



37th UNESCO General Conference
Item 5.5 - Conclusions of the 8th UNESCO Youth Forum
Presentation by the 8th UNESCO Youth Forum delegates
Communication and Information Commission (CI), 12 November 2013

“Mr Chairman, Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The 8th UNESCO Youth Forum, gathering 500 hundred youths from 135 countries, has agreed on 10 strategic recommendations for the 37th General Conference, 4 of which pertain to this Communication and Information Commission.

Firstly, as expressed in recommendation 5, media and information literacy should be included in the curricula of formal educational systems, in the context of improving their quality as a priority in the post-2015 agenda.

Secondly, as expressed in recommendation 6, Member States must prioritize youth employment by providing information-training centers run by government and civil society to be accessible to all young people.

Thirdly, as expressed in the beginning of recommendation 10, to foster youth participation and social inclusion, ICT should be one of the targeted tools, especially social media. To ensure free and open participation, the protection of online and offline media as an open space for collaboration must be ensured.

Fourthly, as expressed in the end of recommendation 10, UNESCO must urge Member States to improve media infrastructure and literacy among youths as a basis for dialogue and collaborative opportunities between decision-makers and all youths.

In view of time constraint, I urge you to look at the 15 Action Projects endorsed by the Forum which are available online.

Before I finish, let me ask, how many of you use Facebook? How many of you use a computer? Let's remember it was a young Mark Zuckerberg who invented Facebook, it was a young Bill Gates who co-founded Microsoft, and a young Steve Jobs who co-founded Apple. It will be the youths who continue to revolutionize communication and information in the world of today and tomorrow. So please, invest in the youths, invest in your future!”

***Presentation prepared and delivered by Mr Mexind Suko Utomo (youth delegate of Indonesia).**