



YOUTH FORUM AT
60TH
SESSION OF THE
COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN



ADVANCING AGENDA 2030

EMPOWERED YOUNG WOMEN AND YOUNG MEN
AS PARTNERS IN ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY

UN WOMEN, WORLD YWCA, AND THE UN INTER-AGENCY
NETWORK ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP
ON YOUTH AND GENDER EQUALITY

MARCH 11TH - 12TH 2016, NEW YORK, USA



Content Summary

1. Setting the Stage

2. Key Themes of the Youth Forum and the Youth Declaration

- Intersectionality and Inclusion Beyond the Binaries
- Gender Justice and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- A Sense of Urgency
- Meaningful Participation and Inclusion of Youth
- Addressing Climate Change and Gender Equality
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV and AIDS
- Ending Gender-Based and Sexual Violence
- Building Peace and Security with Young Women and Girls
- Economic Empowerment of All Young Women
- Youth Migration
- Taking Action on Social Media
- Uniting Faith and Feminism
- Young Women and Girls in Sport
- Strengthening Partnerships with Young Men in Gender Equality

3. Youth-Led Solutions for Gender Equality

4. Creating Herstory

5. Building Momentum

6. Appendix

- Youth Forum Statement at the Opening Session of CSW60
- Youth Declaration

'Youth Form at the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women' Executive Summary

From March 11-12th 2016, the first-ever Youth Forum was held at the United Nation's 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW60) in New York City. The 2-day forum brought together over 400 young women and men aged 30 and under from UN Member States to build momentum towards youth leadership on gender equality and advance the UN's Sustainable Development Goal #5: Achieving Gender Equality. The theme of Advancing Agenda 2030 – Empowered Young Women and Young Men as Partners in Achieving Gender Equality provided the foundation for the vision and goals of the Youth Forum.

Prior to the Youth Forum, a task force, which included youth and youth-led organizations, was created to plan and deliver the event. An online consultation was set up to maximize the inclusion of youth voices from across the world.

As the first Youth Forum officially recognized by the CSW, representatives from UN Women and the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Youth were present throughout the 2-day event to hear and amplify the concerns of Youth Forum delegates into the 2 remaining weeks of CSW.

The majority of this Forum Report will highlight the key themes established in the Youth Forum, including:

- Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR)
- Economic Empowerment
- Youth Migration
- Faith and Feminism
- Engagement with Young Women in Gender Equality
- ...and many more

From the online consultations, and intense working group sessions and incredible panel discussions during the 2-day Youth Forum, youth delegates established recommendations for youth-led solutions for gender equality, steps to build momentum following CSW60, and ways in which you can get involved in supporting the work and recommendations of the Youth Forum.

The task force would like to thank you for being a supporter of Youth for Gender Equality. We hope that you will be involved and join us to achieve more important milestones at local, national, regional, and international levels.

As part of the first-ever CSW Youth Forum, the 400 young women and young men participants raised their collective voices on issues of importance to youth around the world. The time has come when world leaders must walk the talk about young people's leadership. We must share space and power, and give the space for young people to be truly in front. This is the shift that needs to happen if inter-generational leadership is to be transformative. Young people are leaders of today and not tomorrow. Empowerment, especially of young women is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. - World YWCA

Setting the stage



Setting the Stage

The first-ever Youth Forum at the 60th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW60) was created to provide a space for young people to come together with passion, purpose, and urgency to build momentum towards achieving gender equality and advancing sustainable development.

This a defining moment when women and youth make an alliance, with the potential to change the world. We must make sure we use this coming together as a fundamental shift in the way we do business in the UN and in the communities where we work

**- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka,
UN Women Executive Director**

In March of 2015, World YWCA hosted the first-ever Young Women and Girls Forum at the 59th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW59), with co-sponsorship from UN Women. At this important and inspiring event, 400 young women and girls aged 30 years and under were invited to engage with and influence the outcomes of the Beijing +20 Review and the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at CSW59.

Building upon the ground-breaking success of the Young Women and Girls Forum, UN Women and World YWCA decided to plan the first-ever forum for youth of all genders to come together in New York City at CSW60 in March 2016!



