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**Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change (LCOY) in Turkmenistan**

**Concept Note**

*Scheduled date:* ***Tuesday, 25 October, 2022, 09:00-15:00 (Ashgabat time)***

*Venue:* ***International University for Humanities and Development (IUHD), Ashgabat***

*Languages:* ***Turkmen and Russian***

The British Embassy in Turkmenistan, together with the United Nations in Turkmenistan and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, collaboratively ran Turkmenistan’s first-ever youth climate change conference in 2021. The young people of Turkmenistan came together to build their capacity and share experience on environmental issues, look for a pathway to combat climate change and find new ways to be involved.

Building on the successes of 2021, this year’s event will be officially endorsed and supported by YOUNGO (The Official Youth Constituency of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)).

The conference will be organised in hybrid mode, to welcome young delegates from all regions of Turkmenistan, such as members of Youth Organisation of Turkmenistan, current and previous cohorts of young SDG Ambassadors in Turkmenistan, university students, current students and graduates of UNRCCA Preventive Diplomacy Academy and other young climate activists.

The aim of the event is to highlight the role of the younger generation as a key partner in the fight against climate change and inspire young people of Turkmenistan to get actively involved in climate change campaigning, train youth and build their capacity for climate action, as well as to discuss and debate major climate change issues that affect Turkmenistan and ways to resolve them.

The one-day conference will include presentations and seminars from leading experts, young activists and politicians. This year's themes include challenges posed by climate change; green, sustainable and modern energy; food security and sustainable agriculture; sustainable consumption and production patterns; and environmental education and upbringing, gender equality and climate change.

As a result, the participating youth will focus on climate related topics that have high national importance, discuss and develop respective outputs, which will be then fed into the Global Youth Climate Conference 2022 (COY17) and, consequently, into the climate negotiations at the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27).

**OBJECTIVES:**

* To provide a space for young people to share knowledge, raise awareness and empower local youth to advocate for national actions to address climate change in Turkmenistan;
* To evaluate and report on activities that were planned in the Roadmap of Turkmenistan Youth Climate Change Conference in 2021;
* To develop common policy positions and strategies to best advocate for the interests of youth;
* To empower young people to take active climate action at local and national levels, bring their voices to the processes of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to shape intergovernmental climate change policies;
* To promote the involvement of youth to make their voices, recommendations and demands heard to state leaders and decision makers;
* To ensure meaningful youth participation and representation in future multilateral, national and local decision-making processes;
* To build the capacities of young climate leaders of Turkmenistan through additional training and education to broaden their perspective on the ongoing climate change action and sustainable development;
* To foster meaningful relationships between young climate leaders, government and other key stakeholders in the formation and implementation of climate change policies.

**FINAL OUTPUTS:**

Assessment of progress of implemented activities since the first-ever youth climate change conference back in 2021 in Ashgabat (<https://www.lcoy.earth/lcoy-2021/lcoy-turkmenistan-2021>);

* Final Proposal of Youth Initiatives in Turkmenistan (Youth Statement that reflects the demands of the youth of Turkmenistan and captures the views of youth participants on UNFCCC processes, national policy issues, or other topics related to climate change in Turkmenistan and the world) and the Final Report are both developed, submitted to, and contribute to COY17 and the official global YOUNGO position at COP27 in 2022;
* Local networks strengthened and a functioning network of highly motivated youth activists on climate change in Turkmenistan is created and supported;
* More young people as well as policy makers in Turkmenistan know about climate crisis and the role of youth in tackling it.

