



SUMMIT OF AFRICA YOUTH LEADERS ON PEACE, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

On 31st August 2024, we convened in Kinshasa for the Summit of Africa Youth Leaders on Peace, Security, and Development on the African Continent. This significant event was organized by the Pan-African Youth Union (PYU) and the National Youth Council of DRC (Conseil National de la Jeunesse (CNUJ-RDC), with the invaluable support of the Ministry of Youth and Patriotic Awakening of DRC (Ministère de la Jeunesse et Éveil Patriotique).

The Summit gathered youth leaders across the continent to engage in meaningful dialogue on the pressing issues of peace and security in Africa. Over the course of this summit, youth leaders exchanged insights, shared best practices, and proposed

innovative solutions to address the challenges faced in conflict and post-conflict settings. This collaborative spirit underscored the crucial role of youth in shaping a peaceful and secure future for Africa.

A landmark achievement of the summit was the drafting of the "Africa Youth Declaration on Peace, security and development in Africa." This declaration articulates a comprehensive set of commitments and recommendations from African youth, emphasizing the need for greater investment in youth empowerment, inclusion

“YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO CONFRONT THE CHALLENGES OF OUR CONTINENT AND THE PYU WILL CONTINUE TO LEAD THE CHARGE AS THE CONTINENTAL COORDINATING BODY FEDERATING YOUTH ORGANISATIONS IN AFRICA. - BENING AHMED WIISICHONG, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE PAN-AFRICAN YOUTH UNION

in decision-making processes, and support for youth-led peace building initiatives. The declaration represents a unified voice of African youth calling for a renewed focus on sustainable peace and development across the continent.

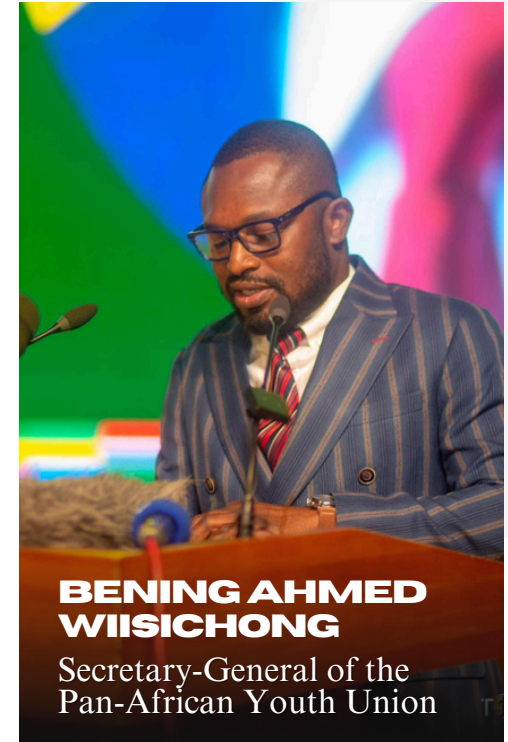
The outcomes of this summit are poised to serve as a catalyst for development initiatives,



not only within the DRC but throughout Africa, fostering a vision of the continent as a beacon of peace, prosperity, and collective progress. The summit concluded with a reaffirmation of Democratic Republic of the Congo's



commitment to youth-led initiatives for peace and security. His Excellency President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi strongly reiterated his dedication to youth empowerment as a pivotal element for achieving sustainable development and lasting peace in Africa.



BENING AHMED WIISICHONG
Secretary-General of the Pan-African Youth Union

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Democratic Republic of the Congo for its warm hospitality and steadfast support. We particularly thank His Excellency, the President, for championing the efforts of the PYU in bringing together youth leaders from across Africa and providing a platform for meaningful dialogue on our shared challenges and aspirations for the future.

PAN-AFRICAN YOUTH UNION LEADS AFRICAN YOUTH LEADERS TO ENGAGE HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT FÉLIX ANTOINE TSHISEKEDI TSHILOMBO IN KINSHASA



On August 29, 2024, the leadership of the **Pan-African Youth Union** led leaders of National Youth Councils and equivalent National Coordinating Mechanisms to engage with **His Excellency President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo** at the Presidency in Kinshasa. The meeting was to engage His Excellency the President who is the African Union Champion of Youths on matters of peace, security and African development.

The youth leaders were in Kinshasa for the Summit of African Youth Leaders, convened by the Pan African Youth Union, National Youth Council of DRC with the support from the Ministry of Youth and Patriotic Awakening under the auspices of His Excellency the President.

His Excellency President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi reiterated his support for youth empowerment as a key driver for sustainable development and peace in Africa.

He stated that, "The Summit of Africa Youth Leaders on Peace, Security, and Development on the African Continent holds immense significance for the Democratic Republic of Congo and Africa as a whole".



He added that "Kinshasa, hosting this summit serves as a testament to the city's growth as a hub for regional and continental diplomacy".

