Friday 15 September 2017

**8:00 - 9:00**
Breakfast & Registration

**9:00 - 9:20**
**Welcome & Opening Remarks**

Introduction by:
- H.E. Bader Al-Asaker, Secretary-General, MiSK Foundation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- H.E. Abdallah Y. Al-Mouallimi, The Permanent Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations

Featured Speaker:
- Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Youth Moderator:
- Ilwad Elman, Director of Programs & Development, Elman Peace Centre, Somalia

**9:20 - 9:23**
**Remarks from the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations**
- Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations

**9:23 - 9:25**
**Opening Video: Your Voice Matters**
Participants of the Forum share their own thoughts and perspectives on what tolerance means to them, and how it can be used to create a more peaceful world.

**9:25 - 9:40**
**The Metropolitan Generation: How Cities Can Help Build a More Peaceful, Prosperous, and Tolerant World**
For the first time in history, the majority of the world’s population lives in cities. Guided by the values that have long defined great cities, the world’s first Metropolitan Generation can help shape the course of our future.
- Michael R. Bloomberg, Founder, Bloomberg LP and Bloomberg Philanthropies & Three-Term Mayor of the City of New York, USA

**9:40 - 9:50**
**Reconciliation in the Face of Terrorism**
- Kowthar Alarbash, Writer, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**9:50 - 10:30**
**Preventing Violent Extremism**
In recent years, the world has witnessed new waves of violent extremism that have taken the lives of many innocent people. Whether based on religious, ethnic or political grounds, extremist ideologies glorify the supremacy of a particular group and oppose a more tolerant and inclusive society.
- What are some of the root causes of violent extremism?
- What roles can young people play in preventing violent extremism? What challenges and opportunities do these roles present?
- How can we support the role of women in preventing extremism?
- What can individuals and institutions do to shape an effective counter-narrative to extremism? How can we support community reconciliation and social cohesion?

Moderator:
- Zain Verjee, Co-Founder & CEO, aKoma Media, Kenya

Speakers:
- Hajer Sharief, Co-Founder, Together We Build It, Libya
- Arizza Ann S. Nocum, Overall Head, KRIS Library, Philippines
- Nicola Benyahia, Counsellor & Founder, Families for Life, United Kingdom
- Steven Siquera, Deputy Director, UN Office of Counter-Terrorism

For more information about the programme please visit misk.org.sa/miskundpyouthforum
A Conversation with Dr. Madeleine K. Albright

Today’s world is characterised by the powerful force of globalisation, a phenomenon that is perpetuated by many factors, including the growing international migration crisis and the increasing role of social media in our societies. As populations across the globe are coming into closer contact with each other, tolerance is becoming more and more imperative. Through both her personal life and her extraordinary work in politics and diplomacy, Dr. Madeleine K. Albright, 64th United States Secretary of State, has championed tolerance and dialogue. In this conversation, we will have the opportunity to hear from Dr. Madeleine K. Albright on the topics of fostering cross-cultural understanding, building peaceful societies, and empowering the next generation.

Moderator:
• Tom Brokaw, Special Correspondent, NBC News, USA

Featured speaker:
• Dr. Madeleine K. Albright, 64th U.S. Secretary of State, USA

Networking Coffee Break

Workshops

Three Workshop sessions will run in parallel to each other. They are intended to be a deep-dive into a specific issue related to the programme theme. Participants will hear from a diverse group of speakers and then collaborate in small discussion groups. The ideas that result from each workshop will be synthesised into a short list of actionable recommendations and will be presented to the entire Forum during the afternoon plenary.

Workshop 1: Building Tolerant and Peaceful Societies

Location: Workshop 1, 4th Floor

As communities with different faiths, cultures, and backgrounds come into increasing contact with each other through migration, including displacement and forced migration, and globalisation, tolerance for cultural diversity is becoming more and more imperative. Especially considering the current global environment, which is characterised by the hugely significant refugee crisis along with the increasingly prevalent phenomenon of globalization, we must learn how to build tolerant societies in order to achieve peace and sustainable development.

• Do you believe tolerance can be taught? If so, how can we teach and spread tolerance to diverse nations and communities?
• How can we use tolerance to address current pressing issues such as violent extremism?
• What can we do to shape a more tolerant future, and how can we involve young people in these efforts? Why are young women and men in a unique position to spread tolerance, and how can they do so most compellingly and effectively?