“The theme of Advancing Agenda 2030 - Empowered Young Women and Young Men as Partners in Achieving Gender Equality was chosen to provide a strong foundation for the vision and goals of the Youth Forum at CSW60.”

A critical output of the Youth Forum was for delegates to produce the first-ever Youth Declaration for CSW60, comprising a set of recommendations that advocates could bring into the negotiations for the official Agreed Conclusions of CSW60.

Besides this key document, the Youth Forum was expected to:

- **Strengthen connections and collaboration among young women, young men, and youth-led organizations focused on achieving gender equality**
- **Provide learning and mentorship opportunities for youth leaders to engage in advocacy and policy-making and interact with UN delegates and policy-makers**
- **Build momentum around youth priorities for achieving gender equality and implementing the 2030 Agenda**

In the months leading up to CSW60 and the Youth Forum, UN Women and World YWCA joined forces with the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development’s Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality to lead the planning process for the Youth Forum.

As part of the Working Group, an international coalition of youth-led organizations and UN agencies joined in including: AYUDH, Bahá’í International Community, LitWorld, Man Up Campaign, MenEngage, Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth, World Association of Girl Guides and Girls Scouts (WAGGGS), Plan International, Royal Commonwealth Society, United Nations Population Fund, UN-Habitat and many others.





CSW60 Youth Forum

Advancing Agenda 2030 - "Empowered Young Women and Young Men as Partners in Achieving Gender Equality"
11th - 12th, MARCH, 2016, NEW YORK, USA



Make your voice count!





A task force was created to plan and implement all aspects of the Youth Forum, and teams and committees were formed to cover logistics and programming, public relations and social media and much more. Over the weeks and days leading up to March 11 and 12, this task force, led by youth and youth-led organizations, designed and developed the Youth Forum for maximum impact and inclusion.

Recognizing that many young people would not be able travel to New York City to participate in-person at the Youth Forum and CSW60, an online consultation was set up as an open and transparent way for youth to provide their input from anywhere in the world.

Between February and March, young people and stakeholders from across the globe were invited to contribute to the discussion using the World We Want 2030 web platform and respond to prompts such as *What does gender equality mean to you?* and *Looking ahead to 2030, what one thing would you like to see fully implemented?*

After months of planning and anticipation, 400 youth delegates from all around the world descended upon New York City for the Youth Forum on Friday March 11 and Saturday March 12!

The Youth Forum convened delegates from diverse backgrounds, and regionally, delegates represented North America (25%), Asia (20%), Africa (20%), Europe (15%), Latin America (10%), MENA (5%), and Pacific (5%). Approximately 3/4 of the delegates were young females, and all delegates were under the age of 30, with approximately 55% of delegates aged 25 and under (including a few young delegates between the ages of 10 to 15).



We want a world where we consider women as equal partners in all the walks of life.

Women's rights need to be institutionalized [and] the international community needs to take a firm stand on girls and women's sexual and reproductive health and rights. I do not want to live in a world where more than 200 million girls and women alive today have been undergone female genital mutilation, and 700 million have been married before their 18th birthday.

I would like to see a world where all girls and women are free from violence everywhere - from street corners to schoolyards and beyond. Violence against girls and women is a key obstacle in pursuing every aspect of gender equality. Violence affects the access of girls and women to education, energy, sanitation, clean water, economic empowerment, leadership opportunities, and beyond.

I would like to see a world where every child has access to quality, equitable, and inclusive education, I believe education will play a vital role in ensuring all girls and women gain economic empowerment. I hope to see a world where girls are not denied education and sold off as brides. Education will with no doubt help in empowering women, an effect which replicates to other people and sectors in the community.





The Youth Forum kicked off with an amazing, energizing performance from singer and humanitarian Tennille Amor. Tennille's inspiring anthem for young women and girls, "I Am A Girl," was released just a few days before on International Women's Day at the United Nations.



In the opening session, representatives from UN Women, World YWCA, WAGGGS, and the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Youth set the stage to let Youth Forum delegates know that this was their forum. These distinguished keynote speakers were actually asked to come as listeners - to hear and amplify the concerns of Youth Forum delegates.