The DRC, a nation that has experienced its share of conflict and instability, stands at a crucial juncture where peace and security are not just national priorities but essential for regional development.

His Excellency President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi strongly reiterated his dedication to youth empowerment as a pivotal element for achieving sustainable development and lasting peace in Africa. Concluding with a strong commitment that the Government of Democratic Republic of Congo will continue supporting youth-led initiatives for peace, security and development in the region.

PYU SECRETARY-GENERAL MEETS WITH HON. NOELLA AYEGANAGATO NAKWIPON, MINISTER OF YOUTH AND PATRIOTIC AWAKENING OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

The Secretary-General of the Pan-African Youth Union, **Mr. Bening Ahmed Wiisichong**, engaged in a highly productive discussion with **Hon. Noella Ayeganagato Nakwipon**, Minister of Youth and Patriotic Awakening of the Democratic Republic of Congo along with **Ms. Pamela Audrey Derom**, Vice President of the Pan-African Youth Union for Central Africa, and **Mr. William Mukambila**, President of National Youth Council of Democratic Republic of Congo. This meeting marked a significant step towards fostering stronger collaboration between the Pan-African Youth Union and Democratic Republic of Congo in advancing youth development and patriotic engagement.

The meeting between Secretary-General Wiisichong and Minister Ayeganagato Nakwipon centered on enhancing youth participation in

national and continental initiatives, promoting strategic partnerships, and addressing key issues impacting the youth across Africa. Both leaders expressed their commitment to leveraging their respective platforms to drive positive change and foster greater unity among African youth. This fruitful engagement underscores the shared vision of both parties in



championing the cause of youth empowerment and national development, paving the way for future cooperation and impactful initiatives. The Pan-African Youth Union remains committed to the renewal of youth unionism and advancing the African Renaissance agenda, underscoring the power of collective action and unity.

LEADERS OF NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCILS DISCUSS IN KINSHASA



As part of the preparation of the **Summit of Africa Youth Leaders on peace, security and development of the African continent**. Presidents and representatives of National Youth Councils had a briefing session with the leadership of the Pan-African Youth Union (PYU) in Kinshasa.

The session commenced with a welcome address by **Mr. Moumouni Dialla, President of the Pan-African Youth Union**. Mr. Dialla's address set a positive tone for the session, encouraging a spirit of collaboration and shared responsibility among African youth leaders. Mr. Dialla expressed his gratitude to the attending leaders for their unwavering commitment and continued support for the work of the PYU. He acknowledged the significant role the National Youth Councils play in fostering youth development, promoting unity, and advocating for the rights and aspirations of young people in their respective countries. He further expressed his gratitude to the leaders of National Youth Councils for their continuous commitment in supporting the PYU's mission and their dedication to advancing the cause of youth across the continent. **The Secretary-General of the Pan-African Youth Union, Mr. Bening Ahmed Wiisichong**, equally thanked the leaders of the National Youth Councils and spoke on:

THE ROLE OF NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCILS IN PYU

The Secretary-General indicated that PYU was a member state led platform, where the executive committee is accountable through the National Youth Councils and equivalent National Coordinating Mechanisms. National Youth Councils equally have the responsibility in supporting the work of the PYU rather than shifting responsibilities to their representatives on the committee. The Secretary-General added, the National Youth Councils are the PYU and therefore, must be the ambassadors of the work of PYU, amplifying and emphasizing the significance of the PYU at national level.



The emphasis was on the importance of joint programs between the PYU and the National Youth Councils. These initiatives will go a long way to bring grassroots closer to the work of the Union, ensuring that the PYU's impact is felt across all levels of society.



MOUMOUNI DIALLA
President of the Pan-African Youth Union



PYU RESTRUCTURING AND REFORM AGENDA

The Secretary-General continued that the PYU is undergoing a comprehensive restructuring and reform agenda to make it more inclusive and reflective of the changing dynamics of the African youth development ecosystem. The Secretary-General outlined several upcoming PYU events that are part of this agenda:

- **African Youth Side Event at the Summit of the Future:** Scheduled to take place in New York on September 20th, 2024, in partnership with the UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSSA), UNDP, ECA, and the African Union Commission.
- **African Start-Up Forum:** To be held from 29th - 31st October 2024 in the Kingdom of Morocco.
- **Pan African Youth Forum: Set** to take place on November 1st, 2024.

RECENT PYU ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Secretary-General also highlighted PYU's **four major activities of the year 2024**, which have successfully brought together youth leaders and development actors across Africa to discuss the challenges of our continent.

