



## Intergenerational Dialogue of the Asian Parliamentarians and Youth Advocates on Meaningful Youth Engagement

8 July 2021

The intergenerational dialogue, attended by more than 100 participants from 23 countries in Asia-Pacific, was held to discuss ways to create/strengthen platforms for meaningful engagement which helps reflecting youth voices in national policies. The webinar followed a youth preparatory consultation for youth advocates on 5 July 2021, in which several recommendations were made.

The main objectives of the International Dialogue and Youth Consultation were:

- To have a shared understanding towards meaningful youth engagement
- To share good examples /different modalities of meaningful youth engagement either in general or COVID-19 contexts, both online and offline engagement
- To identify gaps in youth engagement and discuss ideas to address these gaps
- To form and promote partnership between parliamentarians/NCs, CSOs, and youth partners in respective countries and explore modalities for meaningful youth participation and engagement.

The dialogue was organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA) and supported by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) and Y-PEER Asia-Pacific Center.

### Opening and Welcome

Dr. Farrukh Usmonov, APDA, welcomed the delegates and introduced the speakers.

#### *Address by Organizer*

#### **Hon. Hitoshi Kikawada, MP Japan, Secretary-General of JPFP**

Hon. Kikawada welcomed the participants and said that this webinar provided parliamentarians and National Committee representatives with the opportunity to listen to the views of young people in order to reflect their needs and sensitivities into policies. He stated that addressing the issue of population was crucial for society and that preventing unintended pregnancies was central to this issue, since unintended pregnancies had a negative impact on almost all social aspects. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted widening disparities and increasing problems related to access to health services including SRH, but the states have not been able to sufficiently respond to young people's needs. He thanked UNFPA APRO's initiative and hoped that this dialogue would serve as a platform for bridging intergenerational differences, building shared goals, incorporating the needs of younger people to build a better future.



### *Address by Supporting Partner*

#### **Mr. Björn Andersson, Regional Director of UNFPA APRO**

Mr. Andersson said that young people were a heterogeneous group, with wide-ranging challenges and needs and that we could not address their diverse challenges and needs without partnering with them. This must include the poorest and most marginalized. He also pointed out that we must ensure that young people are engaged in all stages of our interventions - from programme design, planning, and implementation to evaluation. It is only by partnering with and meaningfully engaging young people, that we can achieve the vision of the ICPD Programme of Action, which is, in turn, essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. He emphasized that UNFPA had been working hard towards systematically strengthening national and regional youth networks and youth leadership and participation, since young people were at the heart of the programs, not as beneficiaries but as partners. During the COVID-19 pandemic, youth were mobilized to respond to the crisis by working as health workers, advocates, volunteers, scientists, social entrepreneurs, and innovators. Despite this, there were systematic barriers that hinder youth engagement that often result in a lack of trust and respect for youth perspectives.

#### **A quote read by Ms. Iris Pi, a youth advocate from China**

Ms. Pi read a quote by a young person from Bhutan, highlighting that it was necessary to include empowered young leaders in decision-making, policymaking and lawmaking. Once elders have invested in creating this trust, this trust would be amplified and given back.

### *Introduction*

#### **Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Y-PEER (Asia Pacific)**

Ms. Lama introduced the session and outlined the objectives, which included a shared understanding of meaningful youth engagement. The sessions would also share examples of different modalities of meaningful youth engagement and gaps in youth engagement. The delegates would discuss ideas to address the gap and form and promote partnerships between parliamentarians, national committees on population development (NCs), civil society organizations and youth partners.

### **Session 1: Meaningful youth engagement and its modalities in the Asia-Pacific region**

This session was moderated by Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, with three themes under discussion. First, the principles of meaningful youth engagement, second, feedback from youth consultation and third, examples of meaningful youth engagement at a regional level.

