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*Extra note on submission: Inputs submitted are outputs of consultation over 3500 Malaysian youths living locally and abroad throughout the past 6 months in various platforms and thematic conversations. The submission of written input is an addition to the intervention made during the Intergovernmental Consultations with Stakeholder Groups hosted by Permanent Representative of Netherlands and Jamaica on 15 January 2024 (Youth) and 16 January 2024 (Civil Society Organization) which can be read [here](#).*

### **What are the principles that should ground our commitments in the Declaration on Future Generations?**

- 1. Establish concrete legal frameworks not only for environmental and social commitments but also for maintaining international peace and security. Inclusion of peace and security ensures a holistic approach, fostering stability for sustainable development.*
- 2. Include mechanisms in the declaration to foster intergenerational dialogue on global peace and security issues, ensuring the voices of future generations are heard. Future governance should not only address environmental and social concerns but also contribute to a world free from conflicts for generations to come.*
- 3. Integrate peacebuilding and conflict resolution strategies into the declaration to address root causes of conflicts, alongside addressing environmental and social challenges, rather than over relying on technological fixes. A comprehensive approach that tackles the root problems contributes to a more stable and secure global environment.*
- 4. Confronting present inequalities for a sustainable future by recognizing the role of addressing economic and social inequalities in promoting global peace and security, acknowledging that sustainable development is intricately linked to peaceful societies. Social justice and equality contribute to stability, fostering an environment conducive to international peace.*
- 5. Demanding transformative systems change over superficial pacts by advocating for transformative changes in global governance systems that not only address environmental concerns but also promote international peace and security that mainstream all coexisting complementary regimes across UN, international, regional and national resolutions and action plans to avoid redundancy and push for continuity.*
- 6. Emphasize the importance of preserving natural resources and ecosystems not just for environmental sustainability but also for maintaining geopolitical stability by ensuring indigenous communities and affected communities are also protected. Environmental degradation can lead to resource-related conflicts, and preserving ecosystems contributes to global peace.*
- 7. Acknowledge the impact of unsustainable economic growth on global peace and security, advocating for alternative economic paradigms that prioritize stability. Unsustainable economic practices can contribute to geopolitical tensions; a shift towards sustainable economic models supports peace and security.*

## **What practical steps are needed at the global level to take future generations systematically into account?**

- 1. With the initiation to set up a Future Generation envoy, it is recommended to create an international body, the Global Future Generations Council, tasked with overseeing and advising on policies and actions related to the well-being of future generations to support the good office of the envoy in executing the execution of the declaration. This council should include representatives from various regions, age groups, and expertise.*
- 2. Integrate a comprehensive "Future Impact Assessment" into global policymaking processes, ensuring that decisions consider their implications for future generations in terms of environmental, social, and economic impacts.*
- 3. Develop and adopt a legally binding framework that explicitly recognizes and enforces the principle of intergenerational equity. This framework should be integrated into international law and agreements, emphasizing the rights and interests of future generations.*
- 4. Establish a global fund dedicated to addressing long-term challenges and opportunities for future generations. This fund should support sustainable development projects, education initiatives, and research endeavors that benefit the well-being of future generations.*
- 5. Ensure that global goals related to peace, security, and conflict resolution are seamlessly integrated into broader sustainable development agendas. Recognize the interconnection between environmental sustainability, social justice, and global peace.*
- 6. Implement global education programs that prioritize teaching about sustainable practices, intergenerational equity, and conflict resolution. Foster a sense of global citizenship and responsibility among current and future generations.*
- 7. Actively involve young people in decision-making processes at the global level. Establish mechanisms for youth representation in international organizations, councils, and forums to ensure diverse perspectives and meaningful participation.*
- 8. Organize regular global summits dedicated to addressing the challenges and opportunities facing future generations. These summits should serve as platforms for dialogue, policy development, and accountability assessments.*
- 9. Implement robust monitoring and reporting mechanisms to track the progress of nations in fulfilling their commitments to future generations. Establish an international body responsible for evaluating and publicly reporting on countries' adherence to intergenerational equity principles.*
- 10. Advocate for and incentivize the adoption of sustainable economic models at the global level. Encourage businesses and nations to prioritize long-term well-being over short-term gains, considering environmental, social, and economic factors.*

## **What should the Summit of the Future aim to achieve so that we live up to our obligations to future generations?**

- 1. Ensure that the "Pact for the Future" goes beyond mere rhetoric and aspirational goals, demanding concrete, enforceable commitments. Many global agreements in the past have lacked teeth, resulting in insufficient progress. Prioritize legally binding language that compels nations to act, backed by meaningful consequences for non-compliance.*
- 2. Be wary of tokenistic youth involvement in decision-making. Genuine empowerment requires more than symbolic gestures; it demands authentic and substantive roles for the youth in shaping policies and strategies. Establish mechanisms that ensure meaningful participation and influence, moving beyond symbolic representation.*
- 3. The holistic approach must delve into systemic issues rather than offering superficial solutions. Mere acknowledgment of challenges without tackling their root causes risks perpetuating the status quo. Demand systemic changes that challenge existing power structures, economic models, and social paradigms for a genuinely sustainable future.*
- 4. Existing monitoring and evaluation frameworks often lack transparency and may serve as mere window dressing. Genuine accountability requires an open, participatory process with clear consequences for non-compliance. Advocate for an independent, transparent mechanism that holds nations truly accountable, devoid of political influence.*
- 5. Past commitments have often fallen short due to inadequate resource mobilization on top of failure to communicate the resolution in a localized manner. Fostering robust funding mechanisms requires more than rhetorical pledges; it demands tangible contributions. Ensure commitments are backed by tangible financial contributions, and hold nations accountable for meeting agreed-upon funding targets on top of ensuring actions are localized to empower the community following the 'whole-of-government' and 'whole-of-society' approach in achieving intergenerational equity.*
- 6. The proposed "Future Generations Envoy" risks becoming a symbolic role unless endowed with real influence and authority. A mere spokesperson may lack the ability to drive substantive change. Advocate for a role that has genuine decision-making power, with the ability to hold nations accountable and influence global agendas.*
- 7. Prioritizing education is crucial, but it must go beyond being a mere agenda item. Education should serve as a catalyst for transformative change, challenging existing norms and fostering critical thinking. Advocate for an education agenda that encourages a paradigm shift, empowering the younger generation to question, challenge, and drive change continuously.*
- 8. Many global summits have been criticized for yielding short-term gains at the expense of long-term sustainability. The Summit of the Future must aim for a legacy that endures beyond immediate political victories. We demand a commitment to long-term, sustainable change, even if it requires sacrificing short-term political wins.*