



AFRICITIES SUMMIT

NAIROBI - KENYA, 18 – 22 September 2006

« Building local coalitions for effective implementation of the Millennium Goals in African Local Governments »

YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

Preamble

The youth is a keystone for taking up the MDP challenges. Therefore he/she needs to be trusted supported and encouraged in the development of his/her initiatives. In doing this, all the mayor actors in achieving MDP must share information, acknowledge and experience. The sharing must be based on close partnership and mutual respect among the main actors.

To this end, it is recommended that:

To the Ministers

1. Central Governments must provide a sort of “Marshall Plan” be implemented for and with the African youth, within international coalition, including actors involved in the field of urban development at the local levels. Modalities of such a Marshall Plan would be discussed during national and sub-regional meetings and thereafter at the international level. This could be enforced from 2007 onwards. Focal points as regards the main actors, could be as follows:
 - a) UN-HABITAT, as part of the UN agencies;
 - b) UCGLA, via the Municipal Development Partnership and its partners, representing African Local Authorities, and
 - c) The Leo Lagrange network and its partners, as part of grassroots education movements.
2. Implement a pilot programme, “the Millennium Challenges with the youth for world’s progress! The 1000 youth initiatives in favour the MDGs”;
3. Implement the UN HABITAT’s Safer Cities Strategy on Urban Youth in Africa with its resultant Global Partnership Initiative, focused on city to city cooperation;
4. Provide a platform of action to support mobility and the initiatives of the young people of Africa and the World in an approach of Co-development of the world network of local communities;
5. Elaborate actual national policies should be elaborated in favour of the youth and should incorporate the MDGs;
6. Identify existing experiences, such as the YES Campaign or others, so as to create appropriate mechanisms for professional youth integration trough jobs, at local and national levels;
7. Create and improve the dynamics of national support mechanism for youth initiatives to facilitate youth participation in terms of local development and MDGs-targeted actions;

8. Conduct national launches of UN-Habitat's Urban Governance Campaign with the flagship of enhancing decent and productive livelihoods for young people;
9. Acknowledge and support current civil society dynamics regarding social and youth professional integration issues;
10. Prioritise youth issues in international cooperation policies with relevant, transversal and ambitious programmes, in countries of the North and South, and
11. Develop framework for decentralization of youth policies to the local authorities' level through enabling legislation, fiscal devolution and accountability structures.

To the Mayors

1. Local Governments should stress the development of local policies for young people in dialogue with key local actors to create an appropriate working and engagement structure for youth;
2. Eradicate marginalization of the youth through exchange of experiences in the North and South;
3. Mobilise Partners to review cross-cutting policies on youth and this should involve all mayor stakeholders;
4. Make attempts to mobilize partners to review cross sector-based policies on youth and this should involve all stakeholders, and
5. Create links between political decentralization, development cooperation and youth empowerment.

To the Development Partners

1. Development partners in partnership with state, local communities and others actors, should support young peoples development initiatives.
2. Recognise key roles of the youth in community life and in local development initiatives.