

CONCEPT NOTE

International Forum
We, the Youth
(IFWY)

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Executive Summary

Imagine a world where youth don't just have a seat at the table but actively shape the future. Inspired by the spirit of the Ancient Greek Agora and Roman Forum, International Forum We, the Youth (IFWY) with its guiding theme "Connect for Change" is more than an event— it's a global platform for youth-led dialogue and solutions translated into action and impact for the future bridging youth and policymakers. The IFWY is also a vibrant space where agenda-setting converges with the creativity and energy of a festival, connecting youth with the arts, culture, and one another. This living platform brings together young minds from across the globe to innovate, collaborate, and lead — powered by technology and driven by their passion for change.

Objective: To establish a global platform that empowers youth to shape policies, drive social change, and foster innovation through continuous engagement and cutting-edge technology.

When: The inaugural IFWY will take place in 2025, under the theme *"Our Sustainable Future: Peace and Cooperation."*

Who: The Forum will amplify diverse voices worldwide, with a focus on youth as vital agents of change. "Youth" is defined not only by age (15 to 35) but also by a mindset—one of openness, adaptability, and readiness to take the lead in innovation and change.

1 Key Objectives and Vision of the Forum

The IFWY's mission extends beyond dialogue, serving as an annual call to action that mobilizes resources, knowledge, and collective power to drive lasting transformation. With a core focus on reshaping mindsets, behaviours, and systems, the Forum addresses critical themes for sustainable development such as peace, equality, solidarity and environmental sustainability, and inclusive growth. Key objectives include empowering youth to drive tangible change, fostering inclusivity, leveraging cultural engagement, and co-creating actionable strategies that lead to lasting impact on global challenges.

2 Thematic Focus Areas of the Forum

- a. **Environmental Sustainability:** Addressing climate change through cross-border cooperation, renewable energy, ecological restoration, and innovations in sustainable resource management.
- b. **Economic Transformation:** Exploring economic models that prioritize inclusivity, fairness, and resilience, including the role of social enterprises and the social solidarity economy.
- c. **Social Justice and Equality:** Emphasizing reduced global inequalities and inclusive access to essential resources and opportunities.
- d. **Technological Innovations and Ethical Considerations.** Exploring how AI technologies can drive sustainable development by optimizing resource use, reducing waste, and

enhancing environmental monitoring. It would also address the ethical implications of AI deployment, ensuring that advancements contribute positively to both society and the planet.

- e. **Peace and Cooperation:** Promoting diplomacy, conflict resolution, and peaceful international relations.
- f. **Collective Action and Solidarity:** Emphasizing systemic change driven by collective efforts across regions and sectors.

3 Forum Components

Blending policy dialogue with the vibrancy of a festival, the Forum includes three main components:

3.1 Regional Dialogue: Walk the Talk

The regional preparatory dialogue processes, known as the Regional Dialogue: Walk the Talk, are a key component of the Forum. Participants for the Regional Dialogues will be selected based on their engagement and activities on the online platform, which will be launched in May; over a period of 4 to 6 weeks, online participants will interact with a broader audience, who will vote to help determine the final selection of the participants of the Regional Dialogue, known as Catalysts.

These dialogues will take place across different continents, bringing together 50 young Catalysts from diverse sectors to discuss and co-create actionable solutions on pressing issues such as social equity, environmental sustainability, and governance. The events will be held in July or August, depending on the region's condition.

Organized across five global regions—Africa and the Middle East (Botswana), Asia & the Pacific (Thailand), Europe (Geneva), Latin America & the Caribbean (Brazil), and North America (the US)— between July and August, the dialogues aim to reflect the diversity of youth experiences and perspectives from around the world.

There will be a dedicated Korean Dialogue without Borders as part of the 2025 IFWY which will be hosted in the Republic of Korea in October. Korean Dialogue Without Borders is a special host-country session of the International Forum We, the Youth (IFWY), aligned with the global theme of sustainable development and peace. It serves as an open and democratic space for discussing these pressing issues from

the perspective of Koreans in the broadest and most inclusive sense—including Korean nationals, overseas Koreans, overseas adoptees, returnees, multicultural families, North Korean defectors, as well as foreign nationals residing in Korea who contribute to its diverse social fabric.

By bringing together this wide range of voices, the dialogue fosters inclusive and meaningful conversations on what it means to build a peaceful and sustainable society in today's Korea and beyond. Rooted in solidarity, respect, and shared responsibility, this session contributes to IFWY's global mission of empowering youth-led change through inclusive, cross-cultural dialogue.

