



## Launching the Report of the 1st Edition Biennale for the Culture of Peace



# Youth Webinar Report

## Introduction

On the 16 July 2020, UNESCO Priority Africa and External Relations organized the webinar under the subject of "Launching the Report of the First Edition Biennale for the Culture of Peace." It provided a platform to present, launch, and facilitate the conversation with young participants on the outcome and follow-up around the First Edition Biennale for the Culture of Peace.

The webinar gathered over 89 participants via Zoom and a higher number (350) of viewers through live streaming on social media platforms.

**Ms. Zulmira Rodrigues**, Chief Section for Cooperation with African Regional Organization; Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO, Coordinator of Forum of Ideas for the 1st Edition of the Biennale for the Culture of Peace was the lead facilitator of the webinar. She welcomed all participants to the session and thanked everyone for taking the time to partake in the webinar. She announced that although the Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations of UNESCO ADG/PAX, Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko, could not join the webinar in real-time, he had sent in a video for the opening session.

## Opening Remarks

**Mr. Firmin Edouard Matoko**, Assistant Director General for Priority Africa and External Relations of UNESCO ADG/PAX, through a pre-recorded video,

- welcomed everyone to the session designed to launch the report of the Biennale of Luanda, with young participants.
- expressed his deep appreciation for the intellectual contributions, the organization and for the implementation of the Biennale, which brought together very important personalities and stakeholders especially the youth, as it dealt on very important issues like sustainable peace in the African Continent.
- Reiterating UNESCO's recognition of the commitment of the African Youth to the building of peace and a culture of peace in Africa, he acknowledged the importance of youth engagement for the development of Africa, and stated that UNESCO values highly the engagement and contribution of youth, as most of the recommendations of the Youth forum, contained in the final report, will be implemented with UNESCO's support.
- Finally, he thanked Mfrekeobong Ukpanah who was representing the African Union Commission; Ekene Johnpaul Ikwelle, Chairperson of Pan-African Youth Network for a Culture of Peace (PAYNCoP) for working with UNESCO to support the youth network; Fadwa Gmiden, Co-Chairperson of PAYNCoP for accepting to be a moderator of the session; and UNESCO

colleagues from UNESCO PAX who worked hard to organize the webinar. He also appreciated **Ms. Angela Melo**, Director - Policies and Programmes, Social and Human Sciences sector, UNESCO, for accompanying the team to organize the webinar.

Taking the floor, **Ms Mfrekeobong Ukpanah**, Coordinator of the Youth4Peace Programme at the African Union Commission (AUC), who spoke on behalf of the leadership of AUC especially Amb. Smail Chergui, the Commissioner for Peace and Security, welcomed everyone to the webinar and thanked Mr. Firmin Matoko, UNESCO ADG/PAX, for the continuous reassurance of the commitment of our leaders to put young people at the center of peace, security and development agenda.

- She appreciated the leadership of the African Union (AU) for the commitment and dedication to creating safe spaces and opportunities for the meaningful engagement of youth, starting with the appointment of the AU Youth Envoy and five regional African Youth Ambassadors for Peace (AYAPs).
- She stated that the webinar happened within same week of major achievements on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) recorded within the continent and the globe. The AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) had adopted the continental framework on Youth, Peace and Security and its 10-year implementation plan jointly developed with the Regional Economic Councils (RECs/RMs) and young peacebuilders across the continent, providing the blueprint to foster inclusivity of youth in all areas of peace & security. The United Nations Security Council had also adopted the UNSCR 2535, the third of its kind, which advocates for the protection of young peace builders.
- She stated that these frameworks resonated with key aspects of the recommendations by youth at the Luanda Biennale especially on the study on development and implementation of National Action Plans (NAP) on YPS as well as vocational and entrepreneurship opportunities across AU member states.
- She also stated that the AU Youth4Peace program in collaboration Economic Commission for West African States (ECOWAS) was already providing support for the development of the NAP in Nigeria as well as advocacy for the appointment of a YPS focal person at all national levels.
- Finally, she encouraged the youth to capitalize on the moment occasioned by the continental and global outpour of commitment to YPS agenda to aptly reposition to make the much-needed change and contribute to the promotion of sustainable peace and security and silencing the guns on the continent.

