

# Report on the Fourth International Youth Forum on Human Rights and Sustainable Development

The Fourth International Youth Forum on Human Rights and Sustainable Development organized by the Sustainable Development Council (SDC) an organization with Special Consultative Status with United Nations ECOSOC, was held in United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok from 22 to 23 October 2024.

The Fourth International Youth Forum was attended over by 400 participants, including representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations bodies, international organizations and major groups and other stakeholders.

Ambassadors of the following countries attended: Sri Lanka, Czech Republic, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, South Africa, Kenya.

Youth Representatives of the following countries attended: Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Congo-Kinshasa, Czech Republic, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Laos, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Romania, Russia, Samoa, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia.

Under the agenda item 1 (a), the Co-Founder(s) delivered opening remarks. Special remarks were delivered by Her Excellency E.A.S. Wijayanthi Edirisinghe, Ambassador of Sri Lanka and Permanent Representative to UNESCAP, His Excellency Mr. Pavel Pitel, Ambassador of the Czech Republic, His Excellency Dr. Sándor Sipos, Ambassador of Hungary to Thailand, His Excellency Mr. Patrick Bourne, Ambassador of Ireland to Thailand, His Excellency Mr. Paolo Dionisi, Ambassador of Italy to Thailand, Her Excellency Ms. Ilse Lilian Ferrer Silva, Ambassador of Mexico to Thailand, His Excellency Mr. Abderrahim Rahhaly, Ambassador of Morocco to Thailand, His Excellency Mr. Jonathan Kings, Ambassador of New Zealand to Thailand, His Excellency Mr. Darkey Ephraim Africa, Ambassador of South Africa to Thailand, His Excellency Mr. Lindsay Kiptiness, Ambassador of Kenya to Thailand.

Under the agenda 1 (b), the participants in the Twelfth Forum took note of the note by the Ms.Kathryn Clarkson, Senior Representative, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement secretariat entitled "Humanitarian Action & Youth Empowerment".

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

Under the agenda 1 (b), the participants in the Twelfth Forum took note of the note by the Datuk Dr Habibah Abdul Rahim, Director of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) entitled "Empowering Youth for a Sustainable and Just Future"

Under the agenda 1(c), A high-level panel discussion was held on the theme of "Innovating for Inclusion: Youth-Driven Solutions for Social Justice" highlighted how young changemakers are pioneering innovative approaches to tackle inequality, discrimination, and marginalization. Panelists shared inspiring case studies and grassroots initiatives led by youth that are breaking barriers and transforming communities. Discussions revolved around the use of digital tools, community mobilization, and inclusive policymaking to address issues such as gender justice, disability rights, and access to education and healthcare. The session underscored the importance of empowering youth as co-creators of inclusive societies and emphasized the need for systemic support and cross-sector collaboration. Participants left with practical strategies and renewed motivation to champion social justice through innovation and advocacy.

Under the agenda 1(d), A high-level panel discussion was held on the theme of "Global Partnerships: Building Bridges Between Youth and Intergovernmental Organizations." offered valuable insights into how meaningful collaboration between youth and multilateral institutions can accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Distinguished ambassadors and representatives emphasized the need to create inclusive spaces where young people can participate in policy-making, diplomacy, and development processes. The dialogue underlined successful models of youth engagement across the UN system and beyond, stressing the importance of co-creation, mutual respect, and knowledge exchange. Delegates gained a deeper understanding of diplomatic pathways, partnership frameworks, and entry points for youth within intergovernmental systems. The session inspired emerging leaders to leverage international platforms and build strategic alliances to amplify youth voices in global decision-making.

