The Forum-Café to celebrate the International Youth Day held in Astana

August 11, 2017, Astana - Forum-Café “Youth for Sustainable Development and Energy Efficient Lifestyle in Kazakhstan and Central Asia to Build Peace Globally” has been held today in Astana. The event was organized by the United Nations agencies under the facilitation of the United Nations Volunteers Programme to celebrate the International Youth Day that is held on August 12 worldwide after the adoption of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 54/120. The purpose of the café-forum was to draw attention to the youth contribution to peace and development globally as well as to strengthen cooperation between the youth and the representatives of the Government, educational institutions, civil society, and international organizations.

The global overarching theme of International Youth Day in 2017 is “Youth Building Peace” to emphasize growing recognition of young people as critical actors in conflict prevention and sustaining peace. IYD 2017 is dedicated to mark the contributions of the youth to peace processes, inclusion, social justice and sustainability.

“The UN in Kazakhstan is delighted to congratulate young people on the International Youth Day! We appreciate the energy of the youth and encourage their active engagement in building peace and sustainable development – a world that leaves no one behind” – said Norimasa Shimomura, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Kazakhstan.

“The youth is our unique human resource for peaceful, secure, and sustainable future. Therefore, the International Youth Day is another opportunity to express recognition, support and solidarity with millions of young volunteers, who contribute to peace, equality and prosperity worldwide” – said Dmitry Frischin, the United Nations Volunteers Program Coordinator for Central Asia.

During the forum, the young people discussed the role of the youth in promoting energy efficient lifestyles, advocating for sustainable development and securing equal access to the resources. The representatives of the youth also shared their vision and recommendations for advanced participation of young people in peace and development-related activities within the UN Agencies, the public sector, and NGOs. At the end of the forum, the Declaration was signed to summarize the results of the discussion into recommendations from young people in Kazakhstan for improved youth involvement and participation in sustainable development, social inclusion and energy efficiency processes to ensure peace globally.

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