



YOUTH FOCUS

Bahamas

January 29, 2004

Talking About:

Life and Love in The Bahamas

My Island Home

Money in My Pocket

Youth Vision for Island Living

Looking to Mauritius & Beyond...

MANIFESTO

Presented at The United Nations Interregional Preparatory Meeting for the Review of the Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Nassau, The Bahamas.

ISLAND LIFE



In honour of our beloved, unique island home
We put pen to paper for this poem.
The sight of our turquoise ringed isles,
Brings to everyone's face a happy smile.
Distances between us may be many miles
But names such as Albury, Cornish, Sawyer and Long have been around for quite a while.
On our isles graceful, green palm trees sway,
In movement to trade winds that softly blow our way,
While in small, safe schools we learn and play,
And practice singing and dancing the Bahamian way.
Lessons we learn and then make reports
On our natural surroundings that our families support.
The environment that sustains us we must forever seek.
Our beliefs and concerns to policy makers we must learn to speak.
Using Internet forum like "Small Islands Voices",
UNESCO teaches us to feel confident in our choices.
Gazing of abundant reefs under our azure sea,
Oh what a glorious life for you and me!
While on our shores the tall, proud lighthouse's rays
Remind ships bringing in our supplies, off the reefs to stay.
Over our pastel sand beaches seagulls call and swoop,
While up and down sun seeking tourists troop.
Potcake dogs chase little white crabs,
Under bright sunny skies nothing is drab.
Sea grass on the beach, footprints on the sand
Is all part of God's big plan.
Our protected National Park chain,
Our special flamingoes begin to nest once again
Their long legs around mud nests do curl
Their bright pink feathers remind us of a rare conch pearl.
Flocks of Bahamian parrots do fly.
Their bright colours resemble a junkanoo Parade in the sky.
Life in our islands is a delicious treat
Key lime pies, coconut tarts, and conch fritters so juicy and sweet.
Of many future generations our environment's sustainability is to span.
Education and sustainable development must go hand in hand.
We are gathered here at the Bahamas Youth Focus Group,
To blend and mix our ideas into a healthy "Bahamian Soup".
To deliver our ideas to leaders we must.
Our future in their hands we must entrust.
When we return home to our beautiful isles
We'll remember the Small Islands Developing States Manifesto we produced with confident smiles.
We'll keep in touch over seas and miles
Our lessons we learned here we will not file,
But instead put them to very good use!
And assured results we will produce!

*PRODUCED by: The Bahamas' 1st Small Islands Voice School
Erin Patterson, Vaughn Rolle, Louison Etienne, Stephanie Sweeting, Bronson Roberts, Harmon Thompson, Nicole
Maltarp, Max Idas Grade 5 & 6 Students of Hope Town School Abaco and Mrs. Candice Key*





"Youth Focus Bahamas 2004"

**YOUTH FOCUS BAHAMAS 2004
Participants • Sponsors • Resource Persons • Organizers**

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTIONS FROM YOUTH FOCUS BAHAMAS 2004

January 28-29

Recalling the United Nations Agenda 21 adopted at the Earth Summit in 1992, which established a framework for sustainable development among the world's nations;

Taking into account the Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States adopted at the Barbados Summit meeting in 1994;

Noting the National Assessment report for The Bahamas prepared in 2004 for the review of the Small Island Developing States Programme of Action;

Recalling the Culture, Communication and Intercultural Dialogue from the Youth Manifesto of the 21st Century presented to the Canadian Parliament 10 April 2000;

Highlighting the potential of youth and that they are the focus of sustainable development;

Noting that we, the young people of The Bahamas, met for 'Youth Focus Bahamas' to establish our own vision for the future, and to present our findings to the Inter-regional preparatory meeting for the Review of the Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States;

Understanding that 'Youth Focus Bahamas' is a model for an inter-regional initiative called 'Youth Visioning for Island Living' to be held in Mauritius in 2004; and

Expressing appreciation to the Government of The Bahamas and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for this valuable opportunity.

We, the youth of The Bahamas,

Call upon the government to provide a Ministry of Youth that will focus solely on our needs;

Recognising that culture and lifestyle identify us as Bahamians and keep us unified, and that people on each island of The Bahamas practice and display different kinds of lifestyles;

Taking into account that our culture is gradually being lost, especially among young people, due to the strong influence of foreign media continually accessed using new technology; and

Emphasising that we need to preserve our culture to help us to be self-sufficient and less dependent on others.