Under agenda 1(e), A high-level panel discussion was held on the theme of "Digital Empowerment: The Role of Youth in Shaping Future Technologies" explored the transformative power of digital innovation and the dynamic role youth play in driving technological advancements. Panelists highlighted how young people are not only adapting to digital shifts but are also leading innovation across sectors—from artificial intelligence and cybersecurity to digital inclusion and education technology. The discussion emphasized the importance of digital literacy, equitable access to technology, and ethical innovation, urging governments and institutions to invest in youth-centric digital policies and capacity-building programs. Participants shared inspiring stories of youth-led startups, tech-for-good initiatives, and inclusive platforms that bridge the digital divide. The session concluded with a call to action to empower youth with the tools, skills, and opportunities needed to shape a more just, inclusive, and sustainable digital future.

Under the agenda 1(f), Rapporteur Report, No other matter discussed

Under the agenda 2(a), A series of insightful research papers were presented by scholars and academicians, addressing critical intersections of human rights, environmental

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

protection, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Dr. Bindu Sangra, Assistant Professor at Jammu University, J&K, explored the protection of indigenous communities through her paper titled "Indigenous rights and the SDGs: Protecting indigenous communities in the context of sustainable development", aligning with SDGs 1, 10, 11, and 15. Ms. Jane Lalnunsiami, a student from the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, contributed with a comprehensive analysis on marine biodiversity through her study "Protecting the hotspots of the ocean: A comprehensive analysis of the marine environment protection under the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Agreement, 2023", covering SDGs 14 and 13. Ms. Karishma Kappor, a Research Scholar, presented a paradigmatic approach in her paper "Traversing the panorama of human rights in the realm of international investment", which engaged with SDGs 8, 10, and 16. Dr. Megh Raj, Assistant Professor at Delhi University, offered a socio-legal examination of India's legal structures in his paper titled "An exposition of legal framework to protect human rights in India", focusing on SDG 16. Furthermore, Ms. Manishita Bhattacharjee and Ms. Supriya, students from Christ University, Delhi, jointly presented their research "Physical and mental health of youth: Mapping their right to health under international law with special reference to Sustainable Development Goals", addressing SDGs 3, 4, and 10. Collectively, these academic contributions enriched the discourse on sustainable development by highlighting the roles of law, equity, and environmental responsibility.

Under the agenda 2(b), A high-level panel discussion was held on the theme of "Youth Driving Resilience: Leading Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Action for Human Rights and SDGs." focused on the powerful role of youth in spearheading efforts toward Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate action within the broader framework of human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The discussion highlighted how young leaders are actively engaging in building resilient communities, advocating for climate justice, and integrating human rights-based approaches into environmental strategies. Speakers emphasized the importance of youth-led innovation, community-based initiatives, and policy engagement in mitigating the impacts of climate-related disasters. The panel also brought attention to the need for inclusive participation, capacity building, and intergenerational collaboration to enhance preparedness and ensure equitable responses to climate crises. By sharing successful case studies and grassroots interventions, the session underscored that youth are not just future stakeholders but present-day change-makers in advancing resilience and sustainability.

Under the agenda 2(c), A high-level panel discussion was held on the theme of "Youth Advocacy in Action: Success Stories from the Global South" showcased powerful narratives of young leaders driving change in their local communities across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. From influencing policy reforms to launching community-based initiatives, the speakers shared real-world examples of how youth are addressing pressing social, environmental, and economic challenges. The session emphasized the critical role of grassroots activism, cultural context, and resilience in achieving sustainable development goals. It also highlighted the importance of platforms that amplify youth voices and foster South-South cooperation. Delegates were inspired by the tangible impact of youth-led efforts and left with a deeper appreciation of localized leadership and innovation emerging from the Global South.

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

Under the agenda 2(d), The Workshop on SDGs and Human Rights at the International Youth Forum 4.0 provided a dynamic platform for young delegates to explore the intersection between human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals. The session emphasized that the SDGs are rooted in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and achieving them requires a strong rights-based approach. Through case studies and group discussions, participants examined issues such as access to education, gender equality, climate justice, and reducing inequalities. Youth shared real-life experiences and identified barriers to rights-based development, including discrimination, lack of access, and limited youth participation in decision-making. The workshop encouraged the integration of human rights frameworks into SDG advocacy and highlighted the importance of inclusive, intersectional approaches. It concluded with a call to action for youth to serve as defenders of human rights in their communities and to drive sustainable change through knowledge, advocacy, and collaboration.

