

## YOUTH FORUM ON CLIMATE CHANGE

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Youth Forum on Climate Change is an initiative under the Ecological Sustainability Programme of the Kenya Young Greens organization. It is a platform where the youth take part in addressing climate as bestowed upon them by the national youth policy; and the African Youth Charter which recognizes that youth are partners, assets and a prerequisite for sustainable development and for the peace and prosperity of Africa with a unique contribution to make to the present and to future development, and considers the role that youth have played in the process of decolonization, the struggle against apartheid and more recently in its efforts to encourage the development and to promote the democratic processes on the African Continent, and acknowledge the increasing calls and the enthusiasm of youth to actively participate at local, national, regional and international levels to determine their own development and the advancement of society at large. The African Youth Charter through its article number 11 calls for youth participation.



The forum is guided by the principle of intergenerational partnerships which we consider as an important for enhancing current and emerging leadership capable of helping address climate change challenge both at local and global levels.

In the forum we acknowledge that many young people have well-informed, insightful and innovative contributions to make to research and decision making, and effective action projects and programmes, and also appreciate that older persons possess important experience and expertise in the field of climate change cause. We therefore make a public call for

ethics-based intergenerational partnership and actions to enable the youth make their contribution

### OBJECTIVES OF THE FORUM

The forum seeks to provide an avenue for the youth

1. To learn about climate and appropriate measures to its response
2. To contribute toward climate change debate and negotiations
3. To monitor and evaluate the government commitments and response to climate change
4. To work on the policy and action plans developed by the government and also develop policy briefs
5. To share their response to climate within their organisations, businesses and or personal levels within their peers.
6. To get capacity-building activities focused on young persons and youth-oriented organisations.

### 2009 Agenda under the Forum

This year, the most critical issue is the international climate change debate and negotiations under the Bali Road Map; we therefore want the forum to focus on this as provided for under objective number three above, through the following activities.

- Training the youth locally, and collaboration with other groups both locally and globally
- Conduct campaigns prior to the negotiations
- Engage in collaborative efforts to maximize the impact of the efforts of young climate change activists throughout Kenya and at the Copenhagen negotiations

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