**Mr John Paul Ekene Ikwelle**, Chairperson at the Pan-African Youth Network for a Culture of Peace (PAYNCoP), thanked everyone for joining the webinar designed for young people specifically, but to also launch the report of the Biennale of Luanda.

- Thanked young people for their continuous engagement online and offline to ensure that they kept their commitment of ensuring that the “Youth, Peace and Security” and “Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship” become the main stay of the development programs of not only partners like UNESCO and AU but also government institutions.
- Appreciated UNESCO on meaningful youth engagement especially on co-designing and co-creation, emphasized the impressive nature of the journey so far, and urged UNESCO to continue to support PAYNCoP and several other youth-led organizations going forward especially as PAYNCoP has begun to get into the next level of Leadership.
- Also thanked the African Union especially Mfrekeobong Ukpanah and her team for the dedicated to Youth, Peace and Security, emphasized the humble beginnings of the engagement and the tremendous successes recorded so far, and assured the AU Youth4Peace program of the readiness of young people to do their part.
- Invited everyone once to take active part in the discussions as he looked forward to an engaging session.

## Part 1: Introduction and Objectives of the Webinar

**Ms. Zulmira Rodrigues**, Chief Section for Cooperation with African Regional Organization, Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO; Coordinator Forum of Ideas of the 1st Edition of the Biennale for the Culture of Peace, expressed her delight at being able to join the webinar to exchange on how to move forward the ambitious agenda of promoting peace and security in Africa. She reminded all participants of the challenges of COVID-19 in Africa and around the world, and its impacts on the work of everyone on peace and security, as well as the new challenges brought forward by the pandemic.

Presenting the report of the Biennale of Luanda (BoL) which could be found in English, French and Portuguese, she reiterated the comprehensive nature of the report, and its importance in the drive for the implementation of the recommendations of the Biennale. She mentioned that

- the Presidents of Angola, Namibia and Mali; the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC); the DG of UNESCO; and 2018 Nobel Peace Laureate, Dr Dennis Mukwege, attended the opening ceremony of the Biennale, with more than 900 participants for that ceremony alone. The Partners forum had three sessions featuring 20 panelists and personalities Didier Drogba; A'Salfo and Alphadi, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors; and many others.
- The report of Biennale of Luanda gives insights into the forums that took place during the Biennale like the Youth Forum, Forum of ideas, Women Forum, Partners Forum, and the Festival of Cultures as well as the synopsis of the interventions of all panellists and experts.
- The report also reflected the two outcomes of the Biennale as presented during the closing ceremony – the recommendations from the Forum of ideas, and the Youth Forum.
- Invited all participants to read the report, use it in their daily work and disseminate it as it is truly comprehensive, and expressed the willingness of UNESCO to accept feedbacks on how best to improve the Biennale of Luanda.
- Launched the report officially at the end of her intervention; introduced the important need for a mechanism to monitor the implementation of the recommendations especially that from the Youth Forum; mentioned that another webinar is envisaged in six months to discuss the state of affairs, and that a survey would be launched shortly after the webinar to gather feedbacks on the first edition of the Biennale of Luanda; stated that two other surveys would be launched in six months from this webinar, and one or two months from the next Biennale; and informed of the intention to organize another webinar one month before the second edition of the Biennale of Luanda, as soon as the dates is confirmed.

## Part 2: Monitoring the Implementation of the Youth Commitment -mechanism for monitoring

**Mr, Ekene Johnpaul Ikwelle**, Chairperson of PAYNCoP, took the floor to make a Presentation of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the Ad-hoc committee, and the list of nominees for its membership.

