO International

Leadership Programme, by international teamwork with a minimum of meetings through the use of Internet Technology and an open Internet Forum.

Transparency and ensuring quality of projects

- Transparency of administration and management is often emphasized. The International Cultural Youth Exchange proposes that information regarding funding and decision-making procedure is widely circulated to all stakeholders.
- A student from the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations proposes both an annual report published by both electronic and paper format and a monthly electronic bulletin of information.
- A representative from the Youth Working Group of the People's Initiative for Departments-Ministries of Peace suggests that all minutes of meetings should be made public.
- There needs to be a clear mission statement according to several respondents. Also, clear deadlines and clear criteria for organizations to introduce projects and proposals.
- Many respondents stress that decision-making should be truly international with representation from all regions of the world.
- Monitoring and evaluation should be built into the process. Students at the UNESCO International Leadership Programme point out that various cultures have their own methods to monitor and assure the non-corrupt use of project funds and that any global fund should take advantage of these cultural traditions.
- Evaluation is not simple, however, as pointed out by the Unit Manager for External Relations of the World Organization of the Scout Movement:
It has been difficult to measure the results of their work using indicators developed by economic or development approaches. Their non-formal education work involves working with children and young people, from 7 to 21, so it is a long-term educational process. Most evaluation criteria refer to short-term project indicators. They receive requests to assess for example, how many people were benefited directly from their work and it has been difficult to fit their long-term proposal into these frames. It is also costly to develop these evaluations with professional and technical expertise.
- Lessons should be learned from existing management practices that have proven successful. Peace Child recommends the co-management practices described at the website www.co-management.info. The Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIIVS) and Pax Christi International Youth Forum recommend the practices of the Council of Europe, both their Directorate of Youth and Sport (www.coe.int/youth) and their Youth Forum where half of the members are appointed by governments and half are appointed by youth organizations.

2.5. WAYS OF REACHING AND MOTIVATING YOUTH

Has there ever been a meeting of leaders of all the international youth organizations? From Seeds of Peace to YM/WCA to all the organizations that have youth in their title or work with youth...have they come together, regionally, for participatory meetings on what more they can and should do?

Hague Appeal for Peace

- Media programmes (TV/Radio) on various activities carried out all over the world on a culture of peace ... The media is one of the most effective way of reaching the youth in schools/social gatherings.
- Target schools, clubs, associations; music and sports are two amazingly attractive mediums to be used.
- Through campaigns such as The Truth (anti-tobacco) and Rock the Vote, with more activities, more celebrities vouching for us, etc.
- There ought to be transparent and easily accessible information systems to support a culture of peace.
- Youth in poor countries need access to IT technology and they should be educated on how to utilize those technologies to network with other youth around the world
- Media outreach must be varied to include both sides of the digital divide. Tools such as podcasts or blogs or e-forums may work well. But also, there needs to be outreach to rural newspapers or even to individual schools for word to spread.
- Mostly it's a question of 'getting the word out' about what is a culture of peace and why it is relevant to daily life.
- Design programs and activities that engage youth, so that they learn by doing. Make available to them activities that they can take part in and tool kits to help them start new activities
- Local community activities are most important. Youth need to have the impression that they can make a difference, that their actions can have concrete results. A 'squad of peace' could recruit the youth!
- Write articles and opinions in leading newspapers and publications world-wide.
- A massive education campaign; organize competitions- song writing, painting, essay writing on the theme; have a well-known band whose members are active in peace advocacy travel around the world to promote peace, why not have young people as peace ambassadors; a global march for peace.
- Youth should talk to youth, in their own contexts, as close to the grass roots as possible.

2.6. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow

Any process in the UN or in national and local governments should involve young people. Over the long-term, in 20-30 years this will bear fruit. Young people today constitute a critical mass that is vital to involve in order to succeed in building a culture of peace, and they will have ownership if they are included in the decision-making process and have an interest to ensure implementation.

Member, Global Youth Action Network

In 1958, the first delegation of thirty Soviet students who came to study for a year in the United States with a Fulbright scholarship included Alexander Yakovlev. In 1985, he became Gorbachev's key adviser for perestroika, glasnost and democratization. The few thousand dollars for that scholarship probably did a great deal more to help end the cold war than billions that the United States spent for weapons, which only aggravated tensions.

Academic Director, European University Center for Peace Studies (EPU)

The present report points in the same direction as a document written for UNICEF by several major international organizations including the World Alliance of YMCAs, World Organization of the Scout Movement, World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts and World YWCA, entitled, "Children and Young People: Participating in Decision Making," at http://www.ymca.int/uploads/media/call_action_01.pdf

Actions by youth should be recognised and taken seriously

We need to pick up on and recognize what youth are already doing, to give them acknowledgement and encouragement... Too often the work of young people is not taken seriously.

Programme Executive, World Council of Churches World Youth Programme:

The support of the United Nations, by itself, would be motivational. Too often youth organizations are not taken seriously, and this would give us credibility.

Member, Global Youth Action Network

Often young people are considered as victims or perpetrators, rather than as partners and resourceful peacebuilders. We strongly endorse the idea of a fund which would support the initiatives of young people by enhancing their capacities, making communication tools available and opening bridges of understanding and international cooperation. It will prove with actions that the international community believes and trusts young people as social change actors today and tomorrow.

United Network of Young Peacebuilders

3. AFRICA (Sub-Saharan)

3.1. ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS PROPOSED TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

Education, training and awareness-raising

When youth organizations list the type of projects and activities they would carry out if funds were available, they most frequently mention educational activities to make youth aware of the concept of the culture of peace. They also highlight the different roles education and training could have within a process of constructing a culture of peace, on their family and community level and the national, regional and global level.

Organizations focusing on awareness-raising in their activities emphasize the promotion of mutual understanding and tolerance among diverse ethnic and cultural groups, between youth from different religious backgrounds and between genders. Educational activities proposed could be organized at the formal level (in schools, universities, institutions and within political parties) and the informal and more decentralized/ local level (through NGO's, religious leaders, parents and artists). These are some of their more detailed suggestions:

- A reflection on current conflicts and the direct impact of these conflicts on the lives of youth.
- Educational activities aimed at making youth more aware of the interconnection of economic, social and political processes on regional and international scale and of their global citizenship.
- Providing youth access to cyberspace and educational websites related to the culture of peace where they can learn about and from other youth living in different areas in the world.
- Development of a devoted group of youth willing and able to be active in the struggle for a culture of peace, strengthening their capacities and practical skills to act as 'mediators', 'educators' and 'multipliers' among their peers.
- Stimulate youth to become volunteers in organizations working in the framework of a culture of peace.
- The direct consequences of violence against youths necessitate the promotion of activities in support of those affected by them. In this regard, a typical training workshop is described by ADJD ONG of Benin:

Youth workshops based on the experience of participants and the resolution of violent conflicts. Here, one effects a work of personal development confronted with different forms of violence. How are they expressed? How do they affect us? Where do violence and suffering come from? How can one respond in a non-violent way, without submitting? How can one avoid being violent in response? How overcome it? How transform the violent situation that surrounds us and transform it into a haven of peace? How find the real sense of life? It consists of a

reflection on one's own experience and aspirations for a coherent life, while struggling against an inhuman system, where the lack of liberty and choice leads to resignation and the abandonment of the best individual and collective aspirations.

- Strengthen community development on national and local level. By means of education for democracy, decentralization and good governance these activities aim to create more stable and harmonious societies and to strengthen collective feelings of the agency of groups. Socially excluded people such women and marginalized youth should be included in order to create more cohesion among communities.
- Educate youth on laws and declarations which can serve as valuable instruments in their struggle for a culture of peace. Educate on existing rights declarations and legal frameworks to enlarge their feelings of power and to make them more able to act.
- Empower youth with practical skills, like communication skills, ICT skills and building of leadership qualities in order to strengthen young people's capacities to improve their basic conditions of life and to fight poverty and hunger, which are important sources of conflict.
- Organize trainings on specific subjects like human rights, children's rights, HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, environmental protection and gender equality.
- The methods proposed to be used for educational activities often have an artistic or recreational nature, like the creation of art galleries with learning purpose, theatre or movies, quizzes and peace tournaments, as well as focus groups, discussions and participatory workshops.
- Develop educational materials on the culture of peace, like books and cartoon books.
- Small-scale grass roots activities for and with youth to promote the culture of peace on the local level, the majority creative and recreational projects by means of theatre, sports and art. An important aim of these projects is to bridge gaps between different ethnic groups. Examples include:
 - music/art/poetry/essay contests on peace
 - a carnival for a culture of peace,
 - a "talents hunt competition" to make people aware of the need for peaceful co-existence
 - setting up peace clubs at schools
 - organizing sport activities for youth to bring unity
 - games and tournaments of solidarity and peace on neighbourhood level
 - a prayer service on the culture of peace

Development and youth employment

- Increase youth employment through practical grass roots projects that teach vocational skills like carpentry, metal work, agriculture and tailoring. Products created by youth during workshops could be sold in the city.

- Finance micro-enterprises of youth and women and stimulate the development of solidarity initiatives of youth for self employment to reduce marginalization, illegal migration of youth and discrimination. A special emphasis is put on the importance of offering micro-credit programs to vulnerable youth like street kids, ex-combatants and drug addicts.
- Scholarships for unprivileged youth, alphabetisation of women and street kids, encouraging girls to continue their education, sponsoring children in conflict and post-conflict areas in Africa to go to school and building schools that children can attend for free, simultaneously providing food, accommodation and other basic rights.
- On the community level, projects that build social services within communities and that promote community-based economic activities. Examples of these kinds of projects are:
 - tree planting and irrigation to stimulate sustainable development
 - offering local legal services to youth
 - starting a refugee clinic to assist youth
 - providing water source points, sanitation, hygiene and environmental protection
 - promoting the construction and renovation of schools and health centres.
- Awareness-raising and the increase of tolerance within communities through, for example, intergenerational and interfaith dialogues, religious cooperation, spiritual development and development of leadership qualities, the promotion of democratic values, including the maintenance of democratic institutions and structures, the formation of youth clubs and organization of youth on communal level, the organization of reconciliation workshops to promote harmony, also within the family.

Identifying cultural leaders and assigning volunteer youth Peace Corps to them to learn the wisdom and process of ritual cleansing for peace and reconciliation as done by elders in the existing Luo traditional culture. This is a very important component as most elders are dying away without passing this knowledge and rituals to the youth. ... These practices and rituals have not been researched and documented yet peace in Northern Uganda can be best fostered through use of existing traditional system of forgiveness, promoting peace through cultural dances and competition and sensitization by cultural leaders on importance of peace and harmony in society.

Samaritan Neighbours' Address, Uganda

Seminars and conferences

- National, regional and international conferences of youth and organizations active in peacebuilding with the aim to promote exchange of experiences and information and to promote cooperation. Intra regional conferences could promote a sustainable, regional peace as they allow youth to discuss issues of peace and conflict within their area.

- Thematic conferences on human rights, children's rights and themes related to the culture of peace.
- International convention to come up with resolutions towards the promotion of a culture of peace, which could be presented to the United Nations.

International projects and exchanges

- Exchange programmes of youth living in the same country, like exchanges of children from different schools, educational centres and different regions. Youth camps and national festivals of youth from different ethnic, cultural and linguistic groups.
- Through these exchange programs cultural integration, intellectual exchange and economic and political cooperation between youth from different regions within a country could be stimulated to strengthen the basis for a social peace and understanding among the future generations.
- Exchange programs on regional (African) level to stimulate cooperation and networking of youth on the regional level. An example of such an exchange program mentioned is the setting up of an African Youth Forum.
- Exchange programs on international level to promote the exchange of ideas and experiences among youth from different countries all over the world. Examples mentioned are the promotion of such an exchange through Internet, digital forums and chatrooms and online networking. Also an exchange of "peacebuilding volunteers" of different countries.

Campaigning and advocacy

Different kinds of campaigns in the framework of the culture of peace are proposed by the organizations:

- To advocate against arms proliferation.
- To promote human rights.
- To establish quotas for women in political positions.
- A "say-no-to-war" youth campaign.
- Anti-rape and anti-drugs campaigns.
- Community school and church based culture of peace campaigns.
- Publicly celebrate the International Human Rights day, the International day of Peace and the International day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Advocacy activities are proposed on the following fields:

- Monitoring of human rights violations
- Initiating a dialogue with the police to stimulate a more responsible attitude

- Promoting lobbying and dialogue with parliaments and governmental institutions
- Advocacy on women's and children's rights.

Means and activities to organize these campaigns and lobby activities:

- Using media like radio, television, newsletters (also in traditional languages).
- Organizing press conferences.
- Creating journals and brochures on culture of peace especially for youth, including publications on youth activism.
- The creation of a television program for youth working on peace.
- Creating better organizational reports and overviews of annual activities and goals set.
- Mass rallies and walks.
- Spreading peace messages through bill boards, public manifestations in schools and cultural centres.
- Showing films on tolerance, human rights and differences in equality.
- Prizes of honour and rewards for youth active in the promotion of the culture of peace and non-violence and peace awards for the best leaders who work in the spirit of youth.
- Organization of long distance debates through radio and television and E-groups.
- The creation of a documentation centre on the culture of peace.
- The creation of an electronic newsletter.
- The stimulation of free access to information on the culture of peace at all levels through trainings on ICT.
- In general, the promotion of audiovisual material is necessary to make information on the culture of peace available.
- Reports from seminars-discussions/workshops-meetings should be accessible to researchers.

Research

Research activities are proposed on the subjects of:

- The cultivation and sustainability of a culture of peace among youth.
- The prevalence of violence against women.
- Traditional cultural practices of forgiveness and reintegration of people who have committed crimes.
- Conducting surveys in conflict areas to address the needs of the actors involved and the possible resolutions.

3.2. SUPPORT NEEDS

Funds

The organizations and individuals argue that without money the activities they propose to organize within the framework of a culture of peace will not be carried out successfully. Some organizations mention that they have the expertise but suffer a lack of money to profit from this expertise. Therefore a continued and reliable funding stream is considered necessary. Examples of funds that could be used and/or created are: scholarships and venues and financial gifts. Also, organizations have ideas to organize fundraising activities themselves, for example using traditional forms of art or dance performances.

Material and information resources

There are very few young people who have access to computers and the use of technology in advancing themselves – only one out of 1 000 households in Zambia has access to computers. Since the young people feel left out when they cannot communicate and work on the Internet as young people in other parts of the world do, there is a danger that they might revert to destructive behavior. Therefore, we can only involve our young people on a large scale when we introduce information and communication technology.

Global School Missions, Zambia

- Access to Internet is argued to be crucial and could be promoted by the creation of cyber cafés, promoting free access for youth to computers and the establishment of telecenters to acquire ICT skills.
- A free flow of information is considered necessary.
- A recurrent theme is the need for an information center where youth can meet and have access to Internet and other resources.

This center will provide the possibility to organize conferences and meetings for youth ... animated by national and international personalities. Then the center will edit a booklet that can circulate by email as well as being printed and distributed directly to youth. And finally, the center will be equipped with a peace library for information and training of youth on the culture of peace and tolerance.

Initiative de Prevention des Conflits, Democratic Republic of Congo

...this would include opening a youth Library, Internet Café, Launch MASFAP culture of peace magazines and newsletter. Basically this Centre will ensure access to more information and will improve on information dissemination ... We at MASFAP believe like others that Knowledge is power and youth should be given all the information necessary to improve quality of decisions they make.

Masvingo Students fighting Aids and Poverty (MASFAP) in Zimbabwe

- Communication material like laptops, computers, and mobile phones (both new as second hand and donated).

- Further material resources including office space, vehicles, copy machines, scanners, lamination sets, wheelchairs, barrels and walking sticks for disabled children, photo cameras, computer programs such as PowerPoint, megaphones, music instruments, material to exercise artistic activities, second hand clothes and shoes, books, balls and sport wear.
- Information materials promote awareness on the culture of peace, such as informative videos, DVDs, documents, posters, documentaries, gadgets and T-shirts with the logo of the culture of peace.
- Education material dealing with methodology, training, as well as toolkits and training equipment and the translation of important international and national declarations and laws (such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the African Charter) into traditional languages.
- Also, children's games (like scrabble, dominos, etc.) to enable children to learn to live together, accept each other and reflect together.

Human resources and skills

- Experts and advisors on the culture of peace are needed, as well as experienced people to supervise and structure actions on regional, interregional and international level.
- Most organizations experience a lack of volunteers (especially of excluded groups like women) and need a mobilization of youth to organize and exercise their activities.
- In addition to this, the quality of human resources needs to be improved by strengthening technical and management capacities of personnel and volunteers, as well as practical skills such as communication skills, advocacy skills, knowledge on the effective implementation of interventions for a culture of peace, knowledge on monitoring and evaluation skills and website building.
- Also, a more theoretical insight into the concept of the culture of peace is considered necessary by some organizations. Examples of proposals of how this strengthening could be achieved include:
 - The establishment of a centre for youth development and leadership training.
 - Enlarge the possibilities to do study trips.
 - Lectures on writing project proposals and trainings on specific methodologies.

Networks and contacts

Other than the national youth council and the African parliament a rebirth of a strong international youth community to replace these already manipulated ones should be considered to take the youth societies to another level removing the monopolization of elderly group in the youth affairs so as to realize progress. Well-formulated international youth development strategic plan should be thought of and be drawn to assist the youth

societies to undertake several activities that will enable the realization of the development of cultural of peace under the youth empowerment.

Member, Uganda Voluntary Development Association (UVDA), Uganda

Youth organisations need:

- Networks and contacts on the national level as well as on the international level.
- A national collaboration between youth organizations to carry out activities to promote a culture of peace.
- A global network of young peacebuilders and the creation of an international expertise-group to facilitate the collaboration and exchange between youth of different regions of the world.
- Global networking among youth organizations active in promoting a culture of peace by facilitating visits of youth to organizations in another region of the world and the exchange of experts from NGOs from different countries.
- Transparency between partner organizations and a possibility to promote their activities on their partners' websites.