Under the agenda 2(e), The concluding session of the International Youth Forum 4.0 witnessed the adoption of the official forum resolution titled "Partnering with the Youth to Achieve SDGs: Moving from Policy to Action " (Annex 1) The resolution is a collective commitment of all youth delegates representing over 45 countries to actively contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through inclusive, innovative, and rights-based approaches. The resolution reflects the outcomes and insights gathered from all thematic panels, workshops, and youth consultations held during the forum. It highlights key priorities such as advancing youth participation in governance, promoting climate action and digital empowerment, ensuring social justice and inclusion, and strengthening partnerships with intergovernmental organizations. During the session, delegates voiced their strong support for institutionalizing youth roles in decision-making, safeguarding human rights, and amplifying voices from the Global South. The resolution was unanimously endorsed by the delegates and will be submitted to relevant UN bodies, governments, and partner organizations as a youth-led policy contribution. The adoption of this resolution marks a significant step forward in uniting young changemakers globally under a shared vision of sustainable and just development. The rapporteur acknowledges the collaborative spirit, powerful advocacy, and meaningful deliberations that shaped this document.

# Key Messages from IYF 4.0:

**Youth must be at the center of sustainable development** – not as beneficiaries, but as leaders and change-makers.

**Human rights are non-negotiable** in the pursuit of the SDGs and must guide all development strategies.

Digital access and literacy are essential for youth empowerment and equitable growth.

Climate justice and disaster preparedness require youth-led, locally grounded solutions.

Global partnerships must be inclusive of young people's voices in policy dialogues and implementation.

Education, health, and innovation are key to ensuring that youth can thrive and lead.

**Solidarity across regions, especially the Global South,** is vital to addressing shared challenges through mutual learning and support.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Annex 1:

# International Youth Forum on SDGs and Human Rights Partnering with the Youth to Achieve SDGs: Moving from Policy to Action

#### **IYF Charter for the Future**

# Background

In a rapidly changing world characterized by unprecedented challenges such as climate change, poverty, inequality, and social injustice, the role of youth has never been more critical. Young people, who constitute a significant portion of the global population, possess the energy, creativity, and determination necessary to drive change and contribute to sustainable development. As agents of transformation, youth have the potential to influence policies, shape societal norms, and advocate for their rights and the rights of others.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by United Nations member states in 2015, serve as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all by 2030. These goals recognize the interdependence of social, economic, and environmental dimensions of development and emphasize the importance of inclusive and equitable solutions. However, despite the recognition of youth's pivotal role in achieving these goals, meaningful engagement and representation of young people in decision-making processes at local, national, and global levels remain limited.

This resolution aims to address the urgent need for enhanced youth participation in the implementation of the SDGs and the promotion of human rights. It acknowledges that young people face unique challenges, including limited access to education, employment opportunities, and participation in civic life. These barriers disproportionately affect marginalized youth, hindering their ability to contribute to sustainable development and advocate for their rights.

The resolution calls upon various stakeholders, including governments, international organizations, youth organizations, and businesses, to take concerted action to empower young people. By prioritizing the needs and voices of youth, we can ensure that they are equipped with the resources, skills, and opportunities necessary to make a meaningful impact in their communities and beyond.

Additionally, the resolution emphasizes the importance of collaboration and solidarity among youth from diverse backgrounds. By fostering intercultural understanding and cooperation, we can create a global movement that champions the rights of young people and works towards a more just and equitable world.

In summary, the Youth Resolution on SDGs and Human Rights serves as a collective commitment from young people to advocate for their rights, engage in sustainable development, and work together to create a brighter future for all. By recognizing the potential

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

of youth and facilitating their active participation, we can pave the way for a more inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous world.