- Gave a background of how the outcome of the youth forum was transformed from a Youth Statement produced online before the Biennale, to a Youth Commitment which emanated from the robust discussions that happened during the Youth Forum of the Biennale of Luanda, and was designed to show the willingness of young people to play their role in the development of our continent, Africa.
- Presented the general concepts of the Ad-hoc committee from the purpose to the term, the criteria for selection of members, roles and responsibilities, key deliverables, mode of meetings and decision making, accountability and review strategies, et cetera.
- Presented the proposed list and profile of members for the Ad-hoc committee.
- Called for questions, contributions and endorsement of the Terms of Reference and List of members of the Ad-hoc Committee as proposed.

### **Questions and Contributions –**

**Loic Nkulu, from Cameroon** – thanked Ekene for the work done in the preparation of the documents for the Ad-hoc committee, the general engagement of youth, and the proposals made, describing the work done as very massive. However, he wondered why the PAYNCoP Board was not consulted on the proposal of the list of members, and wanted to confirm if PAYNCoP was the lead organization for the engagements.

**Joseph Ilunga, from DR Congo** – thanked all those who had worked hard to put together the webinar, apologized for his absence at the Biennale of Luanda which was a result of protocol issues, and stated that he had continued to closely follow the engagements remotely. He expressed concerns for the effectiveness of the Ad-hoc Committee as it appeared that no resources have been put at its disposal. He also asked for clarification on the criteria used for the nomination of the eleven (11) names proposed for the Ad-hoc committee, as it would appear that there is no geographical balance. He called for a debate to find out if it was necessary for the Ad-hoc committee to be adopted at this webinar, and stated that he felt it was necessary for people to put themselves forward as candidates.

**Ibrahim Abdou from Niger** – thanked everyone who had worked to put together webinar, appreciated the design that allowed for deep conversations, and expressed his delight at the opportunity to meet everyone especially with the challenges of COVID-19. He inquired deeply about the basis for the setup of the Ad-hoc committee, and the criteria for the selection of its members.

### **Feedbacks to the Questions and Contributions –**

Responding to the question on the consultation of the PAYNCoP Board on the nomination, **Mr Ekene Ikwelle** stated that PAYNCoP and several other organizations took part in the Biennale of Luanda, and the consultation done was focused on the participants of the Biennale, as they are those who drafted and adopted the Youth Commitment. He informed the audience that the proposed list of members was made of PAYNCoP and other youth-led organization with PAYNCoP leading the coordination, which aligned with spirit of Luanda. He reiterated that the Ad-hoc committee and all youth participants of the Biennale would work together to push for the implementation of the commitments, emphasizing that the underlying strategy was to co-plan and co-create, co-design and co-implement the outcomes of the Youth Forum. He invited Ms Zulmira to give further insights into the criteria and selection process of the Ad-hoc committee.

Taking the floor, **Ms Zulmira Rodrigues** thanked Ekene and informed the participants that the documents were submitted to participants for comments which would still be welcomed until 24 July 2020. She stated that the concept was to propose a structure that respected the diversity already in existence through the period of the Biennale, emphasized that PAYNCoP is charged with the leadership and coordination of the Ad-hoc committee, with other organizations as members since the Biennale had lined up with several youth groups, across Africa. She stated that the structure was designed to accommodate the six (6) regions of Africa including the Diaspora; the AUC as they were strategic partners; small island states; and Host country, Angola, and emphasized the consideration for gender balance as 55% of the members proposed were young female Africans. She informed the participants that with regards to the individuals proposed, several factors were considered including the quality of engagement during the Biennale, and the area of expertise taking into consideration a balance between the thematic issues of Peace and Security, and Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship. She noted that there was an additional list of eighteen (18) young people who were considered using the criteria and basis already explained, before the eleven (11) young people being proposed.