Political and official support

- The support of the United Nations is needed to press national governments to associate with UN decisions, to be concerned about peace and to organize activities to promote a culture of peace.
- Cooperation, synergy and support between organizations working for the promotion of a culture of peace on different levels are necessary. Examples are the cooperation and maintenance of regional organizations like the African Union, NEPAD and CEDEAO to promote integration within the African region.
- Also, collaboration between NGOs and governmental organizations is considered necessary, for example to promote the introduction of peace education in formal educational material in schools and universities.
- Collaboration and efficient communication between the government and local institutions.
- Organizations need support to be able to participate in national, regional and global decision-making processes. Restrictions to visit meeting or conferences should be removed.
- A youth desk at the African Union is needed to assure the participation of youth in resolution processes.
- Respect for human rights by governments and institutions is perceived to be crucial. All institutions should recognize the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. There should be a sound and independent judicial system that protects against violations of children's rights.

- There should be support from government in creating policies that protect children, as well as an active police force that protects the rights of children and proper legal aid agencies that are available and accessible.
- Other support is also needed, such as support letters of other organizations and people, support of ministries in carrying out activities in specific areas (e.g. educational activities), support of media, parental and community support and moral support for their struggle for a culture of peace.

3.3. ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND UNITED NATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

GOVERNMENTS

Education, information and awareness-raising

I think that the media can be the best channel of improving transparency. The media sector of every country, both print and others, should be given enough power to point out corrupt practices and issues that will undermine the peace of a country. The media should also not allow people to use their channels a means where people will stir up revolt within their economies. The media should also be their main source of delivering information to all for the promotion of the culture of peace.

Member, Young People We Care, Ghana

Governments are requested to:

- Organize education and awareness-raising campaigns to promote the culture of peace.
- Create schools for peace, art schools, sport centres and cultural centres to stimulate the development of children and national unity.
- Invest in youth through the educational system and by means of facilitating the education of “youth educators”, animators and youth workers; they should provide more scholarships and promote the development of educational material to promote a culture of peace.
- Stimulate an awareness of the people in their countries on human rights and international rights declarations.
- Respect the different rights declarations and promote a fair justice system. There should be punitive measures for anyone caught involving youth in violence e.g. child soldiers recruitment. They should be encouraged to adopt the law on children and armed conflict.
- Educate political, economic, social and cultural stakeholders to make them aware of their responsibilities.

- Raise awareness on the culture of peace among the media. They should develop more media activities aimed at youth.
- Provide computers and promote cheap access to internet, especially to NGOs, vulnerable groups in society and youth living in remote and rural areas in order to enlarge the transparency of their policies and to integrate youth in decision-making processes.
- Create national websites for youth active in promoting a culture of peace and a national newspaper on peace.
- Take responsibility to really create a culture of peace, and present an annual report on actions for the promotion of a culture of peace.
- Act as good examples for youth by good governance, an equal division of resources, transparency of policy on all levels, efficiency and sincere work. They should show the youth the importance of respecting their community and maintaining peace and a culture of peace.
- Stop governmental politics of demagoguery and promote a democratic decision-making process wherein citizens are able to give their opinion, involving all groups including women.
- Diminish corruption and enlarge the transparency of government politics, promoting freedom of speech.
- Bridge the gap between policy design and implementation.

Youth participation and policy

The present situation whereby youths are not actively involved in leadership and decision-making process is not a healthy development. The government must wake up to its responsibilities and recognize the fact that the youths are not only tomorrow's leaders and custodians of the future, but are active agents of social change and transformation in the present. Young people are capable of leading initiatives and proffering social solutions which when accepted in good faith and translated into positive actions could become indices of authentic growth and sustainable development.

Africa Christian Youths Development Foundation, Nigeria

- Governments should see youth as important potential for future development and not as problems. They should not try to marginalize them or to manipulate them through youth policies.
- The government should use a participatory youth policy more directed at youth and peace for youth, in this policy the integration of peace education on all level of the educational systems is one of the most important things.
- A budget quota should be created to spend annually on youth policy.
- Governments should decentralize their youth policy.
- Youth participation in decision-making processes should be stimulated and their proposals taken into consideration.

- This can for example be done by the introduction of a quota system reserving 30% of decision-making positions for the youth or by changing the policy that youth below 18 years are not eligible to vote in elections and those below 30 year not eligible to hold strategic political office despite all qualifications.
- Youth should be stakeholders in processes of construction of peace (like peace negotiations).
- Governments should also include youth in awards during national holidays and celebrations as they are not enough acknowledged for their efforts in making their country a better place.
- Governments should create platforms of youth to enable them to give their opinion on the construction of a sustainable peace within their own communities.
- Governments should create municipal committees of children and youth to empower them on the local level and to promote the portrayal of role models. Governments are advised to provide the technical back up needed by civil society organizations.
- Governments should construct centres wherein youth active in peacebuilding can gather, where alliances can be created between government and youth and where conferences can be organized to come into contact with youth from other countries.

Youth in development

- According to many organizations peace is inextricably connected with development and respect for human rights. Poverty and hunger are important reasons for youth to be involved in violent conflict and their basic needs should be taken into account in projects organized to promote the culture of peace. This is necessary to motivate them to become active in the promotion of peace and to keep them out of violent conflict.
- Because peace and development go hand in hand, the government should promote social and economical equality and development on all areas within their policy.
- They should pay attention to health, education and employment as these are basic conditions for peace. Governments should provide jobs and social conditions to avoid the integration of youth in violent gangs. This, for example, can be done by financing micro-enterprises of youth.
- Governments should assure that the justice system is engaged and fair. Poverty Eradication Action Platforms should be developed and put into action to change the living standards of youth.
- Governments should develop and properly execute development programmes specially directed at youth.
- Governments should give youth the opportunity to establish their own association without being linked to the government.
- Governments should establish a National Commission with youth representations to coordinate and support peace initiatives and a youth platform to respond to issues like poverty reduction strategies designed for youth by policy makers.

- At last, governments should provide more amnesty to youth that have been forced to be involved in insurgency and encourage them to advocate for the culture of peace.

UNITED NATIONS

To promote transparency, decentralization of UN activities is necessary. This can be done by installing more branches in different continents or at the national level of countries represented in the United Nations. Each branch could consist of a group of local staff. Effective action can only be achieved through research at the grassroots level of communities in member countries.

Awareness and campaigns

The United Nations should launch a big global Campaign on the Culture of Peace. It should not only intervene for peace when conflict is created but should come up with more preventive policies:

- Develop publications and more publicity on the culture of peace and make it accessible on internet spaces.
- Disseminate peace messages on billboards
- Give annual or periodic recognition to key players in youth development promotion and the culture of peace, as well as a youth award whereby youth who have made contributions to the culture of peace could be honoured by financial rewards or for example by a trip to the UN secretariat with a handshake, photograph with UN Secretary General or a certificate of recognition.
- Incentives should be given to intellectuals who left their countries due to conflict to stimulate their return and contribution to build up the educational sectors in their homelands as knowledge is important for peace.
- Be more engaged in civil society actions.
- Link all the activities and initiatives for a culture of peace to the MDGs as these two programs are highly related to each other.
- Administer a reasonable and sustainable fund to fight poverty and hunger.
- Campaign against the use of children as combatant and the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.
- UNCHR should promote the culture of peace.
- Promote the creation of a database for participating agencies and organizations in the promotion of the culture of peace, which has to be accessible to all people.
- Create a standard United Nations culture of peace website where members can coordinate the activities together.
- Publish a newspaper on the culture of peace and have a central Youth Radio Program.

- Organize a global annual week or day of the culture of peace, creating a platform to mainstream youth actions for peace.
- Stimulate sport competitions, movies in cinemas and the creation of cyber-spaces for Culture of Peace.
- Run an essay competition among youth to promote a culture of peace.
- Use the tools most suitable for youths like music, TV, reading competitions.

Prioritize youth and youth organizations

- The United Nations should press member states to hold (UN) youth promotional programmes in high esteem.
- It should continuously make clear to all member states that the implementation of youth development programmes should be free of partisan politics at all times.
- The United Nations should press the governments to respect the youth perspective in their programmes for a culture of peace.
- Insist the governments of the member states to increase youth involvement in leadership.
- Develop more programs on youth and they should especially support youth organizations with little interference of governments.
- Collaborate with youth NGOs to reach youth who still do not participate and to be able to mobilize all the youth in the world.
- Establish a specific office where youth promotional programmes should be channelled through. Coordinators in such office should come from CSOs, NGOs, public services and could be international volunteers.
- Remove all travel restrictions for youth.
- Make it obligatory that governments include two youth delegates in the UN meetings.
- Develop programmes enabling young people to tour or visit other places to promote interaction, sharing and cooperation.
- Stimulate the creation of youth parliaments.
- Invest in scholarship funds.
- Appoint youth as Culture of Peace Ambassadors.
- Always include youth as important stakeholders in peace talks.

3.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING A FUND

Ensure effectiveness of projects

- Control mechanisms to verify the realisation of the projects need to be constructed.
- The projects funded have to manage a participatory approach and include the interests of the target group in the actual implementation. The target group should be part of decision-making processes.
- This could be checked by control agencies. Regular evaluation reports on the executed projects have to be submitted and should be as detailed as possible and providing all the information requested. Receipts of all expenditures need to be provided.
- A competent management and evaluation team made of people from various disciplines as well as opinion leaders and key representatives of beneficiaries of the program has to be set up. Consultation within the evaluation process should reach the community level.
- Indicators should be set to study the impact of the programme.
- NGOs applying for funds should be credible and registered. The signature of the organization's treasurer of the organization should be necessary to be able to apply for funding. Expenditure of funds will at all times require the approval of the Board of Directors.
- There needs to be clear communications and agreements with counterparts that are executing and implementing the projects.
- Evaluation and monitoring should be done through a closed monitoring system.
- In addition to this the advice is given that civil society organizations must have SWOT analyses after every two years [Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats]..

Administration

- A fund should be administered by economical and financial experts and should include youth representatives of all the regions and leaders of youth organizations. Civil society organizations should also be involved in the management and administration.
- A fund should not be administered by the government but by an independent commission, including youth. There is a need for an international steering committee responsible for youth and culture of peace activities.
- Country chapters should be constructed, headed by country focal organizations. They shall be responsible for coming up with country activities and a national Plan of Action. They should receive funds on a yearly basis to distribute and implement activities. An international steering committee should be responsible for monitoring

and evaluation and to review the plans of action of the realization of culture of peace objectives.

- A fund could be managed by national bodies composed by UN and youth representation. A central office should be created next to regional offices for proper networking.
- A fund could be managed by an appropriate staff from the UN youth unit or the coordinators of the youth on the Culture of Peace Project with consultations from youth representatives elected from all the regions of the world based on their track record on peace.
- It should be administered by the United Nations with a central pool and regional pools. A central office in the UN headquarters should be established to avoid delay through transfers by middle officers and accountability of procedures. The country offices should be involved in the appraisal of competent intervening institutions and should ensure institutions account for funds promptly.
- There should be participation of private sector and the government.
- An endowment fund should be set up and rich people in the world should be encouraged to donate into that fund to be sustainable.

Priorities/criteria

- Civil society organizations should develop partnerships with local councils, sub-counties/divisions/municipal councils and district administration for an effective and efficient service delivery.
- Decision-making should not be given to governments.

3.5. WAYS OF REACHING AND MOTIVATING YOUTH

To reach and motivate youth it is necessary to use suitable methods, which attract youth and really take account of their interests and qualities. Organizations should trust more in the capacities of youth to organize things and should see the constructive power of youth.

Youth are active agents of social change and transformation in the present. Young people are capable of leading initiatives and offering social solutions which, when accepted in good faith and translated into positive actions could become indices of authentic growth and sustainable development.

- According to some individuals and organizations, a way to reach and stimulate youth is through the use of Internet. Yahoo groups and networks on Internet could enlarge the outreach.
- An online database could be created of youth organizations and a portal where youth of diverse cultures can meet to brainstorm and share ideas and initiatives.

- In addition to this, youth should be provided with ICT tools to be able to more effectively use the internet. Also, online training courses should be provided for free including the provision of certificates at the end.
- There should be some form of incentive to attract young people. According to some organizations, one of these incentives could be a first emphasis in projects on the primary needs of youth. Gadgets like free caps, T-shirts and pens with the Culture of Peace Logo should be available and disseminated among participants.
- Projects can also be attractive to young people by using music, arts and sports or diffusion of films in public spaces. In addition to this it is important that youth are active agents in the projects.
- The aspirations and needs of youth should be centralized. It has to be ensured that youth are not only involved on paper but also in person and projects should be based on their own experiences and realities. They should be enabled to reconstruct the concept of a culture of peace towards their own context of living. It is important to include young excluded people who are not yet familiar with the concept of culture of peace.
- To define their needs a survey can be organized through which they are invited to attend a seminar on the culture of peace. Projects and promoters should also go to marginalized neighbourhoods. Through projects, youth could be stimulated to become member of organizations for peace or to create local committees that can play an intermediary role. Cooperation with grass roots organizations is indispensable and through networks with more local grass roots organizations the outreach will be optimal.
- Discussion programs in universities and schools and other “youth places” could be organized. A coalition of youth workers and leaders could be created and trained to promote the culture of peace through peer-to-peer education.
- Also, peace advocates could be installed to help getting youth involved. It is important that people with much influence over young people (like school leaders, religious leaders) are educated in the concept of culture of peace. Famous persons and “heroes” whom youth identify with could serve as role models to motivate, empower and encourage the youth.

3.6. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Priorities

- Give priority to proposals that promote mutual understanding and tolerance among diverse ethnic and cultural groups, between youth from different religious backgrounds and between genders
- Strengthen the capacities and practical skills of a group of youth who can act as 'mediators', 'educators' and 'multipliers' among their peers, especially in practical skills as communication skills, advocacy skills, knowledge on the effective implementation of interventions for a culture of peace, knowledge on monitoring and evaluation skills and website building.
- Prioritize collaboration between youth organizations to promote a culture of peace, both at national and global levels.
- Give priority to NGOs directly working with youth and to grass-roots activities that have a great impact on the lives of people.
- Take into account the regional distribution of money so that money is distributed in accordance to the urgent need to work for a culture of peace in specific regions.
- Promote collaboration between organizations; finance should not only be given to projects in one region- nation but also to cooperative projects.

Statements

Peace is not just the absence of war but the presence of all the empowering virtues including Human Rights, equality of all races, sustainable development, tolerance, endurance, understanding, fairplay, solidarity, education, happiness...and trust ... The Culture of Peace is meaningless to the youths of Africa unless it is linked with the total elimination of Human Rights abuses, abject poverty, penury and utter deprivation which has reduced the youth to mere personalities without a defined vision and mission.

National Executive President of the United Nations of Youth Network of Nigeria

The neglect of our youths over the years has yielded negative results which we as a nation are now forced to reckon with. If Liberia is to succeed in maintaining peace and stability, then the new government must address the systemic challenges confronting youth and to empower them for self-fulfillment and national development. We must note that nations cannot be built without the popular support and full participation of its youth population, nor, can the economic crisis be resolved and the human and economic conditions improved without the full and effective contribution, creativity and popular enthusiasm of the vast majority of the young people.

Assistant Minister for Youth Services, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Republic of Liberia

The government must start it all by handling proper youth occupancy; that is employment be it by the government or by the self. As such there must be such guidance right away from school and during apprenticeships and beyond until full occupancy. The most potential of conditions which is very potent to hamper world peace is idleness since. This is because one still gets hungry and cannot obviously feel well if one depends only on what is being provided maybe by parents or well-wishers. Also there must be proper allocation of public fund with all equity. This is because if everything is in line even if there is still poverty and misery, there still reigns peace since the peoples' minds shall be at peace.

Coordinator of the Center for Education & Rehabilitation

Here in [country] the youth is always expected to be organized directly under the ruling party and never give them a chance to establish their own association that could challenge and work at the same time in partnership with the government. Policies that give rooms for the youth to establish their own association without being linked to the government should be advocated and adopted.

East African non-governmental organization⁴

¹ Organization name and country withheld by request.

4. THE AMERICAS

This report covers two vast and diverse continents, the Americas, from Canada to the southernmost tip of Chile and Argentina, and including the Caribbean islands. 76 organizations and individuals from 25 countries have contributed their thoughts and opinions on how they would like to promote a culture of peace in their contexts, organizations and areas. Their ideas and opinions are not exhaustive, but surely represent many millions of young voices wanting to make a real difference in building a culture of peace world-wide.

4.1. ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS PROPOSED TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

Most youth suggest training and workshops to be conducted for youth on issues such as the culture of peace, conflict resolution and mediation, values and human rights. Vocational training and employment programmes are also seen as vital for youth in promoting a culture of peace, as are activities to do with arts, creativity, music, theatre and dance. Intercultural and international exchanges, where youth get to know others, are also popular proposals in building a culture of peace, and many youth have also mentioned the need to meet internationally, to promote networks and to publish and document their work, distributing the information widely, both online and on paper and by radio in local communities.

Education/training

Share the culture of peace through music lessons, arts and recreation for all children in poor communities, and programmes for their families which would generate income, housing, health facilities and education.”

Organización Internacional para el desarrollo de América Latina y el Caribe ONWARD, Colombia

I would use such funds to travel to the Global South - starting with Southern Africa - to collect stories of achievement to post at www.backofthemoon.org. I would acquire audio and video clips of ingenuity and success in these regions and make them available to Northern audiences to offset the images currently plaguing the media.”

Back of the Moon, Canada

- Train youth multiplying culture of peace agents/Ambassadors to work, especially in high social risk areas.
- Conflict resolution and peace pedagogy training with the use of the arts, music and visuals.
- Conduct culture of peace workshops at schools and universities.

- Conflict resolution training to teachers and pupils, following the pedagogy created by the Quakers in the 1970s.
- Audiovisual workshops for artistic expression promoting culture of peace and exchange of experience.
- Increase crime prevention work in schools.
- Engage more in internet training and web site updating.
- Participative workshops with a focus on getting involved with marginalised parts of civil society.

Development/youth employment

I would like to start a youth movement which would pressure the government to create programmes and budgets which would benefit youth. Opportunities to develop companies, scholarships for studies or vocational training, programmes which would support the development of creativity and life skills. This movement would also be organized horizontally where all decisions would be taken by consensus and skills to work in teams and reaching agreements would be developed.

