

Launch of “Guiding principles on Young People’s Participation in Peacebuilding”



Panel (from right to left): UNFPA Representative to Yemen, Minister of Youth and Sport, and Country Director of Search for Common Ground.

3 June 2014, Sana’a, Yemen

Under the auspices of His Excellency Mr. Moammar Al-Eryani, UNFPA the United Nations Population Fund Yemen in partnership with Search for Common Ground, launched the global “Guiding Principles on Young People’s Participation in Peacebuilding” in Yemen.

The launch shared the UN guiding principles and aimed to feed into the ongoing efforts to enhance youth positive engagement in the transition in the country.

In his opening statement, His Excellency Mr. Moammar Al-Eryani, stressed the importance of engaging young people in peacebuilding programs that would help to break the ice that got thicker especially after 2011 events.

Mr. Al-Eryani expressed his ministry’s willingness to provide all forms of assistance to promote young people’s participation in peacebuilding.

In her speech, Ms. Lene K. Christiansen, UNFPA Representative to Yemen, highlighted the valuable roles that young people play as innovators and agents of change, and how their meaningful participation is essential to the sustainability, inclusiveness, and success of peacebuilding efforts particularly in the midst of continuing political crisis and violence.

Ms. Christiansen shed light on UNFPA's support to empower the participation of young people including women in the Yemen National Dialogue Conference, ensuring that their aspirations and concerns were raised and brought to the attention of decision makers. The UNFPA Representative also drew the attention to the recent signing of a 7 million dollars project with the Government of Yemen that aims to support increased community participation in peace and development and to support the rebuilding of the social contract with marginalized groups, most importantly youth and women.

Mr. Shوقي Al-Maktary, Country Director of Search for Common Ground, said that the involvement of young people in the peacebuilding in Yemen is not only the government's responsibility, but it should also be the task of local and international organizations and donors. Mr. Al-Maktary noted that amidst the continuing political crisis in Yemen, youth participation in peacebuilding at the community and national level become more essential.

A number of representatives from Government offices, local NGOs working in peacebuilding, UN agencies, donors and media attended the launch ceremony.

Media Coverage

<http://www.14october.com/files/issues/3e8880d7-2f4a-4881-ab4f-5ff4471fb988/03.pdf>

<http://www.14october.com/news.aspx?newsno=3072458>

<http://www.barakish.net/news.aspx?cat=12&sub=23&id=118298>

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<http://akhbar.alaan.tv/news/post/32541/un-official-criticizes-yemeni-youth-involvement-in-armed-conflicts>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSR2t3s5ugs>

Event Photos

