

Steering Committee Meeting

“Creating new platforms to support active youth engagement in global policy debates” project

VENUE: Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan

DATE: 06 July 2018

Time: 11:00

AGENDA: 1) Review and confirmation of project Work Plan for 2018;
2) Discussion on current project activities.

ATTENDANCE:

Intigam Babayev Deputy Minister of Youth and Sport



Indira Hajiyeva Head of Youth Affairs Department of the Ministry of Youth and Sport



Alessandro Fracassetti UNDP, Deputy Resident Representative

Shamil Rzayev UNDP, Senior Programme Adviser



Mezahir Efendiyev Project Manager



Azer Abasaliyev Project Assistant



PROJECT BACKGROUND:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MYS) of the Republic of Azerbaijan implement the joint project entitled “Creating new platforms to support active youth engagement in global policy debates”.

The objective of the project is to support the formation and development of new directions and opportunities that will strengthen youth participation and mainstreaming in national and international levels, as well as to contribute to youth development processes in Azerbaijan.

The project focuses on three specific objectives:

- To expand and strengthen Model UN movement in Azerbaijan

- To support the selection of SDG Youth Ambassadors and youth participation in development of Voluntary National Reports
- To contribute to expansion of volunteer activities in Azerbaijan and its adaptation to international experience

Both the overall and specific objectives of this action conform to policy of the Government of Azerbaijan on youth mainstreaming and reflect the ideas expressed in the "Development Strategy of Azerbaijani Youth in 2015-2025" and "State Program on Azerbaijani Youth 2017-2021".

MEETING:

The Steering Committee meeting started with welcoming of the participants, agreement on agenda and topics to be discussed.

It was noted that, following the successful realization of main objectives of "Creating new platforms to support active youth engagement in global policy debates" project jointly implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Sport and UNDP Azerbaijan in 2014-2016, the stakeholders have agreed to extend the project till December 2019 and on 27 April 2018 signed the Project Document and Financing Agreement following the Letter of Intent signed on 24 April 2018.

Participants mentioned the successful realization of previous project objectives:

- The First Global Forum on Youth Policies was organized in Baku, Azerbaijan on 28-30 October 2014 by the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Office of Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, Council of Europe, UNESCO and UNDP. 705 ministers, deputy minister and other officials from the governmental bodies in charge of youth policies, experts, representatives of international organizations and young people from various youth related NGOs and institutions from 165 countries have participated in this Forum.
- Other direction of the project was the institutionalization of Model UN in Azerbaijan. As a part of this activity, in 2015-2016 Model UN Clubs were established in various universities of Azerbaijan and first and second MilliMUN - National Model UN Conferences and two Model UN Summer Schools were held. Model UN Clubs have organized different conferences and events as well. As a result of trainings and presentations held in the framework of the project, young people have improved their professional and personal skills and their knowledge about international relations, diplomacy and work of international organizations.

Afterwards the meeting participants highlighted the 3 directions of current project:

- Promotion of Sustainable Development Goals, SDG Youth Ambassadors and youth participation in development of Voluntary National Reports
- Expansion of volunteer activities in Azerbaijan and its adaptation to international experience
- Expanding and strengthening Model UN movement in Azerbaijan

The Project Work Plan for the year 2018 prepared and introduced by the project team was reviewed and discussed by the Steering Committee meeting participants. Both stakeholders shared their opinions and have agreed that events and activities planned in Work Plan are relevant and have expressed their confirmation with Project Work Plan for 2018.

The meeting continued with discussion of current project activities. Project team has informed that the work on all directions has started and the first actions were taken. Parties have recommended holding the presentation of the project to public with participation of mass media representatives and relevant institutions. It was noted that this can contribute to promote the project goals and objectives, as well as to ensure the spread of information in the society regarding the important topics that the project aims to work with.

In the end the participants thanked each other for participation and wished good luck to the implementation of new joint project.

Approved by:

Alessandro Fracassetti
Deputy Resident Representative
UNDP



Intigam Babayev
Deputy Minister
MYS