### **Adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Ad-hoc Committee and List of members**

As there were no objections, disagreements and further questions from the participants, the terms of reference and members of the Ad-hoc committee were adopted unanimously by everyone on the webinar in principle, and Launched, and a small window for minor adjustments until 24 July 2020, was accepted.

### Part 3: Status of the implementation: reflection on actions undertaken since the Biennale

**Ms Fadwa Gmiden**, Co-Chairperson of the Pan-African Youth Network for Culture of Peace (PAYNCoP), thanked all the institutions that came together to put the webinar together, and stated that the intention was to get an idea on the level and scope of interventions that each one individually or as an organization have thought to implement in order to bring the recommendations of the youth forum into actions. She welcomed everyone to join the conversation guided by the selected recommendations and the pre-developed questions below:

#### **Recommendation 1: To appropriate these normative instruments and popularize them among young people of our different countries**

##### Discussion Questions:

- What has been done to popularize /disseminate UN Resolutions 2250 and 2419 and Article 17 to the AU Youth Charter among peers, youth organizations and Government entities?
- What were the challenges and opportunities encountered?
- How to improve and move forward?

##### Interventions Made:

**Christian Achaleke, from Cameroon**, stated that young people have begun to work in coalitions like in Cameroon where there is a national coalition on youth, peace and security that is made up of not only youth organizations, but also institutional and organizational partners. This coalition has helped different stakeholders to understand and provide evidence on why investments in peace and security are necessary and on how young people can participate in policymaking and lead the drive for change. He stated that to facilitate the dissemination of UNSCR 2419, young people had put together a Young Mediators Network with the aim to find ways to involve youth in formal and informal peace processes, and this was supported by the African Union Commission, UNESCO Regional Office in Yaoundé which supported financially, the UN country office and the government. He stated that the strategy used was peer-to-peer and cited the relevance of having a network of youth mediators recognized by the state to facilitate partnerships development as well as initiate national dialogues by working closely with the different stakeholders. He emphasized the importance of having young people as front liners by providing the necessary support and capacity building for meaningful engagement in Peace & security matters.

**Joseph Ilunga from DR Congo**, shared an initiative on the dissemination of UNSCR 2250 and 2419 with focus on meaningful youth engagement which was supported by several government institutions including the ministry of youth. He stated that the aim of the project was to train young people at the local level as a pillar to reduce the number of enrolment of young people into armed groups, and informed the audience that due to the spread of COVID-19, it became possible to continue with the project. He solicited support from institutions such as African Union, UNESCO and other relevant UN agencies, to facilitate the re-launch of the project amidst the current pandemic events.

**Traore Kadidiatou Sako from Mali** stated that her organization had worked and continue to work on raising awareness about the importance of youth in peace and security amidst the current conflicts in Mali. She stated that they have tried to build support from institutions and international organizations to accompany their work by mobilizing marginalized youth to embrace non-violent actions rather than violent acts, to express their frustrations. She recommended that there was a need for specialized training and partnerships to be able to popularize and disseminate these resolutions especially at the local level.

**Recommendation 5: To encourage a culture of resilience, autonomy, solidarity, and sharing, notably through the creation of platforms and the participation of the youth in forums of entrepreneurship**

Discussion Question:

- COVID-19 pandemic has pushed people to seek digitized means and platforms to engage and find solutions for delivery and access to services. How can we extend these emerging platforms to be more than a way to cope with a global crisis by being an inclusive alternative for youth so they can learn, empower, and participate in building an entrepreneurial and creative sphere?

Interventions Made:

**Victorino Mathias Nguama from Angola**, emphasized the importance of thinking globally but acting locally as was the experience of the PAYNCoP team in Angola. He stated that before COVID-19 became a huge challenge, the Youth Council of Angola worked together on a project of 7 teams that engaged over 7500 young people to work on disseminating and sharing information with communities throughout the country on prevention methods with regards to COVID-19 pandemic. Sharing the experience of the project, he stated that it was not easy to encourage young volunteers to go mobile in local communities during the pandemic especially with the lack of resources noticed, but that the project was a success due to the hard work of all the young volunteers who took part. He informed participants that they were able to form an initiative that can be replicated in different countries relying on the UN resolutions.