Facilitator:
• Noëlla Richard, Global Youth Policy Specialist, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, United Nations Development Programme

Speakers:
• Mourad Wahba, UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator, Regional Director for Arab States, United Nations Development Programme
• Fatima Zaman, Countering Violent Extremism Advocate, Kofi Annan Foundation and the Extremely Together Program, United Kingdom
• Aashish Khullar, UN Major Group for Children and Youth
• Jonah Obajeun, Extremely Together Young Leader, Kofi Annan Foundation, Nigeria
• Noura Y. Mansouri, Visiting Scholar, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
**Workshop 2: Social Media for Bridging Divides**

Location: Workshop 2, 3rd floor next to Plenary Hall

Youth across the globe have a new way of engaging others and the world through social media and the Internet, using these tools of the digital age to connect, share, and learn in unprecedented ways. Search engines and social media have become our most trusted sources of information, and today’s youth are increasingly looking to social media to receive their news. These digital platforms are customising our search results and information to feed our preferences, ideologies, and cultures, creating “filter bubbles” and confining users to like-minded perspectives. The Sustainable Development Goal of “public access to information and fundamental freedoms” has been threatened as a result of the massive pollution of the information environment with fake news. Despite these challenges, contemporary social media has a unique opportunity to promote social and political inclusion.

- We often hear about the role of the Internet and social media in radicalisation, but the Internet can also play a constructive role. How do you understand the role of social media in preventing violent extremism?
- What are concrete examples of how social media has contributed to increased tolerance and peace, and how can these examples be replicated?
- Referring to UN Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, how can young women and men use social media to advance peace and sustainable development?

Facilitator:
- Lakshitha Saji Prelis, Director, Children & Youth Programs, Search for Common Ground, Sri Lanka/USA

Speakers:
- Adwa Aldakheel, Business Woman, Professional Stock Trader, Aerobatic Pilot & Entrepreneur, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Eric Li, Co-Founder & President, We Care Act, USA
- Abdullah Naif, Founder, Saudis for Peace, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

**Workshop 3: Inclusion of Refugees**

Location: Workshop 3, Plenary Hall, Plaza Hotel Grand Ballroom

Today the world is facing its largest refugee crisis in modern history, with around 65 million displaced people living across the globe. The crisis is taking a toll on global nations and populations, with the most vulnerable individuals, societies, and countries shouldering the brunt of the crisis. Refugees are forced to live in a system that does not guarantee the protection of their human rights, and the humanitarian response has fallen short of providing refugees with their natural rights. The system has failed to serve the unique needs of a more permanent displaced population. A new humanitarian paradigm is needed to both facilitate the safe migration of refugees and empower refugees to remain active members of global society.

- How is the refugee crisis related to sustainable development?
- How can we better support and build inclusion of the growing refugee population? How can we ameliorate the currently insufficient human rights and humanitarian frameworks surrounding refugees?
- With the unprecedented environment of a more permanent displaced population, how can the younger generation participate in the process of change?

Facilitator:
- Lara Setrakian, Co-Founder & CEO, News Deeply, USA
12:40 - 13:40
Networking Lunch

13:40 - 14:20
Leaders Empowering the Next Generation to Create Tolerant & Peaceful Societies

UN Resolution 2250 emphasises the significant impact youth can have on peace and the Sustainable Development Goals. It is essential that we create systems and institutions that effectively empower young people to be a part of progress towards a more peaceful and secure world. The private sector, educators, and policy leaders can make a profound difference in serving as role models and mentors for these change-making young people.

- What can leaders do to make a difference in the lives of young people and empower them to become responsible global citizens?
- Why is it so important for institutions and companies to include them in decision-making processes?
- What role do economic empowerment and education play in protecting vulnerable youth?
- How do you see the link between empowering young people and creating more peaceful and cohesive societies?

Moderator:
- Alix Steel, Anchor, “Bloomberg Daybreak Americas”, Bloomberg, USA

Speakers:
- Brandee McHale, President, Citi Foundation & Director of Corporate Citizenship, Citi, USA
- Muna AbuSulayman, Philanthropist, Co-host of Kalam Nawa’em, MBC, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Laura Londén, Deputy Executive Director (Management) & Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations Population Fund
- Lujain AlUbaid, Co-Founder & CEO, Tasamy for Social Entrepreneurship, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

14:20 - 14:40
“UNPACKED: Refugee Baggage” – Building Bridges Through Art and Storytelling

Damascus-born Mohamad Hafez and Ahmed Badr, a former refugee from Iraq, share the inspiration behind their art and what motivated them to tell the stories of refugee families from all over the world.