We, the youth of The Bahamas,

Call upon the Government to formulate a plan that will institute an Annual Heritage Festival that will rotate through each island, to promote Bahamian cultural aspects of storytelling, Rake n' Scrape, native dancing, bush medicine, use of natural resources for crafts and Junkanoo;

Recommend Bahamian texts be more fully utilised in schools to enhance knowledge of Bahamian folklore, promote native dance and arts and crafts;

Request special mandatory programmes for troubled teens that will involve parents, students, and guidance counsellors. Programmes are to focus on prevention and intervention, with emphasis on social and health problems including but not limited to HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and childhood prostitution;

Encourage enforcement of existing legislation pertaining to persons who are found to be pregnant under the age of 16 and investigate all situations so that offenders may be formally charged and prosecuted;

Establish properly equipped island clinics, ambulatory services, fire engines and emergency medical air services;

Provide technical and vocational subjects for students with learning disabilities in each island;

Contribute to sustainable development by upgrading and enhancing recreational parks, promoting agricultural programmes and encouraging aquaculture;

Recognising that the Government of The Bahamas needs to plan for our future needs and those of our children;

Taking into account that our economic and social structure, as it is, needs to be changed, and solutions sought; and

Emphasising that The Bahamas is a developing nation with a stable economy heavily dependent upon tourism and offshore banking.

We, the youth of The Bahamas,

Call upon the government and all Bahamians to promote and diversify our secondary industries such as farming, fishing, aquaculture, to assist in better economic stability and self-sufficiency;

Recommend that farming, fishing and aquaculture be incorporated into the school curriculum from primary to tertiary level, especially in the Family Islands;

Promote and encourage intra-island trading to reduce import expenditure and allow domestic producers to profit;

Highlight the importance of purchasing Bahamian-made goods by educating our wholesalers, hotel managers, tourists and all Bahamians;

Support the creation of local franchises, products and business opportunities via the internet;

Call upon the government to increase work and leisure opportunities on the Family Islands to avert the 'brain drain' crisis;

Request the establishment of nature parks, tours and trails on the Family Islands to promote further job creation;

Ask for venues and opportunities to showcase the talent of Bahamian youth;

Request our government to lower the teacher – student ratio;

Recognising The Bahamas has valuable natural resources including oceans, coastal environments, pinelands and incredible bio-diversity;

Taking into account that many changes have taken place in our environment since Agenda 21 was adopted in 1992; and

Emphasising our important human resources.

We, the youth of The Bahamas,

Call upon the government to initiate and embrace an eco-tourism plan and policy for residents and visitors so as to encourage them to adopt environmentally friendly practices;

Promote and implement an environmental education plan that instils environmental principles as an integral way of life in all age groups from the very young to the very old;

Request, as a matter of priority, an assessment of The Bahamian environment be conducted in order to determine areas for preservation and conservation of natural habitats for marine and terrestrial flora and fauna;

Emphasise that existing laws be fully enforced, through an objective environmental court system that ensures the right of the community to a clean, safe, aesthetically-pleasing environment;

Secure the health of our nation, by ensuring the safe and environmentally-friendly disposal of solid and liquid waste, thereby instilling within every member of society the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle;

Affirming the rights and needs of Bahamians, we the youth implore our leaders to secure our option to purchase land, including beachfront property, at affordable prices, and to secure our access to coastal areas for posterity; and

Recognising the importance of the built environment, we urge our government to identify buildings of historical significance for preservation; and understanding the problems of vagrancy and illicit activities encouraged by derelict properties, we urge the adoption of criteria to establish a plan of demolition.

We, the youth of The Bahamas, are convinced that we are catalysts of change and we invite your participation to assist with the execution of these resolutions.

We thank you.



