

Summit 2022 and Leadership Conference: International Youth Leader's Conference (IYLC)

Young Ho Yoon

August 13, 2022

10th Anniversary Of The Holy Ascension Of Sun Myung Moon, True Parent Of Heaven, Earth, And Humankind



The International Youth Leader's Conference (hereinafter referred to as IYLC) was held from August 12-13 in Jamsil at the Lotte Hotel World Emerald Hall and Walker Hill Hotel Vista Hall.

The IYLC held on August 12 was moderated by Adama Doumbia, chair of UPF-Africa, and consisted of the following events: opening announcement, peace prayer, welcoming remarks, Special Gift Ceremony, congratulatory remarks, 3 Keynote speeches, 2 Special addresses, a peace performance, the Youth Peace Agreement Ceremony, and a closing statement.

Following the peace prayers by Samuel Forba Fonki, head of the Presbyterian Church in Cameroon, and Halidou Abdoulahi, an imam from Niger; the Executive Secretary the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CENSAD) Brigi Rafini, who also served as prime minister of Niger, said in his welcome remarks, "Investment in youth is an investment in the long term, an investment in the future, and certainly an investment in the promotion of peace, stability and sustainable development of our States.

The member countries of CEN-SAD have a predominantly young population. This is why our Community Organisation is actively translating into action the recommendations of the Sustainable Development Goals inviting partners to reaffirm their support for the promotion of youth welfare." He added, "The youth also need us to create opportunities for their employability to bring out their talent, creative genius, and innovative capacities.

They need your support, as our partners, to create the best conditions for the empowerment and resilience of young people in Africa."

At the Special Gift Ceremony which was held on this day, Dr. Yun Young-ho, Director of International Headquarters said, "I thank True Parents, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon for this time and this occasion. I wish God's blessings and glory be with Executive Secretary of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) Brigi Rafini and all the African leaders who came a long distance to make this occasion special.

Kim Jae-hyun, Senior Vice President of Youth and Students for Peace (YSP), said, "True Parents' vision of a heavenly unified world is possible only when the whole world cooperates and coexists with peace as the one common goal." He added, "Although national egoism is becoming more serious every day, I hope that the youth leaders committed to peace will change the future with hope. I congratulate the youth leaders for the peace and hope that will develop from this day forward.

Callista Mutharika, a former first lady of the Republic of Malawi, expressed that the United Nations was created to maintain peace throughout the world, but peacebuilding has not been easy. The Family Federation for World Peace and Unification can complement this and lead to sustainable development.

Euphrasie Kouassi Yao, Gender Advisor to the President of Côte d'Ivoire, expressed that we can also achieve peace by expanding gender equality and women's social advancement." Efforts must be made to achieve gender equality in diverse political, religious, cultural, and economic fields. We should not

eliminate the role of women in the process of achieving peace. It requires women's leadership. Education must also be conducted from this perspective so that women are not passive but active members of society.

Newt Gingrich, a former speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, said, "Africa's future development is very inspiring, as it has great spiritual value."

Minister Filomena Goncalve of Cape Verde, an island nation in western Africa, conveyed her sincere gratitude to Rev. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon for starting this activity. When we take climate change as a global issue, for example, the role of youth is essential.



1. (From left) Brigi Rafini, Executive Secretary, CEN-SAD and former Prime Minister of Niger, giving a welcome speech, and Jim Rogers, Senior Advisor to UPF International, giving a special speech 2. Brigi Rafini, Executive Secretary, CEN-SAD and former Prime Minister of Niger Awarded Honorary Doctorate 3. Signed memorandum of understanding (MOU) with providential organizations and CEN-SAD 4. Special Gift Ceremony from True Parents

Cape Verde is composed of 10 island regions, and we are experiencing the effects of severe climate change. Youth must be placed at the center of the process of finding solutions to this. We must expand youth's role in job creation and health systems, and that is how many of the problems faced by the entire world can find solutions.

Increasing the influence of the youth in decision-making in each sector will help the development of democracy in Africa and ultimately transform the continent. The world faces extreme situations, but we must strive to change, and the youth must be at the center of this change."

Jim Rogers, an advisor to the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) and global investor, also spoke of the "strength and potential of African women and men."

September 2022 27 This was followed by the introduction of the educational philosophy, activities, and vision of Godism by Song Yong-cheon, chair of the Sun Hak Global Education Foundation, and Jin Seong-bae, president of the Hyojeong Academy of Arts and Sciences.

On the 12th, the IYLC and five organizations, including CEN-SAD, the Sunhak Global Education Foundation, Sun Moon University, the HJ Magnolia Foundation Korea, the HJ Magnolia Medical Foundation, and the Hyojeong Academic Foundation, signed a youth peace agreement; to support African youth.

The International Youth Leaders Conference (IYLC), which is part of the SLC, was held at Walker Hill Vista Hall on the 12th and the 13th. Participants included key figures from the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification, Brigi-Rafini, Executive Secretary of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and Prime Minister of Niger, 25 Ministers of Youth from African countries, and over 120 Korean leaders.

Representing the youth were President Matsuda Koji and Senior Vice President Kim Jae-hyun of the International Association of Youth and Students for Peace (IASYP), President Kim Dong-yeon of YSP-Korea, and youth leaders from each continent. Together they discussed continental solidarity with Africa at a personal level.

President Kim Dong-yeon of YSP-Korea moderated the event. It consisted of an opening performance, introduction of guests, welcoming remarks, keynote address, the introduction of providential organizations and companies, commemorative photos, opening announcement, signing of MOU, closing statement, and a luncheon.

In his welcoming remarks, International President Koji Matsuda said, "IAYSP has national chapters in 50 countries around the world, and 1/3 of them are in Africa." He added, "Having recently been granted special consultative status by the UN Economic Council, we will cooperate more closely with the UN in developing the SDGs campaign.

Following, Song Yong-cheon, chair of the Sun Hak Global Education Foundation, Hwang Sun-jo, President of Sun Moon University, Kim Seok-byung, President of the HJ Magnolia Foundation Korea, and Kim Sang-kyun, President of the HJ Magnolia Global Medical Foundation, and signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with CEN-SAD on behalf of their respective organizations.

Following the previous day's agreement, this MOU included specific details for developing cooperative programs and activities among youth, departments, and institutions in the education, economy, and healthcare sectors.

Meanwhile, Executive Secretary Rafini received an honorary doctorate from Sun Moon University at a degree conferment ceremony held immediately after the conference.

Sun Moon University awarded him an honorary doctorate in public administration for his efforts in national development, regional development, and international cooperation and his contribution to the realization of peace in Africa through the True Family Movement.

Executive Secretary Rafini expressed his gratitude to the Mother of Peace, Dr. Hak Ja Han, and Sun Moon University for the honorary doctorate in his acceptance speech. Saying that he will further contribute to the peacebuilding of the CEN-SAD in the future.