#### *Meaningful engagement is defined as follows:*

Meaningful adolescent and youth engagement is an inclusive, intentional, mutually-respectful partnership between adolescents, youth, and adults whereby power is shared, respective contributions are valued, and young people's ideas, perspectives, skills, and strengths are integrated into the design and delivery of programs, strategies, policies, funding mechanisms, and organizations that affect their lives and their communities, countries, and world.



### **Youth Advocate Ms. Situ Shrestha (Mix Group C)**

Ms. Shrestha broke down the mechanisms used in some countries for youth engagement. In Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea, there were national youth parliaments, in Nepal, there were youth councils, Cambodia, Mongolia, Vietnam and Bangladesh have youth advisory groups, Lao PDR has a youth reference group, and there were other informal mechanisms.

Ms. Shrestha said that a small survey asking about intergenerational dialogue found that more than 50% replied they were not involved in any kind of consultation or dialogue. The group identified 10 gaps in meaningful youth engagement, including:

1. Lack of inclusion or proper platform
2. Ineffective and limited communication between parties
3. Lack of purpose, participation, and interest from youth
4. Mental health issues
5. Inadequate capacity-building opportunities for young people
6. Lack of mutual trust between youth and adults
7. Geographical, socio-economic, cultural, gender and political barriers
8. Lack of resources for youth
9. Time management issues
10. Lack of education/unemployment problems

### **Mr. Sangeet Kayastha - Y-PEER (Asia Pacific)**

Mr. Kayastha said that there were more young people in the Asia Pacific region than other regions, and there were existing mechanisms for meaningful youth engagement. He pointed out that these were on several levels, one where youth could directly engage with governments, CSO partners and UN agencies. There were other examples of platforms that young people had formed for themselves to interact with policymakers and ones that liaised over issues such as SRHR. He acknowledged that there were gaps that needed filling.

### **Moderator Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Y-PEER (Asia Pacific)**

Ms. Lama thanked the delegates for their presentation. She introduced a pop-up poll for delegates to vote on which platform works best for their country. The results were as follows: National Youth Parliaments (4%), National Youth Councils (28%), Youth Advisory Groups (7%), Youth reference group to national policies/strategies (16%), other non-formal mechanisms (24%), none of the above (15%), or I don't know (6%).

*“Frequent exchange of ideas between Lawmakers and Youth advocates will enhance the utility of enactments and sensitisation on the aspirations of upcoming generations”.*

*— Member of Parliament*



## Session 2: Lessons learned, gaps, and strategies actions to address these gaps (Panel Discussion)

Moderator: **Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Y-PEER (Asia Pacific)**

### **Hon. Romina Khursheed Alam, MP Pakistan**

Hon. Alam was asked to share a concrete example of where young people are meaningfully engaged in Pakistan. She said that there was a huge gap between policymakers and the youth; nevertheless, she said that the parliament engaged university students in different internship programmes in her country. They had also established forums where youngsters and young parliamentarians were invited to discuss policy and legislative changes. She welcomed the dialogue as an opportunity for countries to learn from each other. She also expressed her concern about mental health, drugs, violence, and other social issues that need addressing, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Mr. Ram Dulip (Me for Myself), Youth advocate, Sri Lanka**

Mr. Dulip was asked to elaborate on successes in his country. He said that the young generation's ability to talk openly and directly to relevant authorities and policymakers on social media was a key success. This meant that the government and parliamentarians were aware of issues. He also said while young people were most affected by the socio-economic impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic, they were also the most active in their responses. They were not only on the frontlines as health workers, but they were also advancing health and safety in their roles as researchers, activists, innovators, and communicators. It would benefit society to ensure youth voices are part of the solution for a healthier and safer world.

*"It gives us not only the framework, but also gives us some experience from other countries on how to approach and involve young generation in the development programmes".*

*— National Committee Officer*

### **Hon. Hector Appuhamy, MP Sri Lanka**

Hon. Appuhamy said while the youth only represented about 20% of the labor force, young people showed themselves to be very creative in new ideas and innovation. Every country should use this innovative capacity to achieve higher economic growth. He said that it was crucial that youth articulated their vision and engaged in the political environment. In Sri Lanka, there was a Youth Parliament, which he considered being crucial for the future.

