



SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

**Global Youth Inputs to the
Zero Draft of the Pact of
the Future**



Background

These inputs have been prepared in response to the [Zero Draft of the Summit of the Future](#) by [Youth Working/Focus Group for the Summit of the Future](#), convened by the [Major Group for Children and Youth](#). The Working Group currently is a growing community of more than 2000 youth-led and youth-focussed organisations working on the various issues addressed within the Summit of the Future.

The process to prepare the document involved a series of online consultation and working meetings, alongside collection of inputs through open google form and documents. Please be welcome to contact op@unmgcy.org for any further details.

We strongly call upon the member states and regional groupings to take the language proposals from the children and youth constituency into consideration during the upcoming negotiation sessions for the Pact.

Chapter 1: Sustainable development and financing for development

General Comments -

- We strongly support the text in para 24 on eliminating all kinds of violence against girls;
- We strongly support the reference made to the deadline for fossil fuel usage and the Paris Agreement;
- However, we highlight that a siloed approach to addressing multiple environmental crises is not feasible to achieve SDGs. The text falls short of recognising the various MEAs (lists only three of them) and important frameworks such as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and 10 YPF programme (refer to our language proposals on this); There is also space to include some missing elements such as outcomes of the biodiversity COP and ICCM-5;
- While Agenda 21 is reaffirmed, empowering the position and role of Major Groups - as important spaces of self-organized, collective representation recognised in Agenda 21 - across the UN system needs to be particularly added (refer to our language proposals on this);
- In the sections about financing, clear reference must be made toward providing financing for grassroots and community led groups that continue to be on the frontlines on the planetary destruction.

Language Proposals -

- **P 22:** ADD “We affirm to following the principles of UNGA resolution on human right to clean, healthy and sustainable environment”;
- **P 24:** ADD “recognizing the centrality of this agenda for gender equality and reproductive justice, as highlighted in ICPD30 commemoration”;
- **P 26:** ADD in list of HL-meetings - “March 2023 High-level Meeting on the Role of Zero Waste in Achieving the SDGs, May 2023 High-Level Meeting on Mid-Term Review of the Sendai Framework”;
- **P 29:** Replace the three conventions to “agreed commitments, including those made in the various MEAs” → as there are over 50+ MEAs to draw upon.
- **ADD a new para:** “We recognize the progress made under the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration launched in 2021, especially its role in strengthening multi sectoral partnerships and active involvement with youth”;
- **P 30:** After “biodiversity loss.” , ADD “ We welcome the post-2022 strategy of the One Planet Network adopted in 2022 as a successor to the 10 YFP”;
- **P 36-37: ADD** - Kuming-Montreal Biodiversity Framework & ICCM-5 outcomes;
- **P 42:** After “existing flows” ADD “especially towards supporting the frontline communities”;
- **ADD a new para:** “We affirm to strengthen the role & mandate of the Major Groups & Other Stakeholders to engage in relevant UN processes and in implementing the 2030 Agenda”;

Chapter 2: International peace and security

General Comments -

- The need to acknowledge and support youth participation in peace and security processes is paramount to building sustainable solutions to prevent, mitigate, and end conflicts around the world.
- However, this section contains weak verbiage and vague calls to action that are unsupported by specific, actionable targets and goals. In other words, there is much rhetoric about supporting youth but few tangible mechanisms and strategies to ensure that it supports the full breadth of youth diversity (e.g. indigenous people, people with disabilities, LGBTQI+, etc.) as well as increases youth engagement at all levels.
- In particular, there is a noticeable lack of specific financial mechanisms to support youth engagement programs.
- Furthermore, without discounting the pivotal role of the UN and Member States, this chapter should engage a wider variety of stakeholders, especially those at local levels. Peace cannot be achieved by one actor alone, so this chapter should emphasise that all sectors of society, ranging from governments to NGOs to research institutions, need to be collaborative partners all supporting the peace and security agendas.
- This intersectional cooperation becomes more important as conflicts become increasingly complex and exacerbated by other issues like climate change.

