

**Joint Appeal**  
*from the participants of the*  
*International Youth Forum of Peace and Trust*

We, the participants of the International Youth Forum of Peace and Trust, held in Ashgabat on 29 March 2021 in a video-conference format, and organized jointly by the Government of Turkmenistan and the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Turkmenistan:

*Implementing* the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 73/338 of September 12, 2019, which proclaimed 2021 as the International Year of Peace and Trust to mobilize the international community in promoting a culture of peace and trust in relations between states, strengthen political dialogue based on mutual understanding and cooperation, and achieve sustainable peace, solidarity and harmony,

*Recalling* United Nations Security Council resolution 2419 (2018) of 6 June 2018 on youth, peace and security, in which the Council reaffirmed the important role that youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts,

*Recalling* further United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which for the first time the Assembly recognized children and youth as agents of change, and recognizing that the Sustainable Development Goals are integrated, indivisible and global in nature, and therefore that all of them apply to youth,

*Recognizing* the importance of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 September 1999, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

*Recognizing also* the need to continuously engage young people in all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, mediation, the prevention of conflicts, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law and gender equality at the national and international levels, that contribute greatly to a culture of peace,

*Expressing* gratitude to the Government of Turkmenistan and the relevant United Nations agencies for the high level of organization of the International Youth Forum for Peace and Trust,

*Call on the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum to be held on 7 and 8 April 2021:*

*To strengthen further* the global movement for a culture of peace and trust following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and initiate a *new International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Trust;*

*To call* the national governments to continue to place greater emphasis on inclusion of youth organizations and associations in their activities in fostering a culture of peace and trust at all levels;

*To encourage* international community to increase activities on peace education and global citizenship education to enhance an understanding among young people of values such as peace, trust, openness, inclusion and mutual respect, which are essential in developing a culture of peace, as well as providing age-appropriate education in schools that builds a culture of peace and non-violence, including lessons in mutual understanding, respect and tolerance,

*To welcome* the initiative of the Government of Turkmenistan to regularly convene the International Forums of Peace and Trust in order to provide youth with the necessary institutional platform for promoting peace and trust through intercultural and interreligious dialogue, understanding and cooperation.

*Ashgabat, 29 March 2021*