The insights and outcomes from these Regional Dialogues and the Korean Dialogue without Borders are synthesized and presented by the Explorers at the Conference: Our Sustainable Future, ensuring its agenda is rooted in grassroots perspectives and tailored to diverse regional contexts. The Regional Dialogue and the Korean Dialogue without Borders will amplify local voices and create tangible pathways for systemic change by linking youth-driven ideas to global priorities. These Regional Dialogues and the Korean Dialogue without Borders will foster cross-sector collaboration, empower youth leadership, and serve as a catalyst for sustainable policy influence on a global scale.

3.2 Conference: Our Sustainable Future

This annual conference aims to foster a collaborative environment where participants elected at the Regional Dialogues, known as Explorers, co-create sustainable solutions. Key elements include interactive panels for open dialogue, workshops for hands-on innovation, and cross-sector debates that promote diverse viewpoints.

At the heart of the conference is the selection of Navigators—a group of exceptional youth delegates chosen by their peers from among the 175 Explorers attending the final conference. These Navigators will represent the collective voice of the youth at major international fora such as the UN World Summit for Social Development, COP30, and the G20, delivering the policy outcomes of IFWY and advocating for youth-driven change throughout the year.

Serving as a bridge to major global events, the conference will act as a catalyst for policy influence and drive tangible impact each year.

3.3 Solidarity Concerts: Unite4Peace (or alternative name, to be finalized)

Building on the legacy of iconic events like Live Aid (1985), which raised awareness and funds to combat famine in Ethiopia, and Live 8 (2005), which mobilized global action to address poverty and urge G8 leaders to commit to debt relief and fair trade, the annual musical concerts will unite global artists and amplify the voices of youth in

a powerful call for actions. The concerts of 2025 will emphasize the transformative role of young people in advocating for peace and ending wars and conflicts, giving them a platform to share their stories, aspirations, and demands for a more just and peaceful world.

The event name of the musical concerts of 2025—such as Unite4Peace or End War—will be finalized closer to the launch, . Through the universal language of music, these concerts will connect audiences worldwide, fostering solidarity, raising awareness, and inspiring collective reflection and action for a peaceful future.

4 Expected Outcomes

- 1) **Innovative Ideas and Collaborative Solutions:** Generating solutions through intersectoral collaboration and creative thinking sessions, with mentorship and follow-up to ensure real-world impact.
- 2) **Policy Influence:** Transforming discussions and youth survey results into actionable policy recommendations and the Forum topics of the following years, supported by partnerships with global organizations.
- 3) **Awareness and Engagement:** Utilizing music, participatory debates, and media campaigns to educate, inspire, and engage a broader global audience.
- 4) **Long-Term Partnerships:** Establishing frameworks and digital hubs to sustain partnerships and maintain momentum for continued impact.

5 Conclusion

The Forum, which will start with its inaugural events in 2025, will be held annually to empower diverse voices and drive real, lasting change. Its yearly conference, musical concerts, and participatory debates aim to inspire and strengthen global solidarity to address key challenges across peace, equality, and sustainability, creating an enduring impact on future generations.

1 Introduction

Imagine a world where youth don't just have a seat at the table but actively shape the future. Inspired by the spirit of the Ancient Greek Agora and Roman Forum, International Forum "We, the Youth" (IFWY) is more than an event— it's a global platform to create youth-led dialogue and solutions and translate them into action and impact for the future bridging youth and policymakers. The IFWY is also a vibrant space where agenda-setting converges with the creativity and energy of a festival, connecting youth with the arts, culture, and one another. This living platform brings together young minds from across the globe to innovate, collaborate, and lead — powered by technology and driven by their passion for change.

At the heart of the *IFWY* is its guiding theme, "**Connect for Change.**" This theme underscores the urgent need for transformation across all facets of society—economic systems, social structures, and environmental practices. It also emphasizes the importance of solidarity, inviting individuals, communities, and organizations from around the world to come together and pool their knowledge, resources, and energy to drive meaningful change. Further, it encapsulates the Forum's mission to inspire and mobilize resources, ideas, and power in the pursuit of meaningful transformation in response to the global challenges of our time, including wars and conflicts, inequality, climate crisis and polarization (peace, equality, environmental sustainability, and solidarity).