Language Proposals -

- **P 50:** After “sustainable development” add “, humanitarian action, and” -> to capture all 4 pillars
- **P 53:** change last sentence to “reduce unnecessary diversion of resources to armaments and suffering causes by them”
- **P 60:** ADD “Building on from UNSCR 2250, we...”
- Paras 64, 68: Need for explicit and evolutionary financial mechanisms to fund youth engagement programs for peacebuilding, especially at negotiation and mediation levels
- **Paras 60, 63, 69:** Need to better integrate role of climate change action into (youth) peacebuilding programs/strategies (e.g, the role of climate change/ecological factors is only mentioned in 69 and only in the context of security risks/conflict, not in terms of general instability)
- **Paras 61, 65-66, 70, 80:** Need more inclusive language that includes a whole-of-society approach (especially including civil society and youth) that goes beyond UN/Member State obligations in peacebuilding while also reflecting the true diversity of stakeholders

Chapter 3: Science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation

General Comments -

- The need to acknowledge the contribution of science, technology and innovation is cross-sectoral, and directly impacts all efforts addressed in the pact.
- We urge that science, technology, and innovation be included or referred to in all discussions on sustainable development and financing, international peace and security for transforming global governance.
- The terms future generations, children, youth, persons of diverse age, accessibility access, gender identities, gender expressions, and sexual characteristics should be mentioned as relevant across the chapter.
- The chapter should mention solving fundamental health issues through technology sharing. The verbiage should advocate for including local communities and youth in research processes.
- Member states should mention support for the development of conducive environments for private investment into youth innovation and entrepreneurship, and corporate social responsibility. Introducing UN 2.0 with an emphasis on civic society participation, aiming for a more inclusive and effective United Nations through digital and strategic enhancements for STI advocacy.

Language Proposals -

- In terms of Enhanced Inclusivity and Diversity
 - **P 92:** “Add specifics on the composition of the Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board, emphasizing age, gender inclusivity, and interdisciplinary makeup from across the globe”
 - **P 96:** Explicitly include a wide array of stakeholders (all genders, youth, indigenous groups, persons with disabilities, older populations) in mobilizing resources for science, technology, and innovation.
- In terms of Integration of Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge
 - **P93:** “Highlights the importance of preserving indigenous knowledge alongside producing new scientific and technological knowledge, stressing the value of traditional knowledge in innovation and appropriate technology creation.”
- In terms of Emphasis on Education and Accessibility
 - **P 94:** “Links innovation with associated technical education, emphasizing the importance of knowledge and skills transfer, and broadens the focus to include technologies that support inclusivity and accessibility.”
- In terms of Focus on Long-term Benefits and Future Generations
 - **P 91:** “Expands the focus on the long-term benefits of technological change, mentioning improvements for future generations and the creation of an inclusive innovation ecosystem.”

Chapter 4: Youth and future generation

General Comments -

- The concept of "youth engagement" needs more specificity and actionable measures - specific goals, targets, and mechanisms are needed. There's a need to go beyond formal UN system engagement to foster inclusive, youth-led safe spaces.
- Intersectionality, including the needs of diverse communities like indigenous peoples and people with disabilities, is underemphasized and must be fully accounted for.
- Any development of standards, funds, and mechanisms must ensure that they are youth-led and in collaboration with youth constituency
- Transparency, enforcement, monitoring, and accountability mechanisms should be strengthened and regularly reviewed to ensure meaningful youth engagement
- Standardising best practices, such as having youth constituencies across UN processes, is essential. Clear language should be added to support and strengthen youth-led spaces and constituencies in the UN system
- As the youth constituency which is directly impacted by this section, we have a number of recommendations we have laid out which we request member states and co-facilitators to consider.