Red Mundial de Juventud de la Oficina de la ONU contra la droga y el delito, Mexico

PSA's or news releases made by youth for youth, with a regional focus (developing your community) but a universal goal (Housing for every human being).

Activist with Habitat for Humanity - Latin America and the Caribbean, Costa Rica.

Work with junior youth to make them more aware of how much potential they have maturing into youth. A big part of this is balancing their material education with moral education & orienting their actions towards the service of mankind.

Young officer in UN Development Program, Guyana

- Create youth councils with knowledge of Creative Conflict Resolution and mediation.
- Engage youth offenders in cultural, professional and citizen programmes, as well as in 'assisted freedom projects'.
- Provide stipends and economic support for youth who cannot volunteer due to distance and poverty.
- Leadership development for youth, especially in culture of peace.
- Create movements for youth to have more access to art and artistic activities.
- Establish a volunteer bank from which organizations can borrow volunteers.
- Train youth in building houses in areas where there is a lack of decent housing for certain social groupings.
- Establish Participatory Youth Budget, where young people locally or regionally take part in resource budgeting and allocation.

- Experiential learning camps, cultural expositions, media documentation "Open Eye" presentation.
- A summer workcamp in the inner city communities and other communities which would involve youth developing their various talents whether it be singing, drawing, craft making etc.
- Designing and implementing social projects.

Events, seminars and conferences

We would like to create an annual culture of peace festival, showcasing developments in peace and social justice, as well as identifying via a needs assessment what aspects of society require critical change for the development of a culture of peace. This project would be directed by youth, but inclusive for participation by all ages.

McMaster Peace and Conflict Studies Society, Canada.

- An international gathering of youth politicians where a document for world peace could be developed and signed.
- Take part in international forums and events.
- Music, festivals, meetings and campaigns for youth with famous people who have an influence on young people.
- Youth conferences with local and regional authorities.
- More inter-generational dialogue and gatherings.

International projects/exchanges

If funds were available I would travel around my country and other countries to meet other young people in order to discuss, share ideas and organize together a campaign to raise awareness about the culture of peace.

Osée Résidor, Mouvement Social Chrétien Prie Agis (MOSCHPA), Haiti

I would like to make peace parcels, where the girl scouts would write and collect things for boys and girls in areas of war and send them.

Asociación Nacional de Muchachas Guías de Honduras, Honduras.

- Organize meetings and medium and long term exchanges between youth from countries in war and the countries which promote war.
- Organize an accommodation facility for guests who would like to come and learn about our process.
- Visits by/to organizations which have been successful.
- Receive youth from abroad to work on ICT projects with the students and exchange experiences on the culture of peace projects.

- Create opportunities for cross-cultural learning by creating opportunities for interaction with different cultures and allow the cultures to teach and inform each other. Creating those same interactions within the specific country as well - particularly between groups with known issues.
- Accompaniment for youth having been demobilised from violent conflict.

Documentation and Information

- Publish a book on the organization's work so far.
- Radio programmes and magazines to distribute information about the culture of peace.
- Communication campaigns on the culture of peace.
- Create a publishing house for youth work and publications.
- Make cartoons on the culture of peace.
- Make web sites, posters, brochures, magazines and other culture of peace materials.
- Do research on youth, especially on poor youth and develop programmes of assistance and integration.
- Ensure that a diagnostic be undertaken through research in areas with high levels of violence.
- Create an Observatory for youth rights.
- Establish mobile libraries with historical records.

Other Activities

I would like to run a wide game with children/young people about war & refugees, a mock court case about democratic participation, a mock UN Security Council meeting about disarmament. I would want to organize anti-war marches in my city. I would run non-violent direct action workshops! Organize a "take back the night" parade for women at my university. Mostly peer-to-peer education. In the future I want to run a social & sustainable enterprise.

Activist of Sierra Youth, Canada

Take young people from different youth groups and social backgrounds on educational and fun field trips.

Student Environmental Network, Jamaica.

- Design a horizontally organized structure to strengthen and unite the movement
- Promote collective action in the cities, such as anti-discrimination campaigns, social inclusion and democratic participation of all affected by decisions made in a community. Promote culture of peace awareness locally through debates, games and audio-visuals.
- Create local, national and regional youth forums in Latin America

4.2. SUPPORT NEEDS

All youth have mentioned the need for financial support in order to carry out the above-mentioned projects and activities, as this will increase their competence and capacity in dealing with activities for a culture of peace. However, other needs are non-financial, such as materials, training, networks and assistance.

Human and material resources

- Portable PCs and desktops, projectors, paper and stationary
- Transportation, airfares
- Venues and office space
- Accommodation and food
- Access to ICT and web site design software
- Volunteers write projects and raise funds
- Knowledge of other experiences
- Technical support
- Technical assistance and accompaniment along the way
- Advice on conflict management and Human Rights violations

Training

- Skills in web site design and programming
- Work methodology
- Consultants
- Time and events-management training

Networking/contacts

- Local networks and alliances with other culture of peace organizations
- Cooperation agreements
- Help and support from the media, especially TV

Political/official support

- Official recognition of and authorisation for our youth organizations

4.3. ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND UNITED NATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

In a rich diversity of responses, youth are eager to advise governments and the United Nations on how they can best meet needs in promoting the culture of peace and the involvement of youth. Governments are advised to ensure that all youth have access to basic services such as education and health services, and that they are given participation through organizations, meetings and consultations. They are also urged to pay special attention to inequalities, providing support, training and employment programmes for youth at risk and in marginalised groups. The United Nations is being asked to pressure governments and local authorities, to the best of their ability, in facilitating youth participation at all levels. The UN may also organize international events and conferences, where experiences are exchanged, policies discussed and designed and networks created. Support to youth through stipends, economic support, materials and open forums are also ways through which the UN may help youth promote a culture of peace world-wide.

GOVERNMENTS

Promoting International Day of Peace and Living a Culture of Peace Week would be a good start. But their efforts need to be integrated into a comprehensive effort to institutionalize service-learning (and related skills of research, community needs assessment, goal setting, etc.) and peace education (content related to current events, historical perspectives on non-violent solutions to problems - with the understanding that the textbooks' portrayal of history as a series of armed conflicts is inaccurate).

PeaceJam Foundation, United States.

Promote through the Ministry of Social Services the core areas of culture of peace

National Youth Council, Grenada

Governments are requested to:

- Propose ways to create youth policies and invite youth organizations to take part in the shaping of public policies.
- Establish processes on culture of peace values, thus changing the conception of culture of peace.
- Ensure young people's education and provide them with courses in motivation, solidarity and team work.
- Include culture of peace in their educational curricula.
- Establish specific professional training programmes for youth offenders.
- Recognise that there are faults with the legal system and revise it.
- Strongly fight trafficking and consumption of drugs.
- Increase numbers of classrooms and reduce numbers of pupils in each class in primary and secondary school.

- Implement relevant laws, declarations and resolutions passed or adopted nationally and internationally.
- Be even more transparent about their finances and accounts.
- Reduce funding for the promotion of politicians and devote it to youth.
- Invest in young people's creativity.
- The governments which give scholarships to youth could ask that youth do volunteer work for the culture of peace as a return on their experience.
- Invest in quality education to eliminate educational inequality and consequently social inequality.
- Establish programmes which work specifically with migratory youth, youth at high risk, marginalised youth and street youth.
- Provide training and awareness-raising about culture of peace to national and local politicians.
- Develop a plural and representative National Youth Council, elected democratically by the same youth, serving as a Consultative Council for Youth to advise on decisions being taken at different levels and organs, and promoting and opening spaces for youth participation.
- Eliminate the obligation of military service in our country
- Recognise youth citizens' rights for all from the age of 16
- Lower the voting age to 16, and provide a polling station at every appropriate educational institution.
- Reassess school curricula to include peace education and social skills at all levels and disciplines.
- Develop consensus-based models in student governments and classroom groups.
- Develop a strategy and implement a policy to lower the staggeringly high drop-out rate of Aboriginal students, by addressing issues of racism within the school systems and culturally appropriate curricula.
- Make policy to support fair trade, less packaging for consumer goods, and remove all carcinogens from cleaning agents and other products. Corporate Canada should be made environmentally and internationally responsible by our government.
- Provide training on peace education for teachers working in the school systems (from the United States).

Promote Peace Workshops in schools and communities from an early age through UNESCO Digi-Arts Programs. When we focus their attention on the values found within their communities they will feel a sense of pride and the policies could be driven from the ground up.

International Education and Resource Network Trinidad and Tobago

There should be an infant-youth organization for the defence of Human Rights.

Asociación Comité de Familiares de Víctimas de Violaciones a los Derechos Humanos
de El Salvador, CODEFAM, El Salvador

Allow youth to conduct promotional activities with little or no supervision/interference from adults. Government should create avenues and provide the technical/financial resources for youth to spearhead and manage more freely those issues and activities that directly affect youth. Budgetary allocation for youth development must be critically reviewed and increases made to match the growing needs and concerns among youth.

St. Kitts National Youth Council, Saint Kitts & Nevis.

UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations is requested to:

- Advise governments on how to include youth in policies on human rights, legislation and citizen youth participation.
- Organize international campaigns to promote the culture of peace values and characteristics.
- Invite youth (ages 18-29) to help youth maimed by war.
- Stimulate CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) in richer countries and invite North-South partnerships with companies committed to culture of peace and social and professional integration for youth.
- More actively invite, engage with and support organizations which work on culture of peace.
- Urge governments to work with local and regional organizations that promote culture of peace.
- Organize distance learning and local seminars.
- Establish cultural exchanges and international gatherings for youth.
- Initiate huge mass media campaigns on the culture of peace.
- Support the training of culture of peace agents world-wide.
- Establish subregional, regional and global forums for reflection and analysis, aimed at generating a flow of information and reflection on the impact of youth on violence and how a culture of peace could alleviate the violence.
- There should be more lobbying for a culture of peace in the UN.
- Heads of state should receive information on the results from culture of peace activities, in order to implement change and similar programmes in their respective countries.
- Pressure governments to initiate local and municipal programmes for children, youth and the culture of peace.

- Ensure continuity in youth programmes in the face of frequent changes in governments and government policy.
- Allow youth to give opinions on current wars in the UN Security Council.
- Develop opportunities for recruitment in 'peacemaking' as an alternative to joining militaries for 'peacekeeping', with comparable benefits.
- Small-scale and youth-led initiatives are vital to poverty eradication so give away micro-grants of \$1,000 to youth groups!
- Promote panel discussions and open dialogue among youth and member states representatives.
- Promote awareness of culture of peace through appointing Youth Ambassadors of Peace who highlight the importance of culture of peace and involve all member states to keep their promises.
- Create projects that target the empowerment of youth.
- Provide more opportunities (voluntary and paid) within the UN so youth can gain experience.
- Focus UN activities on "youth as leaders of today." The UN needs to create a youth committee that would take leadership in creating and overseeing this initiative including the funding of grants to groups of youth who are working in concrete ways to address the UN Millennium Goals of ending poverty, etc. - which need to connect to the UN Culture of Peace initiative.
- Engage youth to promote a Department of Peace within each country.
- Promote cross-cultural understanding activities, youth congress for resolution and brainstorming of existing issues and way of discussing and bringing to the table specific issues that affect youth.
- Publish and disseminate materials with peace as a central theme to popularize peace and human rights as values.
- Create a Peace Museum in each country as a testament to the culture of peace.
- Create scholarships to fund those youths working for peace.
- Elaborate a conceptual and methodological proposal to work on culture of peace.

4.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING A FUND

Administration/Management

Establish simple and less bureaucratic process for fund applications, and make sure that the experts who consider applications take into account the local context which they may know very little about.

Director Ejecutivo, Fundación Boliviana de la Juventud, Bolivia.

[A fund could be managed] *by establishing an office on the culture of peace at each of the United Nations' offices, in each country*

Quédate con Nosotros de Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco, Dominican Republic.

Many suggestions on fund management include establishing a committee or a board consisting of mostly youth. UN officials and other experts are asked to take advisory roles in the administration of such a fund, and representation by all countries, regions, ages and genders are underlined by most youth suggesting participants on the committee. A need for simple and less bureaucratic procedures in the application for funds is also pointed out, and transparency should be ensured through publicising the applications, the procedures with which they are handled and the final results.

- Establish a coordinating committee with representation of NGOs to approve funding for culture of peace activities
- Involve development cooperation agencies in order to avoid governmental corruption
- Support transparent projects which publish their results monthly and annually online, which organizations have long experience and well recognised and organized administrative staff
- Ensure transparency and avoid much bureaucracy
- Include representatives from each country, each region, each organization
- Involvement of youth organizations will also ensure better transparency
- Enable youth organizations to apply for funds
- Make sure it is not distributed through the government but directly to the organizations
- Ensure a low budget for administrative and bureaucratic costs
- Create a secretariat with representation in each country with a board where decisions are taken collectively
- There should be some compensation for the work done by youth, and they should receive training in leadership and motivation
- Use UN monitors to ensure transparency and control
- Ensure democratic participation through voting in different forums

- Establish a Permanent Commission for management and administration; with objective criteria for project approval
- Establish a Fund Administration Council with at least one third of its members being youth leaders from different regions internally renewed by thirds every year. The Council would also have experts on youth issues and the culture of peace, and the budgets would be proportional to the volume and magnitude of youth in each region involved.
- Make sure that results are long-term, and that there is a system for evaluating whether results are being generated
- Create strategies on how to inform people on what projects have been selected and supported, distributing this information publicly
- Funding should be managed locally by the National Youth Councils in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs but it should also be administered among community-based youth organizations and groups especially among the rural communities which tend to suffer from a digital and communication divide.

Transparency and flow of information

The internet is a main priority for youth when they propose ways of making information and activities more transparent. Accessible language and low or no-cost magazines and bulletins are also high on the list of priorities. Some youth in the Americas also emphasise the importance of a process where inclusion, intentions and open dialogue are integral parts, so as to match the goals with the means themselves in promoting transparency.

Create a global youth observatory for the culture of peace.

Voluntades por Coahuila, Mexico

- Establish an integral monitoring and evaluation system online which permits access to information and knowledge about organizations and their activities.
- Make sure that the language used is understandable to all.
- Open up discussions in schools on what culture of peace is and how it can be achieved.
- Increase information access online.
- Publish free magazines which will have information on projects and finances.
- Develop dialogue capacities and encourage dialogue in cases of conflict.
- Be clear about and share intentions when communicating in order to make contributions more transparent.
- More written information and hard copies, as many young people do not have access to internet.
- Ensure there are evaluations of all projects and processes applied and used.

4.5. WAYS OF REACHING AND MOTIVATING YOUTH

Participation

Some of the richest responses are about youth participation, which is an issue of great concern to youth in the Americas. Not only do youth give advice on opening up more forums for participation, discussion, reflection and decision-making on relevant issues, but they are also concerned with the way youth are asked to participate, and urge the application of creative processes such as music, the arts and alternative forums when involving youth. Sensitivity to gender, the youth's own language and local context and the youth's potential are also mentioned as especially important. Representation is also key, and although important, using the internet and organizing events in the cities will not include all youth, especially rural groups of young people with no or little access to computers.

Youth and other people who would like to take part, should be trained in and informed about participation, rights, popular participation action, etc.

Corporación Grupo Tayrona, Colombia.

I have to praise the Canadian governments Youth Internship Programme which sends hundreds of young people abroad every year. I don't believe that any other country in the world has such a programme and it is highly beneficial. I recommend that other countries and the UN create more opportunities in this respect.

Back of the Moon, Canada.

Numbers representing small island developing states at international meetings are usually small and much more should be done to include a better representations from these less developed countries.

Youth Environment Organisation Inc., Dominica.

- Invite youth organizations to take part in national and international forums
- Be aware of the local context when approaching and involving youth
- Increase support to NGOs which have volunteer programmes aimed at youth in poorer communities
- Publish and distribute more information about youth projects and youth work related to the culture of peace
- Ask youth leaders to give input on the culture of peace and work on culture of peace at events and in campaigns, and then later return to their communities to multiply the work there.
- Support the establishment and running of youth organizations
- Strengthen youth organizations, especially financially and with regard to training
- Support youth organizations in getting established legally
- See youth as action subjects and not objects for attention as if they were an evil force in society

- Early training in the pillars identified in UNESCO's Delors Report on education.
- Ensure more information in Spanish and other languages, and with more emphasis on such programmes so that more youth would be interested and get involved
- Ensure that a gender approach always be included
- Make sure that activities also are implemented in the rural areas, and not only in the cities
- Approach youth in the churches, in Rotary and Lions Clubs and other social groupings
- Create a United Nations for Youth, with representatives from each country and local representatives in each country delegation.
- Offer concrete proposals on how youth can concretely and individually practice a culture of peace.

Motivating and reaching youth

When trying to reach out to youth who know little about a culture of peace, the youth of the Americas urge the use of fun, alternative and creative forums and mechanisms. By using music and arts festivals, commercials and good examples, more youth can be reached, it is believed. More spaces and arenas for youth participation will also help greatly, and many also believe that youth will be inspired and get involved when they actually see that youth projects are taken seriously, implemented and giving results.

- Organize participatory seminars with group sharing and teaching
- Educate youth by using their language, culture and arts
- Provide partially funded posts for young interns and volunteers, to avoid school drop-outs and underemployment
- Implement projects developed by youth to inspire more young people
- Create more spaces for participation
- Show the concrete impact of youth projects in order to inspire others
- Build inclusive and including agendas
- Involve youth through music and urban music festivals
- Take youth's concern seriously and address their challenges and problems
- Ensure that they are reached at their schools and in their communities, and not only through the internet
- Provide opportunities for travel, funding, and volunteer experiences comparable to those provided by youth organizations with ties to the military.
- "Development of a culture of peace activist group who will run sessions for recruitment and promote positive alternatives to these persons." - National Youth Council, Dominica.

- Through commercials, National Youth Councils, Departments of Youth, and other NGOs
- Embrace and involve youth in activities geared towards their own development, by meeting them at their level, where they hang out, and by understanding and appreciating their individual and collective social, physical and emotional needs.