#### Preamble

We, the youth of the world, united by our shared commitment to justice, equity, and sustainable development, convene at the International Youth Forum on SDGs and Human Rights. Recognizing the urgent need to address the myriad challenges facing our generation, including climate change, social inequality, and violations of human rights, we assert our collective responsibility to advocate for a future that reflects our values and aspirations.

We acknowledge that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a universal blueprint for action to eradicate poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. However, we recognize that the realization of these goals is contingent upon the active participation and representation of youth in decision-making processes at all levels. Our voices, experiences, and perspectives are essential in shaping policies that impact our lives and our communities.

We affirm the fundamental rights of all individuals, including the right to participate fully in civic life and to have our voices heard in matters that affect us. We believe that empowering youth is critical to fostering innovation, driving change, and building resilient communities that can thrive in an increasingly complex world.

We commit ourselves to working collaboratively, across borders and cultures, to promote awareness of the SDGs and human rights, to engage in civic advocacy, and to develop solutions that address the pressing challenges of our time. We call upon governments, international organizations, youth organizations, and businesses to join us in this endeavor, to prioritize youth participation, and to invest in our potential.

In this spirit of solidarity and action, we present this resolution as a guiding framework for youth engagement in advancing the SDGs and promoting human rights, and we pledge to work tirelessly to create a world where all young people can realize their full potential, live with dignity, and contribute to a just and sustainable future.

# Resolution 1: Strengthening Youth Participation in Global Decision-Making

# **Establishment of Permanent Youth Councils:**

We propose the establishment of permanent youth councils within esteemed international organizations, including the United Nations and regional bodies, with the explicit mandate to represent the diverse voices of youth in policymaking processes. These councils should be empowered to provide recommendations, share insights, and advocate for the incorporation of youth perspectives in all relevant discussions and initiatives.

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

# Promotion of Leadership Training and Capacity-Building Initiatives:

We urge governments, non-governmental organizations, and international bodies to increase access to comprehensive leadership training and capacity-building programs tailored specifically for young people. Such initiatives should aim to equip youth with the necessary skills, knowledge, and tools to actively participate in decision-making processes, thus empowering them to become effective advocates for change in their communities and beyond.

# **Facilitation of Dialogue and Collaboration:**

We encourage the establishment of platforms that facilitate dialogue and collaboration between youth and decision-makers. Regular forums, workshops, and conferences should be organized to ensure that young people can engage directly with policymakers, share their experiences, and contribute to shaping policies that affect their lives. This engagement should prioritize inclusivity, ensuring that the voices of marginalized and underrepresented youth are amplified.

# **Recognition of Youth as Key Stakeholders:**

We call upon all stakeholders, including governments, international organizations, and civil society, to recognize youth as key stakeholders in the development and implementation of policies related to the SDGs and human rights. By acknowledging their role as vital contributors to sustainable development, we can foster an environment that encourages active participation and collaboration.

# **Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms:**

We recommend the development of robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the impact of youth participation in decision-making processes. This should include the collection of data on youth engagement and the establishment of indicators to measure progress in empowering young people within global governance frameworks.

# **Resolution 2: Accelerating Action for the SDGs**

# **Quality Education (SDG 4):**

We recognize education as a fundamental human right and a cornerstone for sustainable development. Quality education is essential for equipping individuals with the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to contribute meaningfully to their communities and the global society at large. We advocate for the transformation of educational systems to ensure inclusivity, equity, and accessibility for all, regardless of socio-economic status, gender, or geographic location.

# **Gender Equality (SDG 5):**

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

We acknowledge that gender equality is not only a fundamental human right but also a prerequisite for achieving sustainable development. The empowerment of women and girls must be at the forefront of our efforts, as their full and effective participation in decision-making processes is essential for driving progress across all sectors. We commit to dismantling systemic barriers that hinder gender equality and promoting policies that foster the rights and potential of all individuals, irrespective of their gender.

