



ATTENTION: ALL MEDIA

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NYDA EXECUTIVE CHAIRPERSON ASANDA LUWACA CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF BRICS YOUTH COUNCIL DURING THE 15TH BRICS SUMMIT.

The Executive Chairperson of the the National Youth Development Agency Ms Asanda Luwaca addressed the 15TH BRICS Summit held in Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Ms Luwaca urged for the endorsement by the BRICS Heads of States to establish a BRICS Youth Council, with the objectives outlined as follows:

- To coordinate the implementation of the BRICS Youth Summit resolutions among BRICS countries;
- To maintain a high public profile by publicising implementation of the resolutions;
- To establish communication channels for dissemination of information in relation to BRICS Youth;
- To work within the mandate of the Memorandum of Agreement signed by BRICS countries; and
- To lobby Heads of States on decisions and resolutions taken by young people.

We are of the firm view that “Young people in their collective believe that youth are the present and are the future and our interactions as BRICS members cannot and should not be limited to an annual summit. At the 9th BRICS Youth Summit we presented the draft framework for a BRICS Youth Council which will become the coordinating body for youth development between BRICS member countries and will join formations such as the BRICS Business Council, BRICS Women’s Alliance and the new Development Bank and will be a historic achievement for young people of BRICS countries, “ said Ms Luwaca.

The National Youth Development Agency hosted the 9th BRICS YOUTH Summit under the theme “BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth,Sustainable Development and Inclusive Multilateralism” in July.

Ms Luwaca further highlighted the outcomes from the Summit by saying “ Young people discussed the current state, and future prospects for the development of youth cooperation in BRICS countries over a wide range of areas.

As we have entered into the ‘Decade of Action’ of the Sustainable Development Goals, we believe that BRICS countries in general, and young people in particular, should use their collective strengths to prioritize the ‘development paradigm’, using it as a guiding principle for our work as we continue intra-BRICS cooperation across



areas such as trade, education, skills development and training, economic participation and transformation, health and wellbeing, social cohesion.”

Ms. Luwaca has implored the BRICS Summit to endorse the proposal for the establishment of the BRICS Youth Council in its final declaration, in ensuring that new pathways for positive change and innovation can be realised and in doing so, will further ensure that no young person among the BRICS member states will be left behind.

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