4.6. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Priorities

- Strengthen youth organizations, especially financially and with regard to training.
- Ensure that a gender approach always be included.
- Make sure that activities also are implemented in the rural areas, and not only in the cities.
- Ensure transparency and avoid much bureaucracy.
- Make sure it is not distributed through the government but directly to the organizations.
- Ensure a low budget for administrative and bureaucratic costs.
- There should be some compensation for the work done by youth, and they should receive training in leadership and motivation.
- Make sure that results are long-term, and that there is a system for evaluating whether results are being generated.
- Prioritize projects developed by youth to inspire more young people.

Statements

Through social mobilisation, we can give incentives for participation as a kind of social transformation. Equally, tasks which promote reflection and autonomy, the spread of new values and concepts, creating strategies which attract youth and involve them in constructive participation through face-to-face approaches and valuing every single person in the process, giving visibility to the participants. More distribution of resources on all levels

Programa Eco Cidadão (Programa Eco Ciudadano), Brazil.

In my country there are laws that promote the culture of peace, but they have not been implemented yet.

Mil Milenios de Paz, Argentina.

Wow, the UN seems so distant to me. To be frank, I didn't know any work and I had never heard of anything as expansive as the culture of peace. All I hear about with regard to the UN is related to the crisis in the Middle East

Pastoral da Juventude - Pescadores de Jovens, Brazil.

There should be more interaction between youth from different social classes and different races or ethnic and religious groups. This way they would get to know each other and only based on that, on increased equality, would they be able to build consensus, coordinate collective action and truly build a culture of peace.

Asociación de Scouts de Bolivia, Bolivia.

5. THE ARAB STATES

5.1. INTRODUCTION

In the five decades since the adoption of the Declaration of Human Rights, great progress has been made in promoting an understanding and respect for its principles. But constructing a world which embraces the principles of non-violence, respect for human rights, sustainable development and cultural diversity faces many challenges around the world and particularly in the Middle-East area.

As defined by the United Nations, the culture of peace is a set of values, attitudes, modes of behaviour and ways of life that reject violence and prevent conflicts by tackling their root causes. The year 2000, designated by the UN as the International Year for a Culture of Peace, was a starting point for a global movement for a culture of peace. It was an alliance of existing movements and individuals already working towards this goal.

How can we act as an agent of change within our institutions and governments? We need to understand the relationship between individual action and the function, rules and powers of our systems of government. To make the necessary transformations we must talk with other people and organizations about building a culture of peace, together as well as urging governments and institutions to commit to doing their part.

Why is the notion of *peace* such a "taboo" in many of the Arab countries? What has provoked the continuous Middle-East violence, and what can stop it? The most recent crises are the political conflict in Lebanon as one of the ongoing fifty year old conflict between Arabs and Israelis which shows the seriousness of the problem. Therefore, the cause of the current aggravation is rooted at the unresolved Arab-Israeli conflict, and particularly the absence of positive change in Palestinian-Israeli and Western-Arabs relations.

If there was any illusion that unilateral withdrawals can bring security, these have been laid to rest in the events of July 2006. Military superiority helps in limiting casualties on one side and inflicting more on the other side, but in the end, it cannot end the conflict or establish a long term peace.

Israel, the Palestinian Authority, and the nations of the world through the UN have long agreed on the basic outlines of a solution, based on an independent state for the Palestinians and security for Israel. But now the two parties distrust each other too much to move in that direction. Therefore, as the United Nations' General Secretary Kofi Annan put it, "A multinational force is essential to gradual restoration of trust between the two sides." No mediation can provide an amicable solution to the Middle-East problem without the restoration of trust, peace, non-violence and brotherhood between the peoples of Israel and Palestine.

All these issues are concerns that are expressed by the survey. As for a culture of peace to be established in the region, all of these issues must be addressed so that local societies are convinced of practicing a culture of peace within their frontiers.

It is expected and understandable that the notion of peace in most of the Arab countries in the months to come will be put aside. Populations in the region will be watching to see how deeply committed the Western world is to its vision of a democratic and peaceful Middle-East solution. A number of questions impose themselves on the arena: Will the Western powers and the UN work together for a genuinely fair and comprehensive Arab-Israeli peace agreement? And will there be any working plan with Arabs to promote culture of peace and human rights throughout the region?

Many experts in the region fear that a strong western influence would radically shake up the regional power equation. This could jeopardize any future peace and foster instability, terror and unconventional warfare, as ethnic/national groups fight to claim their share of authority in their countries. Many in the Arab and Islamic world will not privilege from any peace process until the final resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. But most of these concerns will be muted if the international community works for democracy in the Arab countries, showing respect to their values and using diplomatic means to promote peace based on security for all countries in the Middle-East.

The survey covers several issues related to the culture of peace, some of these issues are related to financial and non-financial support needs on the organizational and individual level, youth policies to promote peace in the region, new initiatives or activities to be adopted by the UN, as well as steps on how to improve transparency and flow of information to promote culture of peace and how to get youth involved and motivated.

As mentioned in the introduction, the current events in Lebanon and Palestine, affected the survey in terms of distribution and in raising the topic of peace at this time. Many individual and organization's objections demonstrated their feeling of anger towards what is going on in the region. The situation made many young people not want to participate in the survey based on their feeling that peace is like a fairy tale, or an inapplicable dream in that troubled region of the world. In fact, a sign of VETO was often received against the survey from Egypt. This sign shows 25 empty questionnaires from individual young people implying: "NOT NOW".

Yet, some of the young Arabs still have hope in seeing that dream come true by their hands and that is why they have shown cooperation and understanding in filling the questionnaire. Most of them are offering their visions in how to activate the youth role to have a safer world based on peace and justice.

5.2. ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS PROPOSED TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

Convene multinational meetings to allow dialogue among youth from different cultures and backgrounds, and to promote outstanding as a prerequisite for a culture of peace and also to exchange points of views on the values related to peace.

Director, Bibliotheca Alexandrina Peace Institute

Responses from diverse organizations include:

- Promotion of young leaders to develop their skills and abilities in peace campaigns through training and workshops
- Creation of an interactive website that allows discussion, dialogue, exchange of views on peace issues.
- Publications in Arabic on the culture of peace
- A course for postgraduates on the culture of peace and dissemination of peace values
- A special effort to ensure creative support for the values of peace.
- Lobbying at all levels to introduce the human rights conventions and protocols that related to culture of peace themes.
- Research conducted to fill in the gaps on key actual topics.
- Promoting education and awareness to youths who are not involved in practicing the importance of culture of peace.
- Sportive activities and the sport efforts as related to a culture of peace around the world, including aquatic activities such as swimming, surfing and scuba diving.
- Workshops on accepting others even if they are totally different than us:
- "Latitudinarianism" [*freedom of opinion in matters pertaining to religious belief*].
- Creating and encouraging a culture of giving.
- Developing programs through different media such as television /satellite channels /Internet /posters and periodicals.
- Several participants mentioned that when youth give and think of giving to others, they have a feeling of accomplishment so therefore, they don't use violence as a tool to feel powerful.
- A campaign for youth to help them accept themselves and understand how to deal with their emotions.
- Establishing a national youth association with activity in the field of publishing the culture of peace as well as organizing international meetings for exchanging youth from different countries to permit a cultural exchange.
- Preparing an international website such as a "*conversation forum*" allowing many to renew solidarity and conflict resolutions through peaceful means.

- Respect for human rights awareness through sessions that include community focus sessions on equality between women and men, international peace and security as well as education for a culture of peace.
- The formation of a youth group and facilitate them traveling abroad in order to spread peace and project the entrepreneur role of Arab countries in the peace notion.
- Voluntary initiatives to organize camps, field trips, books and publications about youth as well as translating and publishing them on websites that interest youth.
- Organizing annual and international competitions for the best articles and peace projects.
- Teaching and training halls, professional trainers, social studies for the regions of conflict as well as selecting the best human capacities to work on spreading the culture of peace.

If more funds were available, we would work on a wider national participation to promote the culture of peace in all its aspects as well as cooperate with other NGOs, schools and universities.

Makhzouni Foundation, Lebanon

5.3. SUPPORT NEEDS

- Selecting youth ambassadors who will travel among the conflicting countries to learn about each other (often mentioned).
- Networking with peace organizations around the world with UN and UNESCO participation
- Specialized peace education
- Publications in Arabic on the culture of peace
- Civil society organizations should support the development of peace studies institutes and organize meetings of all peace related NGOs to coordinate their action
- International institutes should support the idea of culture of peace by holding regular meetings between young people from different countries via mass communication tools and assigning specialists on the concept of peace to give lectures about this specific theme.
- Training kit material that includes information technology to facilitate dissemination of information was strongly requested.
- International cooperation with political supports and psychological aid (due to recent conflicts in Palestine and Lebanon).
- Supporting national associations and providing them with funds, especially youth associations.
- Providing specialized trainers to help in conducting workshops and campaigns, to compensate for the lack of present skills.

5.4. ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND UNITED NATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

GOVERNMENTS

- Introduce peace studies in school and university curricula
- The exchange of ideas with public and international leaders by holding meetings
- Cultural, financial and media support to all peace programs.
- Starting intensive and strong campaigns to spread the culture of peace concept.
- Assuring the unity of the nation's youth by organizing activities and competitions that permit young people from all over the world to participate.
- Conflict resolution between countries should be done in peaceful ways such as: starting dialogue between countries, especially those that are in conflict, training facilitators to moderate the dialogue between nations and holding international camps to apply the idea of peace

UNITED NATIONS

- Encourage more participation of youth in UN meetings and activities.
- Hold regular regional meetings of young people to discuss issues and problems that hinder peace.
- Stress the link between peace and human rights, justice, security, social welfare and economic inequality.
- Facilitate participation of youth representatives in UN building commission.
- Organize workshops on the culture of peace – conflict resolution for youth on a multinational level.
- Promote research on various aspects of peace building – peace keeping and peace working.
- Organize training for trainers from every country as available resources (often suggested).
- Promote and support peace in such a way to achieve stability in the region and this could include organizing training workshops for the militiaman holding guns (youth).
- Invite youth from every country to complete on production of teaching materials on targeted topics.
- Support the conversation exchange between youth from different countries around the world.
- Establishing an independent back channel with the United States that is not subject to any political pressures.
- Provide necessary financing for mass media to support culture of peace.

- Promote young leadership.
- Follow up on implementing decisions, especially in the Middle-East region.
- Remove the veto system.

5.5. SUGGESTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING A FUND

- Funds should be given to organizations that accept being accounted on and should also provide information and reports to make full benefit of these resources.
- Many noted that these resources should not be granted by governments, especially in the Arab region.
- Hold a youth survey to specify which organizations, NGOs and civil society organizations have the largest activities, so that they may be financed to start programs to deepen the culture of peace.
- Distribute resources for activities through a resources-dividing committee such as a higher council for peace that approves these projects.
- Funds could be managed through the development programs of the UN and through several program coordinators *or* by a subcommittee of the UN peace building commission under the supervision of UN Secretary-General.
- To keep information channels open, there should be cooperation between all parties that are interested in spreading the culture of peace such as civil society entities, governmental sector and independent observers. Doing so would also allow each party to help one another and achieve their role.
- Information should always be available and discussed on all levels in a free manner.
- Laws against corruption and transparency should be issued.
- Non-governmental youth organizations under the surveillance of the Arab League could also be put in place.
- The civil society should have the power to observe the government.
- There should be channels to connect three main parts together: civil society, youth and UN organizations. This could be done using the local news paper and sometime notice boards along the streets.

5.6. WAYS OF REACHING AND MOTIVATING YOUTH

Incentives

- Joint cooperation between colleges, schools and sports clubs since they are considered to be places of youth gathering.
- Through schools, universities, summer camps.
- Documentary films, radio and TV programs and other outreach activities.
- Distributing application forms in partnership with organizations that are closely related to youth, to gain insight on their opinions.
- Holding sports and cultural competitions and assigning symbolic prizes as well as organizing conferences on various international levels to get acquainted with the programs and activities.
- Creating teams that will be responsible for erasing culture of violence.
- Making job acceptances in both public and private sectors conditional on passing a course in disseminating culture of peace.
- Involving organizations like the following to help: Permanent development associations; association of developing Alexandria's youth; the Egyptian association for developing youth's skills; Ministry of Education; Religious Leaders.
- Honesty with youth is necessary in order to gain their trust

On the government level

- Promoting awareness about the role of the NGOs, its activities and its programs (funded by the government) in the media, education curricula, and universities.

On the civil society level

- Implementing the recommendations of the Special Session on Disarmament of the United Nations General Assembly held in 1978.
- Changing the military barges to mobile schools that will allow children of different ages groups (12 to 16) to learn and appreciate different experiences.
- Creating coalitions such as networks in urban and suburban communities based at grassroots, and supporting local NGOs such human right groups and women's organizations.
- Publishing an annual or semi-annual comprehensive report about the best practices in culture of peace around the world as well as illustrating successful experiments.

On the United Nations level

- Many responses urge the UN to organize youth international and regional conferences as well as workshops that will allow UN agencies to play their role by funding and promoting such activities.
- Some were more pessimistic and expected the United Nations to stop the violence against children, such as the massacre in the recent Lebanese crisis and accomplish a cease fire. Unfortunately, they remarked that the UN organization was not able to complete its role.

The UN was expected to stop the violence against children in Lebanon and establish a long term cease fire. Unfortunately, the international organization was not able to condemn civilian massacres early enough. This has created a feeling of disappointment as the UN did not do anything to help protect these innocent children.

Bahrain Women Society

The UN should promote a concrete peace-supporting initiative to achieve stability in the Arab region by organizing training workshops for the armed militiamen

Somali Youth Link

5.7. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Statements

We have to eliminate poverty and that is surely a way to promote the idea of a culture of peace.

Entrepreneurs Business Forum in Egypt

We should start a campaign for youth to help them accept themselves and teach them how to deal with their emotions.

Bahrain Women Society

Before any UN incentive, we should prepare ourselves to spread the idea of culture of peace. Then, would come the role of the UN to help us provide the necessary to support such an idea by holding conferences that are at least one week long for each representatives from the world

Youth without Borders in Jordan

In a time where we witness the peace dove being slaughtered by those who claim peace and freedom, we apologize for not replying to the questionnaire. Those who are talking about peace now are those who dance on the rhythm of death. I apologize for not participating in such a survey.

Representative of Palestinian Association for Human Rights

The efforts for peace are real and active. We have to deepen it and expand it without giving a place for despair. May be the horizons of peace seem far away, but we are heading towards it in strong and confident steps.

Aden Organization Morocco

Priorities

- Prioritize educational activities for respect for human rights, equality between women and men, international peace and security, and education for a culture of peace in general.
- Promote young leaders to develop their skills and abilities in peace campaigns through training and workshops
- Prioritize projects that organize the training of trainers for a culture of peace.
- Support the conversation exchange between youth from different countries around the world.
- Promote cooperation between youth and all parties that are interested in spreading the culture of peace, such as civil society entities, governmental sector, independent observers and the UN organization, allowing each party to heal one another and achieve their role.
- Promote cooperation for a culture of peace between colleges, schools and sports clubs since they are the places of youth gathering.
- NGOs and civil society organizations that have the largest activities and that accept being accounted on should receive financing to start programs that deepen the culture of peace. Resources should not be granted through governments.
- Empowerment of independent civil society entities to monitor NGO expenditures, these committees will be required to issue detailed reports on NGO financial activities.

6. ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

This report expresses the voices from youth organizations in the Asia-Pacific Region; 54 organizations from 19 countries, as well as three regional organizations. The surveyed region covers Asia from Japan in the east to Iran in the west and from Mongolia in the north to Sri Lanka and Indonesia in the south. The Pacific region includes Australia, New Zealand and small island states of the Pacific. Some characteristics of responses include: 1) Youth demand more involvement in considering/solving problems at the country, regional and international levels, 2) Youth require more access to information and more support from experts for their efforts to contribute to a culture of peace, 3) Organizations and individuals in some developed nations expressed their interest in helping youth in less-developed countries, and 4) Youth organizations want more recognition and support from authorities in national and international levels.

6.1. ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS PROPOSED TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

The organizations in the Asia-Pacific region need more resources to expand the many activities and projects already underway as well as to promote the various aspects of a culture of peace. Below are some examples cited by organizations and individuals about what they would do IF they had more resources.

Non-formal education and training

Organize Peace Orientation Training through inviting social organizations partners, e.g. 2500 community organizations and 10,000 social activists.

South Asia Partnership Pakistan, Pakistan

Encourage and empower youth and build self-confidence through workshops and discussions for culture of peace that make every single youth believe that he/she is wanted and that she /he is a cog in the wheel.

Samasevaya Saudarya Samajaya, Sri Lanka

Train and strengthen the network of Young Peace Messengers.

Asia-Pacific Center of Education for International Understanding

Our student and youth wing named as Bangladesh Advanced Students Alliance (BASA) would perform youth activities related to a culture of peace in most of the areas of northern Bangladesh. We could implement the activities including debate workshops and competitions, quiz competitions, discussion and networking meetings, folk cultural functions, theater workshops, rallies, processions, human chains, preparing and disseminating IEC and BCC materials on youth awareness of peace, tolerance, mutual respect and understanding.

CCD Bangladesh

- Education for culture of peace in various settings (proposed by more than 10 individuals and organizations).
- Increase awareness of the culture of peace among young people and engage youth in approaching the issue.
- Provide workshop training on self-development, conflict-resolution, culture-of-peace and leadership and facilitation skills.
- Teacher training for culture of peace.
- Development of teaching, training, and information materials for culture of peace.
- Help youth to become peace makers and let them become a sustainable influence for the welfare of people.
- Ecology trip (visit sites with ecology problems).
- Environment and development education for youth.
- Provide religious education by right religious leaders, strengthen their faith and promote “unity in diversity”.
- Workshops/seminars on education of pluralism and interfaith harmony conducted by foreign experts specializing in child & youth psychology.
- Workshops/seminars on multi-culturalism, environment and international cooperation for students from under-developed countries.
- Organize study sessions on ecology problems.
- Promote peace through traditional art forms like dance, theatre etc.