The time has come when world leaders must walk the talk about young people's leadership. We must share space and power, and give the space for young people to be truly in front. This is the shift that needs to happen if inter-generational leadership is to be transformative. Young people are leaders of today and not tomorrow.

**- Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda,
World YWCA General Secretary**

UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka launched UN Women's new Youth Strategy and the unique LEAPs Framework for Empowered Young Women and Young Men as Partners in Achieving Gender Equality.

The LEAPs Framework calls for strengthening young women's Leadership, promoting Economic empowerment and skills development of young women, and Action to end violence against young women and girls.

Additionally, the framework makes the strong case for promoting Participation, voice, and partnerships with young women, young women led-organizations and networks, as well as strengthening Partnerships with young men and intergenerational Partnerships to achieve gender equality.





EMPOWERED YOUNG WOMEN AND YOUNG MEN AS PARTNERS IN ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY

GENDER EQUALITY



@unwomen4youth | #LEAPsinGenderEquality





On Day 2, Holly Ransom, Monica Singh, and Crystal Lee's inspiring speeches and personal stories on young women's leadership and economic empowerment, and ending violence against young women and girls received an incredible response from Youth Forum delegates.



Key themes of the youth forum and the youth declaration

- Intersectionality and Inclusion Beyond the Binaries
- Gender Justice and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- A Sense of Urgency
- Meaningful Participation and Inclusion of Youth
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Key Themes of the Youth Forum and the Youth Declaration

During two very full days at the Youth Forum, delegates voiced their ideas, expectations, and recommendations for governments, intergovernmental organisations, civil society and other stakeholders, and shared stories of successes and challenges for achieving gender equality in their local communities.

The key sessions of both days of the Youth Forum were interactive, collaborative working group sessions. In each of these sessions, delegates split up into smaller groups to participate in engaging, passionate discussions and develop recommendations around specific thematic areas.

The results and recommendations of each working group session were shared with the rest of the Youth Forum in report-back presentations, and members of the drafting committee collected notes and summaries from each discussion.

From the key recommendations from the Youth Forum's keynote panels, the online consultations, and the working group sessions, a team of delegates worked tirelessly to draft a Youth Declaration that incorporated the voices and perspectives of all participants. These are some of the key themes and ideas that were discussed and integrated into the Youth Declaration.

“We can be youth, women, Indigenous, Muslims, we don't have to separate these things. We can work with this approach that is inclusive, this makes us stronger, not weaker. It's all about all genders. We need to be the voice that makes sure we talk about gender non-conforming people and their sexual orientation and use language that includes everyone.”





Intersectionality and Inclusion Beyond the Binaries

Youth Forum delegates advocated for an intersectional feminist approach to achieving gender equality, that looks beyond the binaries of sexuality and gender and includes youth in all their diversity. This is critical to ensure that no one is left behind!



Gender Justice and the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Young women and girls face discrimination in social, economic, and political spaces and are disproportionately affected by numerous issues facing youth globally, from climate change to migration and security. At the Youth Forum, one overarching theme was that all efforts towards sustainable development must consider the unique challenges and opportunities facing young women and girls. The SDGs are intrinsically linked to gender equality, and will not be realized without achieving gender equality and human rights for all women and girls.



The SDG's are achievable when girls and young women are empowered, we need to be tackling the discriminatory norms and practices that leave girls and young women behind.



A Sense of Urgency

Youth Forum delegates agreed that gender equality and sustainable development should be achieved by 2030 at the latest. While noting that the goals and targets of the SDGs are ambitious, delegates made it clear that there has to be a sense of urgency and the challenges of sustainable development cannot be left to the next generation to solve. There is much work to do, and youth are ready to take up the challenge!



“We need to have a big leap to protect human rights and ensure gender equality... We are making some progress, but we are far from achieving gender equality... We have more goals than years to achieve them... There's no space here for baby steps.”

