



S-0044-0001-013-00021

Expanded Number **S-0044-0001-013-00021**

External ID

Title

**Item-in-KAA: DGAACS General Assembly 2001 Oct-Dec 2001**

Date Created

Date Registered

Date Closed

16/11/2006 at 12:58 PM

17/11/2006

Primary Contact

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THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Youth  
CA

3 October 2001

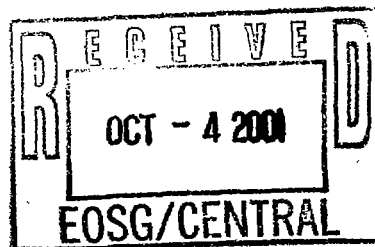
Dear Mr. President,

In my report to the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations, I called the attention of world leaders to the urgency of addressing the problem of unemployment and underemployment of young people. I furthermore committed myself to convening, together with the heads of the World Bank and the International Labour Organization, a high-level policy network on youth employment - drawing on the most creative leaders in private industry, civil society and economic policy - to explore imaginative approaches to this difficult challenge. Heads of State and Government meeting at the Millennium Summit took up this challenge when, in the Millennium Declaration, they resolved to "develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work".

In collaboration with the International Labour Organization and the World Bank, I formed the Youth Employment Network and appointed as part of this Network a High-Level Panel to prepare a set of policy recommendations. The Members of this High-Level Panel are: Mr. Saifuddin Abdullah, Mr. César Alierta, Ms. Ruth C. L. Cardoso, Mr. Hernando de Soto, Ms. Geeta Rao Gupta, Mr. Bill Jordan, Mr. Allan Larsson, Mr. Rick Little, Ms. Maria Livanos Cattai, Mr. Magatte Wade, Mr. Ralph Willis and Ms. Rosanna Wong.

I am now pleased to transmit to you the recommendations of the Youth Employment Network and its High-Level Panel. These recommendations provide the international community with an important impetus to mobilize political commitment and practical action to rapidly increase employment opportunities for youth. I would be grateful if you would bring these recommendations to the attention of Member States.

His Excellency  
Mr. Han Seung-soo  
President of the General Assembly  
New York



As recommended by the Panel, I encourage Member States to draw up national action plans on youth employment as a matter of priority. I also invite the ILO to take the lead in supporting the implementation of these recommendations. I have requested the High-Level Panel to continue to act in an advisory capacity to me on the issue of youth employment. I will report on progress within the overall framework of the follow-up to the Millennium Summit.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the members of the Panel for the effort that they brought to their task and to Mr. James Wolfensohn, President of the World Bank, and Mr. Juan Somavia, Director-General of the International Labour Organization, for their partnership in this endeavour.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Kofi A. Annan

**Note to Mr. Riza**

Youth Employment Network

In his Millennium Report, the Secretary-General had promised to convene “a high-level policy network on youth employment” and transmit its policy recommendations to the 56<sup>th</sup> General Assembly.

Attached is a letter addressed to the President of the General Assembly, which has been approved by the Deputy Secretary-General for the Secretary-General's signature, transmitting the recommendations to the General Assembly.

Thank you.



Yohannes Mengesha  
2 October 2001

cc: DSG  
Ms. Maurás

21-18820

## High-Level Panel of the Youth Employment Network

### **International Labour Organisation**

Mr. Hernando de Soto, Economist, Presidente, Instituto Libertad y Democracia (PERU)

Ms. Ruth Cardoso, Presidente do Conselho, Comunidade Solidária (BRAZIL)

Mr. Bill Jordan, Secretary General, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) - (UNITED KINGDOM)

Mr. César Alierta Izuel, Presidente Ejecutivo, Telefónica S.A. (SPAIN)

### **United Nations**

Dr. Rosanna Wong J.P., Executive Director, The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups (HONG KONG)

Mr. Ralph Willis (AUSTRALIA)

Mr. Magatte Wade, Directeur-Général, AGETIP-Sénégal (SENEGAL)

Mr. Saifuddin Abdullah, President, Malaysian Youth Council (MALAYSIA)

### **World Bank**

Dr. Geeta Rao Gupta, President, International Center for Research on Women (INDIA)

Mr. Allan Larsson (SWEDEN)

Mr. Rick Little, President, International Youth Foundation (UNITED STATES)

Mrs. Maria Livanos Cattai (SWITZERLAND)  
Secretary-General, International Chamber of Commerce