Central players of this annual Forum are youth defined by both physical and spiritual conditions. Recognizing a variety of definitions of youth from different organizations and sources, the Forum defines *youth as individuals between the ages of 15 and 35. However, the Forum also accept those of any age who are open-minded, curious, are driven by the desire to learn and adapt and bring fresh perspectives and energy essential for addressing today's global challenges as youth.*

The IFWY will feature a wide range of activities, including conferences, participatory debates, and musical concerts, creating an inclusive and engaging space where diverse voices can contribute to shaping our shared future. The IFWY seeks to inspire collective action and create pathways for sustainable development, peace, equality, and justice by building connections across sectors and regions.

In the spirit of *Connect for Change*, this Forum is more than a space for discussion— it is a call to action. It brings together people from all walks of life, unified by a shared vision of a better, more equitable, and sustainable world. Just as the ancient Greek Agora and Roman Forum were central to the flourishing ancient civilizations, *the IFWY* will play a pivotal role in driving the transformation we need today.

2 The 2025 International Forum “We, the Youth” (2025 IFWY)

The theme of the inaugural 2025 IFWY is “Our Sustainable Future: Peace and Cooperation”. The theme builds upon the foundational vision or the guiding theme of “Connect for Change”, emphasizing the urgent need for transformation to secure a sustainable and equitable future on the one hand and the power of unity and collaboration of youth in tackling the interconnected crises facing the world today, including climate change, inequality in multiple dimensions, geopolitical conflicts, and polarization on the other. This theme highlights that creating a sustainable future is not just a singular effort by one entity, government, or sector but a collective process requiring the connection of diverse global actors—governments, businesses, civil society, and individuals in which youth are playing a central role.

3 Vision and Purpose

The inaugural 2025 IFWY aims to create a transformative space where youth from all sectors and regions can come together not just to discuss ideas, but to drive real change. More than just a venue for exchanging ideas, this Forum is designed to drive real, actionable change. It will facilitate youth to contribute to transforming systems, mindsets, and behaviours. By confronting global challenges head-on, the Forum mobilizes resources and collective power, ensuring that tangible solutions are created for meaningful and lasting transformation.

4 Key Dimensions of the Theme of the 2025 IFWY “Our Sustainable Future: Peace and Cooperation”

4.1 Environmental Sustainability

The pressing climate crisis and environmental degradation are central to the theme. “Our Sustainable Future” underscores the importance of working together across borders to address climate change, protect biodiversity, and promote sustainable resource management. The 2025 IFWY will focus on strategies for ecological restoration, renewable energy transition, and innovations that enhance environmental stewardship, ensuring a liveable planet for future generations.

4.2 Economic Transformation

As economies across the world face challenges exacerbated by global inequality and uncertainty, the theme calls for an economic transformation that centers on inclusivity, fairness, and resilience. The 2025 IFWY will explore new economic models that prioritize well-being over a growth, advocate for the fair redistribution of wealth

and income, and promote sustainable business practices. It will also emphasize the role of new and innovative business models such as purpose driven corporations, new forms of social enterprises and other economic entities within the social and solidarity economy (SSE) pursuing inclusive growth, solidarity and sustainability.

4.3 Social Justice and Equality

A sustainable future must be built on the principles of justice and equity. The theme promotes a strong focus on reducing inequalities in access to resources and opportunities within and between countries. The 2025 IFWY will examine policies and practices that address social and economic disparities, ensuring that marginalized communities are not only included as beneficiaries but actively engaged as participants in the global push for sustainability.

4.4 Technological Innovations and Ethical Considerations.

AI and other technological innovations hold great promise for sustainable development by improving resource efficiency, environmental monitoring, social inclusion, and governance. However, their deployment must be guided by ethical considerations to prevent reinforcing inequalities, bias, and the concentration of power. The 2025 IFWY will take a balanced approach, exploring both the benefits and risks of emerging technologies, and encouraging young people to pursue ethical, inclusive, and sustainable innovation for a better future.

4.5 Reducing Conflict and Enhancing Cooperation

Peace and cooperation are foundational pillars for a sustainable future. The 2025 IFWY “Our Sustainable Future: Peace and Cooperation” stresses the importance of diplomacy, conflict resolution, and fostering peaceful relations among nations. The Forum will serve as a space for dialogue on reducing geopolitical tensions, enhancing international cooperation, and promoting peace-building initiatives as integral to long-term sustainability.