Educational activities in focused youth groups to empower them with capacity of conflict-prevention in daily life within local wisdom, spirit and civil society.

Pokja Pedoman, Indonesia

Human rights training in an effort to creatively empowering young people and those you serve young people to

1. *Understand the system of rights and responsibilities according to international standards and the state's [Australia's] obligations;*
2. *Advocate on issues that matter to them and,*
3. *Promote a culture of tolerance and understanding via cultivating rights-based dialogue. We have learnt that the strongest voice comes from those whose rights are directly affected.*

Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia, Australia

Work on developing more 'Scouts of the World' projects to help educate our youth members about the importance of being a global citizen and what it means to help those in need.

Scouts Australia, Australia

Awareness and initiation in to the newly adopted Right to Information Act, 2005 which can empower young people in order to reduce administrative delays, corruption,

bureaucracy, etc. which in turn would enhance their faith in democratic institutions of the country, without resorting to violent solutions for social justice.

International Foundation for Human Development, India

Hold education courses on other countries' experiences on the culture of peace

. Member, United Nations Association of Iran

I would like children in many schools to plant trees for peace. I would encourage them to plant seeds of reconciliation in their hearts especially during the Khmer Rouge trial and also to think about children and communities hurt by war.

Jesuit Service, Cambodia

Research and advocacy

In the Chittagong area, there is a diverse culture. There is a culture of local community as well as the culture of workers community who came from North. The worker's community is losing its culture. So we can increase the awareness of this culture and the issue, advocate to preserve the culture through a research of their culture and the way to disseminate their culture, and claim to policy makers to support this action.

Young Power in Social Action, Bangladesh

Do research on the causes of conflict amongst young people in Fiji and explore solutions. Raise awareness on about the different conflicts that exist in our local community and engage young people to approach the issue with the best solution to achieve peace.

Young People Concern Network, Fiji

- Conduct research on post-conflict recovery and maintenance and youth issue
- Develop a center to reserve the related documents (for research activity of issues of their concern)

Seminars, conferences and camps

Organize an inter-religion integration camp. In this camp, Hindu, Christian, and Muslim families will visit 10 days among one another to know each other's practices and learn sensitivity to each other. This sensitizing each other in the community will help prevent communal conflicts.

Member, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, India

- Strengthen existing Model United Nations events and involve a more diverse group of young people, by offering scholarships.
- Youth peace camps, camps of adolescents to build solidarity.
- Inter-religion integration camp.
- Meeting among youth organizations in conflict regions to develop peace.

- Forum to promote dialogue among youth. For example, conventions and conferences that provide South Asian linkages.

General development initiatives

- Build a community centre with state of the art equipment and accessories where unemployed youth can regularly gather to devise methods of exploring their true potential.
- Capacity-building of NGOs and local teachers for career skills.
- Promote sustainable development through environmental financing, ecology saving, community economic development, long-term/interest free small loans scheme wherein unemployed youth can start a small business to become self-reliant.
- Drug prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention initiatives.
- Promote gender equality, free flow of information.
- Promote caring, sharing, self-managing in urban setting.
- Moral Recovery Program and Community Livelihood Projects.
- Offer cultural and educational chances to rural, less-privileged youth and give education support to third-world countries.
- Programs wherein unemployed youth can do community service at various hospitals, clinics, parks and recreational spots to further develop their sense of civic mindedness.

International projects and exchanges

Send some organizational members to international conferences and let them report their experience to the youth in Japan.

Member, Youth Eco League, Japan

Since Iran has a rich 2500-year civilization, and has been a land of peace, and the Silk Route went through it, as an Iranian youth I would like to take the message of peace to the countries that the Silk Route goes through, and call on these countries to take part in creating a peaceful world.

Member, United Nations Association of Iran, Iran

- Youth network establishment (domestic/international) to support/encourage each other.
- Create and sustain youth network (or youth parliament) in Uzbekistan and then Central Asia.
- Exchange program of national youth leaders to 2-3 countries to learn to promote peace and to build international network for consultation on peace building.
- International youth cultural festival.

- International student conference on culture of peace, covering the costs of inviting people from abroad, communication, advertisement, reporting.

Campaigns

- Campaign about culture of peace.
- "Kids Against War Campaign".
- Observance of International day of Tolerance and related activities in schools and colleges.

Individual activity interests

- Become an advocate of peace and do some voluntary work.
- Travel to meet and interview people about their experience of culture of peace.
- Join in seminars or trainings about culture of peace.

Media initiatives

Publication of a children's book (cartoons) on diversity and religion that teaches how to respect other people's culture and religious beliefs.

Founding President of UNESCO Club of Metro Manila

- Increased and more sophisticated use of the television, radio and Internet to promote the culture of peace (proposed by many respondents)
- Make a monthly bulletin for youth.
- A detailed and interactive website, which could also build a virtual culture of peace and build global links between young people.
- Use appealing media sources: MTV, Disney, etc.
- Peace-related materials as declared in the UN charter and other organizations should be published and disseminated among the youth.

6.2. SUPPORT NEEDS

All of the above ideas and projects require funding. In many cases this is the most pressing need and organizations are constrained by a lack of funds. In addition to funds, they also require support of a different nature, such as human resources, materials, training, networking/contacts, political/official and other support.

Human resources

Experts, who can help with monitoring of peace building program, fundraising, public relations, peace books, and peace toolkits for young people to learn and peace practitioners to implement peace and conflict resolution projects.

Youth for Peace, Cambodia

- Many organizations require experts in various fields such as organizational development and management, monitoring, evaluation, and developing their network. Many of them also mentioned that access to information on the above information would be helpful.
- Expertise in technical tasks, experience of international collaboration, youth business, establishing NGO status.
- Practical / technical support for program development (including making their own website)
- Documentation on the concepts and capacity-building for management skills, training in techniques of monitoring and evaluation.
- Sharing intellectual resource and expertise.
- Assistance with language barriers.
- Volunteers.

Material resources

To realize the program, beside financial support it is necessary to have knowledge about the experiments of other NGOs in this direction, trainings for trainers, consultative and experts help of culture of peace program. Also necessary are support in technical aids for realizing program activity and services of transport, because we are working in 3 regions and 17 districts in South of Kyrgyzstan.

Public Youth Union "Golden Goal", Kyrgyzstan

YACWA has an enormous reach/access to young people through direct service providers and independent youth workers. YACWA recognises that the Internet is an excellent medium to reach urban and rural youth. Yet they do not currently have the resources or funds to utilize this resource.

Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia, Australia

- Audio-visuals and posters.
- T-shirts, camping permission for peace rally, documentary films on peace.
- Materials to bring simple campaigns on streets, bus, school, and other public spaces by leaflet, pin, sticker, and pocket book.
- Rooms for organizational activities.
- Educational materials, information and technical tools to teach peace.
- Infrastructure such as Internet and other technical tools.
- Media support to increase awareness.

Training

Upgrading and building organization capacity in global issues, larger networking, and personal achievement.

Pokja Pedoman, Indonesia

- Training and capacity building for youth and youth organizations to do targeted projects and activities.
- Training youth for social harmony and national integration.
- Training in culture of peace, peace education and intercultural dialogue.

Networking and contacts

More than 10 organizations and individuals call for networking and consultation as a necessary support for their initiatives. Some requested the identification of working partners, opportunity to meet key persons internationally for a culture of peace. Several emphasize the need for information about what others are doing for a culture of peace.

Sometimes it is not clear who is active or who is responsible for culture of peace in some countries. It is a challenge for us to identify partners who can be reliable counterparts for APCEIU in each country. It requires us to help with the leadership training of youth organizations.

Asia-Pacific Center of Education for International Understanding

Frequent flow of information, making linkages with other like-minded groups and highlighting our initiatives internationally.

Youth Action Nepal, Nepal

Constantly receive culture of peace (CoP) related news like newsletter by e-mail ... Please introduce to us many other organizations that work for CoP and how they work for CoP activities. We need a network.

Foundation for the Rural Youth, Korea

The UN should look at the existing peace-building program working with youth for youth and engage them in a network to share information, programs, capacity, and leadership

so that each country can strengthen their peace-building programs for young people. Youth for Peace welcomes any networking, exchange, and internship from people around the world.

Youth for Peace, Cambodia

Institutional support

- Support from schools, the education department and the justice system, as well as wider recognition by government, and educational bodies and further endorsement from respected organizations and community members.
- General social and/or governmental recognition of organizations and their initiatives related to culture of peace.
- Family support.

6.3. ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND UNITED NATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

GOVERNMENTS

Formal education and training

Conflict-transformation and non-violence training should be included in standard curriculum at least on a community level, with opportunity for young people to learn about global applications.

Scripture Union of WA Inc, Australia

- Regular focus discussion groups in Senior High School to build capacity of equality and inter-faith issues as an extra-curricular programme.
- Peace awareness lectures and mini-workshops in schools and colleges.
- Integrate cultural studies with technical studies.
- Make community service an essential component of education starting in schools.
- Introduce peace studies, human rights, non-violence in the school syllabi all over the country.
- Improve digital knowledge among youth.
- Do not impose specific religious teachings in schools and society.
- Emphasize science education instead of religious education; religious education should not be something that promotes sectarianism.

Youth policy

Changes in legislation to promote respect for human rights, civil participation of youth, civil education for tolerance, surmounting of conflict situations

Public Youth Union "Golden Goal", Kyrgyzstan

The present national youth policy should be updated to cope with the changing circumstances to address culture of peace. Effective steps should be taken by the government to implement the policies declared in the national youth policy. The points of culture of peace as adopted by the UN should be incorporated in the national youth policy.

Bangladesh Education and Resource Network, Bangladesh

Several organizations expressed their concerns that their countries either do not have a youth policy or their youth policy has not been kept or developed well. Many respondents called upon further development of strengthening of youth policy in the area of peace-building and culture of peace. Also many organizations and individuals suggested that the government should involve youth in important considerations or issues of their country.

- Establish national youth strategic development plan, promote and enable youth so their voices are heard by all stakeholders.
- Make it a law to promote organizational activity for culture of peace.
- Listen to children. Listen to youth and help them understand the concept of culture of peace.
- Give the youth an opportunity to be involved in society on all levels inside and outside the country. Include youth in decision-making process.
- Encourage youth participation in national e-governance (i.e. use of electronic ICT in governance).
- Promote youth policy to build peace.
- Organize a youth committee to promote culture of peace and other initiatives by UN.
- Establish facilities such as cultural centers/youth centers to promote peace.

Other policy areas

I cannot find any government statement on Culture of Peace in Japan.

Student, International Christian University, Japan

- Designate an office/department/institution that will be responsible for culture of peace in the country.
- Establish and promote youth employment opportunities, formulation of strategic human resources development policy for high demand of industrial market-skills.
- Make the right to work as a fundamental right.

- Work on poverty for children.
- Provide adequate health care.
- Discrimination of all kinds must be classified as a crime.
- Promote dialogue between different groups.
- Eradicate corruption, promoting human rights and enforcing the law.

Funding support by the government

- Scholarships for youth, travel grants for youth exchange with neighboring country, cultural and social studies, international cooperation activities by youth.
- Funding for strengthening youth activities on culture of peace, support to children and young people's participation for advocacy and education, quality education

UNITED NATIONS

Working with governments

UN has a special role to pressure governments as well as other agencies to involve youth in the peace process and use youth potential in nation building.

The Training Institute, Nepal

- Influence/encourage national government to:
 - Develop culture of peace friendly youth policy in the national level
 - Implement what is approved as the UN's strategies.
 - Support and provide a good environment for NGOs to do their initiatives.
 - Recognize genuine and meaningful participation of children and youth
 - Defer them from ignoring or abusing UN treaties
- Campaign for harmonious national youth policies; adopting of model national youth policies.

Promoting ideas

Campaigns at the official UN-level are useful in raising awareness of culture of peace issues. The Manifesto 2000 Campaign run by UNESCO in 2000 (where we acted as a messenger) was very effective in generating interest in both the media and local authorities and NGOs.

Peace Boat, Japan

The UN should continue to attach importance to the decade campaign and provide sufficient resources to keep the momentum. The campaigns for Culture of Peace, Millennium Development Goals and Prevention on Armed Conflict should support and coordinate with each other instead of competing with each other.

Director, Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament

UN should introduce and enforce the Human Rights Charter. In addition it should make a "Charter for Peace" and give it to member countries so the steps will be taken by countries.

South Asia Partnership Pakistan, Pakistan

UN should promote tolerance and international understanding because it is now a global society.

Foundation for the Rural Youth, Korea

- Use media (radio, television, Internet) and printed material to promote culture of peace.
- Promote more dialogue among regions/cultures through national/international conferences on culture of peace.

Youth involvement

In order to provide young people with the motivation and encouragement to be involved ... I think its vital that the UN involve existing youth organizations as these organizations already have links with youth.

Scouts Australia

- Give the chance for youth/youth groups to attend UN activities/meetings related to culture of peace.
- Make a UN Student Ambassador Program so youth can learn more about UN.
- Engage more youth in advocacy and in considering the issues of UN.
- Encourage micro-enterprise development among youth.

Finance

The UN and the international donors should create a more OPEN FINANCING CHANNEL where youth are encouraged to work, be responsible, participative and to achieve youth objectives and goals at local, national and international level. That should be called: Millennium Bank where finance can are hugely available for YOUTH. As we all know, youth are the most vulnerable in proposal writing and fund raising, esp. in the Less Developing Countries.

Cambodian Youth Development Alliance, Cambodia

- Give experience and supporting funds or human resources to build up youth capacity in education for sustainable development toward a culture of peace.
- Give funds to youth who act for poverty eradication in the country.

Other

Play a proactive role by establishing an elite panel consisting of youth & adults from various international organizations acting as arbitrators. Such a group can visit any hotspot on short notice and should be authorized to interact with the aggrieved parties as well as independently submit their recommendations on rectifying the problem

Peace World Wide, Pakistan

- Make UN more accessible to citizens (e.g. set up UN offices in different parts of the country to spread their ideas, let their officers visit schools to give talks to students)

6.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING A FUND

A fund shouldn't only be managed by an adult board of directors. There should be youth in the government/ management board of the fund administration committee. The process should be very transparent and widely promoted so that youth organisations know about this and can be a part of the funding. Where needed, the youth organisations could also be mentored by adult driven organisations.

Youth Initiative, Nepal

Senior management positions must be made rotational to discourage corruption and prevent complacency from setting in. Poor performers must be replaced with those prepared to put any extra effort. Politicians or religious clergy should be barred from holding posts in such a setup.

Peace World Wide, Pakistan

- It should be managed and administered by youth. Youth delegates carefully selected from various countries should be in charge.
- Involvement of youth in the monitoring and evaluation of functioning.
- Reputable organizations and universities should be involved in screening organizations and disbursement of funds.
- Funding should be administered through closely-monitored community groups, not-for-profit and non-government organizations with a mission for helping young people and a heart for furthering a culture of peace without a business agenda.
- Ensure transparency through evaluation, monitoring of activities.
- No top-down approach, too much bureaucracy will be a problem.
- Clarify the purpose of the fund to encourage investors and clarify the concept of culture of peace.
- There should be careful planning of management. There should be a joint effort in developing strategic planning for long term program.

- Have committees that can have regular meetings for 2 times a year or annually and create secretariat that share and provide information to all members of network to ensure transparency.
- Set up secretariat in each country to monitor the programs that members can have regular meeting for example every 3 month.
- Continuous report preparation to ensure the implementation of the projects.
- Develop procedures and standards for network members to report and document what they have done monthly, quarterly, and annual.
- Good communication among participating organizations will be important.
- Set up video-conferencing to share the work and lesson learns from each country.
- Report all the results to UN to make sure that we did these activities.

6.5. WAYS OF REACHING AND MOTIVATING YOUTH

Government and UN agencies have a tendency to involve young people who have a dominant voice and forget about other young people who have equal potential. This results in the same young people being represented at international conferences and forums (we call them conference hoppers).

Member, Youth for a Sustainable Future Pacifika

I believe the best way to promote a culture of peace amongst young people on an international level is by bringing groups of them from different backgrounds and nations together to discuss these issues themselves. It is important however, that the young people selected have networks they can go back to in order to disseminate the information they received.

National President of United Nations Youth Association of New Zealand

Reaching youth

- Address basic needs of youth, including jobs, human rights, gender, education, security and peace, and democratic participation.
- School based education programs, and youth initiatives. That is where the young people are.
- Develop outreach programs through schools and communities in rural areas.
- It should be supported by the community, parents, and schools.
- International and local level youth organizations should work together in different levels in advocacy, lobbying, execution and ground implementation.
- Develop Youth Peace Messengers such as the program of the Asia-Pacific Center of Education for International Understanding.
- Clarify the idea of culture of peace to youth. Help youth think about his/her own concerns and connect them with the idea of culture of peace.
- The materials should match the youth's interest and reflect their every day life issues.

Disseminating information

- Use media and publicity materials to disseminate the ideas of culture of peace and the related programs. For example spot, drama, and other youth activities related to the culture of peace programme or peace-building programme.
- Organize related presentations in youth gatherings and make information available.
- Existing youth organizations should involve and motivate others and place emphasis on regional and sub-regional networks.
- Print peace messages on the school text books.

6.6. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Statements

More activity to promote cultural exchange. Enable more dialogue among all regions. - There should not be control by one region. Things should be more open.

World Youth Foundation, Malaysia

All organizations, institutions, and local associations working in the fields of Culture of Peace should be encouraged to be transparent, accountable and participative. Their accounts should be published as widely as possible

International Foundation for Human Development, India

The UN should support a “Youth as the Leaders of Individual Society Initiative”, which allows youth to be responsible for peace-building amongst themselves and the community.

Cambodia Youth Development Alliance

Make culture of peace activities as profit-making activity to make it a continuous activity, so people can find a career in the field

Member, Hiroshima University Peace Project Team

Please no more declarations and statements! Young people in the Pacific want real projects that have real outcomes. Youth leadership training and peer-to-peer education programs are most effective in the Pacific. Young people are also receptive to radio, television and print mediums. Is there a chance for the UN to provide seed funding for activities and projects planned, implemented and evaluated by young people?