- Ahmad Alhendawi,
UN Secretary-General's
Special Envoy on Youth

Meaningful Participation and Inclusion of Youth

Delegates and the keynote panelists from civil society and UN agencies all agreed that the inaugural Youth Forum was a unique and valuable space for youth to come together before CSW and amplify their advocacy. A strong call was made for the Youth Forum to be officially recognized and adequately resourced.

Youth Forum delegates spoke passionately about the difference between meaningful participation and inclusion versus tokenism, and explained that governments, civil society, intergovernmental organizations, and other decision-making bodies must engage and enable youth to participate equally and fully in leadership and decision-making in local, national, regional, and international forums (such as CSW). Youth Forum delegates discussed the importance of intergenerational partnerships: young leaders highly value the opportunity to learn with and receive mentorship from more experienced advocates and leaders, as well as understand the importance of always considering the next generation and empowering children and adolescents.

Young people are not just recipients, we have limitless power and potential and should be included in a meaningful way. Participation starts in a basic way - have more young people on the panels! We are not here to replicate the slogans. At the level of the community this looks very different! I would love to let us speak for ourselves.





Addressing Climate Change and Gender Equality

Taking action to address the impacts of climate change on young women and girls is an urgent priority. Youth Forum delegates called for enhancing access to climate change education and information for young women and girls, inclusion in climate change decision-making processes, and action to ensure that young women and girls are prepared for the challenges of climate change and its potential impacts on health and economic well-being.



Young women and girls are disproportionately affected by climate change, today's youth are the last generation who can solve climate change

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and HIV and AIDS

Youth Forum delegates want all youth in all of their diversity to enjoy the protection and fulfillment of their human rights, which includes the right to have control over their bodies and to decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality and sexual and reproductive health and rights. To do so, youth must have access to comprehensive, evidence-based sexuality education and confidential, high-quality, youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services, including HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support. Discriminatory laws and legal barriers that restrict access to services or education must be repealed, and the needs of youth who are particularly impacted, such as LGBTI youth, should be a priority.





Ending Gender-Based and Sexual Violence

Gender-based and sexual violence persist in many forms, from domestic violence and dating violence, to rape, sexual harassment, and the objectification and sexualization of young women and girls, to female genital mutilation and child, early, and forced marriage.

Ending violence in all its forms requires support and resources for youth-led organizations to prevent and end violence through programs that tackle the root causes of violence and engage with all youth. Youth Forum delegates also made it clear that youth need health services and justice systems that support them when they are affected by gender and sexual-based violence.



Gender inequality is the root cause of violence against women and girls, we won't achieve gender equality when violence is still a reality

Building Peace and Security with Young Women and Girls

No war has ever been started by women...

... but young women and girls are disproportionately affected by wars and civil conflicts in unstable, insecure environments.

Youth Forum delegates cited examples of how conflict exacerbates vulnerabilities to violence and barriers to education and employment for young women and girls, from the Syrian refugee crisis to everyday violence in urban centers. And “in war zones, life continues [...] women keep the life going.”

Yet, young women and girls are an important and often untapped resource in peacebuilding processes. Youth Forum delegates explained how the leadership of young women can be a huge asset, and strongly advocated for the inclusion of young women in efforts to build peace and security.





Economic Empowerment of All Young Women

Effective policies and programs are needed to ensure stable, safe, secure, non-discriminatory employment, wages, and career development for all young women. Youth Forum delegates stressed the importance of enabling young women to participate fully in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields and entrepreneurship, and creating space for young women's leadership in all employment opportunities, levels of the workforce, and different sectors.

Delegates also recognized that exploitation and discrimination are common in some forms of work in which young women are overrepresented, and it is important that these young women are not left behind or further marginalized.



I want to see a world where young people have the ability and opportunities to earn a sustainable income so that no one is left behind.

Youth Migration

Moving from a rural area to a big urban centre, or crossing many borders to a new country can be a challenging experience for any young person. Migration in its many forms separates youth from their homes and many of the resources and assets they rely on. Youth Forum delegates recognized that many global forces are currently driving migration, from climate change to urbanization to war and humanitarian crises, and recommended urgent action to address the root causes of migration and to support young migrants during their journeys and once they settle in their new communities.