### **Ms. Siva Anggita, Youth Advocate, Indonesia**

Ms. Anggita was asked to identify major gaps in meaningful engagement with the youth. She identified three gaps, generational, knowledge and financial. Giving an example from her own country, she said that the government was encouraging young people to be involved in the national strategic plan. The WHO also encouraged youth participation, and these two had the potential to be success stories. However, she called on the governments to work to increase young people's skills through training and development. In terms of the financial gap, youth should be given national or



district budgets to fund their projects. About political participation, she said that it was no secret that when young people became parliamentarians, they were from privileged backgrounds. It was crucial to create a political system that included all young people.

#### **Hon. Sarah Elago, MP Philippines**

Hon. Elago was asked how to maintain youth engagement in the COVID context. She said that it was crucial to minimize the digital divide. Internet connectivity and technological advancement enabled people to continue to work during this time. Still, it had also brought many more pervasive problems such as digital surveillance and privacy issues. She said that they had witnessed several inspiring youth-led initiatives in campaigns. A notable example was the community kitchens set up to combat hunger and poverty as exacerbated by the massive loss of jobs and livelihoods due to the pandemic. She said that the Philippines had launched a national campaign for creating community-learning spaces for learners to assist with online education until schools can be safely opened. It was important to break from the past and encourage parliamentarians and policymakers to work with the youth. There should also be transparency and accountability. She was happy to report that it had been the priority agenda of the Philippines Congress to address the resolutions to gender-based violence, online sexual abuse, and exploitation in the past month.

#### **Mr. Fura Sherpa, Youth Advocate, Nepal**

Mr. Sherpa said it was crucial to keep in focus the SDGs and that policymakers and parliamentarians needed to connect with the youth to improve the society and country. Health, equal opportunity to learning, and information should be prioritized for the LGBTI+ communities and people with disabilities.

*“I am satisfied but it seemed like we don't have much time. The youth must be encouraged to comment on the adults presentation and/or our comments.*

*— Former Member of*

### **Session 3: Opportunities for continued dialogue and next steps (break-out discussion)**

The participants were divided into breakout groups. Some of these were mixed, and others were country specific. Questions to be discussed included:

1. How can you work together to strengthen meaningful youth engagement in your country?
2. Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local and national level?
3. Does your country have any feedback mechanisms that reflect youth perspective, international policies?
4. What are your ideas for regional level follow up activities, or how can you continue exchanging with practices and lessons learned for the mixed country groups?



Leader: Rosemary & Bronwyn

-Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local or national levels?  
-Are there youth policies in your country? If not, are there any plans to develop youth policies?

**Malaysia: Youth Development Policy, but youth participation of marginalized groups is missing, should be more inclusive**

**PNG: Youth councils - starting from Grassroots to national level --> Policy is new but promising - National Youth Policy 2020**

**Provincial Governments within PNG also allow for Youth Representatives in the Provincial Government**

**This is a separate structure from that of the Youth Councils**



Leader: Rosemary & Bronwyn

Does your country have any feedback mechanisms to reflect youth perspectives into national policies / strategies?

**Malaysia: Mechanisms in place such as participation in budget discussion but still a lot of limitations in the involvement (feedback in the implementation needed, improvement)**

**Consultations are needed but should be broken down into issue areas such as Education --> CSE**

What are your ideas for regional-level follow-up activities? / How can you continue exchanging good practices and lessons learned?

**VNR process is helpful but there is a lack of disaggregated data. Implementation gap in the available mechanism**

**International mechanism supporting the M&E of policies but there should be more ownership in the country**



Leader: Samir & Lipi

-Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local or national levels?  
-Are there youth policies in your country? If not, are there any plans to develop youth policies?