# **Climate Action (SDG 13):**

We recognize the existential threat posed by climate change and the urgent need for immediate and sustained action to mitigate its impacts. The acceleration of climate action requires collaborative efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience, and adapt to the changing climate. We advocate for the adoption of innovative, inclusive, and technology-driven solutions that empower communities and individuals to take ownership of their environmental responsibilities.

# Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions (SDG 16):

We affirm that sustainable development cannot be achieved without peace, justice, and inclusive governance. The establishment of effective, accountable, and transparent institutions is vital for fostering social cohesion and ensuring equitable access to justice for all. We emphasize the importance of promoting peaceful and inclusive societies where all individuals can exercise their rights and freedoms without fear of discrimination or violence.

#### Resolution 3: Promoting Climate Justice and Environmental Sustainability

# **Advocating for Climate Justice:**

We recognize that climate change disproportionately affects marginalized communities, exacerbating existing inequalities and vulnerabilities. In light of this, we commit to promoting climate justice by supporting policies and initiatives that prioritize the needs and perspectives of these communities. It is essential that the voices of those most affected by climate change are amplified in decision-making processes at all levels, ensuring that their rights are upheld and their needs are met.

### **Transitioning to Renewable Energy:**

We advocate for global commitments to phase out fossil fuels and transition towards renewable energy sources. This transition is vital not only for mitigating the impacts of climate change but also for fostering economic resilience and job creation within sustainable industries. We call upon governments, businesses, and international organizations to collaborate in developing

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

and implementing strategies that promote renewable energy technologies, thereby reducing our collective carbon footprint and ensuring a sustainable energy future.

# **Establishing an International Youth-Led Task Force on Climate Action:**

We recognize the crucial role that youth play in leading the fight for environmental sustainability. Therefore, we call for the establishment of an international youth-led task force on climate action, dedicated to empowering young leaders to advocate for and implement climate solutions. This task force will serve as a platform for young people to share knowledge, mobilize action, and collaborate on innovative strategies to combat climate change. By harnessing the creativity and passion of youth, we can drive meaningful change and inspire a global movement for climate justice.

# Resolution 4: Digital Empowerment and Ethical Technology Development

# Recognizing Digital Inclusion as a Fundamental Right

In light of the central role digital technologies play in modern societies, we affirm that access to technology and the internet should be viewed as a fundamental human right. Digital inclusion is essential for fostering equal opportunities and participation in the global economy, as well as ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their background or location, have access to knowledge, services, and opportunities that are crucial for their development.

# **Commitment to Universal and Equitable Access**

We commit to advocating for the universal and equitable expansion of digital infrastructure. Governments, international organizations, and private sectors must prioritize delivering affordable and reliable internet access, particularly to underserved and marginalized communities. Bridging the digital divide is key to ensuring that no one is left behind in the digital age.

# Youth Participation in Ethical Technology Development

Acknowledging the pivotal role of youth as drivers of technological innovation, we call for the active involvement of young people in the ethical development and regulation of emerging technologies. We urge international bodies to create inclusive platforms that enable youth to contribute to policymaking, ensuring that technologies like artificial intelligence, big data, and blockchain are developed in ways that promote human rights, social justice, and sustainable development.

# **Supporting Digital Literacy Programs**

We resolve to promote and support comprehensive digital literacy initiatives, particularly in underserved areas. Digital literacy is essential for enabling individuals to safely and effectively

# Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

engage with digital tools, navigate the digital economy, and access global knowledge. These programs should be locally adapted, equipping communities with the skills necessary to thrive in an increasingly connected world.

# **Promoting Technology for Human Rights and Social Justice**

We emphasize that the development of digital technologies must be aligned with the broader goals of human rights, equity, and sustainable development. Ethical technology governance must ensure that these innovations do not exacerbate existing inequalities but instead serve as tools for empowerment, inclusion, and global progress.