1. **Summit of Africa Youth Leaders in Kinshasa:** A significant gathering focused on peace, security, and development.
2. **International Youth Day Celebration in Burkina Faso:** Organized in collaboration with the National Youth Council of Burkina Faso and the Ministry of Sports, Youth, and Employment, this event took place on August 9th - 10th in Ouagadougou.
3. **African Youth Consultative Forum on the UN Summit of the Future:** Convened in Addis Ababa on April 26th and 27th, 2024, under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa, the Pan African Youth Union, and the African Union Commission.
4. **Africa Youth Colloquium:** Held alongside the African Union Heads of Summit 2024, this colloquium brought together over 60 young leaders from 20 African countries to discuss key issues affecting youth across the continent.

The Union also supported the **National Youth Council of Mozambique in convening the 15th National Youth Conference in Mozambique** to generate policy advisories to the government and amplify the aspirations of young people across the country, he concluded. The briefing session had thirty Presidents and representatives of National Youth Councils, Regional Economic Commission and Youth Civil Society Organizations leaders.



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His Excellency President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi reiterated his support for youth empowerment as a key driver for sustainable development and peace in Africa.

He stated that, "The Africa Youth Leaders Summit on Peace, Security, and Development on the African Continent holds immense significance for the Democratic Republic of Congo and Africa as a whole"



He added that "Kinshasa, hosting this summit serves as a testament to the city's growing importance as a hub for regional and continental diplomacy"

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His Excellency President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi strongly reiterated his dedication to youth empowerment as a pivotal element for achieving sustainable development and lasting peace in Africa. Concluding with a strong commitment that the Government of Democratic Republic of Congo will continue supporting youth-led initiatives for peace, security and development in the region.

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ROLE OF NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCILS IN PYU

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SOMMET DES JEUNES LEADERS AFRICAINS SUR LA PAIX, LA SÉCURITÉ ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT SUR LE CONTINENT AFRICAIN.

Le 31 août 2024, nous nous sommes réunis à Kinshasa, en République Démocratique du Congo (RDC) pour le Sommet des Jeunes Leaders Africains sur la Paix, la Sécurité et le Développement sur le Continent Africain. Cet événement important a été organisé par l'Union Panafricaine de la Jeunesse (UPJ) et le Conseil National de la Jeunesse (CNJ-RDC), avec le soutien inestimable du Ministère de la Jeunesse et de l'Éveil Patriotique de la République Démocratique du Congo.

Le Sommet a réuni des jeunes leaders de tout le continent pour engager un dialogue constructif sur les questions urgentes de paix et de sécurité en Afrique. Au cours de ce sommet, les participants ont échangé leurs points de vue, partagé les meilleures pratiques et proposé

des solutions innovantes pour relever les défis rencontrés dans les situations de conflit et d'après conflit. Cet esprit de collaboration a souligné le rôle crucial de la jeunesse dans la construction d'un avenir pacifique et sûr pour l'Afrique.

L'une des réalisations marquantes du sommet a été la rédaction de la « Déclaration de la jeunesse africaine sur la paix et la sécurité en Afrique ». Cette déclaration énonce un ensemble complet d'engagements et de recommandations de la jeunesse africaine, soulignant la nécessité d'investir davantage dans l'autonomisation des

**“LES JEUNES ONT LA RESPONSABILITÉ DE RELEVER LES DÉFIS DE NOTRE CONTINENT, ET L'UNION PANAFRICAINNE DE LA JEUNESSE CONTINUERA DE MENER LA CHARGE EN TANT QU'ORGANE DE COORDINATION CONTINENTAL FÉDÉRANT LES ORGANISATIONS DE JEUNESSE EN AFRIQUE.
- BENING AHMED WIISICHONG, SECRÉTAIRE-GÉNÉRAL DE L'UNION PANAFRICAINNE DE LA JEUNESSE**

jeunes, leur inclusion dans les processus de prise de décision et le soutien aux initiatives de consolidation de la paix menées par les jeunes. La déclaration représente une voix unifiée de la jeunesse africaine appelant à un regain d'intérêt pour la paix et le développement durables sur tout le continent. Les résultats de ce sommet sont sur le point de servir de catalyseur aux



de la République Démocratique du Congo en faveur des initiatives menées par les jeunes pour la paix et la sécurité. Son Excellence le Président Félix Antoine Tshisekedi a réitéré avec force son dévouement à l'autonomisation des jeunes en tant qu'élément essentiel pour parvenir à un développement et une paix durables en Afrique.



initiatives de développement, non seulement en RDC mais dans toute l'Afrique, favorisant une vision du continent comme flambeau de paix, de prospérité et de progrès collectif. Le sommet s'est conclu par une réaffirmation de l'engagement



Nous exprimons notre plus profonde gratitude à la République Démocratique du Congo pour sa chaleureuse hospitalité et son soutien indéfectible. Nous remercions particulièrement Son Excellence, le Président, d'avoir soutenu les efforts de l'UPJ pour réunir des jeunes leaders de toute l'Afrique et offrir une plateforme de dialogue constructif sur nos défis et aspirations communs pour l'avenir.