**PARTICIPANTS (IN PERSON AND ONLINE):**

* Young people representing all regions of the country through the Youth Organisation of Turkmenistan (gender balanced);
* Previous and current cohorts of young SDG Ambassadors;
* Previous and current cohorts of UNRCCA Preventive Diplomacy Academy;
* Students from the following universities in Turkmenistan for in person and online participation. **20 participants from each university (gender balanced)**:

1. *Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan*
2. *International University for Humanities and Development*
3. *Turkmen State University named after Magtymguly*
4. *Oguz Han Engineering and Technology University of Turkmenistan*
5. *State Electrical Energy Institute of Turkmenistan*
6. *Turkmen State Institute of Architecture and Construction*
7. *Turkmen Agricultural University Named after S.A.Niyazov*
8. *Turkmen State Pedagogical Institute named after Seyitnazar Seydi*
9. *International Oil and Gas University*
10. *Turkmen Agricultural Institute in Dashoguz*

* Young eco and climate activists;
* UN Agencies in Turkmenistan;
* British Embassy in Turkmenistan;
* National partners, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, State Committee for Water Management, Ministry of Sport and Youth Policy, Youth Organisation of Turkmenistan, climate change and environment protection experts, representatives of foreign diplomatic missions, NGOs and others;
* Chairperson and representatives of the Central Council of the Youth Organization of Turkmenistan;
* Media representatives and journalists.