# Technology as a Tool for Inclusion and Empowerment

Through the collective promotion of digital empowerment and ethical technology development, we aim to foster a world where technology serves as a vehicle for social equity, human rights, and sustainable development, ensuring that its benefits are shared by all.

# Resolution 5: Fostering Global Peace, Justice, and Human Rights

# Reaffirming Commitment to Peace, Justice, and Human Rights

As youth leaders and advocates for a better future, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the promotion of global peace, justice, and the universal protection of human rights. In recognizing that sustainable peace and justice can only be achieved through the active participation of youth, we emphasize the critical role of young people as agents of change in addressing the world's most pressing challenges, including conflict, inequality, and injustice.

### **Establishment of Global Peace Education Curricula**

We call for the inclusion of peace education as a mandatory component of school curricula worldwide. Peace education should focus on conflict resolution, mediation, dialogue, and the promotion of understanding and tolerance across diverse communities. By equipping young people with the tools and knowledge necessary to navigate and resolve conflicts peacefully, we will foster a generation capable of leading efforts to prevent violence, promote social cohesion, and build cultures of peace in their respective societies.

# **Youth Empowerment in Global Justice Initiatives**

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

We advocate for the creation of youth-led committees within international human rights organizations, which will actively participate in global justice initiatives. These committees, in partnership with human rights organizations, will play a key role in addressing and mitigating global injustices such as systemic discrimination, persecution, and violence against vulnerable populations. Young leaders must be empowered to lead and influence human rights advocacy at the international level.

# **Advancing Social Justice through Youth Leadership**

Youth must be at the forefront of global efforts to advance social justice and human rights. We resolve to work in collaboration with international institutions, governments, and civil society to ensure that youth voices are integrated into decision-making processes. This includes supporting youth-led campaigns to promote gender equality, combat discrimination, and secure justice for marginalized communities.

# **Promoting Tolerance and Understanding**

In a world marked by division and conflict, we must cultivate a spirit of empathy and understanding across borders, cultures, and communities. We call upon governments and educational institutions to promote cross-cultural exchange programs, youth dialogues, and interfaith initiatives to build bridges of understanding between diverse groups. Youth engagement in such initiatives will contribute to the prevention of future conflicts and the promotion of global unity.

# Youth as Stewards of Global Peace and Justice

By fostering global peace, justice, and human rights, youth have the potential to shape a more inclusive, just, and peaceful world. Through education, leadership, and advocacy, we commit to working together with all sectors of society to create a future where justice prevails, human rights are upheld, and peace is realized for all.

#### Resolution 6: Encouraging Sustainable Economic Growth and Decent Work

## Commitment to SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

We recognize that sustainable economic growth and decent work are key to achieving a just, equitable, and prosperous future. Aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8), we resolve to prioritize policies that foster entrepreneurship, ensure fair wages, and guarantee safe and decent working conditions for all, with a special focus on empowering youth. The economic empowerment of young people is essential for sustainable development and for addressing the global challenges of unemployment, inequality, and poverty.

# **Promoting Entrepreneurship and Innovation**

Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

To harness the potential of youth as drivers of economic growth, we advocate for the widespread promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation. Governments, the private sector, and educational institutions must collaborate to create environments that encourage entrepreneurial initiatives among young people. This includes supporting youth-led startups, social enterprises, and small businesses through streamlined regulatory frameworks, reduced barriers to entry, and access to capital.

#### **Creation of Green Jobs and Sustainable Industries**

As we face the dual challenge of promoting economic growth while addressing environmental degradation, we resolve to advocate for the creation of green jobs and the development of sustainable industries. These industries should focus on reducing environmental impact, conserving resources, and driving climate action. By investing in green sectors such as renewable energy, waste management, and sustainable agriculture, we can provide meaningful employment opportunities for young people while contributing to the protection of our planet.