**In Maldives\_ No youth policy**

**Maldives\_ Health Task Force**

**Bangladesh\_ UNV Policy relate to Voluntarism\_on going**

**Bangladesh\_ Bangladesh National Youth Policy 2017, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh**



Leader: Samir & Lipi

Does your country have any feedback mechanisms to reflect youth perspectives into national policies / strategies?

**BD National Youth Council, BD Model Youth Parliament, UNYAP, INGOs, COs**

**Inclusion of marginalized and diversity genders (including trans genders).**

**Inclusion of Disabilities into policy**

**Maldives\_ Feedback Mechanism, Recovery**

What are your ideas for regional-level follow-up activities? / How can you continue exchanging good practices and lessons learned?

**UNESCAP**

**SAARC**

**National Consultation, Global Youth parliament**



Leader: Situ

-Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local or national levels?  
-Are there youth policies in your country? If not, are there any plans to develop youth policies?

**Mangolia - Yes they do have youth engagement policies... But due to much political barrier equal opportunity and participation can not be seen**

**Cambodia: National youth development policy is there which works with the ministry of education, health, along with different youth org. there are youth groups as well**

**Philippines: There are not much youth policies but there are different youth groups working together**

**Myanmar Youth policy is present but not implemented due to civil and political barrier**

**Mongolia: different organization, youth policies are present**

**Korea: Due to political barrier and issues, there are not much youth org and participation**



Leader: Situ

Does your country have any feedback mechanisms to reflect youth perspectives into national policies / strategies?

**Freedom is also important for the youth when they can freely express their ideas, work, and perspective**

**Youth engagement should be done**

**there are policies but not implemented, as the plan and program should be implemented**

**youth should be given opportunity to give their opinion**

**Health, education, recreation facilities should be provided to all.**

**equal opportunity**

**Appreciation is important to all**

**Give opportunity in policy & decision making**

**Youth are made participatory but are not given equal opportunity. So, their ideas, perspective and voice should be heard**

What are your ideas for regional-level follow-up activities? / How can you continue exchanging good practices and lessons learned?

**Social interaction**

**health & education facility to all**

**Support from youth groups and org is seen which is really helping to reach the voice to the parliament**

**Volunterism**



Leader: Iris

-Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local or national levels?  
-Are there youth policies in your country? If not, are there any plans to develop youth policies?

**Non-formal approach- like protesting, etc.**

**Lack of policies that protect the youth**



Leader: Iris

Does your country have any feedback mechanisms to reflect youth perspectives into national policies / strategies?

What are your ideas for regional-level follow-up activities? / How can you continue exchanging good practices and lessons learned?

**CSOs support youth to partner with them**

**NGOs leading youth engagement initiatives**





**MIXED GROUP**

**Leader: Siva** -Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local or national levels?  
-Are there youth policies in your country? If not, are there any plans to develop youth policies?

In Vietnam, we also have Youth Law since 2005 (now we have the Revised one) to mention rights and responsibilities of the young people in Vietnam, the Revised Youth Law also states the requirements for frequent dialogues between local authorities and local young at the region to enhance the communications and youth participation in social progresses. However, this is still in the Instruction process so it needs more time to be truly effective.

Capacity building for the adult (to make decisions together with the youth): Open more closely network with the diverse youth groups; Increase the effective communication with the youth; Learn and exchange the information with the youth; Engage the youth in the regulation making

Strengthen the best practices by consultation with the young people by taking their input seriously; lead to the implementation; monitoring the process (child marriage).  
Create a good landscape of policies in many topics; Evaluation the program to ensure the inclusiveness

Putri, Indonesia: to develop youth policies 1) Ensuring diversity, equity, and inclusion take into account 2) Recognizing the inequality participation of youth and carrying out affirmative representation of youth in policy making 3) Include youth partners and keep engaging youth in developing National Action Plan of Youth, Peace, Security Agenda

Putri, Indonesia: Yes, national policy, implementation of Youth, Peace, and Security Agenda from UNSCR 2250 and 2419 by involving and leveraging youth in peace efforts, e.g. official action held by the Indonesian gov't was Regional Workshop on Establishing Youth Ambassadors for Peace Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism 2019, but it isn't quite sustainable. Sustainable activities come from youth in the local NGOs/CSOs by running thematic movements concerning human security, such as peacebuilding in the grassroots. Therefore, we need a bottom-up policy, empower existing actions.

