



DMUN Foundation

4th Floor, 12 Gangnamdaero 156-gil, Gangnam, Seoul, Republic of Korea
+82-10-5696-8302
enquiries@dmun.org
www.dmun.org

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER OF THE DMUN FOUNDATION TO THE
UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AND BRETTON WOODS
INSTITUTIONS

Opening Remarks

Mr. Jaewon Choi

Thematic Focal Point for Tax

FfD Children and Youth Constituency

Major Group for Children and Youth

Executive Director

DMUN Foundation

Opening Segment

Youth Power for our Common Future: Unlocking
Community Level Action for Climate & SDGs through
Digital Innovation & Art

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY
SEUL LE TEXTE PRONONCÉ FAIT FOI



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Good morning and good afternoon to those watching from all over the world. My name is Jaewon Choi. I am 16 years old and serve as the Executive Director of the DMUN Foundation and Thematic Focal Point for Tax at the FfD Children and Youth Constituency of the Major Group for Children and Youth.

On this International Youth Day, We are proud to share that the Major Group for Children and Youth has compiled a global calendar, as part of the UN@80 Youth Mobilization, featuring over 100 youth-led events and activities taking place across the world.

This mobilization will continue through September at the UN General Assembly and into October, culminating on 24 October—the 80th anniversary of the United Nations.

It is vital to link our commitment for change with means of implementation. This includes how we finance sustainable development and Agenda 2030. Therefore, allow me to highlight some important children and youth perspectives on FfD.

First, we demand an open and inclusive participation on FfD implementation. MGCY organised a global youth forum in Seville. We however express our concern that FfD4 remained inaccessible for youths under the age of 18.

We call for states to adhere to the principles of intergenerational equity and the convention on the rights of the child to allow for the participation of children in future high-level conferences.



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Second, over 3 trillion dollars were spent last year into defence, war and conflict instead of climate, peace and leaving no one behind. Children and youth say: This is unacceptable.

Third, we call for shifting economic systems towards equity and accountability and establishment of a UN framework convention on debt.

Finally, we call for institutional support for the work of the UN Framework Convention on Tax, to bring tax justice for all and to eliminate illicit financial flows.

Excellencies, distinguished colleagues, the voices and perspectives of young people within this space are more than just symbolic of how far we have come, but a stark reminder of how much work we have left to do. It is our responsibility to break the chains of generational silence and use our voices to create systemic change.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the World Program of Action for Youth, we ask ourselves: Are we leaving no one behind, including children and youth?

Our voices are the future, and the future can never be silenced.

We thank you.