Introduction:
- Arwa Damon, Senior International Correspondent for CNN, President & Co-Founder of INARA, Syria/USA

Speakers:
- Melissa Fleming, Head of Communications and Public Information, UNHCR
- Ahmed Badr, Founder, Narratio, Iraq
- Zaineb Abdulla, Vice President, Deaf Planet Soul, USA
- Jem Stein, Founder & Director, The Bike Project, United Kingdom
- Koang Doluony, Executive Director & Founder, Omaha Talons, South Sudan

14:40 - 15:20
Cultural Diversity and the Power of Creativity

The celebration of multiculturalism through cross-cultural communication is an integral aspect of tolerant, inclusive and peaceful societies, and a necessary step towards fulfilling Agenda 2030. One way to encourage this celebration of multiculturalism is through embracing cultural diversity.

For more information about the programme please visit misk.org.sa/miskundpyouthforum
Bursting Bubbles: Overcoming Hate to Build a More Peaceful World

Following his survival of the July 2011 terrorist attacks on Utøya Island in Norway, Mr. Bjørn Ihler has been working on a global level to build thriving communities by tackling hatred, conflict and violent extremism. Today’s world is characterised by bubbles: some call them filter bubbles, some call them echo chambers and some call them “the comfort zone”. Some of these bubbles are social constructs, and some are results of the technology that increasingly shapes our discourse. Sometimes communication between the bubbles breaks down, we fail to listen to each other, to see each other, and to let each other be seen. How does this shape our communities and conflicts? How does it shape politics? How does it shape extremism? This talk will address what we can do to burst our bubbles and build bridges, cross barriers, challenge extremism and create thriving communities.

In adopting Agenda 2030, Member States pledged “to foster intercultural understanding, tolerance, mutual respect and an ethic of global citizenship and shared responsibility... and to acknowledge the natural and cultural diversity of the world and recognise that all cultures and civilisations... are crucial enablers of sustainable development”. Dialogue and respect for different perspectives are essential in the age of globalisation. As the world is becoming more and more interconnected, we must recognise that tolerance plays a key role in achieving peace, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and UN Resolution 2250 (2015), a historic resolution on Youth, Peace and Security that urges greater representation by young women and men in the prevention and resolution of conflict.

• What is the relationship between globalisation and the need for tolerance?
• How does tolerance affect sustainable development and advance Agenda 2030?
• What can we do to build tolerance in societies that are becoming increasingly insular?
• What role can government leaders play in supporting the next generation as it navigates an increasingly connected world?
• As young people are exposed to new cultures and ideas every single day, how can society embrace the changes this brings, while also staging true to its unique identities and heritage?
• How can youth play a role in building tolerance in order to advance peace and sustainable development?

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Field Notes: Learning from Young Peace-Builders in Iraq

Young people are one of our greatest forces of good. With over 600 million young people living in fragile or conflict-affected settings, the young generation is at the forefront of establishing lasting peace and shaping more resilient and prosperous communities. During this experiential talk, the newly appointed UN Youth Envoy, Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake will reflect on her first mission in her new role marking International Youth Day with young peace-builders in Iraq.

A Conversation with Dr. Deepak Chopra

The building of peace and sustainable development necessitates a holistic approach. In order to implement sustainable change, we must consider social, political, economic, and health-related interventions, among others, on a local, national, and international scope. Dr. Deepak Chopra, a world-renowned pioneer in integrative medicine and personal transformation, emphasises how improving health and cultivating spiritual knowledge can contribute to promoting world peace. In this talk, Dr. Chopra will address how young people can combat the current rise in intolerance to create more peaceful and tolerant societies.

Action Plan to Move Forward

Youth Rapporteurs from each of the three workshops will share outcomes and key takeaways for creating more tolerant and peaceful societies as well as advancing the SDGs. The audience will have a chance to ask questions and engage with the speakers.

Final Remarks

- H.E. Bader Al-Asaker, Secretary-General, MiSK Foundation, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Ashok Nigam, UN Resident Coordinator & UNDP Resident Representative for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Mourad Wahba, UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator, Regional Director for Arab States, United Nations Development Programme

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