Intergenerational Dialogues on the Sustainable Development Goals

Concept Note

Event: A United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) Intergenerational Dialogues event will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, 1 August, 2017. The event will be titled “Intergenerational Dialogues on the Sustainable Development Goals” and will be co-hosted by DPI and NGO/DPI Executive Committee.

Rationale: The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by United Nations (UN) Member States in September 2015 to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure human rights and prosperous and fulfilling lives for all by 2030. The SDGs themselves are very inclusive, allowing youth and older persons a distinct role in the process of implementing the 17 Goals and in addressing challenges specific to their respective age groups. Concerted efforts are needed to identify their needs and incorporate their voices in ways most appropriate to their respective engagement channels and specific challenges.

Purpose: The Dialogues will raise awareness of the high value that youth and older persons can bring to implementation of the SDGs, and foster a shift in the perception of youth and older persons from beneficiaries of social policy to agents of social change. Building on existing efforts, the Dialogues will be an important opportunity to mobilize civil society with the objective of leaving no one behind. It is anticipated that attendees will learn to identify the groups of youth and older persons that are most at risk and to empower them to actively participate in the implementation of Agenda 2030.

Venue: The event will be held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

Planning and Format: The planning committee will be co-chaired by one youth and one older person from civil society, and one representative of UN DPI. The one-day Dialogues event will be co-chaired by the civil society co-chairs, who will report back to participants on the key discussion points and action items. The planning committee sub-committees will be co-chaired by representatives of NGOs that are associated with the Department of Public Information. The planning committee co-chairs and sub-committee co-chairs shall make every effort to ensure that perspectives from diverse regions and communities are represented, including marginalized communities and groups.

Participation: Representatives of NGOs that are associated with DPI or in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), NGOs from the Major Group on Children and Youth, the Stakeholder Group on Ageing, together with United Nations Academic Impact universities, or that have a formal relationship with a UN entity, will be given priority in the registration process. Space permitting, civil society organizations not affiliated with the UN may apply to register. Additionally, NGOs are asked to support the participation of representatives of vulnerable and marginalized communities most affected by poverty, inequality, and injustice. Delegates of UN Member State governments and UN staff are also welcome to register.

http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations/dialogues

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