YOUTH FOCUS *Bahamas*

January 28 - 29, 2004

Talking About:

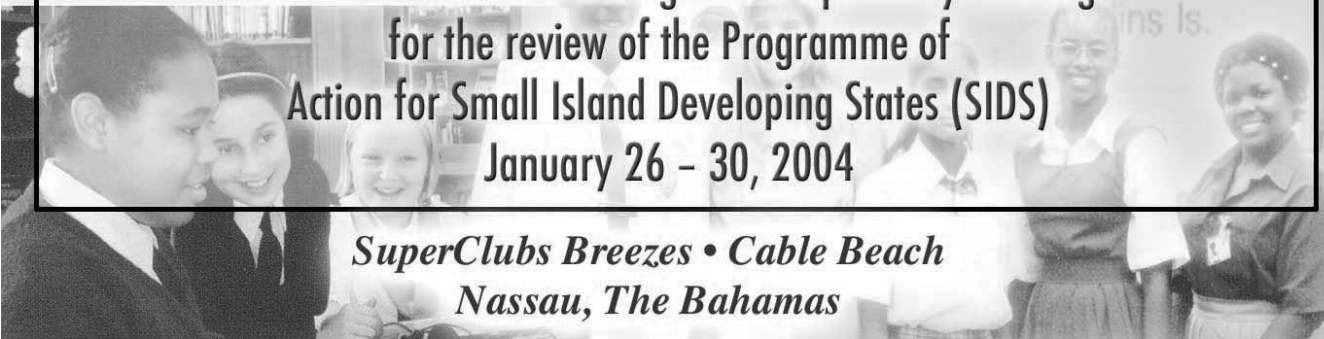
**Life and Love in The Bahamas
My Island Home
Money in My Pocket**

Youth Vision for Island Living

Looking to Mauritius & Beyond...

**A side-event to
The United Nations Interregional Preparatory Meeting
for the review of the Programme of
Action for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
January 26 - 30, 2004**

***SuperClubs Breezes • Cable Beach
Nassau, The Bahamas***



YOUTH FOCUS BAHAMAS 2004 PARTICIPANTS

ABACO

Rebecca Risberg
Forest Heights Academy

Candelea McIntosh
Sherlin Bootle High

ANDROS

Jeanette Andrews
Mangrove Cay High

Lashan Bannister
South Andros High

CAT ISLAND

Shireece Newbold
Arthur's Town High

Antionique Cash
Old Bight High

ELEUTHERA

Andrea Culmer
Central Eleuthera High

EXUMA

Naverro Bowe
Akeiro Lloyd
L. N. Coakley High

GRAND BAHAMA

Sylvanus Bethel
Jack Hayward High

Siadra Strachan
St. Georges High

Genea Noel
Sunland High

INAGUA

Melissa Cartwright
Inagua All-Age

LONG ISLAND

Jamie Watkins
N. G. M. Major High

Anae Knowles
North Long Island High

NEW PROVIDENCE

Indira Smith
C. C. Sweeting Senior High

Lormika Johnson
C. I. Gibson Senior High

Jaime Wilkinson
C. V. Bethel Senior High

Williashonsay Rolle
Doris Johnson Senior High

Shanderia Lewis
Lori Wilkenson
R. M. Bailey Senior High

Tayo Bethel
School for The Blind

Ambrosine Huyler
Charles Newbold
Antonia Saunders
Angilique Sawyer
The College of The Bahamas

Erica Sweeting
Pathfinders

Valdino Higgs
Werissa Seymour
Youth Path

Alexis Bonaby
Deval Kirby
Philip Skeets

Bahamas Technical & Vocational Institute



Small Islands
VOICE



THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

Messages...



THE HONOURABLE PERRY G. CHRISTIE

I am delighted to be able to bring greetings to this gathering of young people who have come together under the theme, “Youth Vision for Island Living” and wish on behalf of my Government to extend our appreciation to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for having funded this conference and to the Ministry of Education for organizing and hosting this event.

Harnessing the zeal, the passion, the spontaneity and the contemporary perspective of youth and channeling them into positive contributions for the national development of The Bahamas is indeed a challenge. Youth Focus Bahamas has effectively risen to this challenge by providing a platform for the young people of The Bahamas to express their vision for island living in a global society.

It is indeed noteworthy that this forum will afford them the opportunity to be at the forefront of social, economic and political developments that will shape the global perspective for young people everywhere. It is their vision that will define the future of The Bahamas.