4.6 Collective Action, Solidarity, and Democracy

Solidarity—both local and global—lies at the heart of achieving sustainable futures. This theme recognizes that systemic change, whether in environmental policy, economic reform, or social justice, depends on collective action grounded in democratic values. The 2025 IFWY invites stakeholders from diverse regions and sectors to collaborate, share knowledge, and build inclusive partnerships that not

only mobilize resources for real-world impact but also strengthen participatory governance and civic engagement as foundations for lasting change.

5 Key Components of the 2025 IFWY

5.1 Regional Dialogues: Walk the Talk

As the foundation of the International Forum "We, the Youth" (IFWY) 2025, the Regional Dialogues empower young people to shape regional and global policy agendas through inclusive, participatory, and solution-oriented dialogue. Designed by youth, for youth, these dialogues prioritize local leadership, innovation, and collective action to address pressing global challenges.

Organized across five global regions—Africa (Botswana), Asia & Pacific (Thailand), Europe (Geneva), Latin America & the Caribbean (Brazil), and North America (the US)— between July and August, the dialogues aim to reflect the diversity of youth experiences and perspectives from around the world.

There will be a dedicated Korean Dialogue without Borders as part of the 2025 IFWY which will be hosted in the Republic of Korea in September. The Korean Dialogue without Borders brings together young ethnic Koreans or Korean Diaspora from around the world to engage in a collective exploration of identity, belonging, and shared responsibility for building a sustainable and peaceful future. Created to honour the hosting country, Republic of Korea, this special dialogue recognizes Korea's global cultural reach and the enduring connections among its diaspora communities. It celebrates the lived experiences and rich cultural heritage of the Korean diaspora, while empowering young people to take leadership in global policy dialogues.

To ensure broad and democratic participation, an online platform will be launched, allowing youth from all backgrounds, particularly at the grassroots level, to make their voices heard. Applicants will submit to this online platform a short self-introduction and a 3-minute policy message, either written or recorded. Based on public online voting (80%) and recommendations from the organizing committee (20%), 50 applicants (known as Catalysts) will be selected per region, totalling 300 youth participants for the in-person Regional Dialogues and Korean Dialogue without Borders.

The Regional Dialogues are youth-led and inclusive, with sessions designed and facilitated by young people themselves. Special emphasis is placed on ensuring the participation of historically marginalized groups, so that a wide spectrum of voices is heard and represented.

In addition, the dialogues are culturally integrated, incorporating elements such as arts, storytelling, and digital expression to reflect the rich cultural diversity of each region. These components not only enrich the dialogue experience but also help foster deeper connections among participants from different backgro

Each Regional Dialogue and Korea Diaspora Dialogue will select six thematic areas — such as environmental sustainability, social justice, peacebuilding, and AI ethics — under the overarching theme “Our Sustainable Future: Peace and Cooperation” and produce a list of policy recommendations specific to the region or ethnic communities.

By fostering long-term partnerships and amplifying youth voices, the Regional Dialogues represent a critical first step toward building a more equitable, peaceful, and sustainable future.

5.2 Conference: Our Sustainable Future

The insights generated through these dialogues are synthesized and brought forward to the Conference: Our Sustainable Future which takes place in Seoul (in either September or October, to be decided) by 25 selected Catalysts known as Explorers. 175 Explorers (125 Explorers from Regional Dialogues and 50 Korean Dialogue without Borders) will co-develop policy recommendations for sustainable development and peace at the Conference.

Building on the foundation laid by the Regional Dialogues, the final conference in Seoul will be a vibrant space for collaboration, creativity, and impact.

The conference aims to translate the insights and solutions developed during the Regional Dialogues into concrete global strategies, ensuring that local perspectives meaningfully inform international policy discussions. It also seeks to foster collaboration across sectors, regions, and cultures, creating a dynamic space where diverse experiences and worldviews come together to co-create inclusive and sustainable responses to global challenges. At its core, the conference is designed to actively engage youth in shaping policies related to peace, equality, and environmental sustainability, empowering them to take the lead in building a more just, resilient, and interconnected future.

The conclusion of the conference marks not the end, but the beginning of a long-term journey to translate ideas into action. To ensure the discussions and outcomes of the Forum have lasting impact, a comprehensive follow-up strategy will be implemented. One of the key initiatives includes the selection of a group of youth delegates, known as Navigators, through peer voting during the conference. These Navigators will serve as ambassadors of the Forum, tasked with presenting the final list of youth-driven recommendations at major international platforms such as the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD), COP30, the G20, and beyond. Their role will be instrumental in ensuring that the voices and priorities of young people are represented in global decision-making spaces.

