

Closing intervention SB52

Climate negotiations need to be an inclusive, open, accessible and safe space that is gender responsive and meets the needs of under-resourced, indigenous, vulnerable, and global south youth.

YOUNGO appreciates the open Informal Consultations and thanks all Parties and facilitators who actively supported our participation. Nonetheless, our request for fair sequencing of interventions was again rejected and we were pushed to the end once again. Already our opening got postponed.

We urge all Parties present here today to recognize that sidelining Observers cannot be the new normal!

Further, despite the UNFCCC's almost 30 year history, there has never been a COP decision focused on children and young people. We would like to work with supportive Parties to address this serious gap.

Firstly, we expect you to build upon your stated support for the ACE Youth Forum, which will be held from the 10th-18th of July, by hosting an affiliated event and sharing a testimonial expressing how your Party plans to uplift our work in the lead-up to COP26.

Secondly, we call on Parties to support our request for an in-session workshop in 2022 on the issue of meaningful participation of children and young people.

Thirdly, we urge all Parties to sign the Intergovernmental Declaration on Children, Youth and Climate Action and support our SC1.5NCE NOT SILENCE Campaign, turning their elements into concrete implementations, supporting increased ambition & welcoming the IPCC 1.5 degrees report at COP26.

YOUNGO stands firmly against "youth-washing" and youth tokenization, especially by the -UK and Italy as co-conveners of Pre-COP and COP26. We want you to ensure that the outcomes of events, like YOUNGOs Conference of Youth, are used to inform decisions, and that you provide support for young people, for example, in the form of vaccinations for those from the global south.

The judge of our common efforts in these past weeks is the actual progress made. While we saw more states aligning with the inclusion of human rights in the Paris rulebook, overall progress was too slow. Nonetheless, further actions must follow as we are nearing COP26. The informal status of this session should not be an excuse to start off in Glasgow where we were at in 2019.

The gaps of ambition and emissions are still alarming. Therefore we expect all Parties to take the integrity of the precious progress made here seriously. In the coming months Parties must build on the session and drive progress forward, including at the ministerial level. We cannot afford another failure. We cannot afford leaving Glasgow empty-handed.

In all these efforts we urge Parties to keep in mind....

Nothing About Us Without Us. People Power, Climate Justice!

Thanks & regards,
Heeta