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High-level segment: annual ministerial review

Statement submitted by International Ontopsychology Association, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* E/2012/100.



Statement

Inspired by the International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding and by the related themes of the high-level segments of the Economic and Social Council, an international conference was organized by the International Association of Ontopsychology of Italy in collaboration with the Bar Association for International Governmental Organizations, the Association Internationale des Formateurs en Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement, the International Association for Humanitarian Medicine Brock Chisholm, the Institute of International Social Development, the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions, and the Antonio Meneghetti Scientific and Humanistic Research Foundation.

Pedagogical approach

Four delegations of young people from Brazil, China, India and the Russian Federation participated in a conference on the young generations in those countries and their future social responsibility in the globalized world, which was held at the United Nations Office at Geneva on 20 June 2011. It provided an opportunity for young people to interact across cultures, empowering them to become socially responsible young leaders employed in decent work.

The conference derived from ontopsychotherapy, a science that encourages young people to play a socially relevant role and to adopt a humanistic vision in the formulation and implementation of projects. The social responsibility proposed by ontopsychotherapy can contribute to filling the moral gap and to mitigating the existential crisis that affects so many young people. On this occasion, the Meneghetti Award was launched for research in the fields of economics, physics and medicine. Each delegation presented a development project that provided ways to put the Millennium Development Goals into practice, taking into account the 15 priorities set out in the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

Summary of projects

The Brazilian project has potential for replication given its great clarity on moral values. Calling for young people to endeavour to meet the Millennium Development Goals, it is guided by the principles of the promotion of peace, human rights and respect for other cultures.

The Russian project implements the relationship between traditional culture and the new globalized world, showing how to create a new professional style for new social responsibility.

The Chinese project focuses on how to involve young people in the decision-making process to prevent discrimination. It stresses the importance of a multicultural experience abroad, allowing young people to develop an international vision and to act more responsibly in the world.

The Indian project, on learning from creativity, stresses that art and culture can help to advance high-quality education among young Indians. This approach was inspired by the role in the country's progress of art and culture as factors of social cohesion, women's emancipation and job creation.

Recommendations

- Promote training and educational initiatives related to the Millennium Development Goals and their implementation involving young people for a sustainable environment.
 - Reduce discrimination to improve social consciousness, employment, decent work and respect for human rights.
 - Support social responsibility in education.
 - Encourage multicultural experiences in order to eliminate racism, intolerance and prejudice.
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