

Youth-20 Summit Communique calls on G20 Leaders to set a concrete target to reduce youth unemployment

Istanbul, 19 August 2015. Youth-20 (Y20) Summit has called on the G20 Leaders to set a “concrete, quantifiable and collective target on reducing youth unemployment” in its Final Communique released today.

Y20 Summit was opened by Turkey’s Deputy Prime Minister Ali Babacan, G20 Sherpa Ambassador Ayşe Sinirlioğlu, Y20 Turkey Chair Dr. Emre Cenker and Prof. Dr. Gülay Barbarosoğlu, the Rector of the Boğaziçi University, which hosted the Summit between 16 to 19 August. Dr. Temel Kotil, CEO of Turkish Airlines and Dr. Serdar Çam, President of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) also addressed 94 delegates representing 24 countries. Youth representatives from Afghanistan, Madagascar, Mongolia and Vietnam, representing Low Income Developing Countries (LIDC) have also been invited to the Summit.

In a livestreamed panel discussion, Y20 delegates have interacted with the representatives of other G20 engagement groups such as Business-20, Labor-20, Civil-20, Think-20 and Women20.

“Young people from G20 countries and beyond have clearly expressed their views and demands on issues of global significance. Now it’s high time for the G20 Leaders to respond to these demands.” said Y20 Chair Dr. Emre Cenker in his closing remarks.

During the 3-days Summit meeting, Y20 delegates discussed three topics of global significance, namely youth unemployment, education in 21st century and youth’s contribution to peace. Following a lively debate, they have adopted a set of recommendations in the Y20 Summit Communique to be conveyed to the G20 Leaders during the upcoming G20 Summit on 15-16 November in Antalya.

Developing ecosystems for entrepreneurship to support young and innovative entrepreneurs and SMEs, bridging the digital divide to facilitate youth’s access to labor market, particularly those who are vulnerable and marginalized, reducing to skills mismatch between education system and labor market, increasing the opportunities for quality internships and vocational training, promoting student mobility across borders, recognizing the rights and the needs of the refugees and migrants were among some of the other recommendations put forward by the young leaders of the Y20.

Y20 is one of the six engagement groups established by the G20 countries to provide the G20 governments with feedback from various stakeholders regarding the G20 agenda. Y20 is chaired by a youth organization from the country holding the G20 Presidency which rotates every year. Y20’s Chair in 2015 is Youth Commission for Diplomacy and Collaboration (YCDC), a non-profit association which started its activities in 2012.

For further information, please contact:

Ms. Serra Diptaş, YCDC | Mobile: +90 532 467 99 91 | serra.diptas@ycdcproject.org | www.y20turkey.org