To support the ongoing work sparked by the Forum, a series of post-conference programs will be launched. These include mentorship opportunities, pairing participants with experienced professionals to guide the development of their ideas and initiatives. Project incubation and seed funding mechanisms will be introduced to help transform innovative proposals into tangible, community-driven solutions.

Additionally, the establishment of a Global Youth Network of the IFWY will provide a platform for continued collaboration, knowledge sharing, and collective advocacy. This network will act as a living legacy of the Forum, enabling participants to track progress, amplify their impact, and stay connected with peers across regions and sectors. Together, these efforts will help sustain the momentum generated during the Forum and ensure that youth voices continue to shape a more inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable world.

These efforts ensure that youth-driven solutions from local communities directly inform global conversations and influence decision-making spaces at the global level.

5.3 Solidarity Concerts: Unite4Peace

The Solidarity Concerts, tentatively titled *Unite4Peace*, are a parallel and complementary element to the final Conference in Seoul. Inspired by iconic events like *Live Aid* and *Live 8*, these concerts harness the universal language of music to amplify the Forum's call for peace, unity, and sustainability. Taking place at multiple venues across Seoul and broadcast globally through MBC and its partner networks, the concerts serve as powerful cultural and political touchstones, amplifying the spirit and message of the Forum beyond the confines of formal discussions.

The Solidarity Concerts will spotlight youth voices and stories, using powerful live performances and digital storytelling to highlight the vital role young people play in building a more peaceful and just world. As a platform for global youth advocacy, the concerts will amplify the hopes, experiences, and calls to action of a new generation.

Showcasing artistic diversity, the concerts will feature a wide array of performers representing different regions, cultures, and musical genres. This celebration of cultural pluralism will underscore the shared human values that transcend borders and unite communities around a common purpose.

Pushing the boundaries of performance, the concerts will embrace technological innovation, incorporating virtual idols and AI-enhanced experiences. These elements will not only captivate audiences but also expand global reach and deepen interactivity—especially with digitally connected youth across the world.

Each performance will carry a strong thematic focus, aligning with the Forum's core pillars of peace, cooperation, and sustainable futures. Through music, the concerts will reinforce the profound connection between cultural expression and global responsibility, inspiring collective reflection and transformative action.

Rather than marking an endpoint, the *Unite4Peace* concerts run **in tandem** with the policy and dialogue-driven components of the Forum, offering a space where emotion, creativity, and activism meet. They are more than performances—they are **calls to action**, urging global audiences to reflect, unite, and act collectively. By bridging cultures, generations, and geographies, the concerts embody the Forum's holistic vision and help to mobilize hearts, minds, and movements around the world.

6 Objectives of the Forum

- **Transformation:** To inspire and drive tangible shifts in mindsets, systems, and behaviours toward a more peaceful, equitable, and sustainable world.
- **Participation and Inclusion:** To engage diverse voices, ensuring that disadvantaged and marginalized groups have a seat at the table in shaping the global sustainability agenda.
- **Cultural Engagement:** To leverage the power of music and arts as tools for awareness-raising and social mobilization.

- **Actionable Outcomes:** To generate actionable strategies and foster partnerships that will continue beyond the Forum, ensuring that discussions translate into real-world solutions.

7 Expected Outcomes

- **New Ideas and Innovations:** The Forum will foster the generation of innovative ideas, solutions, and practices through diverse participation and interdisciplinary collaboration. To enhance the effectiveness of these innovations, the Forum, through the different channels for interaction (e.g., creative thinking workshops, innovation labs, surveys, design-thinking sessions and participatory debates), will gather participants' views on actionable solutions and policies. The objective is that participants can co-create and prototype solutions in real-time. A conference mentorship program will connect participants with experts across various fields, ensuring that innovative ideas are conceived and guided toward real-world application. Additionally, in the longer term, depending on the funding availability, pilot projects will be launched as a part of the Forum process, with funding opportunities and implementation roadmaps provided to ensure that these ideas can be tested and scaled after the event. Feedback loops, knowledge-sharing platforms, and post-event accelerators will be established to refine and expand on the innovative solutions generated.
- **Collaborative Solutions:** The Forum aims to generate innovative, cross-sector solutions that address peace, equality, and environmental challenges. The Forum will foster partnerships between governments, civil society, private sector entities, and international organizations to ensure these solutions are actionable and implementable. Clear frameworks for collaboration will be established, and practical roadmaps will be developed to guide the implementation of these solutions. Additionally, accountability and regular follow-up mechanisms will be suggested and embedded in the outcome documents, ensuring that progress is tracked, challenges are addressed, and outcomes are aligned with global sustainability goals.
- **Policy Influence:** The outcomes of the Forum will inform policy-making and international discussions on sustainability and development, contributing to global frameworks and agendas. To maximize policy influence, the participants and the secretariat of the Forum will engage key policymakers and global leaders through dedicated sessions that translate ideas into actionable policy recommendations. Policy briefs and white papers will be developed from the outcomes of the Forum, ensuring that discussions are distilled into clear, actionable strategies. Additionally, partnerships with international organizations such as the UN, G7, G20, OECD, and WTO will help integrate these outcomes into ongoing global agendas.

