

August 12, 2010 - United Nations – International Year of Youth 2010-2011



(ANS – New York) – The General Assembly of the United Nations, taking up resolution 64/134, has proclaimed 2010-2011 as the International Year of Youth.

On December 18, 2009, the General Assembly approved resolution 64/134, proclaiming the year beginning today, International Youth Day, as “International Year of Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding.” The year coincides with the 25th anniversary of the first international day dedicated to youth in 1985, which had the theme of “participation, development and peace.”

Various celebrations around the world highlight the relevance of the year: the fifth World Youth Congress, which began on July 31 and ends on August 13, in Istanbul, Turkey, European Capital of Culture for 2010; the decision of the Mexican government to hold a World Youth Conference in Mexico, taking place August 23-27 in Leon Guanajuato, on the theme of youth and development in the context of Millennium Development Goals; the celebration of the first Youth Olympic Games in Singapore, August 14-26, with the aim of inviting young people from every part of the world to embrace, incarnate, and express the Olympic values of excellence, friendship, and respect.

The General Assembly urges member states, specialist agencies, organizations, and programs within the United Nations and youth organizations supporting the International Year to increase coordination of activities being organized at national, regional, and international level during the year and to promote at all levels the spread of the ideals of peace, freedom, progress, solidarity, and commitment to progress and development, working from the Millennium Development Goals.

It also requests member states and international and regional organizations, not forgetting competent authorities in the private and civic sectors, to support all the activities related to the International Year of Youth.