Taking Action on Social Media

Media and technology are hugely important tools for youth to promote gender equality and the SDGs, and youth are using all forms of social media to reach decision-makers, amplify activism, and mobilize their networks locally and globally.

Besides Tweeting, Instagramming, and Snapchatting non-stop at the Youth Forum, delegates discussed the importance of closing the digital divide and improving access to the Internet and technology for youth in underserved and remote communities. Delegates also discussed how digital spaces and social media platforms are often not supportive or empowering venues for young women and girls, and recommended ways to address this problem.



Social media dramatically reduces the distance between young people and decision-makers

- Ravi Karkara,

UN Women Senior Advisor Strategic Partnership and Advocacy

Uniting Faith and Feminism

Gender equality cannot be achieved without commitment and action from and with faith communities, working in partnership with young women and young men. Youth Forum delegates recommended supporting young women of faith and youth-led faith organizations to promote faith principles that affirm, promote, and protect the human rights of young women, girls, and youth of all genders.

How can we work at the intersection of faith and feminism to advance gender equality world wide, across cultures, faiths and religions?





Young Women and Girls in Sport

Although sport can be an important source of empowerment and social inclusion for youth, gender-based discrimination is still present in many forms, at all levels of sport. Youth Forum delegates want to see programs and policies that ensure that youth of all genders have equal opportunity to participate fully in any and all types of sports, events, and competitions.



Strengthening Partnerships with Young Men in Gender Equality

As outlined in the LEAPs Framework, young men and boys have an important role to play in achieving gender equality. Young men and boys can and must use and share their power and privilege to end patriarchy, transform socio-cultural norms and harmful practices, and promote an intersectional approach to gender equality.

Youth delegates recommended engaging and educating young men and boys at an early age to disrupt rigid gender roles and stereotypes, to foster an understanding of consent, healthy relationships, and ending gender-based and sexual violence, and to promote positive ideas about masculinity and femininity.



We need to make sure young men know the issue is theirs too! Many are unaware that the fight for gender equality is their fight. Together we are stronger -- [young men] must understand that they are crucial to this movement!

Youth-Led Solutions for Gender Equality

Youth-Led Solutions for Gender Equality

In addition to building knowledge and developing recommendations around the key thematic areas for the Youth Declaration, the Youth Forum provided delegates with many opportunities to learn about different youth-led solutions for gender equality and share their own experiences. Given the diversity and experience of the delegates, this was such a unique and valuable forum for individuals and organizations to take away new ideas to apply to their work back home.

Youth Forum delegates and youth-led organizations shared case studies, best practices, and examples of programs and initiatives including:



Empowerment and
Gender Equality
through Sports and
Media with
Shirzanan Global





Young Women and Entrepreneurship with UN Women's Empower Women



Youth-led Action on Solutions for Climate Change and Gender Equality with Foundation for Environmental Stewardship and Climate Smart Agriculture Youth Network





Storytelling and Youth-led Action
for Gender Equality with Men's
Story Project and Man Up
Campaign.



Building Strong Practices in Non-Formal Education with WAGGGS, LitWorld and
Global G.L.O.W. (The HerStory Campaign)



YouthForChangeBd @Youth4ChangeBD - Mar 12

Power and Empowerment session @ #YouthCSWForum .Opening up the minds of youth and flying high #Youth4GenderEquality



3 2



CSW60 Youth Forum @YouthForumCSW - Mar 12



Youth Power and Empowerment with Plan International



Youth Participation in Decision Making, Policy Processes, and Implementation with Baha'i International Community and Commonwealth Youth Gender and Equality Network



Grassroots Young Women-led Cooperatives for Sustainable Economic and Social Development with The Hunger Project and AYUDH-MAM



Theories of Change in Addressing Violence against Women with World YWCA



Using Digital Art for Activism and Action with Adobe's Project 1324, Taking ITGlobal, and the World We Want 2030

Creating Herstory



Creating Herstory

The Youth Forum, and the days that have followed, have been full of 'herstoric' firsts: the launch of UN Women's Youth Strategy and the LEAPs framework, the first time the Chair of the CSW accepted a Youth Declaration, the first time a young female representative was asked to share the stage of the opening session of the CSW with the UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN Women to present the Youth Declaration, to name a few.