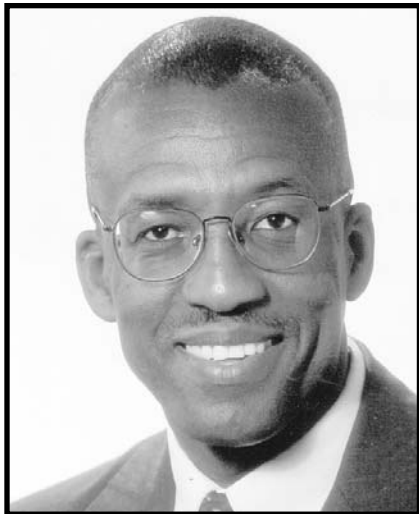
The discussions and the resulting Manifesto which will emanate from this forum will not only direct national development but have repercussions for years to come as they will also direct interregional and international decisions. It is because of this potential that my Government believes that the youth of The Bahamas have many of the answers that could expand the economy, create a safer society, and improve the health and well-being of our Bahamaland.

These bright minds and the visions that they bring to this forum will enlighten us on what is needed for a better Bahamas. We look forward with great anticipation to their conclusions on island lifestyles and cultures, safeguarding our island environment, and economic and employment opportunities that will be encapsulated in the Youth Manifesto.

Youth Focus Bahamas will play a pivotal role in shaping the tapestry of The Bahamas and propelling our youth to the vanguard of national development. It gives them a voice and empowers them to make a difference. It also cements in their minds that each of them has a significant contribution to make in shaping the destiny of The Bahamas, not only now, but more importantly in the future.

I congratulate, once again, the organizers of this event and wish everyone a successful and productive conference.

Prime Minister & Minister of Finance
Commonwealth of The Bahamas



THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

THE HONOURABLE ALFRED M. SEARS

Youth Focus Bahamas provides a forum where the voice of the youth of The Bahamas could be heard throughout the archipelago of The Bahamas. The future of The Bahamas is wrapped up in the destiny of our young people and in their ability to be effective change agents. They must have the skills to think critically and make responsible decisions. These skills will enable them to shape the landscape of our country.

Youth Focus Bahamas, under the theme “**Youth Vision for Island Living**”, affords the participants this opportunity as they give their perspective on areas like education, training, employment, business, crime, health care, culture human development, and environmental protection. It is envisioned that this forum will enable our youth to claim ownership on the developmental process of The Bahamas and realize that they can truly make a difference.

The process of information exchange as well as the knowledge and skills gained through this venture will further prepare our youths to become proactive citizens who will want to improve the quality of life for themselves and others. It is hoped that input from our youth at this forum and future events will help to inform the decision-making process, especially as it related to programmes and activities that impact young people both locally and globally.

I look forward with great anticipation to the fresh perspectives and innovative ideas that will be reflected in the **Youth Manifesto** that will be produced as a result of this forum. I am sure that the recommendations of our youth for island lifestyle and culture, safeguarding the environment and sustaining economic development will enhance understanding between youth and various sections of our Bahamian society.

I commend Beverly J. T. Taylor, the initiator, and members of the organizing team of this event. I appreciate their efforts, the assistance of The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the support of all persons who have contributed to the success of **Youth Focus Bahamas 2004**.

Alfred M. Sears

Minister of Education & Attorney General
Commonwealth of The Bahamas



THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS



THE HONOURABLE NEVILLE WISDOM

The Life of young people today is certainly different now than in the past. Certainly, the youth of past decades had no input in the making of decisions which impacted their lives. This youth-focus session provides young people with ample opportunity to contribute in significant ways to the process, which will hopefully change their lives for the better.

The deduced themes, 'Life and Love in Islands', 'My Island Home' and 'Money in My Pocket' are compelling and emotive simply because they capture the essence of what young people concern themselves with and ought to be. Indeed, they are cast in a mode which will evoke the strongest sentiment from participants. These themes, when fully explored, are the lens through which the hopes and aspirations must pass and in passing through, will shape the future.

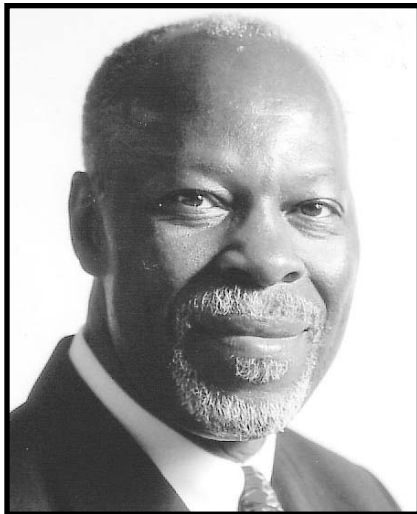
Ultimately, it is to the young that we must look for a better world. This focus session gives our young people the opportunity to set the tune which will determine their future and, in so doing, is representative of a global body.