**Akwasi Sarpong from Ghana** stated that his team created a platform to receive the ideas and projects of youth to solve the challenges at the point of the COVID-19. He also shared the Civic Care project who engaged young people in Ghana, to voice out the opinions with regards to the challenges they face and inspired them to take actions. He stated that these young people were able to drive a force in spreading awareness and taking actions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the platform can be reproduced for different thematic such as violence and different aspects such as cultural and innovation platforms, as any collaborative hub or effort embarked upon by youth can tackle the different challenges that they face on a local and continental level.

**Zaheer Allam from Mauritius** stated that although COVID-19 disrupted lives on the urban, local and regional landscape, it availed an opportunity for a lot of initiatives to emerge especially those that has enabled a lot of changes in local economies through the use of technologies. He advised that beyond COVID-19, young people and institutions must look at technology as an enabler for small businesses, and provide youth with the necessary capacity to be able to launch businesses that are future proof, learning from the COVID-19 experience. He recommended that there was a huge need for government to support long term works on these projects and access to resources; a need to create technology-related policies to enable entrepreneurship as an accelerator for local economies; and a need to study the different initiatives launched during COVID-19 and extract new mechanisms for creating and launching more robust businesses that can be fluid with regards to local and global events by having partnerships with private, public, and educational systems.

**Recommendation 6: To engage, monitor and follow up on the status of youth employment and their careers along with their employability**

Discussion Question:

- What mechanisms have been or can be established to monitor and support employment creation?

Interventions Made:

**Joseph Ilunga from DR Congo** stated it was important for young people to work together on a mechanism to study market as a way of research. He emphasized that there is a need to understand what trainings young people are getting, and for what purpose so that it becomes much more about being active contributors to job creation and work generally, than about diplomas.

**Maxwell Katekwe from Zimbabwe** advised on the need for an apprenticeship or attachment scheme where young people are placed under a more experienced professional in their field of interests, to enable knowledge transfer and capacity building. He stated that his team had successfully tried a similar initiative in Zimbabwe. He recommended that it was important to start a debate to identify the challenges regarding youth employment and seek ways to help youth to have the education and skills needed for the job market.

**Abigail Yavana Stevens from Sierra Leone** intervened through the chat. She stated that her team had built the capacity of over 100 skilled and unskilled youth, on entrepreneurship development, Agriculture and provided micro grants support to promote and expand their businesses. She stated that they engaged the Government through the Ministry of Youth Affairs and National Youth Commission which led to the creation of employment facilities for thousands of young people such as car wash facilities, youth-led community farms et cetera. She informed the participants that her organization has also embarked on advocacy for a TVET policy for youth and people living with disabilities. She stated that they have employed thousands of youth in the Graduate internship programs/ placement or national youth services, and that a lot of young people had gained employment in institutions while lobbying government and private sectors to support other young entrepreneurs.

**Recommendation 3 and 9: To expand our partnerships with the private sector and other partners, to implement projects and programs in respect to these normative instruments, and support activities for innovative tools for building entrepreneurship, resilience, and creativity including the use of fiscal mechanisms**

Discussion Question:

- Which partners have you been able to mobilize among private sector, bilateral and multilateral entities as well as government bodies to improve dissemination and popularization of the peace and security instruments?
- Which partners have you been able to mobilize among private sector, bilateral and multilateral entities as well as government bodies to improve adoption and expansion of programs aiming at expand youth employability through entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation?
- What were the challenges and opportunities encountered?