We need to acknowledge some folks here from the closing session!

His Excellency Ambassador Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Chair of the CSW;
Ms. Deborah Austin, President of the World YWCA;
Ms. Nicola Shepherd, UN Inter-agency co-chair (UNDESA);
Ms. Maria Jose Landeira Oestergaard, President of Zonta International,
and Madame Lakshmi Puri, UN Women Deputy Executive Director



At the closing session of the Youth Forum, a summary of the Youth Declaration was prepared and presented to His Excellency Mr. Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Brazil's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and the Chair of CSW60. This was the first time a Chair of CSW had ever received a Youth Declaration, and Ambassador Patriota pledged to enthusiastically champion the Youth Declaration during CSW60.

In another 'herstoric' first, World YWCA Youth Representative, Vanessa Anyoti, was invited to make a statement at the opening session of CSW60 on March 14th, 2016, and present the recommendations of the Youth Declaration and share the voices of Youth Forum participants



Vanessa called for action to end all forms of violence against women and girls, encouraged all young men and boys to become partners in achieving gender equality, and urged Member States to ensure that there are opportunities, resources, and political will to support young women and girls in achieving gender equality.

The final version of the Youth Declaration was disseminated to all Youth Forum delegates and many other stakeholders a few days later. Throughout the packed two weeks of meetings and events at CSW60, Youth Forum delegates and supporters used the Youth Declaration to advocate for the inclusion and integration of youth recommendations into the Agreed Conclusions of CSW60.

The negotiations continued late into the last night of CSW60, and ultimately the official Agreed Conclusions included a statement that welcomed the "major contributions" of youth-led organizations! Additionally, the Agreed Conclusions addressed many of the key recommendations that Youth Forum delegates voiced their support for at the Youth Forum and in the Youth Declaration.





I am so grateful to all the young women and young men leaders in this room. You have created 'HerStory' by being a part of the first-ever global outreach by young people to support the global young women's movement.

- Lakshmi Puri,
UN Women Deputy
Executive Director



Building Momentum



... how you will entrench youth participation in the monitoring and accountability at country level? What will you do to turn this into an active and living movement?

- Lopa Banerjee,
UN Women Civil Society
Section Chief

WITH 1.8 BILLION YOUTH TODAY,

THEIR VOICES COUNT!
SUCCESS OF THE **#SDG5**
REQUIRES **ACTIVE**
PARTICIPATION

Make your voice count!

#YouthCSWForum
#Youth4GenderEquality

The Youth Forum at CSW60 produced the first-ever Youth Declaration and has already achieved a number of important milestones and achievements at CSW60. However, there is still much work to be done. Youth-led organizations and youth advocates must build on the momentum from the Youth Forum to advance gender equality and the SDGs at local, national, regional, and international levels.

Immediately following CSW60, the next steps will be to:

Share the outcomes of the Youth Forum at CSW60 using Twitter, Google Hangouts, and other online tools and in different languages to reach youth and other stakeholders who were not able to participate in the Youth Forum and CSW60. The UNWomen with Youth Twitter handle and the #Youth4GenderEquality hashtag will be very active - be sure to follow and retweet!

Evaluate and collect feedback from the inaugural Youth Forum to ensure that the next Youth Forum and related initiatives will maximize youth participation and impact

Secure commitment to support and institutionalize the Youth Forum at CSW and related initiatives for meaningful youth participation and inclusion

Strengthen youth leadership and action on gender equality and the SDGs through the activities of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality

There will be many opportunities throughout the coming year for youth to amplify their advocacy and programmatic work on gender equality and the SDGs. However, achieving the 2030 Agenda won't happen with a small group of youth advocates on their own - we need everyone's energy and action!