**Young marriage policy (address the issue, help gov understand the youth, engage youth in the discussion; open for more solutions; understand the youth language; empower the next Indonesia generation)**

**Care leaver policy in Vietnam (for all orphan who over 18 years old, during and after Covid 19 pandemic; engage all the care leavers, orphans in VN to address the problems and ask for support from the gov.**

**Involvement at all level need to be conducted, address the equality, a decent job for youth policy (the employment rate)**

*"It was wonderful, a great experience and felt that I learn many things and a great feeling to listen the youth and their open, frank candid views too".*

— National Committee Officer

**BHUTAN**

**Leader: Ayeshwini &Pema**

**Gaps identified by youth participants in advance**

- Lack of inclusion or a proper platform for youth engagement
- Ineffective and limited communication between two parties
- Lack of purpose, participation, and interest from youth
- Mental health issue
- Inadequate capacity-building opportunities for young people
- Lack of mutual trust between youth and adults
- Geographical, socio-economic, cultural, gender, political barriers
- Lack of resources for youth
- Time Management issues
- Lack of education/unemployment problems

Are there other gaps? (Think about degree of engagement, mechanisms, capacity, groups of young people not engaged, etc...)

**Toxic internalized masculinity and feminity in organizations**

**Silo mentality in organizations and company**

**Lack of awareness**

**BHUTAN**

**Leader: Ayeshwini &Pema**

How can we address these gaps?

How can you work together to strengthen meaningful youth engagement in your country?

Advocating feminism and youth participation

Change of youth age / Increase it to 29

Revise the National Youth Policy and implement it

Communication between organizations and departments

Youth participation in parliaments and formal organizations

Specific youth ministry to look after all the matters on youth issues and needs

Youth Councils

Value youth services

Advocacy on youth participation in public media

Youth platform provided by organizations

All policies should keep youths in mind and consult before any policies are implemented

Inclusivity

Actual cooperation and communication between adults and youths

Involve young people during policy formulation of every organization so that issues are considered and young people's need is catered.

**INDIA**

**Leader: Karma**

**Gaps identified by youth participants in advance**

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Are there other gaps? (Think about degree of engagement, mechanisms, capacity, groups of young people not engaged, etc...)

**lack of access to comprehensive Sexuality education and its implementation**

**National Youth Policy of India neglects the peacebuilding aspect and consider youth only as volunteers but not as enablers, leaders or partners.**

**regional minorities are not included**

**INDIA**

**Leader: Karma**

Question 2: How can we address these gaps?

How can you work together to strengthen meaningful youth engagement in your country?

Implementing comprehensive sexuality education in formal and non formal settings

Intergenerational partnership and its continuity

More participation of Youth in Policy framework panels from diverse regions

Annual report on Youth, Peace and Security agenda with existing models like Indian Coalition on Youth, Peace and Security

Youth engagement through state and central level committee or council

Inclusive and youth sensitive policies to meaningfully engage and protect young peacebuilders

**Report back**

Two groups reported back. The first was the Sri Lanka Group. They found some basic gaps, which included the exclusion of some groups like the LGBT community. The group also wanted to make youth councils more accessible to all young people regardless of political affiliation. It was a concern that youth were legislated about without any consultation.

The other report back was from Mixed Group A, which was comprised of Afghanistan, PNG, Vanuatu, Fiji, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Japan. The group found that there was a youth development policy in Malaysia, but youth participation of marginalized groups was missing. In Papua New Guinea, there were consultations on the New Youth Policy underway. One of the challenges was that there was a lack of youth representation in the youth councils. It was also reported that there were mechanisms in place for participation in the budget discussion in Malaysia, but these were limited.



