

ORGANISED BY



UNITED NATIONS
MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE,
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM



INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

VIRTUAL FORUM ON:
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
IN TIMES OF COVID-19

2.00PM - 4.30PM
AUGUST 12, 2021

zoom



EVENT IS IN ENGLISH.

MALAY TRANSLATION AND
SIGN LANGUAGE WILL BE
MADE AVAILABLE



REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK HERE - <https://bit.ly/2TRJFUa>

WATCH ON YOUTUBE LIVE HERE - https://youtu.be/0DmPo0_EdTI

BACKGROUND

In 1999, in its resolution 54/120, the General Assembly endorsed a recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared the International Youth Day (IYD). The Assembly recommended that public information activities be organised to support the Day as a way to promote better awareness of the World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in 1995 (resolution 50/81).

For this year, the United Nations presented the theme for IYD 2021: "Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health", with the aim of highlighting that the success of such a global effort will not be achieved without the meaningful participation of young people.

To commemorate IYD celebration on 12 August 2021, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is proposing a virtual forum entitled "Youth Empowerment in times of COVID-19". The topic is timely, in view of the challenges faced by youth across the world in confronting the unprecedented global pandemic and in highlighting the leadership role of youth in rising above the challenges.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is pleased to announce collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, the United Nations in Malaysia, the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM), the Malaysian Youth Council, and the United Nations Association of Malaysia (UNAM) Youth, in organising the virtual forum.

OBJECTIVES



Increase awareness among the various stakeholders and decision-makers in Malaysia on the challenges confronted by youth in facing the COVID-19 pandemic.



Share best practices, outline challenges, identify opportunities, and propose solutions as a way forward in youth empowerment.



Highlight exemplary roles of youth leaders, at the community, national, and international level, in confronting the global pandemic crisis.



The virtual forum is part of Malaysia's efforts to showcase its progress towards youth development and empowerment in the country, in view of the country's candidature to the United Nations Human Rights Council for the term 2022-2024.

FOCUS AREAS



Youth participation in decision-making bodies and policy-making



The role of youth in COVID-19 recovery



The role of youth in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Way forward to shape a sustainable world for future generations



Issues of concern and interest to the youth, including education, social protection, social activism, mental health, human rights, youth unemployment, and the environment



Celebrate youth's achievements, advance dialogue, and support efforts by youth around the world in attaining a better future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.



Best practices, challenges and recommended solutions at the national, regional and international level to empower youth, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic

PROGRAMME

OPENING SESSION



Welcoming Address:

YB Dato' Sri Reezal Merican Naina Merican
Minister of Youth and Sports



Video Message for International Youth Day 2021:

António Guterres
United Nations Secretary-General



Opening Address:

Dr Rashed Mustafa Sarwar
UN Resident Coordinator for Malaysia
ad interim and UNICEF Representative
in Malaysia



Keynote Address:

Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake
United Nations
Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

SPECIAL VIDEO MESSAGES - VOICES OF YOUTH

PANEL DISCUSSION AND Q&A



Moderator

Tengku Nur Qistina Petri
Senior Researcher
Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia



Government's efforts in empowering youths in times of COVID-19

Dr. Zainah binti Shariff,
Deputy Director General
Youth Development Division
National Department of Youth and Sports
Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia



Enabling youths in policy-making

Mr Mohd Izzat Afifi Abdul Hamid
Vice President
Malaysian Youth Council
(Majlis Belia Malaysia (MBM))



Youth engagement and advocacy for the SDGs

Ms Kieran Li Nair
Head of Model United Nations Development,
United Nations Association of Malaysia Youth
(UNAM Youth)



Economic impacts on youths during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Challenges and opportunities

Mr Mazerol bin Way Ah Lon
Youth Chairman
Orang Asli Network of Peninsular Malaysia

*the speaker will present in Bahasa Malaysia

MESSAGE OF HOPE & INSPIRATION



Message by

Youth Icon

CLOSING SESSION



Closing remarks by

YBhg. Dato' Sri Muhammad Shahrul Ikram Yaakob
Secretary General
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

End of Programme



#YouthDay #YouthLead

zoom

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