



High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Side Event: **Working with young people towards peaceful and inclusive societies: UNSCR 2250 and the SDGs**

Summary Report

Side Event Highlights and Outcomes

The Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (CSPPS) held a HLPF Side Event on 14 July 2016 to raise awareness and importance of UNSCR2250 and to share informed knowledge of how UNSCR2250 principles can support an effective SDGs implementation in conflict-affected states. The Side Event, moderated by WFUNA Secretary-General, Mr. Bonian Golmohammadi, reconfirmed the need for active engagement and involvement of young people in peacebuilding and sustainable development. It also presented way how to better utilize the resilience inherent in youth towards sustaining peace.

The Side Event engaged participants on a broad spectrum of relevant policy and programmatic interventions since the adoption of UNSCR2250 in December 2015. Presentations on country-based implementation were made by Ms. Saba Ismail, Co-founder of Aware Girls (Pakistan) and Mr. Theophilus Ekpon, CSPPS Representative and Executive Director CSDEA (Nigeria). Country presentations vividly highlighted how young people are applying UNSCR2250 principles in context of SDGs implementation.

Subsequently, Mr. Ekpon also spoke of actionable steps so far taken by CSPPS and the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS) to ensure the UNSCR2250 implementation among its stakeholders. Actionable steps include the development of a guidance note for UNSCR2250 implementation among CSPPS and IDPS constituencies, and the proposal to establish a sub-working group on Youth, Peace and Security within the IDPS Implementation Working Group.

Mr. Henk-Jan Brinkman, Chief, Policy, Planning and Application Branch (PBSO) and Ms. Noëlla Richard, Youth Policy Specialist (UNDP) spoke respectively on the UN wide policies and programmes supporting the UNSCR2250 implementation. Some of the steps taken by the UN include the commissioning of an Advisory Group of Experts to provide input towards a Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security and support to the launching of UNSCR2250 in some UN member States.

Further efforts are needed to harness the positive potential of youth for peacebuilding and statebuilding, we need to recognize young people as agents of change - #Youth4Peace

This side event report was compiled by Peter van Sluijs (CSPPS/IDPS CSO Coordinator) and Theophilus Ekpon (Executive Director of CSDEA and CSPPS Focal Point in Nigeria) - 23 August 2016