### *Comments*

#### **Ms. Mariany Mohammad Yit, former MP, Malaysia**

Ms. Yit commented that despite having a National Youth Policy in her country, there was no data to assess its success. She commented that she was not sure the government was serious about youth participation.

#### **Hon Mohamed Ali, MP Maldives**

Hon. Ali commented that the COVID-19 pandemic had adversely affected youth. Many youth businesses went bankrupt. It was unclear whether there would be youth support packages for businesses after the pandemic. They were concerned that while there was a policy, it was not clear whether this was actually effective in harnessing youth participation. National Recovery packages are made and distributed in the country, to support the youths' businesses.

#### **Hon. Ermalena Muslim Hasbullah, MP Indonesia**

Hon. Ermalena Hasbullah said that she was happy to be involved in the discussion and believed that this type of forum should be appreciated. Meaningful youth engagement would lead to empowerment and enlightenment.

### **Session 4: Wrap up and next steps: Discussion and Adoption of Concrete Action Points / Next steps for the group**

#### **Hon. Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu - MP India**

Hon. Rapolu said this dialogue gave him hope. The COVID-19 pandemic taught him not only to distance but also to assimilate through advanced technological facilities. This period enabled the exploration of new avenues for dialogue. He welcomed the dialogue because as lawmakers they learned from the youths' observations and aspirations. He committed parliamentarians to improve the political empowerment of the youth as outlined in the recommendations.

### *Discussion and recommendations*

The recommendations from youth consultation were presented, while participants were invited to share comments and reflections to be included in the recommendations. (Please refer to the **Key Recommendations** on page 10.)

### **Final remarks**

Dr. Farrukh Usmonov thanked the delegates for their participation and invaluable contributions, hoping that this dialogue would continue.

*“Good to have platform to exchange experience with young advocates... having different innovative ideas”.*

*— Member of Parliament*





## Key Recommendations from Youth Consultation

Based on the discussions made by youth participants in country groups during the youth consultation, the recommendations made can be grouped into three major categories.

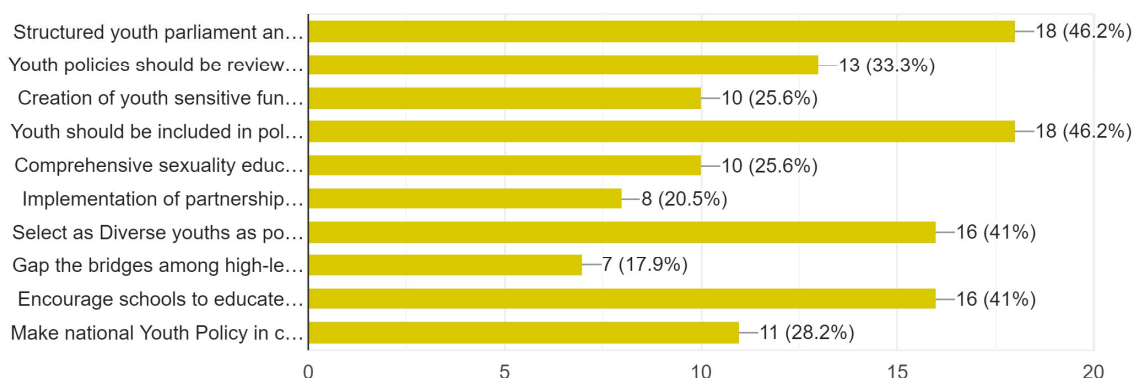
1. Enabling political framework:
  - Promote collaboration and dialogues between the government and young people
  - Structure youth parliament
  - Strengthen political empowerment of youth.
  - Involve youth in governance through central and state level youth led committees.
  - Reform laws for unspoken issues that affect youth.
  