# **Ensuring Decent Working Conditions and Fair Wages**

We call for a global commitment to decent working conditions and fair wages across all sectors. Young workers are often vulnerable to exploitation, unsafe working environments, and inadequate pay. To combat these injustices, we urge governments and businesses to implement and enforce policies that protect workers' rights, ensure a living wage, and promote workplace safety. Empowering youth in the workforce through equitable treatment is not only a moral imperative but also essential for creating stable and productive economies.

#### **Equitable Access to Financial Resources and Mentorship**

Young entrepreneurs often face significant challenges in accessing financial resources and guidance. To address this gap, we resolve to ensure equitable access to financial services, including affordable credit, grants, and investment opportunities for young innovators and business owners. Additionally, we emphasize the importance of mentorship programs that provide guidance, knowledge-sharing, and networking opportunities to aspiring young entrepreneurs. Such programs are crucial for fostering innovation and ensuring the long-term success of youth-led ventures.

# Commitment to Capacity-Building and Skills Development

To meet the demands of the evolving global economy, it is essential that young people are equipped with the skills needed for future industries. We call for expanded access to quality education and vocational training programs that focus on digital literacy, technology, and sustainability. Governments and businesses must collaborate to develop training initiatives that prepare young workers for high-demand fields while supporting lifelong learning to ensure adaptability in a rapidly changing job market.

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

#### A Future of Sustainable Growth and Decent Work for Youth

In fostering sustainable economic growth and ensuring decent work, we commit to building economies that are inclusive, resilient, and environmentally sustainable. By investing in youth entrepreneurship, supporting green jobs, and ensuring fair wages and working conditions, we will create a future where young people are empowered to drive innovation, contribute to economic development, and thrive in meaningful employment.

# **Resolution 7: Ensuring Gender Equality and Social Inclusion**

# **Commitment to Dismantling Systemic Barriers**

Recognizing the persistence of systemic barriers that perpetuate inequality and discrimination, we resolve to take decisive action toward achieving true gender equality and social inclusion. We affirm that every individual, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ability, or background, must have access to equal opportunities, rights, and protections under the law. This resolution is a call to confront the deep-rooted social, economic, and political inequalities that hinder progress toward a more equitable world.

# **Promoting Inclusive Leadership and Decision-Making**

We emphasize the importance of inclusive leadership that reflects the diversity of our societies. We resolve to promote the inclusion of women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and persons with disabilities in leadership roles and decision-making processes at all levels of governance and within institutions. This includes increasing representation in government, the private sector, civil society, and international organizations. Only by ensuring diverse voices in leadership can we create policies and systems that are truly representative and just.

# Closing the Gender Gap in Education, Employment, and Healthcare

We commit to closing the gender gap in critical areas such as education, employment, and healthcare. Women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and marginalized groups continue to face unequal access to quality education, fair employment opportunities, and adequate healthcare services. To address these disparities, we call for the enforcement of stronger national and international policies that promote equal access and eliminate discriminatory practices. Ensuring that all individuals have access to education, employment, and healthcare is not only a matter of justice but also essential for achieving sustainable development.

# **Strengthening National and International Policies**

To dismantle systemic barriers and advance gender equality, we advocate for the strengthening and implementation of robust national and international policies. Governments must take a proactive approach to reforming outdated laws, addressing gender-based violence, and *Copyright* © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

enforcing anti-discrimination legislation. Additionally, international organizations must play a key role in monitoring progress, holding governments accountable, and supporting efforts to advance gender equality and social inclusion on a global scale.

# **Fostering Social and Cultural Change**

Achieving gender equality and social inclusion requires not only legal and policy changes but also a shift in societal attitudes and cultural norms. We resolve to foster social and cultural change by promoting education and awareness campaigns that challenge harmful stereotypes and biases. By encouraging dialogue and engagement within communities, we can create a more inclusive and tolerant society where everyone is valued and respected for who they are.

# **Empowering Marginalized Groups through Education and Economic Opportunities**

We resolve to empower women, LGBTQ+ individuals, and marginalized communities by providing them with access to education, training, and economic opportunities. This includes investing in programs that enhance skills development, entrepreneurship, and financial independence for these groups. Economic empowerment is a key driver of social inclusion and can help individuals overcome systemic barriers to achieving their full potential.

