



FIFTH AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM (ADF-V)

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS OF MAURITIUS

National Youth Consultation Report

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INTRODUCTION

Globally, youth concerns have been receiving increasing attention. In October 2005, following the review of progress on implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth (WPAY), the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution (RES/60/2) reaffirming WPAY, which among other things:

- Called upon Governments to develop, in consultation with youth organisations, holistic and integrated youth policies based on WPAY,
- Requested the *Regional Commissions to organise regional consultations* with Member States and youth organisations in order to evaluate the implementation of the WPAY, and
- Called upon organisations, programmes and specialised agencies in the UN system to enhance inter-agency arrangements on youth policies and programmes with a view to improving coordination and enhancing synergies among relevant system activities in this regard.

The African Union has already adopted an African Youth Charter that seeks to provide the political framework for youth development on the continent. At the national level several countries have also initiated attempts to develop national youth policies. However, the policy deficiencies in youth development and the gap between the real situation of youth in Africa and the potential contribution youth could make towards the achievement of development on the continent warrants further discussion that would lead to stronger concerted effort in developing our youth at all levels.

The Economic Commission for Africa jointly with its strategic regional partners, and the African Union is holding the fifth African Development Forum (ADF-V) in Ethiopia under the theme "Youth and Leadership in the 21st Century" from November 16th to 18th 2006. The objective of ADF-V is to give meaningful expression to the recognition of youth as a development asset and to deepen strategies at the regional and national levels for translating the potential of youth as a development asset into practical benefits for Africa's democratic, gender-equal, peaceful and rights-based development, in line with the objectives of the African Union Youth Charter, NEPAD and internationally agreed development goals including MDGs.

In this context, the Republic of Mauritius organized a National Youth Consultation on "Youth as an asset in Development" on Saturday 23rd September 2006.

OBJECTIVES

- The aim of the national youth consultations was to
- develop country briefs summarising the position of national youth on the key issues to be discussed at the Forum;
 - share information on the African Youth Charter; and
 - establish national level mechanisms for implementing post-ADF-V activities and programmes.

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony of the National Youth Consultation was held in the presence of Hon Sylvio Tang Wah Hing, Minister of Youth and Sports of Mauritius. Registration of participants preceded the welcoming address of Ms U. Bhurtun, Director of Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Mr Amba Veerasamy, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the address of Ms M Chetty, from UNDP, and the official opening of the consultation by Hon Sylvio Tang Wah Hing. Dr P. Boodhun, Principal Assistant Secretary and Mrs S. Saminaden, Assistant Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports attended the opening ceremony.

OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The National Youth Consultation was held at the Helvetia Youth Centre on Saturday 23 September 2006 from 9.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Some 100 young people representing the 22 Youth Centres and National Youth Organisations participated actively in the 18 group sessions. Two Lecturers from the University of Mauritius and Officers of the Ministry of Youth and Sports assisted the participants in addressing the various themes.

Mr. A. Rambaree, Lecturer in Social Policy at the University of Mauritius conducted an interactive session with participants on "Key Issues Affecting Youth Development".

It is to be noted that prior to the National Youth Consultation, the themes under the three main clusters, namely Youth and Economic Development, Youth and Social Development and Youth and Political Development were allocated to Officers of the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The Officers roped in young people of their respective Youth Centres/Regions and worked out papers which were then taken on board by the various groups during the National Youth Consultation.

A list of themes and Officers Responsible is herewith annexed.

Two of the main issues of the National Youth Consultation were the group Discussions and Plenary Sessions. During the first part of the day, the participants broke into nine groups, addressing nine themes; each group was represented by one rapporteur in Plenary Session I. The other nine themes were taken on board during the afternoon session through group discussions followed by Plenary Session II. During the summing up, participants expressed the wish to have such consultations on burning issues, regularly. They also volunteered to collaborate in the review exercise of our National Youth Policy.

MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

1. YOUTH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1.1. Youth and ICT

- More IT training courses at regular interval in Youth Centres and remote areas.
- Reduce costs for other IT accessories.
- Enforcement of laws regarding misuse of IT, especially access to pornographic sites or use of latest mobile phones by minors.

1.2 Youth - Education and Life Skills Management

- Setting up of counseling services / service d'écoute in Youth Centres
- "Life Skills Management" should be inculcated to help the youth to prepare them become good citizens. These life skills management would help to fight against social problems such as substance abuse, road accidents, teenage pregnancy, sexual abuse, pornography, crime etc.)
- More emphasis on moral values would help youngsters / counsel them in positive decision making.

1.3 Youth - Employment and Migration

- Give education oriented towards job demand and opportunities.
- More incentives towards self-employment
- Review structural framework for new business

1.4 Youth and Entrepreneurship

- Availability of funds
- Promotion of local handicraft
- Improve awareness of facilities available for start-ups

1.5 Youth - Health and HIV/AIDS

- Promotion of Peer Education
- Sensitisation Campaigns : Primary/Secondary / Tertiary Levels
- Testing and Counseling facilities to be available for Youth Centres and remote areas

1.6 Youth - Environment and Sustainable Livelihood

- Awareness programs on judicious use of energy and natural resources to be organised in schools as from the primary level so as to inculcate a "no waste culture" in the future generation; creation of environment clubs and green clubs.
- The Government and NGOs must encourage project competitions through colleges and youth groups on sustainable environment issues.
- Promote eco tourism in Mauritius.

1.7 Youth participation in National Economic Policy Decision Making

- Programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; policy analysis and development
- Youth Councils and Parliament; platform for representation
- Review of National Youth Policy.

2. YOUTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Youth - Girls and young women - overcoming discrimination

- Integrated approach of all stakeholders (Government, Civil Society and Private sector) to promote gender equality
- Sensitisation campaigns against sex discrimination and on the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against girls and women.
- Youth Exchange programs to help integration of young people from vulnerable groups / regions in society

2.2 Youth - Culture and Intergenerational Relations

- Promotion of interaction between Elderly and Youth
- Comité des Sages in Youth Centres
- Intercultural workshops

2.3 Youth and children - influences of young role models

- Identification of role models
- Regular roundtable talks and campaigns on opportunities and challenges of life to motivate youth
- Special outreach programs for out of school children and deprived areas.

2.4. Youth in the religious setting - role of religion in youth success

- Increase inter-religion awareness and interaction
- Enroll participation of religious leaders in addressing Youth development issues
- National participation in main religious holidays and celebrations

2.5. Youth participation in social transformation through Sport, Music and Art

- National and regional Youth concerts
- Optimal use of local sports infrastructure by youngsters around the island
- Promotion of creative arts as a must for personal development

3. YOUTH AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

3.1 Characterisation and Definition of Youth

- Setting up of Youth Parliament
- Encourage representation of youth in National and International Agencies
- UNESCO, UNICEF, Amnesty International, etc.
- Promotion of extra-curricular activities including leisure/recreational activities.

3.2. Mauritian Identity and Citizenship

- Promote the spirit of patriotism among young people e.g. sports meetings
- Workshop to promote the sense of belonging to the Mauritian community
- Inclusion of Mauritian Identity and Citizenship in all Leadership and Communication courses for young people

3.3. Young People in Diaspora

- Government and private sector to invite young Mauritians abroad to meet our young people in Mauritius
- To create a special Chat Room for young Mauritians, both living abroad and in the country
- To encourage the setting up of an Organising Committee by young Mauritians living abroad to receive/welcome our young people visiting their respective countries · creation and use of Web site.

3.4. Conflict Resolution and peace Building

- Sensitisation seminars on Conflict Management Techniques
- Promotion of National Unity laying emphasis on Independent Mauritius
- Promotion of moral values at primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

3.5 Youth participation in Democratic, Rights based and gender equal development

- Promotion of Leadership Courses at various levels to empower Youth
- Awareness workshops on Parliament and Government.
- Sensitization program on the Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius.

