

SOMALILAND YOUTH FORUM (SYF)

Somaliland Youth Forum (SYF) is a non profit, non partisan and humanitarian forum for all young people in Somaliland. It exists to promote democratic principles based on full participation, respect to fundamental human freedoms, dignity and improved quality of life for the youth in the country.

VISION

Through the transformation of the education system and youth services SYF strives for a better Somaliland where the youth enjoy their rights and dignity and are able to participate fully in all levels of decision making and social Development.

GOALS

In order to realize our vision and mission SYF will advocate for public policies that support the vital role of the youth in our society and address the key issues that concern the youth

in Somaliland today.

VALUES

Our values are teamwork, quality services, inclusion and care. SYF is endeavoring to build strong and broad based capacity for under privileged and marginalized youth through training and provision of new skills. This will be achieved through the establishment of effective partnership and networking as well as increasing awareness, coordination and advancing youth opportunities in terms of education, employment, socio-economic and political development in Somaliland.

OBJECTIVES

- To lobby for the recognition of Somaliland.
- To encourage the youth to take part in peace building, conflict resolution and decision making in all levels.
- To promote youth services and enhance recreational activities.
- To develop child rights awareness programs.
- To create and support vocational training and income generation activities.
- To promote good governance and

respect to the rule of law.



ACTIVITIES

Some of the main activities of the SYF include:

1. *Promoting youth participation in social and political decision making.*
2. *Advocating for the improvement of the education system and access to secondary and university education.*
3. *Raising awareness about the spread of HIV/Aids among the youth.*
4. *Highlighting gender imbalance in the education system.*
5. *Promoting for the provision of recreational and leisure activities for the youth.*
6. *Promoting child rights.*



YOUTH INCLUSION

Enabling the youth to participate in the decision making is considered to be imperative because the future of the country would depend on today's youth. Indeed, SYF strongly believes that any nation that does not value its youth by equipping them to take their vital role in the society will be left behind by other nations.

This point has been emphasized by the former UN Secretary General Mr. Koffi Anan, when he noted;

".... A society that cuts itself off from its youthis condemned to bleed to

death"

YOUTH SERVICE

SYF feels that providing youth service will promote and encourage the social, cultural, emotional, spiritual and physical development of young people who will in turn contribute to their local communities and to the society as a whole. Youth service aims to deliver social education which enables young people to develop interests and learn ways of using their leisure time to acquire new skills; build confidence and self esteem; cope with changes in their lives and make their own decisions.

EDUCATION

SYF recognizes that education is the key to success and hence our young people should be provided with:

- ✓ Free and compulsory primary and/or basic education.
- ✓ Free access to secondary education in its different forms.
- ✓ Access to vocational training to make young people employable.
- ✓ University education should be optional but poor students should

get it free.
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