Interventions Made:

**Whitney Achieng from Uganda**, stated that her team work on a project which focused on transport safety or red zones during the COVID-19 pandemic, in order to help ease the difficulty traders faced when crossing from Uganda to Kenya. She stated that it was still a challenge to get government institutions to approve the solution, which could potentially reduce time-lost for traders by up to 60%.

**Zaheer Allam from Mauritius** emphasized on the need to negotiate with governments for fiscal benefits for the private sector as incentives to build partnerships. He stated that there was also a need for regional based policies for fiscal support.

**Kane Oumou from Mauritania** stated that her organization had partnered with the American embassy to bring together all Mauritanian Alumni to discuss and design projects that align with the thematic areas under discussion, because without peace, no one can talk about entrepreneurship and innovation.

The following are the important feedback received under this question –

- For youth related projects in both Peace & security and Entrepreneurship, it is essential to get on board the private and the public sectors as partners and collaborators, not only for financial reasons, but also for creating the necessary knowledge base and procedures that will allow successful implementation.
- It is essential to link Peace & security and Entrepreneurship and Employment in a clear manner as one cannot exist without the other and to look at partnerships from both angles.
- Its quintessential to encourage youth to bring up their ideas and initiatives and to be able to mentor and support not only by financial means but also by education.

Discussion Question:

- What kind of channels can we explore to link Youth organizations with Private sector operatives, relevant regional and sub-regional as well as other non- and governmental entities to encourage partnerships?

Interventions Made:

**Akwasi Sarpong from Ghana** stated that to meaningfully build partnerships, youth organization must conduct a stakeholder mapping exercise across all sectors, and get the potential partners to make a youth civic engagement pledge, which is a sort of commitment to support the initiatives of young people. It becomes sustainable if the partners add those commitments to their corporate social responsibilities.

**Victorino Mathias Nguama from Angola** stated that one of the initiatives led by youth in the country began in form of discussions and meetings with governmental bodies to work on proper channels based on regulations and policies to regulate the development of partnerships, and that similar strategy could be employed. He emphasized the need to facilitate dialogues among and with young people.

Important Feedback - Partnerships are always two-way relationships, hence it is important to project the support needed but also what is going to be provided to partners.

Discussion Question:

- How best could we engage UNESCO, other relevant UN agencies, AUC, RECs, and other partners to drive implementation of this commitment?

Interventions Made:

**Joseph Ilunga from DR Congo** stated that he would want young people to set a framework of dialogue with all these institutions in order to drive the implementation of the youth commitment.

**Mfrekeobong Ukpanah from AUC** stated that the African Union Commission is committed to support the process towards the implementation of the Biennale outcomes as they were part and parcel of the forum. She emphasized the need for a bilateral conversation between the Youth4Peace program and UNESCO, especially since there were earlier discussions around these, including the support of the projects pitched by young people before the forum. She recommended that the regional economic entities be brought to the table, as it would facilitate easier implementation of peace & security projects.

**The COVID-19 Reality Check**

Discussion Question:

- How has COVID 19 impacted on the implementation of the recommendations from the Biennale?



- Has COVID 19 resulted in an increase in conflicts or violence on the continent and in particular to young people?

#### Interventions Made:

**Ekene Johnpaul Ikwelle from Nigeria**, stated that PAYNCoP was initially designing a strategy for the research on the implementation of the normative frameworks across AU members, but that COVID-19 brought things to a halt. He stated that it was important to make sure that no one is left behind in the implementation of the recommendations especially those who do not have access to technological tools. He emphasized the importance of linking up with several other initiatives like the Youth Global Community of Practice (YCoP) which came out of the 11<sup>th</sup> UNESCO Youth Forum, the Banjul forum plans, the youth civic engagement program, and other frameworks, to create synergies between different actors and build local and global reach. He informed participants of the importance of co-designing, co-creation and co-implementation of projects as the strategy ensures everyone is carried along. He urged participants to find ways to foster local or community level engagement even as they completely embrace technological means going forward.