ADVOCACY OBJECTIVES RELATED TO OUTCOME OF WORKSHOP

The outcome of the National Youth Consultations will be an effective tool for advocating for an integrated approach when addressing issues affecting youth development. Namely in:

- The setting up of an Inter Ministerial Committee e.g the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life (HIV and AIDS, Testing facilities etc), the Ministry of Education (extra curricular activities, sports infrastructure, etc), the Ministry of Environment (for projects on sustainable development)
- The review of the National Youth Policy – A Task Force for each key factor affecting youth development. An Inter Sectoral Committee to work on an Action Plan.
- The setting up of a Youth Parliament with the collaboration of International Organisations.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Sn	Name	Address	Organisation
1.	Nisha Seechurn	Salazie Rd. Brisée Verdière	Brisée Verdière Y.C.
2.	Radha Sandhya	Pascal Rd., Brisée Verdière	Brisée Verdière Y.C.
3.	Auckloo Irshaad	15, Jacqueline St., Beau Bassin	Member of Peer Educators
4.	Kessonath Priteah	15 A, Mamzelle St., Ste. Croix	Florida Youth Centre
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8.	Sreepaul Poonam	Royal Rd., Chemin Grenier	Chemin Grenier
9.	Hema Brijmohun	Temple Road, Amaury	Rivière du Rempart
10.	Ladkoo Munish Rao	Royal Rd., Chamouny	Chemin Grenier Y.C.
11.	Sandeep Bundhoo	Royal Rd., Petit Raffray	Goodlands Y.C.
12.	Deborah Denis	K08 Residence, St. Malo, T. Bay	Florida Y.C.
13.	Herwin Thesée	40 Canal Bathurst, Ste. Croix	Roche Bois Y.C.
14.	Chevathian Jonsthan	Lady Barkly St., Souillac	Souillac Youth Centre
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23.	Dhatri Devi Aubeelauck	Royal Road, Long Mountain	Pamplemousses Y.C.
24.	Ladkoo Munish Rao	Royal Rd., Chamouny	Chemin Grenier Y.C.
25.	Taurachand M. Reaz	La Laura, St. Pierre	Helvetia Y.C.
26.	Sandeep Bundhoo	Goodlands., Petit Raffray	Goodlands Y.C.
27.	Deborah Denis	K08 Residence, St. Malo, T. Bay	Florida Y.C.
28.	Herwin Thesée	40 Canal Bathurst, Ste. Croix	Roche Bois Y.C.
29.	Asha Somaroo (Sanjana)	12, Morc. Circonstance, St. Pierre	Helvetia Y.C.
30.	Megha Y.	Roche Bois Youth Centre	
31.	Joanne Friguin	Montagne Blanche	
32.	Anishta Jowrah	Royal Rd., Gros Cailloux	Bambous Y.C.
33.	Rungloll Vikesh	Jagatsingh Lane, Gros Cailloux	Bambous Y.C.
34.	Heerowa Gaurav	Royal Road, Gros Cailloux	Bambous Y.C.
35.	Prakash Foolall	Balisson, Rose Belle	Rose Belle Y.C.
36.	Meenackshee Totah	Mare d'Albart	Rose Belle Y.C.
37.	Luxmi Leisha Rawoo	Royal Rd., Bon Accueil	Mont Roches Youth Centre