2. Needs-driven reforms:
  - Youth policies to be reviewed and revised in accordance with new emerging challenges, issues and aspirations of the youth.
  - Promote school, both formal and informal, education on youth engagement.
  - Include skills that prepare youth for future employment and larger social and political roles in the society in school curriculum.
  - Promote youth sensitive funding policies and legal structures.
  - Accept all forms of youth voices, including marginalize, vulnerable youngsters via digital methods.
  - Review commitments made by National Governments on Youth, Peace and Security Agenda annually and share progress report
  
3. Inclusiveness:
  - Include youth in control over decision making and partner in implementation of global commitments like YPS agenda etc.
  - Include marginalised youth groups (LGBTQ, persons with disabilities, etc)
  - Strengthen or develop platforms that are working for youth
  - Implement awareness sessions for youth rights and involvement of young people in action projects.

From a quick survey conducted with the participants of the youth consultation, most young people have voted that recommendations for the 'Enabling political framework' category are of highest priority. Eligibility age should be reduced to become legislators. Within this category, the key recommendations made include establishment of a structured youth parliament and inclusion of youth in political decisions. Needs-driven reforms such as encouraging school education on youth engagement and recommendations for inclusiveness or marginalised groups in youth engagement follow closely as top-priority recommendations according to the poll.



Select up to 3 recommendations that need to be prioritized according to your view.

39 responses



*Poll results with youth consultation participants for priority key recommendations*

(Tokyo time)	Agenda	Speaker
<b>15:00-15:15</b>	<b>Opening and welcome</b>	APDA
	Address by Organizer APDA/JPFP, Japan (5 min)	Hon. Hitoshi Kikawada, MP Japan, Secretary-General of JPFP
	Address by Supporting Partner - UNFPA (5 min)	Mr. Björn Andersso, Regional Director of UNFPA APRO
	Introduction	APDA, Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Y-PEER
<b>15:15-15:40</b>	<b>Session 1: Meaningful youth engagement and its modalities in the Asia-Pacific region</b>	Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Y-PEER
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principles of meaningful youth engagement (5 min)</li> <li>Feedback from youth consultation (15 min)</li> <li>Examples of meaningful youth engagement at a regional level (5 min)</li> </ol>	
<b>15:40-16:10</b>	<b>Session 2: Lessons learned, gaps, and strategies actions to address these gaps (Panel Discussion)</b>	Ms. Ayeshwini Lama, Y-PEER
	Tentative questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please share a concrete example where young people are meaningfully engaged in your country</li> <li>What are lessons learned from the examples through your efforts in your country? What were keys to success?</li> </ul>	Panel speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 parliamentarians</li> <li>3 youth advocates</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there anything new you learned today? How can you apply them to your contexts?</li> <li>• How did you manage to maintain youth engagement in the COVID context?</li> <li>• What are some major gaps in your context? What are your roles in addressing these gaps?</li> </ul>	
<b>16:10-16:55</b>	<b>Session 3: Opportunities for continued dialogue and next steps</b>	MP facilitator
	<p><u>Questions to be discussed in each group (Tentative)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are gaps that need to be addressed in your country? (In terms of inclusiveness of diverse groups, mechanisms, level of engagement, capacities etc.)</li> <li>• What are the next steps to address these gaps in your country? How can you work together to strengthen meaningful youth engagement in your country?</li> <li>• Are there policies related to youth engagement at the local or national levels?</li> <li>• Does your country have any feedback mechanisms to reflect youth perspectives into national policies / strategies?</li> <li>• What are your ideas for Asia-Pacific regional-level follow-up activities? / How can we continue exchanging good practices and lessons learned?</li> </ul>	
	Report back by a member of selected groups	
<b>16:55-17:15</b>	<b>Session 4: Wrap up and next steps</b>	MP facilitator
	Discussion and Adoption of Concrete Action Points / Next steps for the group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APDA rapporteur</li> <li>• Youth Representative</li> </ul>
	<b>Closing</b>	

Organized by:

**The Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)**

Supported by:

**The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

**Y-PEER Asia-Pacific Center**