



Contribution to the End of Decade Report on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010)

Ghana

Disclaimer: In resolution 64/80, the General Assembly requested UNESCO to prepare a summary report on the activities carried out over the past ten years of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World (2001-2010) by UNESCO, other United Nations entities, Member States and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to promote and implement the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace. This report will be presented to the United Nations General Assembly at its 65th session in 2010. This contribution towards this report was received from the Ghana National Commission for UNESCO. The contents of this document are those of the author(s) and the opinions expressed therein are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization.

Model UNESCO General Conference

It was organized at the Parliament House of Ghana, for youth in Secondary and Tertiary institutions on 17th November, 2008, the Model General Conference formed major part of the programme on the need for tolerance and the culture of peace needed during and after the 2008 elections in Ghana. The Model General Conference had as main theme: "Fostering Tolerance and Peace among Nations – the role of the Youth. Anchored in this broad theme were four subthemes which emerged the diverse debates:

- Promoting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogue (a useful tool for eliminating stereotypes and prejudices among people of varied religions and cultures)
- Learning to live together which way for the youth (education for shared values and social cohesion for peaceful co-existence)
- Empowering the youth for Sustainable Development (building the capacity of the youth towards sustainable development)
- Towards peaceful elections 2008 in Ghana the role of the youth (avoiding acts of violence and indecency that could lead to chaos during and after the elections of 2008)

After the event the National Broadcasting Service (GBC) with nationwide coverage telecasted in on its widely viewed youth programme

To us the youth were the most vulnerable to be mobilized to cause mayhem and trouble in such times and therefore needed to hear such messages from their own colleagues calling for peace, tolerance and non-violence..