38.	Deepeeka Thakoor	Mahatma Road, Lallmatie	Mont Roches Youth Centre
39.	Noël Mawa	Lady Barkly Street, Souillac	Souillac Youth Centre
40.	Jonathan Venkalapati	Notre Dame du Bon Conseil, Moka	Roche Bois
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43.	Dhanessa Chatoorsing	Royal Road, Nouvelle France	Blood Donors Association
44.	Shabeer Dhurmun	Maurel Rd., Riv. du Rempart	Rempart Youth Centre
45.	Veedooshee Ksesoondoyal	Royal Rd., Mare d'Albert	Rose Belle Y.C.
46.	Queency Burtun	Chemin Grenier	Chemin Grenier Youth Centre
47.	Madhvi Totah	Sookdeo Bisoondoyal Street, Mare d'Albert	Mahebourg Youth Centre
48.	Blus Ramdial	Petit Verger, Saint Pierre	Helvetia Youth Centre
49.	Sunaina Jogessur	Paris Road, Roches Noires	Rivière du Rempart Youth Centre
50.	Cindy Arekion	Japon Leclezio, Goodlands	Goodlands
51.	Oozeer M. Tashim	No. 1 Pont St. Louis, Pailles	Helvetia
52.	L'Olive Milena	Chateau Beneras	Souillac
53.	Chaumon Sandhya	Goonagar Street, Mare D'Albert	Red Cross Society
54.	Merryu Callea	Beau Bassin Pasteur	C.V.S
55.	Parwin Oozeer	No.1 Pont St. Louis, Pailles	Helvetia
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57.	Goindon Yajay	Bengal Road, Beau Songes	Rotary Community Centre
58.	Triton Frederick	Lady Barkly, Souillac	Souillac Youth Centre
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60.	Khodabocus Arshad	17, Royal Road, Beau Bassin	Mauritius Scout Ass.
61.	Karuna Goolaup	Royal Road, Pte. aux Piments	Triolet Youth Centre
62.	Francesse L'éveillé	Rue des Oranges, Baie du Tombeau	Roche Bois
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64.	Luxmleisha Rawoo	Royal Road, Bon Accueil	Mont Roches Youth Centre
65.	Frederick Atiase	18, Rue Lionel Cox, Curepipe	Floreal Youth Centre
66.	Drivesh Jugoo	Charbon Road, Mts Blanche	Montagne Blanche Youth Centre
67.	Yandy Marthen	8, Rue Des Jasmin Cité Barkly, B. Bassin	Centre Jeunesse de Barkly
68.	Kevin Beeharry	12, Pierre Victor Albert, Roche Bois	Roche Bois Youth Centre
69.	Pranisha Mandhub	Royal Road, Poudre D'Or Hamlet	Goodlands Youth Centre
70.	Bharatee Junglee	La Source, Central Flacq	Flacq Youth Centre
71.	R. Appadoo	Derby Lane, Pamplémousses	Pamplémousses Youth Centre
72.	Nadia Aurelie M.J. Leraty	Avenue Lays Maasson, Cité Florida Baie du Tombeau	Student
73.	Sandeep Gunputh	Tancial Road, Montagne Blanche	Montagne-Blanche Youth Centre
74.	Christophe Tungleelah	NG, Ave de la Patrie, C. Kennedy	Kennedy Youth Centre
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76.	Clovis Guillaume	Pte. aux Piments	Triolet Youth Centre
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78.	Runghen Steven	Gentilly, Moka	Helvetia Youth Centre
79.	Pascal	Mahebourg	Mahebourg
80.	G. Lachlan	Cemetery Road, Plaine Magnien	Rose Belle Youth Centre
81.	Jayesh Ramtowar	Royal Road, Chemin Grenier	Chemin Grenier Youth Centre
82.	Dhennesa Chatoorsing	Royal Road, Nouvelle France	Blood Donor Association
83.	Jeerakun Aasdeep	Roshni Road, Fond-du-Sac	Goodlands Youth Centre
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85.	Tania Brun	2-3 Road, Rose Belle	Roche Bois Youth Centre
86.	Yessayah Sunaseec	Royal Road, Caroline Bel Air	Flacq Youth Centre
87.	Jonathan Venkalapot	Notre Dame du Bon Conseil, Moka	Roche Bois Youth Centre
88.	Rajiv Balgobin	Mon Plaisir, Pamplemousses	Pamplemousses Youth Centre
89.	Mahmoud Ibné	15, Benoras Street, Port Louis	Plaine Verte Youth Centre
90.	Shabeer Dhumun	Maurel Road, Rivière du Rempart	Rempart Youth Centre
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92.	Queency Burtun	Chemin Grenier	Helvetia Youth Centre
93.	Brean Filois	36, Motais Street, Port Louis	Helvetia Youth Centre
94.	Blue Ramdial	Petit-Verger Saint Pierre	Helvetia Youth Centre
95.	Madhri Totah	Sookdeo Bissoondoyal Street, Mare D'Albert	Mahebourg Youth Centre
96.	Veedooshee Keesoondoyal	Royal Road, Mare D'Albert	Rose Belle Youth Centre
97.	Vyas Uppiah	Royal Road, Brisée Verdière	Brisée Verdière Youth Centre
98.	Prakash Poollell	Balason, Rose Belle	Rose Belle Youth Centre
99.	Meenackshee Totah	Mare D'Albert	Rose Belle Youth Centre
100.	Joanne Friguin	Montagne Blanche	Montagne Blanche Youth Centre
101.	Anisha Jewrah	Royal Road, Gros Cailloux	Bambous Youth Centre
102.	Rachèle Bhoyroo	Chummun Road, Triolet	Triolet Youth Centre
103.	Heerowa Gaumall	Royal Road, Gros Cailloux	Bambous Youth Centre
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108.	Hema Bijmohun	Temple Road, Amaury	Riv. Du Rempart Youth Centre
109.	Steepaul Pooniem	Royal Road, Chemin Grenier	Chemin Grenier Youth Centre
110.	Krih Neermux	Eucalyptus Road, Trou Boutiques	Young Farmers Club
111.	Quinzaine Shaik Amed	Kales Lane, Valetta	Helvetia Youth Centre
112.	Anil Kumar Adjodha	Bengali Road, Beaux Songes	Rotary Community Corps
113.	Keesonath Pritesh	15A Rue Mamzelle Sainte-Croix	Florida Youth Centre
114.	Auckloo Irshaad	15, Rue Jacquelin, Beau Bassin	Member of Peer Educator
115.	Radha Sandhya	Pascal Road, Brisée Verdière	Brisée Verdière Youth Centre

