

ASIAN YOUTH FORUM 2016  
**“Peace, Democracy and Regional Partnership toward SDGs”**  
Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia  
February 26-28, 2016

### **Phnom Penh Resolution**

We, the youth leaders and delegates of Asian Youth Council and youth organizations from 17 countries namely Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Yemen gathered here in Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia, on the occasion of Asian Youth Forum (AYF) 2016 to resolute our deliberation on this regional representation, contribution and engagement of the young population toward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs 2030).

The Asian Youth Forum 2016, co-organized by the Asian Youth Council and the Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia, under the theme **“Peace, Democracy and Regional Partnership toward SDGs”** comes at a time when regional dynamism and fast changing environment present both opportunities and challenges, including issues facing youths.

The Asian Youth Forum 2016,

*Emphasizing* the action-driven Goal 17 of the SDGs to *“Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development”*,

*Recalling* AYF Batam Declaration 2006, proclaiming *“youth are partners of development today and leaders of tomorrow”*,

*Abiding by* the Asian Youth Council Statutes 2009, stipulating the promotion of *“economic, social and political integration of Asian youth and nations in the spirit of regional development”*,

*Reaffirming* the commitment to the intent and spirit of the Asian Youth Council (AYC) in promoting *“ONE ASIA”* that will bring about shared prosperity to all people in the Asian region,

*Reiterating* AYF Phnom Penh Declaration 2013, acknowledging *“the role of youth in voicing out opinions on issues affecting their future and in promoting youth involvement in development for the sake of peace and stability in Asia”*,

*Noting* the Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth Peace and Security 2015, reaffirming the important role youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peace-building efforts, while acknowledging the on-going work of national governments and regional and international organisations to engage youth in building and maintaining peace”,



*Endorsing Presidential Statement of the ECOSOC Youth Forum 2016 on “Youth Taking Action to Implement the 2030 Agenda”, recognizing that “young people are not only key actors in advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, but they are also directly affected by the challenges the SDGs seek to tackle”,*

Hereby deliberates as follows:

- i. We firmly encourage the participation of youth in contributing to peace, democratization process and social development. While the choice is ultimately up to youth, it shall be kept in mind that all actions will produce consequences in which everyone will have to live with.
- ii. We realize that peace, stability, and social harmony are the catalysts for every nation’s prosperity. We stress our commitment to a significant and pro-active role in building a resilient community with capacity, potential, skills and internal strength, along with the culture of peace and non-violent conflict resolution. Therefore, it is recommended that youth play the roles and bear responsibilities as the caretakers and messengers of peace and democracy to achieve sustainable development nationally and regionally.
- iii. We believe peace, democracy and stability are together a strong building and center, at all times, for people and youth welfare; and the latter shall be at the center of all policies, priorities and actions.
- iv. We accredit a democracy that grows from within societies. It is dynamic and constantly evolving, yet specific to country context. Democratization process, its objective and principles shall base on people-centered state of mind and inclusiveness that takes into account the different voices of stakeholders, so to allow people to participate and contribute positively to the development of a country. Nevertheless, the advancement of democracy and its process shall not be at all cost at the expense of peace and stability.
- v. We observe every youth contribute in the betterment of their respective nation. We also believe that regional partnership and people-to-people contact across borders toward increasing mutual understanding among young populace shall be mechanized as a practical way forward to attain the global partnership for sustainable development.
- vi. We commit to be the main engine to ensure the association of people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership, as enshrined in the Preamble of the SDGs Agenda, for our descending generations to come.
- vii. We believe our concerted efforts and closer cooperation with government bodies and all youth related stakeholders stay firm toward achieving the Goals. And in so said, we advocate for regional collaboration among governments and relevant institutions in support of youth initiatives.
- viii. We stand ready to represent “One Asia” youth voice on international stage, in advocating for peace, stability, social harmony and shared prosperity, in and from achieving SDGs; which, we believe, would further our pursue toward realizing the Asian Century 2050.


- ix. Asian Youth Forum continues to promote active role of youth and serve as a platform for building of network and partnership for the youth from around the region to come together, to exchange and share thoughts, concerns and experiences from their respective country, of their crucial role in maintaining peace, strengthening democracy and being part of sustainable development.
- x. We emphasize the role of the Asian Youth Council as a platform for collaboration, for the pursuit of the objectives and the voice and advocate of the Asian youth.

Adopted unanimously in Phnom Penh, the Kingdom of Cambodia, on the twenty seventh day of February, in the year of two thousand sixteen.

For matter of relevance, this Resolution is forwarded to the UN Economic and Social Council and the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, for their courtesy attention.



H.E. Mr. **HUN MANY**  
President, Asian Youth Council



Mr. **KIM RITHY**  
Union of Youth Federations of Cambodia

Bangladesh  
Brunei Darussalam  
Cambodia  
China  
India  
Indonesia  
Japan  
Georgia  
Laos  
Malaysia  
Myanmar  
Philippines  
Republic of Korea  
Singapore  
Thailand  
Viet Nam  
Yemen