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Subject: [MGCY] Third South Asian Youth Conference Concludes
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Third South Asian Youth Conference Concludes

The third South Asian Youth Conference (<http://sayc.brmworld.org/about/>) concluded with the "Action Based Change Declaration 2013" which highlights sustainable development, meaningful youth participation and improvement in living standards.

During the 5-day conference which started from 15th December 2013, the participants appealed to SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation-<http://www.saarc-sec.org/>) government to commit and join efforts to bring change in the life of youths by working forward to sustainable development, meaningful youth participation and improvement in living standards. Mr. Ram Kumar Shrestha, Minister, Ministry of Youth and Sports said, "Youths in our region should work towards and advocate for rule of law and justice, democratic norms, human rights and social development for their own development." Minister Shrestha also emphasized that to bring the youth and their leadership in the forefront all the political powers and government should work together. He added, "The youth's aspirations of sustainable development and participation can be achieved only through will power, activism and creative pressures of youth themselves.

The Chairperson of the organizing committee and Secretary of AYON (Association of Youth Organizations of Nepal- <http://ayon.org/>) Mr. Jayaram Nepali said the conference not only raised the issues but also brought recommendations and ideas on the way forward.

During the conference, youths showed their commitment to achieve development goals, accelerate the regional youth fora, build capacity of youth and their stakeholders and develop integrated plans to enable the systems and mechanisms to achieve peace, development and human rights. The conference also highlighted the need for a dialogue between political powers and governments of SAARC countries to combat the common challenges and bring youths in leadership and decision making positions. Youth from South Asia also urged for active and result orientated SAARC by promoting stronger cooperation.

In the conference jointly organized by AYON and Blue Ribbon Movement 70 youth participated from SAARC countries and youths from Malaysia and German also participated as observers. The conference was supported by Ministry of Youth and Sports, BP Koirala Foundation and Restless Development. The Conference was inaugurated by the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers Mr. Khilaraj Regmi.

After India, Pakistan and Nepal the Fourth Conference will be held in Bangladesh in 2014.

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regards,

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Sanjog Inakuri

Freelancer Consultant

Children and Youth's Participation

Note: Please do send and share your Information on Children, Adolescents and Youth's Participation -

<http://www.facebook.com/CYP.global>

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Mailing list of the UN Major Group Children and Youth: The Children and Youth space in sustainable development negotiations at the United Nations.

Website: www.childrenyouth.org, Facebook: www.facebook.com/UNMGCY, Twitter: @UNMGCY

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