Fifth African Development Forum (ADF – V)

Theme: Youth and Leadership in the 21st Century

Preparation of a National Youth Position Paper

	Subject areas	Officers responsible
1.1	Youth - Education and Life Skills Management	Mr P. Appavou
1.2	Youth - Employment and Migration	Mr D. Joygopaul
1.3	Youth and Entreprensurship	Mr D. Joygopaul
1.4	Youth and ICT	Mr H. Buddhu
1.5	Youth - Health and HIV/AIDS	Mr R. Bhaukaurally
1.6	Youth - Environment and sustainable livelihood	Mr J. Jankee
1.7	Youth participation in National Economic Policy decision making	Mr S. Bappoo
2.1	Youth - Culture and intergenerational relations	Mr C. Dookheet
2.2	Youth - Girls and young women - overcoming discrimination	Mr R. Beeharry
2.3	Youth and children - influences of young role models	Mr R. Beeharry
2.4	Youth in the religious setting - positive role of religion in youth success	Mr V. Narrainen
2.5	Youth and Volunteerism - Re-invigorating voluntary activities.	Mr A. Chestamun
2.6	Youth participation in Social Transformation through Sport, Music and Art	Mr A. Ramloil
3.1	Characterisation and Definition of Youth	Ms P. Munien
3.2	Mauritian Identity and Citizenship	Mr P. Valaydon
3.3	Young people in Diaspora	Mr S. Daiboo
3.4	Youth - Conflict resolution and peace building	Mr D. Ajodha
3.5	Youth participation in Democratic, Rights based and gender - equal development	Mrs G. Ernest

The each subject area to take on board

1. Situation in Mauritius
Examples of best practices
2. Background Report on Youth Development
Practical Approaches
3. Proposals and Suggestions for a better National Youth Position