Youth for a Sustainable Future Pacifika

I truly hope that UN will take it seriously. People are losing faith in the double standard of Western politicians. There should be increased role of youths and strengthen their opinion so that UN is forced to listen to them. There should be more opportunities of participation given to youths.

Member, SAMADANA/M, Sri Lanka

Priorities

- Support NGOs that are working for peace-building, conflict-resolution, conciliation, and leadership for young people in technical, spiritual, material, and financial ways.
- Facilitation but no direct implementation. Implementation should be given to NGOs. Provide tech support, training, financial support, monitoring, and evaluation.
- National and local youth-led and youth-focused NGOs should be in priority.
- Regions affected by conflict should receive high priority.
- Invest in infrastructure such as Internet and promote youth exchanges.

7. EUROPE

When youth organizations in Europe respond to the question “What projects related to culture of peace would you do if funds were available?”, there is no end to the ideas and suggestions they give. The responses can be roughly divided into categories, but the overall picture is simple – the youth organizations are ready and willing to organize activities and reach out to youth. Most of the organizations state that they are already running projects and activities, but with insufficient funds and great potential for further elaboration.

7.1. ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS PROPOSED TO PROMOTE A CULTURE OF PEACE

Intercultural exchanges

One of the most prominently featuring suggestions from youth organizations is intercultural exchanges. From Armenia to Ireland, youth organizations appreciate the importance of exposing youth to other cultures and people from different backgrounds. These are some of their suggestions:

- Make it easier for youth to travel and see other cultures. Combat ignorance through intercultural learning.
- Create a civilian peace force with international meetings, programmes and courses on global themes like diversity, health, gender, participation, sustainable development, peace and security.
- Youth meetings where youth from different countries can discuss work on and promote the culture of peace idea. They can then go home to their countries and spread awareness of culture of peace in their communities.
- Focus especially on local youth, both students and youth lacking higher education, as it is important that youth from all sections of society are exposed to other countries and cultures. Also include disadvantaged youth and let them take part in international projects and travel.
- Organize culture of peace summer camps for youth.
- Student exchange programmes along the lines of the EU programmes Socrates and Erasmus, but with a clear focus on culture of peace topics.
- Continue and expand the campaign “All different, all equal” and run international projects with European partners on cultural diversity.
- International voluntary projects on culture of peace, especially volunteering, work camps.
- Bilateral and multilateral student exchange programmes and study visits, international conferences on human rights and international law.

- Support intercultural exchange, because it's the most efficient form of intercultural learning. Organize events (e.g. culture festivals), exchanges between young people of different cultures, support member organizations with information and material, organize platforms, working on networks

Training and skills development

Equally important as intercultural exchanges to youth organizations is the provision of training and skills development in all eight core areas of culture of peace. Education and training for youth and people dealing with youth is seen as necessary on all levels - local, regional, national and international. Different areas of a culture of peace are considered to be interrelated so that only the starting point must be adapted and selected depending on the target group/audience:

A whole process is needed, including introductory seminars and conferences, trainings for trainers, training courses, simulation games, round table discussions on specific issues and topics, video conferences involving all interested parties, information campaigns, professionals/ trainers working on specific topics:

- Diversity and equality – multiculturalism and inter-religious tolerance. Particularly important with regard to current international climate. Sensitization and dialogue with Muslim communities very important.
- Intercultural learning.
- Facilitating dialogue among representatives of conflicting regions – diplomacy on grass roots level.
- International understanding.
- Democratic participation and youth cooperation.
- Participatory communication and the free flow of information and knowledge.
- Relations between national majorities and minorities in certain countries.
- Social and financial gap within societies.
- Strengthening non-violent communication skills.
- Peacebuilding, non-violent conflict resolution and conflict transformation.
- Children's rights.
- International jurisprudence with regard to human rights, rights of minorities, the legitimacy/illegitimacy of war.
- Discovering and changing of stereotypes and prejudices.
- Youth cooperation.
- Intergenerational dialogue.

Youth for Habitat targets the establishment of a youth academia in Istanbul where young people from Europe and Middle East can get together to discuss the fundamentals of Human Rights. The aim is to provide young people a variety of trainings on conflict resolution and Human Rights and to provide platforms where they can share their ideas and experiences.

Youth for Habitat, Turkey

- Focus also on methodological and management skills, organizational development, and, very importantly, skills in monitoring and evaluation.
- Youth leadership in culture of peace should be key in training youth trainers.
- Prioritize the use of interactive tools like role play and other creative methods.
- Training material – use existing material for the above topics developed by youth organizations. For example, some national youth councils have developed training materials and resources (National Youth Council of Ireland)
- Make it possible for youth to do internships and work training with organizations and companies with a culture of peace philosophy.

Formal education

Revitalise the debate on peace and stability through education. Education and awareness-raising. Combat ignorance and make peace by peaceful means. Encourage reflection, education and real solutions!

The Director, Transnational Foundation for Peace and Future Research.

- Workshops in primary and secondary schools based on the everyday lives and situations young students are facing at schools, in their youth group, within their families.
- Focus also on the media, how they understand it, analyze it. Focus on schools because this is an environment where a lot has to be done on education for a culture of peace. (Staff member at European Youth Forum)
- Explore and identify with struggles elsewhere in the world bringing the global to the local through the personal which has great potential for developing international understanding and understanding of dominant, global political, social and economic forces.
- Encourage research and documentation of good practice and gather such knowledge.
- Make and supply education material and multi-media materials such as documentary DVDs.
- Important to adapt methods to different ages, e.g. using creative methods like storytelling and singing for younger children.
- Also organize training for adults – parents, teachers, politicians who meet and work with youth every day how to communicate and interact with youth.

Campaigns & awareness-raising

Being a youth NGO activist in between Europe and Middle East, makes me a lot aware about the tensions that could have been eliminated through non-violent means of communication. Thus, if funds were available, I could setup an initiative to increase the awareness for learning more about non-violent strategies and local involvement through peaceful solutions of disputes.

AEGEE-Ankara, Turkey

For culture of peace work by youth to reach out and really have an impact, youth organizations agree that massive awareness-raising, information dissemination and various public relations activities would have to be organized. These are their suggestions for projects to that end (see also awareness-raising support needs in the next section):

- Create an international information centre for bringing together and disseminating relevant information to organizations, youth and other target groups.
- Create a resource bank and interactive tools on the web!
- Organize information campaigns about culture of peace and the organizations that promote it beyond youth organizations – raise the public's awareness.
- Create Youth Culture of Peace Festivals on a regional basis to spread information and raise the profile of this work.
- Go on a Peace Culture Road Trip and organize information meetings/seminars along the way!
- Youth Councils can support member organizations to organize activities and events highlighting global linkages and actions related to culture of peace.
- Organize peace demonstrations, media campaigns including minorities, young people from different backgrounds, alternative youth, joint discussions with authorities and young activists.

7.2. SUPPORT NEEDS

Funds

We basically have all the preconditions for organising these kinds of activities as regards to human resources, well established network and cooperation with institutions, universities and externals. The only thing which is a constant battle is funding.

European Law Students' Association

Almost without exception, European youth organizations state that a lack of funds is the primary problem for them. It prevents them from having sufficient paid staff, sufficient office space and equipment, as well as carrying out their ideas for projects. Funding is needed for so much more than just financing projects. Organizations state the following issues as the most pressing:

- Knowledge about existing funds and how to apply. For the larger organizations, e.g. the European Union, application procedures and criteria are often very complicated. The time and work effort needed just to make an application often mean that organizations cannot spend their scarce resources on a large effort.
- Practical training or workshops to learn to apply for such funds are needed, but most of all, processes should be made less complicated!
- Funding from various levels would mean more than just financial support; it would mean that e.g. the local municipality appreciates our work and it can also be a legitimizing factor for activities.
- More long-term funding is needed, not just on a project-to-project basis.
- Funds to keep the organization running are badly needed – staff and office costs.
- Meeting rooms and conference venues are needed for events and training.
- IT infrastructure has to be upgraded. Even national youth councils are facing difficulties. For example, the Youth Council of Slovakia (and youth NGO's organizations in Slovakia in general) is faced nowadays with the lack of technical equipment that are needed for institutional development. The Albanian Youth Alliance reports that they are currently using Internet cafes to get access to the World Wide Web.
- To have the logistical means to develop encounters that involve those who are excluded from society.

Human resources

One fails in getting people involved because one does not understand how much resources it may require. Needed: More time, good participatory methods, good follow-up, making it simple to reach back. Lots of human resources.

Norwegian Youth Council

A great deal of support is needed to have professional trainers and experts that can participate in the different activities dealing with the culture of peace.

Youth Action for Peace

Youth organizations suffer a severe lack of human resources and particularly skilled human resources. This is partly due to the lack of funds for salaries, as well as having to rely on volunteers that can only give a limited amount of time to the organization. Human resource needs also include external expertise and trainers that would contribute to the organization's development:

- Paid staff! This would ensure continuity and sustainability of organizations and projects!
- Volunteers are needed on a continuous basis to keep projects running, particularly volunteers with skills and experience.
- Trainers and experts! Create a list of skilled people, perhaps identified through a already existing networks, (local, regional, international) that can be accessed and used whenever needed by youth organizations. Include people from the big international organizations also! They should be ready to give of their time to the grassroots.
- Trainers are needed to provide additional skills and expertise for staff and volunteers on:
 - Culture of peace principles and working methods
 - Fundraising
 - Project administration
 - Monitoring and evaluation
 - IT skills and Internet-based communications/networking
 - Language skills
 - Facilitation
 - Leadership

As it is also essential again here to have support from international organisations, we would need qualified trainers and qualified training material and good practices on how to implement culture of peace activities. Moreover, it is important to maintain a cross-cultural atmosphere while organising activities, so we would need participants from all related parties.

AEGEE-Ankara, Turkey

Materials, information and awareness-raising

This kind of action deserves media support to attain its objectives - to understand how to promote a culture of debate, diversity and peace.

Belgian Youth Council, (French speaking) Secretary General.

[Bridge the] language divide: Translations and publishing of relevant literature, investigative journalistic work.

ZaMirNet, Croatia

- Access to information about relevant trainings and seminars on culture of peace. The first thing that is needed for many organizations is to learn culture of peace skills. For that they need training as well as good information materials!
- Organizations need access to training materials in local languages. Translate relevant publications!
- General information materials, such as leaflets, posters, logos, basic principles in published form are necessary for visibility and mainstreaming.
- Create a small culture of peace booklet that would be the key when people ask “what is the culture of peace?”
- Prioritize materials and information that are easy to read, games, everything that has the goal of getting people to go beyond their individualism and open themselves up to collectivity, to move, to engage, and to open to the world.
- Create information centres with easy access for the public.
- A user friendly website should be created with information and training materials, perhaps an online library with material on theory and practice, toolkits. Such a website could also include a section on current events and projects and it could be used for communication among young people – e.g. through some discussion forum.
- Promote culture of peace values, concepts and methods in public spaces, both in terms of awareness-raising and research and information.
- Include as many people as possible in awareness-raising by using everyday media like TV, radio, internet and the press.
- Focus and research on where cultures of violence grow, such as the movies and music industry and computer games.
- Information and lobbying is also needed vis-à-vis governments, the public sector, private sector and international organizations.

Global and regional networking

Share good practices on promoting a culture of peace with others. Facilitate networking between those working in the field of culture of peace in the different countries.

The Director, Euro-Med Youth Platform.

We need information and help in networking in order to invite more organisations than our partners.

Greek Youthnet, Greece.

Many youth organizations express a need for a global network that they can use in practical ways to add value to their activities, drawing on accumulated knowledge and avoiding duplication of effort:

- There is a need for a good transnational network to link organizations. A global network could promote strong teamwork and partnerships and allow the sharing of experiences with other organizations from different countries.
- Share information about approaches and achievements related to the culture of peace.
- Facilitate a network of organizations and create groups with expertise on particular topics. Put out a catalog of institutions that defend and promote a culture of peace. Create synergies among these institutions.
- Organize a round table of youth NGOs really existing and acting in the field of culture of peace.
- Help existing youth NGOs to organize a Youth Corps of culture of peace supporters.
- Link European youth organizations to youth organizations and NGOs in developing countries that promote awareness and action on culture of peace.
- Develop coordinated actions, which would mean greater dissemination (visibility) and faster progress.
- Use umbrella organizations, like national youth councils, to disseminate information on the network. Youth councils have member organizations on the national level, often several hundred. Staff and members of eleven European youth councils helped shape this report. Most of them can provide this kind of networking service in their national setting. They also have access to materials and good practice information, as well as their own trainers in some cases.
- Bring together the public and private sectors.
- Develop ICT tools for international contacts. Create networking methods that can be based around e.g. an interactive web resource.

We want to develop partnership with youth organisations of Europe and other countries for joint cooperation [and] to suggest some Central European partners to participate in joint Youth project "Let's build Europe without Violence and Conflicts"

Educators for Peace and Mutual Understanding, Ukraine

7.3. ADVICE TO GOVERNMENTS AND UNITED NATIONS TO PROMOTE YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

GOVERNMENTS

When asked what they think governments should do to promote youth and culture of peace, youth organizations almost unanimously call for greater participation of youth in decision-making and for a solid youth policy that is more than a token piece of legislation. They also think governments should cooperate with youth organizations to a greater extent and to mainstream culture of peace methods and principles into formal education.

Youth participation in decision-making

“To prevent alienation, youth should be made equal partners in processes that concern them. Lack of understanding and dialogue between the adult world/structures and young people need to be addressed in terms of communication, institutions etc. Government officials should be trained in youth dialogue and young people should be part of carrying out that training.”

British Youth Council, United Kingdom

- Youth is not high enough on the agenda for the governments. A recognition of youth as partners is needed - not only on paper but also in actions!
- The government should involve more and more youth representation in institutions and decision-making on state level.
- Support and ensure participation of young people at all levels of the society. Encourage the establishment of youth advisory groups at all levels to promote a youth perspective in planning and implementing activities.
- Provide incentives to promote youth-led activities.
- Recognize youth leaders and support their ideas, initiatives and activities related to the culture of peace in their surroundings.
- Involve youth through pro-active and continuous efforts that would help young people to feel required and involved in social processes of the country.
- Youth initiatives concerning conflict transformation issues must be encouraged and supported.

State policy in Turkey has a lot of missing points when it comes to youth policy. It is recent that a shift is being seen from seeing the youth policies as only a matter of free time of the youth. So I think the government should be courageous to support activities that promote multiculturalism and establish a basis for dialogue between groups of youth in conflict.

AEGEE-Ankara, Turkey

Government needs to increase its awareness of youth issues as young people are now approached as a problem group, treated as students without credibility. Lobbying, NGO cooperation - having one strong voice - is needed in Hungary for youth issues.

Foundation for Democratic Youth, Hungary

Minimum quota for young people. The Director, Euro-Med Youth Platform

Youth Policy

In order to promote culture of peace at national level it should be involved in governmental programs and implementation plans; secondly it could come as priority in EU program[s] ... on European as well on national level.

Lithuanian Youth Council, Lithuania

It's needed to create a national youth policy and to put in this the issue of culture of peace.

Greek Youthnet, Greece

Enable youth to actively take part or develop youth policy, conduct research on the topic. And generally government should educate themselves on culture of peace.

ZaMirNet, Croatia

- Youth policies need to be developed in countries where they do not yet exist. This should be done in cooperation with youth and the main youth bodies in the country.
- Where youth policies exist but are not adhered to, or where the content is not useful for youth in the societies they live in, policies should be revised.
- Youth councils and other youth organizations have strong agendas for change that they try to communicate to government in various ways, such as lobbying and campaigns. Governments should grant them access to their structures to give input on policy.
- Sometimes a ministry of youth or a governmental agency for youth needs to be developed to provide institutional support for youth and culture of peace issues.
- The right formula has to be agreed within countries to fit their particular circumstances, but youth participation and the eight core areas of a culture of peace should be prioritized.
- For example, in many countries in Eastern Europe, youth organizations put great emphasis on the just treatment of minorities and their inclusion into policies and activities that are at present primarily geared at the majority group.

Support and co-operate with youth organizations

More attention should be devoted to these activities especially on national and regional level. Government and youth NGO should cooperate in implementing various activities.

Lithuanian Youth Council, Lithuania

- Cooperate with already existing youth organizations and to involve them in youth policy development on any level.
- Intensify cooperation between youth NGO's working in the field of culture of peace, with government institutions.
- Support the work of youth organizations in general and in relation to culture of peace in particular. Youth organizations can assist in achieving important policy outcomes, but they need partnerships also with the government - consultation, financial and legal provisions to work.
- Funding is key – governments need to allocate funds to enable youth organizations to work effectively.
- Prioritize local capacity for local issues facing youth, e.g. funding programmes for non-violent resolution of conflicts on the local level in multi-ethnic societies.
- Prioritize exposing youth to other cultures by supporting organizations that organize international youth exchanges.
- Make youth voluntarism and peace seminars readily available for local communities.
- For example, organize peace forums on different levels, starting from intergenerational level, groups, sub-cultures; then to national levels between urban-rural youth, minorities, encourage minority youth participation by directly working with communities.
- Make use of national youth councils and large scale organizations like the scouts to mainstream culture of peace with the public.

Better opportunities/mechanisms for youth to participate as volunteers (volunteer exchanges, workcamps).

South East European Youth Network

Youth exchanges should be promoted by the government, but using existing structures among NGOs and youth organisations. Exchanges should go both ways - students coming to Poland as well as Polish students going abroad.

Polish Guiding and Scouting Association

No doubt that such a national program should involve state organs (Ministry of Education , Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Youth and Family affairs and others) which could provide organisational and financial support and give new possibilities to realize essential youth projects and national initiatives in the spheres of peace education, youth health , children's rights, handling conflicts and youth violence, preventing bad habits, improving leadership and civic consciousness...

Educators for Peace and Mutual Understanding, Ukraine

Culture of peace in education

... include the topic of Culture of Peace into school curricula in a non-ideological way contrary to the times of communist oppression, when they were speaking about peace but fighting against the “capitalist world”, which totally destroyed the meaning of peace for many generations.

