

Input presented by the Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization for the Human Rights 75 Youth Declaration

In 2022, the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Youth Organization (NAMYO) was established with its approved Statute and the official emblem as a result of the NAM Youth Summit held in Baku and Shusha, Azerbaijan. This event marked a historic occasion as the Shusha Accords were adopted to ensure the transformation of the NAM Youth Network (NAMYN) into the NAM Youth Organization (NAMYO). Moreover, during the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, inauguration of NAMYO's Headquarters in Baku, Azerbaijan, was held on June 8, 2023, with the participation of the Foreign Ministers of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Uganda, and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Earlier, the initiative of establishment of the NAM Youth Network was supported during the XVIII Summit of the NAM Heads of State and Government held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in 2019. This initiative, as outlined in the Final Document of the 18th NAM Summit (para. 561), was put forward to enable the youth representatives of NAM Member States to exchange ideas, visions and perspectives on challenges that they face in ensuring sustainable progress and how these difficulties could be overcome through concerted and adequate responses of their States. Currently, the Organization has National Chapters in 43 NAM Member States.

The views of the NAMYO on the outlined questions are as follows:

The NAMYO expresses its concern regarding challenges the world is facing, such as climate change, desertification, water scarcity, inequality, political unrest, migration, food security, inflation that have profound implications for the future of human rights. These challenges can exacerbate vulnerabilities, disproportionately impacting developing countries and small, vulnerable states. As a consequence, the scarcity of essential resources can compromise individuals' access to basic rights such as food, clean water, adequate living conditions, education or social justice. In this context, the impact of coercive and unilateral measures further complicates the attainment of human rights, particularly the right to development, as it creates an environment of instability and impedes equitable access to resources and opportunities. In order to ensure the future of human rights, we envision a world where every individual's rights are upheld regardless of their background, where equitable opportunities are provided, and where sustainable development is prioritized to safeguard the well-being of both current and future generations.

Our recommendations to decision and policymakers encompass a collaborative approach. Governments should actively implement inclusive policies that address inequalities, accommodate diversities, protect vulnerable groups, and promote environmental sustainability. Civil society should engage in constructive dialogue, advocate for human rights, and foster community empowerment. International organizations, including the United Nations, should continue to champion human rights by reinforcing global cooperation, monitoring compliance, and facilitating knowledge sharing.

Additionally, we call upon international organizations to encourage collaborative efforts between States to develop and implement policies that prioritize vulnerable populations, ensuring their access to basic needs and services, including education, healthcare, and social protection. Governments should advocate for fair and sustainable debt relief mechanisms that allow developing countries to allocate resources towards essential services and human rights promotion. Stabilizing economies and controlling inflation are also crucial to safeguarding rights.

The role of the young people is pivotal in advancing human rights in the future. To contribute effectively, young people can engage in advocacy and awareness-raising activities. They can also contribute through education by learning about and educating others on human rights, empowering themselves to become informed advocates capable of driving positive change. Additionally, community engagement in the form of participating in community service, volunteering, and grassroots initiatives allows young people to directly address local human rights challenges. Furthermore, active involvement in policy discussions and forums enables young people to exert their influence on decisions that have an impact on human rights at both local and global levels. We call upon governments to bolster and look for opportunities for meaningful youth engagement in decision-making processes to ensure that diverse perspectives are considered, leading to comprehensive policies that advance human rights holistically.

The NAMYO commits to amplifying the voices of youth through advocacy, activism, and engagement in policy discussions. By harnessing the power of technology and social media, we can mobilize for change and raise awareness on human rights violations. We will continue to champion education and awareness initiatives to empower our peers with the knowledge to defend their rights. Furthermore, we pledge to support sustainable practices and initiatives that protect our planet, recognizing the interconnectedness of environmental stewardship and human rights.

In conclusion, the Non-Aligned Movement Youth Organization earnestly highlights the concerns of youth worldwide. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) we consider the reflection of the mentioned concerns in the Human Rights 75 Youth Declaration to be crucial. We affirm our commitment to a future where human rights are safeguarded, and the inherent dignity and well-being of all individuals are upheld.