It is therefore my privilege and pleasure to firstly encourage the participants and organizers and to commend them for taking up this timely challenge. Doubtlessly, the benefits which will accrue from these sessions will be passed onto many generations to come.

Please be assured that I am of the view that our world would be a much better place because of your efforts.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Wisdom'.

Minister of Youth, Sports & Culture
Commonwealth of The Bahamas



DR. DAVIDSON L. HEPBURN

A noted German philosopher once said, “The destiny of any nation at any given time depends on the opinions of its young persons under five and twenty”. In the same light, young people, nowadays, are accustomed to the phrase “Youth are the country’s most valuable resource”. In my opinion, statements, no matter how genuine, do not amount to a “hill of beans” if nothing is being done to prepare the youth for the leadership role they are expected to play in the growth and development of the country.

I was delighted to hear about the Youth Focus designed to encourage young people to participate in the affairs of the country. The organizers of this international preparatory meeting must be commended for their insight and ingenuity for providing such a practical platform for young people to discuss topical issues of national and global significance.

In this regard, governments should make every effort to involve young people in decision-making exercises at the highest level. In this way, they could learn how to let their voice be heard in establishing laws for the future.

This Youth Focus may be used as a training mechanism for young people to hone their negotiating skills and to share ideas with their peers. I read a very old maxim that stated, “The young suffer less from their own errors than from the cautiousness of the old”.

UNESCO has long recognized the wisdom of meaningfully involving Youth in the work of the Organization. The need has now become so glaring that Youth Forums are to become an integral part of the UNESCO agenda. In this way one of their goals, Education For All (EFA), has become more than a catchy acronym. It is a programme that will be given more than lip service over the years. There is no doubt that young people are ready to make a difference in the leadership of their country’s future.

I hope that at the end of this exercise young people would be prepared to grapple with the social, economic, political ills which often times tend to deter even to most dedicated individual from rising to the challenge. As someone rightfully said our “boys and girls are the HOPE of yesterday, the JOY of today and the GUARANTEE of a better tomorrow”.

I take this occasion to wish you every success in your deliberations and ask God’s blessing for 2004 and beyond.

Chairman Bahamas National Commission for UNESCO



MS. BEVERLY J. T. TAYLOR

Youth Focus Bahamas was initiated to inspire youth from schools, colleges and youth organizations to blend their aspirations, talents and skills in an amplified voice that reflects their individual and collective vision. Further, it is designed to help prepare the delegates to be proactive in national, regional and global development and to illuminate their capability and significance in shaping the future of The Bahamas.

Youth Focus Bahamas has grown from a spark that was planted by The Bahamas' representation at the UNESCO Youth in Parliament held in Paris, France in 1999 and the UNESCO Canadian Youth in Parliament held in Canada in 2000. It has grown into a passion to empower youth to work together to make a positive difference in advancing our country, the region, and the world to a greater level of economic prosperity, social enhancement, cultural awareness and spiritual development. It is pleasing to note that our "Youth Vision for Island Living" will serve as "a testing ground and provide valuable insight for the larger activity" – the 'Youth visioning for island living' to be held in Mauritius later this year.

Gratitude goes out to all of our partners in this initiative. The stamp of approval by the Government of The Bahamas is greatly appreciated. Heartfelt thanks go out to the Ministry of Education for its support, the Organizing Committee for its efforts and to all persons and agencies whose collaboration has made this forum such a resounding success.

To the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for the visionary stand it takes in equipping young people to participate in the decision-making process in their respective countries and for funding this initiative, we thank you. Special thanks to Dirk Troost, Claire Green and Gillian Cambers, representatives of the UNESCO Small Islands Voice Initiative, for their commitment in advancing the cause of young people throughout the world.

THANKS A MILLION for partnering with us in this worthwhile event. It is through such ventures that our youth will develop a global perspective, economic savvy and be catalyst for change that will positively impact the destiny of The Bahamas.