- **Increased Awareness and Engagement:** The Forum will raise global awareness of pressing issues and engage a broader audience through its main components, particularly musical concerts and participatory debates. The performances of musical concerts will be designed to entertain and educate, using artistic expression to communicate the importance of peace, equality, and environmental sustainability. In addition, the participatory debates will feature real-time audience involvement through digital platforms, allowing for global participation and ensuring that diverse voices are heard. Collaborative initiatives, such as workshops or post-event action plans, will deepen engagement, encouraging attendees to take actionable steps toward the Forum's goals. Strategic media partnerships and social media campaigns will amplify these efforts, reaching wider audiences and sustaining momentum after the event.
- **Partnerships for Change:** The Forum will foster new partnerships and collaborations that will continue to drive change after the event, with a focus on sustaining efforts toward the transformation of global systems. To achieve this, the Forum will establish long-term collaboration frameworks, including dedicated working groups, joint action plans, and formalized networks that will be established before the Forum and will persist beyond the Forum. Resource-sharing platforms and communication channels will support these partnerships and facilitate ongoing collaboration and knowledge exchange. Regular follow-up meetings, progress-tracking systems, and digital hubs will be created to maintain momentum and accountability, ensuring that partnerships continue to evolve and drive meaningful change. Additionally, seed funding opportunities and capacity-building initiatives will be offered to support collaborative projects and ensure their implementation.

8 Governance of the IFWY

The IFWY's governance structure is designed to ensure collaborative decision-making, strategic direction, and effective implementation of its vision. It consists of a Global Board of Directors supported by a Global Advisory Committee. The Global Board approves strategic goals, plans, and budgets and ensures consistency across participating countries. Additionally, the Global Board establishes policies and oversees robust compliance systems to maintain accountability and alignment with the IFWY's mission.

Under certain circumstances, a National Chapter of the IFWY may be established to address specific regional or country-level needs. These National Chapters will operate under a governance structure similar to the global bodies, ensuring alignment with the IFWY's principles and goals. A National Board of Directors, supported by a National Advisory Committee, will oversee the chapter's strategic direction and compliance, mirroring the

collaborative and inclusive governance framework of the global entity. This ensures that local initiatives are effectively integrated into the broader global mission.

8.1 Global Board of Directors

The Board is a governance body which meets regularly to guide, oversee, support, and expand the work of the IFWY. Its role is to safeguard the IFWY, protect its existence and protect its resources from risk, fraud, and mismanagement, and to maximize the good which it can do. Board members have a fiduciary and strategic oversight of the IFWY. The Global Board of Directors approves and supports the vision and mission and contributes to developing the Strategic Plan.

- **Role:**

- The Global Board of Directors is the highest decision-making body of the IFWY, responsible for governance, strategy, and resource allocation.
- The founding members of the Board will be representatives from the founding organizations (one per organization)— **MBC, UNRISD, Eunpyeong District Office, and Yonsei University** (as of November 2024). The Board will invite additional members (organizations or individuals) following a process to be established in the Governance Policy. The Secretary-General will be an ex officio Board member.

- **Key Responsibilities:**

- Sets the overall vision, mission, and strategic objectives of the IFWY.
- Approves Strategic plan and Annual Operation Plans, budgets, and key initiatives proposed by the Office of the Secretariat.
- Oversees the Office of the Secretariat and guarantees accountability in achieving the objectives of the IFWY.
- Fosters partnerships and secure resources to support the IFWY's activities.
- Approves key legal decisions.