Here are some ways you can get involved:

- Join the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality and new task forces on Young Women's Leadership, Young Women's -
- Economic Empowerment, and Young Men in Gender Equality. These groups are open to all individuals and organizations working on youth and gender equality and encourage global participation!
- Connect with Youth Delegates on Facebook, Twitter, and other platforms to share ideas for projects and initiatives in your community.
- Participate in the #Youth4GenderEquality Twitter Series every month on the 8th (on youth-led action for gender equality and Planet 50-50 by 2030) and the 25th (on youth-led action for Orange Day to End Violence Against Women and Girls).
- Lobby your government to support the Youth Declaration and champion youth-led solutions for gender equality



CSW60 Youth Forum shared a group.

March 13 at 10:49am · 🌐

The Forum is over but our work is not yet finished. Lets stay connected and continue to work together to achieve gender equality. Join our Facebook group here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1561853914127326/>



Joined

Like Comment Share



#Youth4GenderEquality

PLANET 50-50 BY 2030

STEP IT UP

FOR GENDER EQUALITY

Youth Action

#Planet5050 by 2030

Twitter Series

8th of Every Month

APRIL 8, 2016

10 AM EST

@UNWOMEN4YOUTH
@YouthForumCSW
@WorldWeWant2030
@Sayftycom

YOUTH ACTION

TWEETATHON

25TH OF EVERY MONTH

ALL DAY LONG

#ORANGEDAY

@UNWomen4Youth
@YouthForumCSW
@TheRedElephant
@SayftyCom
@ManUpCampaign
@WorldWeWant2030

SAY NO UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- Lobby your government to support the Youth Declaration and champion youth-led solutions for gender equality

As leaders TODAY, the SDGs are about our lives NOW and our collective tomorrow We stand with you in finding innovative and lasting solutions to achieve gender equality by 2030. We call upon all of you for becoming our partners in achieving a Planet 5050 by 2030. HER-story was created now - I thank you!

Vanessa Anyoti,
World YWCA Youth Representative



Appendix

Youth Forum Task Force

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Moderators: Aldeli Alban Reyna, Alex Mitchell, Andrea Gradiz Diaz, Nath Hirsch, Sam Vaghar, Vanessa Anyoti





Youth Forum Statement at the Opening Session of CSW60

On behalf of ALL the young women and young men in all our diversities, from all corners of the world, with our varied experiences, we thank you, for this opportunity to effectively participate in CSW60.

We are so grateful to UN Women Executive Director Phumzile for your personal commitment and leadership in placing young people at the centre of the CSW agenda and for the adoption of UN Women's Youth and Gender Equality Strategy, highlighting the much needed LEAPs Framework.

We thank the chair of CSW, his Excellency, Ambassador Patriota, for becoming the 1st chair to receive a Youth Statement.

Thank you, to all our governments who have included us young women and young men as members in their delegation and for supporting young people as civil society delegates.

We thank the World YWCA, UN Women and the UN Inter-Agency Network's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality, for convening the 1st Youth Forum at CSW 60.

We therefore recommend the following:

1. For the member states to incorporate the youth forum recommendations into the agreed conclusions during your deliberations.
2. Create opportunities and Invest resources, political will and concrete support to young women and girls in achieving Gender Equality, which is key to SDGs.
3. Ensure that all young women and girls have a voice and appropriate skills to enable them to make informed decisions, exercise their leadership and negotiate for access to services.
4. We specifically call for action to end all forms of violence against young women and girls such as FGM, Child and Forced marriage among others and request for continued support to survivors of violence.
5. We call upon ALL young men and boys to become our partners in achieving gender equality

In conclusion, we request that you institutionalize the youth forum at CSW and adequately resource it as a permanent. As leaders TODAY – the SDGs are about our lives NOW and our collective tomorrow.

We stand with you in finding innovative and lasting solutions to achieve gender equality by 2030.

We call upon all of you for becoming our partners in achieving a Planet 5050 by 2030, LATEST.

HERSTORY WAS CREATED NOW – I thank you!

Youth Declaration

<http://www2.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/news/stories/2016/youthcsw-2016-declaration.pdf?v=1&d=20160321T155235>

Thank you

To the media team, an amazing team of photographers and videographers from MHPV: Cassandra Wages, Danielle Douglas, Jessie MacLeod, Miranda Aaland, Rita Kreynin, and Maggie Hallahan.

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Venue: Salvation Army