Language Proposals -

- **P103 to P105:** Keep as is;
- **P 106:** Add reference to needs of marginalized and vulnerable young people and combating discrimination.
- **Add to P108 or new para:** "We welcome the progress made at and reaffirm the role of the UN Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD), various regional UN inter-agency initiatives and regional issue based coalitions focussed on youth";
- **ADD a new para:** "We recognize the work done by the Major Group for Children and Youth various self-organized youth constituencies, particularly in organizing youth-led foras in lead-up to UN processes, and call for strengthened support towards the youth-led constituencies as key partners in advancing work on youth engagement at the UN" ;
- **ADD a para** listing the key Youth Forums/Assemblies (list to be sent separately given the word limit);
- **P 109:** After "youth-focussed organizations", add "building on from the Principles and Barriers of Meaningful Youth Engagement by Major Group for Children and Youth and other existing tools"
- **ADD** language on protocols for protecting the rights and well-being of young persons engaging with the United Nations.
- **P 111:** After "Investment Platform", ADD "in close collaboration with the youth constituency"..;
- **P 112:** After "establish" add "and strengthen existing"; After "consultative bodies" add "or youth councils"

Chapter 5: Transforming Global Governance

General Comments -

- There is a need to strengthen Chapter 5 to provide bold solutions and concrete commitments on global governance reform;
- There is a need for additional language on environmental governance - specifically in relation to the governance and protection of the global commons, as well as stronger references to disaster risk reduction and pandemic preparedness;
- Equally important is the inclusion of specific language around strengthening interagency cooperation and regional coordination mechanisms to drive implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
- As young people, we believe it is critical that Chapter 5 sets out a strong agenda on global economic governance and the reform of international financial architecture.;
- This must be underpinned by collective commitment to economic justice and include explicit commitment to reforming multilateral development banks;
- We want to see more ambitious, progressive language around inclusive global tax governance - including specific reference to the UN General Assembly Resolution 78/230 - as well as setting out a process for the reform of global debt architecture, which must include debt restructuring and debt relief;
- Finally, a stronger focus on inclusive governance and the involvement of youth and civil society is critical throughout.

Language Proposals -

- **P 121:** Keep as it is, no changes needed on this paragraph;
- **P 122:** After “sustain peace” ADD “reduce poverty and economic inequality” >> as this dimension is mission;
- **P 123:** ADD at the end “building on and strengthening the ICPD Programme of Action” or any other format of reference to ICPD30
- **P 125:** After “member states” ADD “and stakeholders”;
- **P 127:** After “sub-regional”, ADD “local”; and ADD “We also emphasize the need to strengthen UN inter-agency networks on global and regional level” >> because they’re an important part of the UN and do not get enough focus;
- **P 132:** ADD at the end “and will draw upon the existing frameworks such as the Sendai Framework on DRR and UN’s Environmental Situation Room” >> to help reach consensus;
- **P 136:** after “our time”, ADD “, support frontline communities, and”;
- **P 139:** ADD “and progress toward more inclusive economic governance including the creation and strengthening of multi-stakeholder mechanisms” >> this would refer to existing groups such as the FfD CSO community and others;
- **P 140:** after “developing countries”, ADD “in the boards of the MDBs” >> as the main calls of reform has been on the board level;
- **Para 141:** Explicitly reference “debt restructuring architecture” in scope of this review;
- **Para 143:** Reaffirm UN General Assembly Resolution 78/230;

Chapeau

We endorse the inputs submitted by the collective MGOS mechanism as presented below:

General Comments

- We are very concerned about the lack of engagement and reference to MGoS and civil society in the Pact for the Future. Given their expertise in delivering SDGs, and monitoring and accountability at all levels, the lack of references to civil society in the Pact, is a major omission.
- There is no recognition of the need for true partnership with stakeholders, based on transparency, equality and accountability

Language proposals -

- **P 1:** Opening should align with that of 2030 Agenda (...Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity)
- **P 8:** line 8 Add “and decent work” after development
- **P 9:** After “girls”, add “in all their diversity, including those in vulnerable situations and those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination,”
 - After “participation” add “and leadership of all”
 - After “women” add “and girls”
 - After “Action,” add “and all gender equality related UN outcomes and processes at all levels”
 - After “equality” add “participation”
 - After “empowerment of” add “all”
 - After “forms of” add “gender-based”
 - Delete “against women and girls” after “violence”
- **P 10:** Add after build a “democratic and rights-based” and at end “in close collaboration with all relevant stakeholders in a process of inclusive and participatory governance”
- **P13:** after “collectively” add “and collaboratively”
- **P17:** line 1 add “inclusive” after “multilateral”