We must continue in our quest to prepare our youth to live productive, vibrant and peaceful lives in the global village of the 21st century. We must each strive to move progressively forward to achieve the same. With God's help, we will.

"If we had influence... we would ask that each child be given the chance to interact with objects and events in the natural world thereby becoming actively involved in exploring, searching, discovering, measuring, analyzing, synthesizing, theorizing, generalizing, observing, experimenting and subsequently acquiring the understanding, knowledge and skills necessary to survive in this world."

*Chairperson
Youth Forum Bahamas 2004*

YOUTH FOCUS BAHAMAS 2004

“Youth Vision for Island Living”

PRESENTERS

Young People with a Global Perspective & Economic Savvy

Richardo Deveaux	Department of Housing
Hank Ferguson	Ministry of Trade & Industry
Gabriella Fraser	Central Bank of The Bahamas
Harl Taylor	HARL TAYLOR BAG
Wendy Warren	Bahamas Financial Services

Island Lifestyles and Cultures

Patricia Bazard	Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture
John Cox	National Art Gallery
Terry Fountain	Ministry of Health
Dr. Francine Pinder	Princess Margaret Hospital

Young People as Catalysts for Change

Kenred M. A. Dorsett	Lennox Paton Attorneys
Guershon Major	Mailboxes etc.
Dr. Derwin Munroe	Bayview Dental Centre
Phil Simon	Bahamas Chamber of Commerce
Omar Smith	ACE Building & Fencing

Safeguarding Our Island Environment

Christopher Henry	Island School, Eleuthera
Brendan Foulkes	Las Palmas Resort, Andros
Stacy Moultrie	The BEST Commission

RESOURCE PERSONS

Michael Braynen	Ministry of Agriculture
Candice Key	Hope Town School, Abaco
Gillian Cambers	UNESCO Small Islands Voice, Puerto Rico
Carl Oliver	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Claire Green	UNESCO Small Islands Voice, Paris
Brian Serville	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Joseph Darville	National Drug Council
Olivia Saunders	College of The Bahamas
Lavern Duncombe	Ministry of Education, Grand Bahama
Ishmael Smith	Inagua All Age School, Inagua

YOUTH FOCUS BAHAMAS 2004

SuperClubs Breezes Resort

CABLE BEACH, THE BAHAMAS

28th JANUARY 2004 – 9:30 a.m.

“Youth Vision for Island Living”

OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

PROGRAMME

CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Creswell Sturup

Permanent Secretary

Ministry of Education

National Anthem.....Audience

PrayerMr. Navarvo Bowe
L. N. Coakley High School
Exuma

WelcomeMs Genea Noel
Sunland High School
Grand Bahama

Remarks.....Ms Claire Green
Small Island Voice Initiative
UNESCO Paris

Remarks.....The Hon. Rajesh Bhagwan
Minister of The Environment & National Development
Chairman of The Alliance of Small Island States
Mauritius

Remarks.....The Hon. Neville Wisdom, MP
Minister of Youth, Sports & Culture

Declaration of Official OpeningThe Hon. Alfred M. Sears, MP
Minister of Education & Attorney General

Vote of Thanks.....Beverly J. T. Taylor
Assistant Director of Education
Science and Technology Section
Chairperson UNESCO Commission
Science & Technology Sub-Committee

YOUTH FOCUS

Bahamas 2004

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

- 4:00 p.m. Representation of Youth Focus Bahamas (2 delegates)
Discussion IV of the Interregional SIDS Meeting - Panel Discussion
"Promoting cultural diversity, developing cultural industries and
empowering youth".
- 7:00 p.m. REGISTRATION
Orientation (Group and Task Assignments)

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

- 9:30 a.m. Official Opening Ceremony
- 10:30 a.m. B R E A K
- 11:00 a.m. Discussion I Young People with a Global Perspective and
Economic Savvy
- Panel Discussion
Chair: Hank Ferguson – Ministry of Trade and Industry
Wendy Warren – Bahamas Financial Services
Harl Taylor – HARL TAYLOR BAG
Gabiella Frazer – Central Bank of The Bahamas
Ricardo Deveaux – Department of Housing
- 12:00 a.m. Cooperative Group Formulating Resolutions
- 1:00 p.m. L U N C H
- 2:00 p.m. Discussion II Island Lifestyles and Cultures
- Panel Discussion
Chair: Patricia Bazard – Ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture
John Cox – National Art Gallery
Dr. Francine Pinder – Princess Margaret Hospital
Terrance Fountain – Ministry of Health