*Appendix 2*

**Local Conference of Youth on Climate Change (LCOY) in Turkmenistan**

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

**October 25, 2022**

***Venue:*** *International University for the Humanities and Development (IUHD) (hybrid format)*

***Connecting details:*** *tbc*

***Meeting ID:*** *tbc*

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| **Time** | **Agenda item** | **Moderator** |
| **8.30-9.00** | Arrival of physical participants to the venue; Log-in to Zoom and checking of connection/IT equipment |  |
| **Session 1** | **Opening session** |  |
| **9.00-9.30** | * **Mr Esen Aydogdyyev**, Rector of the International University for Humanities and Development (IUHD) * **Ms Gurbangul Atayeva**, Minister of Education of Turkmenistan * **Mr Magtymguly Akmuradov**, Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan * **Mr Dmitry Shlapachenko**, UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan * **Ms Lucia Wilde,** His Majesty’s Ambassador to Turkmenistan | **Esen Aydogdyyev**, IUHD Rector |
| **Session 2** | **Keynote session:** |  |
| **9.30–10.45** | **- Ms Jayathma Wickramanayake**, the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth (video message)  **- Ms Elizabeth Gulugulu,** Environmental Scientist, Climate Change Activist and YOUNGO Global South Focal Point(video message)  **- Mr David Moran**, UK Government’s COP26 Regional Ambassador for Europe, Central Asia, Turkey and Iran (in person)  **- Gulshat Ayydova** and **Shemshat Atayeva**,Young SDG Ambassadors of Turkmenistan in charge of SDG13: Climate action (in person)  *Potential/proposed youth presentation topics:*  *The important role that young people play worldwide in raising awareness and providing innovative solutions about climate change and corresponding risks, as well as the importance of true youth engagement and meaningful participation in the decision-making process.*  *The important role of youth in addressing and responding to climate change and in contributing to progress towards the objectives of the Glasgow Climate Pact and the goals of the Paris Agreement. As well as the importance of youth participation and representation in multilateral, national and local decision-making processes.*  *The importance of youth to be represented during the consultations and advisory processes including national climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, and the development and implementation of NDCs, and importance of ensuring that young people have access to information, capacity building and are fully on board as equal stakeholders in consultation and decision-making processes.*  **- Ms Omnia El Omrani**,COP27 President Envoy on Youth, COP27 Presidency Team (online)  **- Mr Abdallah Emad Afify**, COY17 Egypt National Contact Point (online)  **Q & A session** | **Magtymguly Akmuradov**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan  **Sabrina Guseynova** and **Novruz Nurberdiyev**, Young SDG Ambassadors |
| **10:45 – 11:00 Group photo with all in person conference attendees at IUHD** | | |
| **Session 3**  **11:00 – 12:30** | **Breakout sessions/working groups:**  *Five thematic sessions are simultaneously run-in different rooms with delegates divided into five groups. Each group will then draft their part of official position, demands and potential solution proposals (focusing on major climate change issues in Turkmenistan) to policy makers (national and global leaders), which then will be merged into the final Turkmenistan Youth Statement for YOUNGO and COY17.* |  |
| **Group 1** | Link: ID: |  |
|  | **Need for urgent action to tackle climate change and its negative impacts in Turkmenistan**  (In compliance with SDG13):   * *Climate Change negative effects* * *Climate Activism and Environmental Protection* * *Climate Change Adaptation* * *Climate Change Mitigation (e.g. reduction of GHG emissions)* * *Action for Climate Empowerment* * *Youth contribution to Turkmenistan’s NDCs* * *Importance of environmental and climate change education* | **Senior experts:**  Natalya Chemayeva, UNRCCA  Valeriya Danilchenko, UNICEF  **Facilitators:**  Two young SDG Ambassadors (Enejan Achilova SDG13 + 1) |
| **Group 2** | Link: ID: |  |
|  | **Importance and future perspectives of mass deployment and use of green, sustainable and modern energy in Turkmenistan**  (In compliance with SDG7, SDG11 and SDG9):   * *Renewable energy (solar, wind and hydrogen)* * *Decarbonisation and green economy* * *Electric vehicles* * *Any other relevant topics* | **Senior experts:**  Atamuhammet Saryyev, UNDP  Aganiyaz Jumayev, State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan    **Facilitators:**  Two young SDG Ambassadors |
| **Group 3** | Link: ID: |  |
|  | **Achieving food security through promoting sustainable agriculture in Turkmenistan**  (In compliance with SDG2 and SDG15):   * *Ensuring food security and zero hunger* * *Water security* * *Maintaining balance between wilderness and croplands* * *Sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems* * *Combating desertification and droughts* * *Halting and reversing land degradation* | **Senior experts:**  Gozel Atamuradova, UNDP  Maya Ashirova, UNDP    **Facilitators:**  Two young SDG Ambassadors |
| **Group 4** | Link: ID: |  |
|  | **Importance of ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns in Turkmenistan** (In compliance with SDG12 and SDG8, and maybe also SDG11):   * *Zero waste and effective waste management and recycling* * *Circular economy* * *Climate Change Social & Economic Interlinks* * *Sustainable Cities & Local Action* | **Senior experts:**  Jemal Durdykova, UNDP  Leyli Yagshyyeva, SDG13 Ambassador (2021 cohort)    **Facilitators:**  Two young SDG Ambassadors |
| **Group 5** | Link: ID: |  |
|  | **Environmental education, gender equality and climate change** (In compliance with SDG17, SDG4 and SDG5):   * *Ecological and environmental education* * *Ecological and environmental upbringing* * *Correlation between climate change and gender inequality* * *The importance of women's participation in decision-making on climate change at the national and international levels* | **Senior experts:**  Myahri Saparova, Ozone Centre  Naza Orazova, OSCE    **Facilitators:**  Two young SDG Ambassadors |
| **12:30 – 13:45** | **Lunch and compilation of the Final Youth Statement of Turkmenistan 2022 and new Roadmap of Youth Initiatives and Activities** |  |
| **Session 4** | **Concluding plenary session** |  |
| **13:45 – 14:30** | **Leyli Yagshiyeva, SDG13 Ambassador (2021 cohort) + another SDG Ambassador (2022 or 2021 cohort) –**  Evaluation and reporting on implemented activities that were planned within the Roadmap of Turkmenistan Youth Climate Change Conference in 2021 andsummary of the new Roadmap of Youth Initiatives and Activities.  **Sabrina Guseynova and Novruz Nurberdiyev, Young SDG Ambassadors, SDG13** –  Presentation of the final Turkmenistan Youth Statement, including the results by five thematic groups | **Sabrina Guseynova** and **Novruz Nurberdiyev**, Young SDG Ambassadors |
| **14:30 - 15:00** | **Closing remarks by:**   * **Mr Dmitry Shlapachenko**, UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan * **Ms Lucia Wilde,** His Majesty’s Ambassador to Turkmenistan * **Mr Magtymguly Akmyradov,** Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan |  |