Czech National Youth Council, Czech Republic

- The basis for long-term change is education; sensitization and awakening! In many countries, education reform is needed. Review the current policies and curricula.
- The focus (and finances) should be on education policy; all policies should mainstream culture of peace. Enter the eight program areas of the culture of peace into school curricula.
- Also include culture of peace in teacher-training curricula and upgrade practising teacher's skills in direction of promotion of culture of peace among children and youth.
- Introduce culture of peace into schooling programs as a facultative or optional subject with special students' textbooks and teachers' guidelines, qualified educators.
- Incorporate workshops on the topics related to the culture of peace in the regular school system.
- Monitor and evaluate policies and programs in education for culture of peace, especially in schools and higher education.
- Broader promotion of culture of peace among young people, especially in countries that have experienced conflicts; adjusting the concepts to the local context (avoiding the dichotomy peace-war).
- There should be special educational programs, courses, manuals for schools and institutes for learning culture of peace issues in the national system of education.
- Link youth activities more closely to the national education program.
- Support non-formal education initiatives by cooperating with civil society.

Create the conditions for a culture of peace in society

The government should actively and consistently in their work aim to counter the dominant and ongoing normalization of a culture of war, militarism and violence.

PeaceQuest, Sweden

The government should:

- Resolve and implement crucial documents connected to culture of peace issues, and in cooperation with nongovernmental organizations, become involved in campaigns that promote the main ideas that are mentioned in Declaration and Program of Action for a Culture of Peace (Resolution A/53/243)

- Create conditions for all people who live in that country to have a good quality of life – somewhere to live, a job, ability to raise a family. When people feel secure they can pay more attention to the development of a culture of peace and tolerance, helping other nations etc.
- Offer the same conditions to national minorities as to the majority population. Remove incentives for continued segregation and celebrate ethnic and cultural diversity. Create spaces for different groups to meet. Just as youth need to have access to decision-making structures, so do other groups in society.

UNITED NATIONS

The advice that youth organizations have for the United Nations is manifold. They see many ways in which a macro level organization could enhance global processes for the culture of peace and youth.

As a highly respected international organisation, the UN should use its position and standing to bring together young people, youth organisations, governments, NGOs and statutory agencies to develop policies and promote actions that build peace.

Development Education Coordinator, National Youth Council of Ireland.

Links between the global and the local

- Local-level change is key and macro-organizations often cannot relate to what's happening in reality on local level.
- The profile of the UN's activities is too far from the general public; we only have "world days" which are sometimes too institutional and too far away from the people.
- To get closer to the people, the UN could establish regional centres on particular regional culture of peace issues. e.g. in the Balkans to deal with e.g. history and conflict portrayal.
- There is a gap between discussions on a high level and what is done afterwards in real life of young people of a given country. It should help forge global links for grass roots organizations and follow up on its macro-level work.

Participation and influence

- A youth gathering in the General Assembly, inviting government to have a young delegate at the GA should be expanded – every country should have a delegate!
- Internship schemes should be enhanced, expenses should be paid. Young people and students without income should not have to pay for working for the UN!
- The UN should support work towards more participative processes, taking into account regional differences. Maybe target efforts at regional and local needs instead of having one standard international format/process for a particular initiative.

- It's always the same NGOs present in UN discourse – the large ones. The UN should form partnerships with NGOs for particular purposes and include new organizations on temporary basis through accessible channels.
- There should be citizen participation and representation within the UN (especially of youth) to see what the people want as well as to increase transparency, but the large bureaucracy seems like a big obstacle to progress, and especially to links with the grassroots.
- There needs to be greater involvement of youth. For example, give youth ownership of different projects.
- Encourage governments to implement youth policies and to work with civil society.
- Call on governments to live up to their promises – implement vital culture of peace UN documents, fund youth organizations and projects.
- Appeal to government to focus their attention to the importance of peace education and bringing up of youth in the spirit of peace and tolerance.

Information, learning and networking

Promoting dialogue among youth should be a priority as well as developing consciousness about the other and about commonalities. The struggle against racism should be seen through this prism.

Secretary General, Comité pour les Relations Internationales de Jeunesse, Belgium

- The UN needs to strengthen its presence locally, not only through its aid/assistance projects in developing countries. There is not enough dialogue and awareness with people in the developed world.
- A higher profile is needed for the UN; information is not filtering into community. The UN needs to promote itself.
- It is important the the UN has a constant educational program so young people who are interested on working on culture of peace will have the chance to learn, make contacts and get new experiences through trainings and seminars.
- International peace and security – the basic purpose of the UN needs to be clear and present in young people's minds.
- To bridge distances, video conferences, online discussions, distance learning and such formats could be used. Also, user friendly, high quality information materials and maybe homepage should be prepared.
- Facilitate information exchange and dissemination.
- Help the network of youth organizations grow and become better acquainted. Facilitate a youth forum for culture of peace.

Support and visibility

- UN support for youth projects provides legitimacy to the youth sector.
- There is definitely need for support from international institutions such as UN (and EU) to get visibility in the media in order to multiply the effects of projects and activities.
- UN, with its high capacity, should organize more global/regional/national summits and workshops for youth leaders to increase their and their organizations' capacities and give legitimacy.
- International youth conferences and similar larger events to give support to initiatives by NGOs in the field of culture of peace.
- The UN should allocate funds to support youth initiatives and develop policies to integrate youth workers as professional bodies within local/national governments.
- Funds should also be made available for trainers and youth workers and establish a basis for dialogue for culture of peace between government and civil society stakeholders.
- The UN should implement different programme linked to youth mobility through countries.
- Develop and equip (also financially) programmes aiming at peace education or at culture of peace in general.
- Ensure links and coherence between the different agencies and in the work done around the issue of culture of peace in different contexts, e.g. link up with different initiatives like the MDGs.
- Support and promote the proper implementation of programmes such as the World Programme of Action for Youth.

7.4. SUGGESTIONS FOR ADMINISTERING A FUND

It's very important to simplify procedures - it should be easy to understand how it works, people fear complicated processes. Clarity & simplicity are the most important factors. It's also extremely important that partnerships and consultations with the grassroots takes place from the start, otherwise there will inevitably be a lack of trust from below.

Foundation for Democratic Youth, Hungary

Consulting youth

This is by far the most common response by youth organizations – the need to consult youth. They strongly emphasize that any structure must involve representatives from youth sector:

- Organize a board of youth leaders, consisting of well-known youth (in their own countries) from existing NGOs working for a culture of peace.
- Cooperate with National Youth Councils and regional bodies like the European Youth Forum and the Euro-Med Youth Platform.
- Organize introduction seminars where first ideas for projects can be exchanged. Youth can participate in governance and selection of programmes for funding through umbrella bodies.
- Let youth plan and implement but the administration has to monitor and help at every stage.
- Working through a communication that is "adapted: and meeting youth concretely, institutions must not appear distant and inaccessible. They need to be able to appreciate cooperation that promotes a culture of peace.

Structure

While youth organizations largely agree on the principles in the above quote, they have many different and sometimes contradictory opinions on how a global fund for youth should be administered:

- A global fund for youth must involve all relevant structures: government, local UN bodies, national youth council, civil society.
- It should involve as little bureaucracy as possible - perhaps it would be good to have a local or regional management of the programs rather than just at an international or European level. It should be as close to young people as possible.
- It could be elected governed by an international council or committee, have an executive body and a representative youth commission.
- A fund would need to be managed by a number of key partners who develop the working methods together - make it inclusive and make sure grassroots level is involved. It should be administered by the organizations working in promotion of culture of peace themselves.

- It should be a broad-based network of organizations that can feed into processes – using already existing structures.
- Draw on regional differences in terms of format of processes as a resource to facilitate projects.
- Best way to manage/administer a fund for youth and culture of peace is to delegate authority to regional (e.g. Central & Eastern Europe) or national level with contact points at national levels.
- Funds should be placed in a valid and sustainable youth project and be managed in a decentralized way. This would mean that every department of the organization would receive an amount of money aiming at covering the expenses in the respective field.
- It should be managed on the basis of real projects for an agreed period of time - create groups of people who "lead" and guide this or that region and take an active part in the projects.

"Demand" that initiatives ... must be accompanied by indicators of evaluation and expected results.

UCJG-YMCA, France.

Transparency and grant procedures

- To ensure flow of information and awareness, put a strong focus, financial means and energy to go where young people do not have access to information. Develop user-friendly key messages, adjust the vocabulary, translate when needed. Make policies accessible to all in terms of understanding but also in terms of participation.
- As much information as possible about different stages and proceedings should be published on the Internet, through an e-mail bulletin with all partners and to the general public through press events and conferences.
- Transparency is very important, but there is no need to over-democratize. So many organizations get stuck in their own procedures and bureaucracies. There should be a clear mandate for decision-making.
- Things should be clear and written in accessible language. In the case of the European Union, they have funds available but the language is more directed at bureaucrats than small NGOs which are run by volunteers.
- The need for transparency should not be used as an excuse to complicate an application and reporting process – the shorter the better (someone has to read all the applications and reports).
- Information about grants and how they are spent should be available to all to prevent corruption and to avoid funding projects that cannot be sustainable.
- An evaluation system that is serious and rigorous is needed to ensure quality and follow-up.
- Clear criteria need to be established for distributing funding, including issues such as whether it will be distributed on a country or thematic basis and what will and will not be funded.

- Funding should be granted to organizations doing projects that aimed at the promotion of culture of peace with a clear process of criteria, selection, follow-up and evaluation.

Ask for presentation of applications that are well established and balanced from associations, institutions, federations or foundations that have already presented effective results, practical knowledge and responding to criteria established by the United Nations ... As for new groups and formations, they should be included in existing networks; for example, a certain association should be the paired with another one ("marraine") that has already gained recognition in a sector that supports or is complementary to the new applicants.

UCJG-YMCA France

7.5. WAYS OF INVOLVING AND MOTIVATING YOUTH

Youth Participation

As a National Council we work to improve youth participation in fora, such as youth delegates to the UN, and work for them to have the right to negotiate. Get seats for youth in different fora, due to their different perspectives and their enthusiasm, and as it contributes to competence and democratisation experience, which will make others get involved later on through sharing this competence. Youth representation is also important as a symbolic effect on other youth.

Norwegian Youth Council.

- Make youth participation an organizational policy. For example, the National Forum for Local Voluntary Youth Councils has made it their organizational policy to get youth participating in management structures and decision making.
- There is no lack of desire, but a feeling that youth have no platform to be heard. There should be forums for youth groups at a higher level so that those who are motivated can be heard.
- It is all about making activities easily accessible and removing obstacles for individual youth to international culture of peace activities. Those obstacles could be difficulties in getting information, participation fees, travel costs etc. A lot of these obstacles could be removed if the organizing party receives the proper support from different institutions.
- Formal structures are insufficient to involve youth. Political structures need to reach out to young people and communicate on their terms, through e.g. adapting information material, marketing, dialogue and meetings to make it less formal. Young people often have the strongest opinions, but no fora to express them. They make their own - e.g. rap music.

Reaching youth through formal education

- Teach elementary principles of peace and moral education from as early as pre-school. One of the key roles of education in helping support a culture of peace is to first develop an understanding and acceptance of conflict, from internal conflicts from the earliest age to intractable global conflicts of, for example, religious absolutism.
- Talk to headmasters, teachers and parents and organize information seminars in schools. Mainstream culture of peace in education through concrete examples that are relevant to education content, e.g. fair trade, sustainable development.
- Promote peace education in schools and create platforms for youth to meet to discuss the themes related to culture of peace and human rights.
- Organizations that run peace studies should be involved as well as all those running peace education. It should be connected to the universities and high schools.
- Prepare future teachers (social workers and psychologists) with the fundamental knowledge of culture of peace issues.

Reaching youth outside the formal education system

- Every young person is involved in something - reach them in their own arena (school, NGOs, hobbies). Include issues of culture of peace in the mass work of state out-of-school Centers and Youth Houses, Kids' Creation Centers, etc.
- Reach youth organizations through National Youth Councils, youth information centres, local community media, development education centres.
- Create local centers in local communities with mission of gathering youth activists and spreading the culture of peace idea, organizing various initiatives and activities.
- Involvement through non-formal education is key to reaching youth outside school. This should be done at local, regional and national level, as well as European and global level through existing or newly established structures. Those structures should respect basic principles of youth organizations: representative, transparent, run by and for youth, democratic, based on equality and non-discrimination principles.
- Young people should first of all get access to information regarding different possibilities to get involved in the culture of peace. This means targeting youth with key messages that makes it an attractive option to get involved.
- Give youth who are not involved the chance of meeting in summer camps, forums etc. and providing them with specific duties and responsibilities.
- Encourage them to express their ideas in writing by organizing essay contests with topics related to youth policies.

Publicity, campaigns and information

- More publishing of books, magazines and news about culture of peace is needed, as well as media coverage about youth activities; celebrate youth initiative.

- Encourage youth to do research and develop an online resource with relevant information, projects and findings that can be used for reference.
- Greater publicity for organizations involved in the culture of peace is needed, as well as funds for public relations and information for organizations with youth focus.
- Get information about culture of peace to young people and those who work with young people. Create campaigns and projects on regional or community level, where young people can be directly involved into concrete activities.
- Ensure that information campaigns are not only relevant to youth, but also that youth can imagine positive results from taking part. Youth respond strongly to values and have opinions on peace and conflict issues. The key is to provide possibilities for them to take concrete and constructive action.
- Campaigns should be suitable for the local level – in the local language – but with links to the global level.
- Organize fun events! Barbeques, parties with light information and culture of peace themes.
- Create easy and capturing public relations mails and posters. Organize information evenings. Do not give too much information, it can overwhelm people who would otherwise be interested.
- Information could be posted and channeled through youth hostels. Utilize modern media and do short-term campaigns like petitions, opinion-polling online, initiatives by sending an SMS or something similar. Develop youth-oriented web sites, newsletters, TV and web productions etc.
- Create an attractive and youth-oriented news bulletin.

7.6. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STATEMENTS ABOUT YOUTH AND CULTURE OF PEACE

Statements

[A] point of Culture of Peace is about creating socio-economic platforms for economically and socially poor regions in order to achieve sustainable development for the youth of these regions [...] 9 Youth centers have been established in the project cities in order to create social platforms for young people, to enhance their capacities and to enable them to take part in decision-making processes. More than 55.000 young people have been reached via the youth activities and social capacity development programs organised within the framework of this project. It is crucial to stress that the last phase of the project focuses on youth employment. Job opportunities have been provided for young people through protocols signed with local governments and local private sector.

Youth for Habitat, Turkey

There needs to be an explicit youth focus for development cooperation: youth learning democratisation and organisational development. We build democracy through civil-society building – a place for children and youth.

Norwegian Youth Council, Norway

I don't need to say anything about the 'war on terror', except that there is a danger that a fighting fire with fire policy also impacts young people, through reactionary and disciplinary youth policy based on a deficit model, and influences them, in that their role model of leadership is a bellicose one.

Youth Officer, Development Education Association, United Kingdom

We are an international organisations and we need an international body to think without borders – invite participants without having previously specified how many from what countries...

European Voluntary Service idea is working well in bridging borders between youth. We need something like that on the global level.

Service Civil International – Europe.

Priorities

- Support the work of youth organizations in general and in relation to culture of peace in particular.
- Any structure must involve representatives from youth sector
- Focus especially on local youth, both students and youth lacking higher education, as it is important that youth from all sections of society are exposed to other countries and cultures. Also include disadvantaged youth and let them take part in international projects and travel.
- Prioritize local capacity for local issues facing youth, e.g. funding programmes for non-violent resolution of conflicts on the local level in multi-ethnic societies.
- Support intercultural exchange to expose youth to different cultures - it's the most efficient form of intercultural learning.
- Organize events (e.g. culture festivals), exchanges between young people of different cultures.
- More long-term funding is needed, not just on a project-to-project basis.
- "This kind of action deserves media support to attain its objectives" - Prioritize projects that include as many people as possible in awareness-raising by using everyday media like TV, radio, internet and the press.
- Facilitate networking between those working in the field of culture of peace in the different countries.
- Develop coordinated actions, which would mean greater dissemination (visibility), information exchange and faster progress.