3:00 p.m. Cooperative Group Formulating Resolutions
3:45 p.m. Wrap-up
4:00 p.m. End of Day
7:30 p.m. Cultural Exchange Government House

Thursday, January 29, 2004

9:00 a.m. Devotions
9:15 a.m. Discussion III Young People as Catalysts for Change
Panel Discussion
Chair: Phil Simon – Bahamas Chamber of Commerce
Kenred M.A. Dorsett – Lennox Paton Attorneys
Guershon Major – Mailboxes etc.
Dr. Derwin Munroe – Bayview Dental Centre
Omar Smith – ACE Building & Fencing
10:30 a.m. B R E A K
10:45 a.m. Discussion IV Safeguarding Our Island Environment
Panel Discussion
Chair: Stacy Moultrie – BEST Commission
Brendan Foulkes – Las Palmas Resort, Andros
Candice Key – Hope Town School, Abaco
Christian Henry – Island School, Eleuthera
11:30 a.m. Cooperative Group Formulating Resolutions
12:30 p.m. L U N C H
1:30 p.m. Plenary Session Completion of Youth Manifesto
2:30 p.m. Plenary Session The Way Forward
3:45 p.m. Rap Session
4:00 p.m. End of Day

Friday, January 30, 2004

10:00 a.m. Plenary Session Report of Youth Focus Bahamas 2004
Presentation of Youth Manifesto to the
Interregional SIDS Meeting – 2 YFB Delegates

VISIONS OF ABACO

*Lighthouses sing to the sailors
While parrots sing from the pines.
Spirited wild stallions roaming,
I envision this homeland of mine.*

*Long swells caress pristine beaches
From West End to Hole in the Wall
Sweet air and still sounds, they rest us,
Bonefish and billfish they call.*

*Warm folks all working together.
No stranger exists anywhere
With our free easy going existence,
We live life with hardly a care.*

*One visit will gently convince you
That Paradise lingers not far
The freedom of simple life greets you
Hook your dreams to the Abaco Star.*

Rebecca Risberg - Forest Heights Academy



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON

Beverly J. T. Taylor

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

Karen St. Cyr

COMMUNICATIONS

John Burrows

Christine Campbell

Alesha Hart

Karen St. Cyr

BACKDROP DESIGN

Edgar Arnett

GRAPHICS

Alexandra Hall

Carvel Francis

Patrick Yurgosky

FINANCE/ACCOUNTS

Angela Munnings

Hamblin Newbold

PARTICIPANTS LIASION

Patty Miller

Sharon Poitier

PRESENTORS/RESOURCE LIASION

Hank Ferguson

Beverly J. T. Taylor

Alexandra Hall

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Hank Ferguson

Avis Lightbourn

Keith Saunders

INTERNATIONAL DESK

Haldene Chase

Elise Delancy

Margaret Rolle

SECRETARIAT

Sharon Cleare

Deborah Higgs

Mavis Moore

Enith Taylor – Rolle

Iva Sawyer

Adgranna Scavella

Agatha Porter-Williams

THANK YOU

The United Nations Educational
Scientific Cultural Organization
(UNESCO)

Small Islands Voice

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

Ministry of Health

The Bahamas Environment Science and
Technology (BEST) Commission

Department of Housing

Ministry of Trade and Industry

Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture

National Art Gallery

Nature Conservatory

Bahamas Financial Services

Bahamas National Trust

Bayview Dental Centre

ACE Building and Fencing

Caribbean World Traders

Central Bank of The Bahamas

Bahamas Chamber of Commerce

Fire Brand Publishers

HARL TAYLOR BAG

The Island School

Las Palmas Resorts

Lennox Paton Attorneys

Mailboxes, etc

Princess Margaret Hospital

QuenCom Audio Visual

Rockey Farms Nursery

SuperClub Breezes

Swaby Print

THANK YOU ALL

Special Thanks

- YFB Participants • Resource Persons
- School Administrators • Parents
- District Superintendents
- UNESCO's Small Islands Voice
- Opening Ceremony Participants.



Photos Christine Campbell

A Production of
The Ministry of Education
Science & Technology Section

Sponsored in Partnership with the
UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)