8.2 Global Advisory Committee

The Global Advisory Committee is an arms-length, non-governance body that acts as a resource for the organization's Global Board of Directors and Secretary General. The Advisory Committee is composed of voluntary members selected for their prestige or prominence in the fields related to the work of the IFWY. The Advisory Committee meets as needed with the Board of Directors to discuss critical trends, updates, strategies, and to provide advice to the Secretary General. The Secretary-General may also call upon the Advisory Committee and individual members for help and advice when needed.

The Advisory Committee is not a governance body and cannot make decisions on behalf of the IFWY. Advisory Committee members do not represent the IFWY and cannot speak for it publicly.

- **Role:**
 - The Global Advisory Committee provides expert guidance and strategic advice to the Board of Directors and the Secretary-General, focusing on the IFWY's long-term vision and overarching goals.
 - Ensures the IFWY's alignment with global trends and emerging challenges.
 - Participates in the IFWY's activities, including conferences, workshops, participatory debates and musical concerts when relevant.
 - Provides feedback and input to enhance the relevance and quality of the IFWY's programs.
- **Composition:**
 - The Advisory Committee will include members selected for their prestige or prominence in the field, ensuring a balanced global representation and diverse perspectives. It also includes the main partners of the IFWY.
- **Key Responsibilities:**
 - Advises the Board of Directors and the Secretary General on the IFWY's vision, mission, and strategic priorities.
 - Provides insights into innovative approaches and thematic trends to ensure the IFWY remains relevant and impactful.
 - Acts as ambassadors for the IFWY, leveraging their networks to strengthen its visibility and partnerships.
 - Acts as an addition to the IFWY 's fundraising capacity;
 - Keeps partners engaged with the work of the IFWY.

9 IFWY's Structure and the Secretariat

The IFWY is directed by a Secretary General who leads the Office of the Secretariat and develops the strategy and its implementation.

9.1 Secretary General

She/he leads the office of the Secretariat.

- **Role:**
 - Provides leadership to the Secretariat,
 - Develops the Strategic Plan and Annual Operations Plan and budget.
 - Ensures the effective execution of plans.

The first Secretary General will be appointed jointly by the founder members of the Board of Directors: MBC, UNRISD, Eunpyeong District Office, and Yonsei University for a three-year term. In the future, the full Board member will be in charge of appointments.

9.2 Office of the Secretariat

The Office of the Secretariat is the operational hub, responsible for executing the vision and goals set by the Global Board of Directors with input from the Global Advisory Committee.

It facilitates day-to-day management, coordination, and implementation of the IFWY's activities.

Key Responsibilities of the Office of the Secretariat include but are not limited to:

- Assist the Global Board of Directors in developing and implementing strategic plans.
- Organize and manage the IFWY's annual events, including conferences, musical concerts, and participatory debates.
- Serve as the primary liaison between the Global Board of Directors and the Global Advisory Committee.
- Ensure efficient communication, reporting, and resource management to achieve the IFWY's goals.

The Office of the Secretariat is led by the Secretary-General, who is appointed by the the Global Board of Directors. Supporting the Secretary-General are two Senior Staff members, chosen through a competitive and transparent selection process, who provide specialized thematic and technical expertise in specific program areas.

Additionally, the Office has Administrative Staff recruited through a similar competitive and transparent process. These Administrative Staff members support the day-to-day operations of the Secretariat by assisting with stakeholder engagement and coordinating activities. Their responsibilities include maintaining records, ensuring efficient information flow within the Secretariat and to external stakeholders, and handling logistics, communication, and administrative tasks to ensure smooth operations.

9.3 Interconnected Functions

The three components are designed to work cohesively:

- The **Board of Directors** provides governance and oversight, empowering the **Office of the Secretariat** to implement its decisions.
- The **Advisory Committee** advises the **Board of Directors and the Secretary General**, ensuring a robust vision and strategic direction.

- **The Secretary General** runs the day-to-day of the organization and leads the Office of the Secretariat.

This interconnected governance model ensures inclusivity, effectiveness, and alignment in achieving the IFWY's mission while maintaining balanced representation across global regions.

10 Conclusion

The 2025 IFWY "Our Sustainable Future" aspires to create a unique space where diverse voices come together to enact fundamental, lasting transformation. By blending conferences, cultural performances, and participatory debates, the Forum will inspire action and foster the global solidarity necessary to address the challenges of peace, equality, and environmental sustainability.