ANNEXES

ORGANISATIONS CONTRIBUTING

* official responses

Global/Inter-Regional

Children and Youth Unit of United Nations Environmental Program	Pax Christi International Youth Forum
Commonwealth Youth Programme*	Peace Child International
Comprehensive Dialogue among Civilizations*	Peaceways - Young General Assembly*
Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service*	People's Initiative for Departments/Ministries of Peace - Youth Working Group
Copen Family Fund	Rotary World Peace Fellowship
European University Center for Peace Studies (EPU)	UNESCO International Leadership Program: A Global Intergenerational Forum
Global Youth Action Network - New York	United Nations Intern
Good News Agency*	United Network of Young Peacebuilders*
Hague Appeal for Peace*	United World Colleges - USA*
International Cultural Youth Exchange (International Office)*	University for Peace, Costa Rica
International Federation of Medical Students' Associations - Standing Committee on Human Rights & Peace	WFUNA-Youth, World Federation of United Nations Associations
International Humanist and Ethical Youth Organisation (IHEYO)*	World Alliance of YMCAs
Life-Link Friendship-Schools*	World Council of Churches - World Youth Program
Organisation Internationale des Jeunes Espérantophones*	World Organization of the Scout Movement
	World Student Christian Federation
	World YWCA

Africa (Sub-Saharan)

Benin ADJD ONG Association Béninoise pour le Développement Humain Durable (ABDHD) Association des Nations Unies au Benin (ANUB) Enfants Solidaires d'Afrique et du Monde (ESAM)* National Youth Council, Benin (NYC- Benin)* ONG Autre Vie	Bonne Génération de Burundi (BGB)/ Good Generation of Burundi (GGB) Comité de Mediation et de Defense des Droits Humain et la Paix* Groupement de Promotion Integrale (GPI)* Ligue des jeunes pour la Paix et le Développement en Afrique (LIPADE)* Réseau des Jeunes vivants avec le VIH/SIDA
Botswana Cyber Youth*	Cameroon Association Mondiale pour l'Ecole Instrument de Paix* Benevolent Association for the Protection of the Environment and the Socially Underprivileged Cameroon Association for the Protection and Education of the Child (CAPEC)* Cameroon Association of University Women*
Burkina Faso Association Yam Pukri*	
Burundi Association des Jeunes pour la Promotion des Droits de l'Homme (AJPDH)	

Cameroon Youth and Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP)*

Cameroon Youths Human Rights Organisation

Center for Education & Rehabilitation

Global Conscience Initiatives*

Youth Alert

Central African Republic

Organisation des Jeunes pour le Développement Social en Afrique Centrale (OJJDSAC)*

Chad

Conseil National Consultatif des Jeunes du Tchad*

Congo Brazzaville

Club Positif de Brazzaville*

Côte d'Ivoire

Club Unesco de Port-Bouët*

Club Union Africaine Cote d'Ivoire

Kids and Youth Allies International Network*

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Action des Jeunes pour le Développement Communautaire et la Paix (ADECOP)*

Centre de Recherche et d'Actions pour la Paix et le Développement (CRAPD)*

Congolese Action for Peace and Democracy CAPD-asbl

Initiative de Prevention des Conflits (IPC)*

Jeunes et Femmes pour les droits de l'homme et la paix (J.F.D.HO.P)*

L'Agence de Diffusion du Droit International Humanitaire en Afrique*

Ministère de L'Eglise du Christ au Congo pour les Réfugiés et les Urgences (ECC/MERU)/Sud-Kivu

ONG des Droits Humains et de Développement

United Nations Association*

Ethiopia

Addis Ababa University Women Students Association

Addis Ababa Youth Association (AAYA)

African Youth Parliament

Earth Charter Youth Initiatives*

Ratson-Women Youth and Children Development Program

United Nations Development Program - Ethiopia

Young Leaders Network

Youth Network for Sustainable Development

Gabon

Jeunes Volontaires Francophones (JVF) du Gabon*

Ghana

Foundation for International Human Development and Environmental Studies

Hopelink International*

Institute of Tropical Agriculture*

International Centre for Conflict and Human Rights Analysis (ICCHRA)*

National Youth Council

Vision for Alternative Development (VALD)

Young People We Care

Guinea

Global Defense for Disabled Children and Youth - Guinea*

Kenya

African Youth Parliament (AYP)

International Youth Development Network*

Kenya Volunteer Development Service*

Kenya Youth Foundation

Kibera Community Youth Programme

Outward Bound Trust of Kenya*

Pamoja International Voluntary Service*

Volunteers for Africa

Youth for Democratic Change

Lesotho

Commonwealth Youth Club*

Liberia

Encouraging Children of Liberia Pursue Sound Education (ECLIPSE)*

Liberia United Nations Youth & Student Association*

Mano River Youth Network (Mayonet)*

Ministry of Youths and Sports

World Peace Prayer Society*

Madagascar

Action pour la Culture, L'Enseignement et L'Education à Madagascar

Malawi

Child Rights Information and
Documentation Centre*
National Youth Council*
The Youth Has Light to the Future

Mali

Coalition des ONG Africaines en Faveur des
Enfants*
SchoolNetMali-Mokoya Juru*

Mauritius

Mauritius Action for Disarmament and
Peace (MADAP)*

Mozambique

Academia da Paz*
Association of Cooperation for
Development (ACCOORD)
Centro Juvenil Mozambique
The League of Scouts of Mozambique*
Youth Association for the Development of
Voluntary Services (AJUDE)*

Namibia

National Youth Council of Namibia*

Niger

Association des Jeunes pour la Lutte Contre
le Désœuvrement "AJLCD
GARKUWA"*

Nigeria

Achievers' Team*
Active Circle Movement*
Affinity Mobile Educators of Nigeria
(AMEN)*
Africa Christian Youths Development
Foundation*
African Arts for Development Initiatives
(AADI)*
African Center for Rural Youth
Empowerment (ACRYE)*
Agenda for Community Development
(AFCODE)*
AID for AIDS Society - Lagos
Alliance Cornerstone Youth Organization
(ACYO)*
Awake Go Forward Int'l Centre For Youth
Development*
Center for Global Nonviolence, Nigeria
Centre for Development Action
International

Civil Society Action Coalition on Education
for All*

Collaborated Youth Development
Organization

Community Aidscares Rescueteam
Crafties Youth Initiative

Global Alert for Defence of Youth and the
Less Privileged (GADYLP)*

Global Grassroot Youth Forum (GGRYF)*
International Association of Criminal Justice
Practitioners

International Cultural Youth Exchange
Nigeria*

Niger Delta Liberation Project*

Nigerian Popular Theatre Alliance -
Southwest*

Project Life*

Respect Nigeria

Society for Adolescents & Youth Intl
(SAYHI)

United Nations of Youth Network Nigeria
(UNOY)*

Women for Peace Initiative

Youth Initiators Nigeria*

Youth Emancipation Crusader (YEC)

Rwanda

Association pour L'Appui à
L'Entrepreneuriat Feminin Duterimbere
Association Rwandaise pour les Droits de la
Personne et des Libertés Publiques

Senegal

Association des Jeunes pour le
Development AJD/PASTEEL*

Association Enfant Solidarité*

Gie Kayroo*

iEARN Senegal*

Sierra Leone

Advocacy for the Young in Crisis*

Children and Women Empowerment Society
(CWES)*

Kingtom Experimental Theatre Company*

The World Peace Prayer Society and The
Commonwealth Youth Caucus - Sierra
Leone

United Nations Youth and Student
Association (SLUNSA)*

Youth Movement for Peace & Non-
Violence*

South Africa

Andizo Community Development Agency
 Gun Free South Africa*
 Nelson Mandela Childrens Fund
 Organisation of Rural Primary Education
 Developers South Africa (ORPED-SA)
 Triangle Project
 Tshwaranang Legal Advocacy Centre to End
 Violence Against Women*
 Wits Law Clinic - University of the
 Witwatersrand*
 Youth Development Trust
 Youth for Christ

Tanzania

Kivulini Women's Rights Organisation*

The Gambia

Bajito Onda Africa Foundation*
 National Federation of The Gambia
 UNESCO Clubs and Centres
 The World Peace Prayer Society*

Togo

1st City Council, Lomé Local Community
 (1er Arrondissement de la commune de
 Lomé)
 ACAT (Action des Chrétiens pour
 l'Abolition de la Torture) - Togo*
 iEARN-Togo
 Programme d'Echanges et de Partenariats
 pour le Développement (P.E.P.D)*

Uganda

Children's Gift

Cry Uganda
 Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
 (FHRI)*
 Kasambya Self Help Initiative*
 National Youth Council Uganda*
 The Samaritan Neighbors Address
 Uganda Voluntary Development Association
 (UVDA)
 Uganda Youth Action Network
 Youth Crime Watch Uganda
 Youth Initiative for Development
 Association (YIFODA)*

Zambia

Copperbelt Province Youth Forum*
 Global School Missions*
 National Youth Constitutional Assembly
 (NYCA)
 National Youth Parliament (Facilitator)
 Rescue Mission Zambia
 Youth Development Programme (YDP)*
 Youth Action Zambia (YAZ)*
 Zambia National Visual Arts Council

Zimbabwe

Girl Child Network
 Masvingo Students Fighting Aids and
 Poverty (MASFAP)
 United Church of Christ
 Youth to Youth*
 Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust
 (ZIMCET)*

The Americas**Argentina**

Area de la Juventud de Villa Gesell
 Asociación Civil sin fines de lucro - Equipo
 Juan de la Cruz
 Coordinación General de la Juventud de la
 Municipalidad de Mendoza
 Dirección de Juventud, Municipalidad de
 Rio Grande Tierra del Fuego
 Escuela de Promotores Juveniles Rosario*
 Fundación Hernandiana*
 Grupo scouts N° 057 Martín Miguel
 Güemes, Scouts de Argentina
 Mil Milenios de Paz*

Bolivia

Asociación de Scouts de Bolivia*

Centro de estudios y apoyo al Desarrollo
 Local (CEADL)*

Fundación Boliviana de la Juventud

Brazil

Associação Comunitária Cultural
 Constelação*
 Associação Comunitaria Montezul*
 Escola de Desenvolvimento HUmano Casa
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Les Ambassadeurs et Ambassadrices de la paix*
McMaster Peace and Conflict Studies Society
Sierra Youth
Toronto Youth Force

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Corporación Grupo Tayrona*
Escuela País Ltda*
Fundación Concern Universal*
Fundación Escuelas de Paz
Fundación Infantil y Juvenil del Cauca - Tehillim*
Jovenes Construyendo Alternativas Sociales (JoCoAlSo)*
Organización Internacional para el desarrollo de América Latina y el caribe "ONWARD"*

Costa Rica

Alianza por tus derechos
Habitat for Humanity Latin America and the Caribbean

Dominica

Dominica National Youth Council
Dominica Youth Environment Organisation Inc.*

Dominican Republic

Quédate con Nosotros de Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco

Ecuador

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Coordinadora Juvenil por la Equidad de Genero
Corporación Foro de la Juventud de Guayaquil*

El Salvador

Asociación Comité de Familiares de Víctimas de Violaciones a los Derechos Humanos de El Salvador, CODEFAM
Homies Unidos de El Salvador*

Grenada

National Youth Council

Guatemala

Grupo Joven para la Comunicación y Desarrollo*

Guyana

Staff member of UN Development Program

Haiti

Mouvement Social Chrétien Prie Agis (MOSCHPA)

Honduras

Asociación Nacional de Muchachas Guías de Honduras*

Jamaica

Student Environmental Network

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St. Kitts National Youth Council*

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

SVG Human Rights Association*

Trinidad and Tobago

International Education and Resource
Network Trinidad and Tobago
(iEARNTnT)

United States

PeaceJam Foundation*

United Nations Association of San Diego
Youth Empowerment Services

Uruguay

Juventud Lista 15 Partido Colorado*
Portal de Juventud para America Latina y el
Caribe*

Venezuela

Movimiento Juvenil Huellas*

The Arab States

Regional Organisations

Afro Arab Youth League International*

Bahrain

Bahrain Women Society *

Egypt

Adwar Group*
Alternative Development Center*
Bibliotheca Alexandrina Peace Institute*
Bishopric of Youth in Abbasiya*
Cairo University*
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Children Rights Organizations*
Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social
Services CEOSS*
Democratic Participation Organization*
Ecole De Freres*
Egyptian Association for Family
Development*
Egyptian Committee for Peace and Justice*
Egyptian General Federation of Scouts*
Egyptian Organization for Developing
Voluntary work *
Egyptian Society for Knowledge*
Egyptian Society for Science and Scientists*
Entrepreneurs Business Forum*
General Secretariat of Catholic Schools*
General Secretariat of Schools Volunteers*
Generation of Hope*
Habi Foundation*
Human Rights Organization in Egypt*
Ifada Center*
Maber for Environmental Rights-Cairo*
Mass Communication for Development-
Cairo*
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Catholic Schools*

Prisoners and their Families Service
League*

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Sustainable Development Association,
Balady Association*

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Youth Centers*

Jordan

Youth Without Borders

Kuwait

Kuwaiti Youth Forum *

Lebanon

Makhzouni Foundation*

Morocco

Aden Organization
Association Tiflétois New Life ATNL
MAROC *

Palestine

International Palestinian Youth League*

Somalia

Somali Youth Link*

Sudan

Sudan National Committee on Traditional
Practices*
Sudan Association for Youth Development
(SAYD)*

Tunisia

Arab Woman Training Center*
Arab Institute for Human Rights*

Asia and Pacific

Regional Organisations

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International Understanding (APCEIU)
Peace Messengers of APCEIU
Youth for a Sustainable Future Pacifika

Australia

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Bangladesh

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Network (bEARN)*
Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and
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CCD Bangladesh*
Hill Development Organisation*
Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)*

Cambodia

Jesuit Service Cambodia
Youth Development Alliance*
Youth Association of Cambodia in Kandal
province*
Youth for Peace*
Youth Star Cambodia

China

All-China Youth Federation
Chinese People's Association for Peace and
Disarmament

Fiji

Young People Concern Network

India

Friends of the Gandhi Museum Pune
Jamia Millia Islamia
Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth
Development -RGNIYD
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Rotaract Club, Patiala
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Iran

United Nations Association

Japan

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Korea

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National Council of Youth Organizations in
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Kyrgyzstan

Public Youth Union "Golden Goal"*

Malaysia

World Assembly of Youth*
World Youth Foundation

Nepal

Peace and Social Justice Centre
SUPPORT Nepal*
The Training Institute*
Youth Action Nepal*
Youth Initiative

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United Nations Youth Association of New
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Pakistan

Peace World Wide*
South Asia Partnership Pakistan (SAPPK)
Youth Alliance for Human Rights*

Philippines

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Mindanao Communities, Inc.
ECPAT*
Miriam College*
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Sri Lanka

SAMADANA/M

Samasevaya Saudarya Samajaya*

Thailand

Asia Partnership for Human Development*

Uzbekistan

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Europe**Regional Organizations**

Association of Service Civil International in Europe, IVZW

BANg, the European Youth Network for Nuclear Disarmament

Euro-Mediterranean Youth Platform*

European Law Students' Association*

European Youth Forum

Youth Action for Peace*

Albania

Albanian Roma Union " Amaro Drom"

Albanian Youth Alliance*

Armenia

Armenian Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations*

Armenian Red Cross, Youth Department*

Federation of Youth Clubs*

YERITAC-Youth

Austria

Austrian National Youth Council*

Azerbaijan

"Bridge to the Future" Youth Union

Reliable Future*

Belarus

SCAF Youth Center*

Belgium

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Bosnia & Herzegovina

Association of Citizens BUDUCHOST

South East European Youth Network*

Bulgaria

Bulgarian Euro Atlantic Youth Club

Gender Research Foundation

Theatre Tsvete*

Croatia

ATLAS Youth Organization

ZaMirNET*

Czech Republic

Czech Council of Children and Youth*

DUHA - Circle of Czech Youth NGOs*

Estonia

Estonian UNESCO Youth Association*

Finland

Helsinki Citizens' Assembly-Vanadzor

France

Fédération Sportive et Gymnique du Travail*

Non-Violence Actualité*

Union Chrétienne de Jeunes Gens/Young

Men's Christian Association*

Georgia

Foundation for Development of Human Resources*

Human Rights Defending Organization

Human Rights Information and

Documentation Center*

Student Alternative

Youth Association for Social Sciences

Germany

AEGEE-Passau

Greece

Greek Youthnet - Central Union of Local and Prefectorial Youth Councils

Hungary

Foundation for Democratic Youth*

Iceland

International Cultural Youth Exchange

Ireland

National Forum for Local Voluntary Youth Councils*

National Youth Council of Ireland

Italy

AGESCI - Italian Catholic Association of Girl Guides and Boy Scouts

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Consorzio TODESY (Transnational
Organization for Development,
Employment Social and Youth) *
Lilithwork*
Vides Internazionale*

Latvia

Culture. Tolerance. Friendship.
European Minority Youth Network*
National Youth Council of Latvia*

Lithuania

Lithuanian Youth Council

Macedonia - Former Yugoslav Republic

Citizens' Association RUBIKON*
First Children's Embassy in the World-
Megjashi*

Moldova

AVI

Netherlands

Apollo*
Engage Interact*
National Youth Council
Ojalá*
Rotterdam Youth Council

Norway

Norwegian Youth Council (LNU)*

Poland

M_K_I - Miedzyszkolny Klub Internautów
One World Association/Service Civil
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Romania

Pro Democracy Association

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Ukraine

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United Kingdom

British Youth Council*
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Peace in Scotland
Development Education Association
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Trust*
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Youth Action for Peace UK*
Youth Cymru

Yugoslavia, FR (Kosovo)

NGO VITA Strpce

QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire was developed during the discussions at UNOY, and separate teams were formed to contact youth organizations on different continents and regions of the world (Arab States, Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Americas and Europe). Their responses to the questions were gathered by email, fax or by telephone interview.

1.
 - a) If funds were available, what youth activities related to a Culture of Peace (CoP) would you like to do as an individual?
 - b) What non-financial support do you need to do these activities?
 - c) If funds were available, what youth activities related to a CoP would your organization like to do?
 - d) What non-financial support does your organization need for CoP activities?
2.
 - a) What changes in youth policies do you think the government/leadership in your country should make to promote a CoP?
 - b) What CoP youth activities/initiatives do you think the UN should do?
3. Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for improving youth participation in CoP activities on any levels (UN, government, civil society)?
4. What could be done to improve/ensure transparency and flow of information in promoting the CoP?
5. To ensure the best possible benefit of a Fund for youth and CoP, how should it be managed/administered?
6. How can youth not yet involved in CoP activities be reached and motivated?

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Youth Cooperation for Culture of Peace and Dialogue

This report is the result of a survey of 475 youth organizations in 125 countries that took place during the summer of 2006. They were asked to visualize the type of activities and projects they would like to undertake to promote a culture of peace if funds were available to them.

A wealth of ideas were presented to us, along with important observations regarding the current lack of funding and other forms of support to youth organizations. Based on their ideas and observations, the proposal is made for a Global Youth Solidarity Fund and Programme.

It is hoped that this publication will bring to light the amazing work already ongoing among youth organizations to realize a culture of peace globally, as well as to encourage governments and other potential funders to give youth a real chance to bring about this transformation by making funds available. It is time for civil society to join the debate on equal terms and to be able to multiply their good work through local and global partnerships for the culture of peace.



2001-2010

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE
AND NON-VIOLENCE FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD
为世界儿童建设和平与非暴力文化国际十年
DECENNIE INTERNATIONALE DE LA PROMOTION D'UNE CULTURE
DE LA NON-VIOLENCE ET DE LA PAIX AU PROFIT DES ENFANTS DU MONDE
العقد الدولي لثقافة السلام واللاعنف لأطفال العالم
МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ ДЕСЯТИЛЕТИЕ КУЛЬТУРЫ МИРА
И НЕНАСИЛИЯ В ИНТЕРЕСАХ ДЕТЕЙ ПЛАНЕТЫ
DECENIO INTERNACIONAL DE UNA CULTURA DE PAZ
Y NO VIOLENCIA PARA LOS NIÑOS DEL MUNDO