# A Future of Equality and Inclusion for All

In pursuing gender equality and social inclusion, we commit to creating a world where every individual is treated with dignity and respect. By promoting inclusive leadership, closing the gender gap in key areas, and fostering social change, we will ensure that no one is left behind in the pursuit of justice and equality. Through collective action, we can dismantle systemic barriers and build a future where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

# Resolution 8: Building a Future for Innovation and Collaboration

# Fostering a Global Culture of Innovation

Recognizing the critical role that innovation plays in addressing the complex challenges of our time, we resolve to create a global culture where youth are empowered to develop groundbreaking ideas and solutions. Young people are the drivers of technological advancements, social change, and creative problem-solving. By fostering an environment that nurtures creativity and innovation, we can ensure that the next generation has the tools and resources to build a sustainable and prosperous future.

# **Creating Global Platforms for Collaboration**

We commit to establishing and strengthening global platforms that bring together youth innovators, governments, academia, and the private sector. These platforms will serve as

#### Copyright © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

incubators for new ideas, allowing diverse stakeholders to collaborate on solutions that address the world's most pressing challenges, from climate change to social inequality. By encouraging dialogue and partnership between these sectors, we will enhance the capacity to create scalable solutions that benefit societies worldwide.

# Youth-Led Innovation and Social Change

Youth are not only the future but also the present agents of change. We resolve to advocate for policies and initiatives that promote youth-led innovation, particularly in the fields of social entrepreneurship and sustainability. These initiatives will focus on empowering young people to create businesses and organizations that contribute to the common good, advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and address issues such as poverty, inequality, and environmental degradation.

# **Investing in Youth-Led Startups and Entrepreneurship**

We call for increased investment in youth-led startups, with a particular emphasis on ventures that focus on social impact and sustainability. Governments, international organizations, and private investors must recognize the immense potential of young entrepreneurs and provide them with the financial resources, mentorship, and support they need to succeed. By investing in youth-led startups, we not only drive economic growth but also foster a new generation of leaders committed to positive social change.

# **Promoting Interdisciplinary Collaboration**

To maximize the impact of youth-driven innovation, we resolve to promote interdisciplinary collaboration across sectors and regions. By breaking down silos and encouraging cross-sectoral partnerships, we can leverage the unique strengths of each discipline to develop holistic and comprehensive solutions. Collaboration between scientific researchers, social entrepreneurs, technologists, and policymakers will be key to achieving transformative outcomes that address global challenges.

# **Ensuring Inclusivity in Innovation**

We recognize that innovation must be inclusive, ensuring that all youth—regardless of their background, location, or socioeconomic status—have the opportunity to contribute. We resolve to prioritize programs that engage marginalized and underrepresented groups in the innovation ecosystem, particularly young women, people with disabilities, and those from underserved communities. By ensuring inclusivity, we will tap into the full potential of the world's youth and create solutions that are truly reflective of global needs.

#### **Driving Technological Advancements for Social Good**

We resolve to harness the power of emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, and renewable energy, for the benefit of society. Youth innovators are at the *Copyright* © 2025 | Sustainable Development Council.

forefront of developing these technologies, and we call on governments and private companies to support their efforts in ensuring that technological advancements are used to promote social justice, human rights, and sustainable development. Ethical considerations must be central to the development and deployment of new technologies.

#### A Collaborative Future Built on Innovation

In building a future where innovation and collaboration are central to progress, we commit to empowering youth as the leaders of change. By creating global platforms for collaboration, investing in youth-led initiatives, and fostering inclusivity in the innovation space, we will drive technological advancements and social solutions that address the world's most critical challenges. Through collective action, we can ensure that innovation serves the greater good and creates a more just, sustainable, and prosperous world for all.

\*\*\*\*\*