#### Contributions

**Ms Zulmira Rodrigues** recommended that it was important to consider the development of a mechanism where stories of initiatives executed by youth and other stakeholders could be compiled and shared on a webpage or any platform. She stated that from the feedback received during the session, there were strong evidence of creativity, innovation, bold actions and best practices already going on across board despite the challenges, and that it was important to consider ways to gather information on them. She acknowledged the invitation from Ms Mfrekeobong to the UNESCO team for a bilateral conversation with the AU Youth4Peace program, and assured that they would engage in that conversation. She also informed the participants that the AUC Chairperson and UNESCO DG had signed an agreement to reactivate the “Joint Commission”.

Mr. **Vincenzo Fazzino**, the International Coordinator of the Biennale of Luanda, thanked all participants for taking part in the conversation, and expressed his gladness at the huge number of participants at the webinar. He acknowledged that the youth forum was an important highlight of the Biennale of Luanda, and was prepared well ahead of the Biennale through the various online forums organized by youth for youth before the forum proper. He stated that this conversation organized as a webinar should be the starting point of a number of other conversations that would be held before the next Biennale of Luanda. For Mr. Fazzino, the strategy of co-building each iteration of the Biennale is the right strategy to employ going forward, using tools that young people are well versed in. He reiterated the dynamism of several youth-led organizations evident in the feedbacks provided, and emphasized the importance of sharing and learning from those experiences during the next Biennale. Extending his appreciation, he expressed his optimism at working with young people to make the next edition of Biennale better.

#### Summary and closing speech

**Ms. Angela Melo**, Director for Policies and Programmes, Social and Human Sciences sector, UNESCO, thanked everyone on the webinar, and commended the organizing team for conveying the very rich discussions, to review progress made towards the implementation of the recommendations from the Biennale of Luanda. She stated that this review came at a time when the world was dealing with the issues associated with the COVID-19 pandemic which has not only created a lot of disruptions around the world, but also created opportunities for the engagement of young men and women. She noted that young people have tapped into their creativity and stepped up to support their communities in several ways, and encouraged young people to continue doing the amazing work, assuring them of UNESCO's support. She emphasized that the UNSCR 2535 which was adopted the week before the webinar, is linked to UNESCO's commitment to supporting young people as agents of change, as articulated in the UNESCO operational Strategy on Youth 2014 – 2021, and in the plan of UNESCO social and human sciences (SHS)

to create a Youth Global Community of Practice (YCoP). She informed the participants that Peace and the culture of Peace is not an event, but a way of life, and she also brought forward the following important outcomes for the webinar:

- There is a need to develop a bridge between the results of the Biennale of Luanda, and existing frameworks on peace and security, on youth and peace interventions, as Ms Mfrekeobong already mentioned during her interventions. These conversations must be seen as a process rather than an event. As the UN Secretary General had expressed the intention to develop civic spaces for youth organizations, it becomes an opportunity for all participants to engage meaningfully and effectively to make the Biennale one of Africa's youth space. This should be pushed and the Biennale of Luanda should connect to these other processes.
- The Youth ad-hoc committee has been launched to facilitate a follow-up of these recommendations by youth. Part of the criteria noticed is the recognition of Small Island Developing States (SIDs) which is important for engagement within UNESCO, and invited everyone to take part in the Master Class on Black Lives Matter slated for 23 July 2020.
- The important aspect of co-creation, co-designing and co-planning towards the next Biennale of Luanda.
- The operational strategy on youth demands a change in mind-set as youth can no longer be seen as beneficiaries of UNESCO's programs but as actors, partners and leaders of change.
- While the need for more support from Institutions like UNESCO, AUC, RECs et cetera, is acknowledged, an important item that young people must consider is "What they would offer to these institutions". UNESCO PAX could consider organizing another webinar on partnership to facilitate these, and young people could consider developing a framework for the follow-up of the recommendations besides the Action Plan.