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Culture of peace

Letter dated 30 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing with regard to the International Youth Forum of Peace and Trust, which was held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 29 March 2021 in a videoconference format, and organized jointly by the Government of Turkmenistan and the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Turkmenistan.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the joint appeal from the participants of the International Youth Forum of Peace and Trust, which was adopted as an outcome of the conference (see annex).

I would be very grateful if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15.

(Signed) Aksoltan Ataeva
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 30 March 2021 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Joint appeal from the participants of the International Youth Forum of Peace and Trust

We, the participants of the International Youth Forum of Peace and Trust, held in Ashgabat on 29 March 2021 in a video-conference format, and organized jointly by the Government of Turkmenistan and the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Turkmenistan:

Implementing the United Nations General Assembly Resolution [73/338](#) of September 12, 2019, which proclaimed 2021 as the International Year of Peace and Trust to mobilize the international community in promoting a culture of peace and trust in relations between states, strengthen political dialogue based on mutual understanding and cooperation, and achieve sustainable peace, solidarity and harmony,

Recalling United Nations Security Council resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#) of 6 June 2018 on youth, peace and security, in which the Council reaffirmed the important role that youth can play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts,

Recalling further United Nations General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which for the first time the Assembly recognized children and youth as agents of change, and recognizing that the Sustainable Development Goals are integrated, indivisible and global in nature, and therefore that all of them apply to youth,

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 13 September 1999, which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

Recognizing also the need to continuously engage young people in all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peacebuilding, mediation, the prevention of conflicts, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law and gender equality at the national and international levels, that contribute greatly to a culture of peace,

Expressing gratitude to the Government of Turkmenistan and the relevant United Nations agencies for the high level of organization of the International Youth Forum for Peace and Trust,

Call on the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum to be held on 7 and 8 April 2021:

To strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace and trust following the observance of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, and initiate a *new International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Trust*;

To call the national governments to continue to place greater emphasis on inclusion of youth organizations and associations in their activities in fostering a culture of peace and trust at all levels;

To encourage international community to increase activities on peace education and global citizenship education, inter alia, within the implementation of the Plan of Action of the fourth phase of the World Programme on Human Rights Education to enhance an understanding among young people of values such as peace, trust, openness, inclusion and mutual respect, which are essential in developing a culture of peace, as well as providing age-appropriate education in schools that builds a culture of peace and non-violence, including lessons in mutual understanding, respect and tolerance,

To welcome the initiative of the Government of Turkmenistan to regularly convene the International Forums of Peace and Trust in order to provide youth with the necessary institutional platform for promoting peace and trust through intercultural and interreligious dialogue, understanding and cooperation.

Ashgabat, 29 March 2021
