

**Declaration of the First Meeting of Young People for Latin American and Caribbean  
Integration: "Participation, Culture and Development"  
Quito, April 11, 2010**

We, the young people representing our countries and organizations at the First Meeting of Young People for Latin American and Caribbean Integration: "Participation, Culture and Development," aware of the importance of this meeting, convened by the Republic of Ecuador, prior to the XVII Forum of Ministers of Culture of Latin America and the Caribbean, are meeting in the city of Quito on the 11th of April 2010 for the purpose of reflecting upon the realities of our peoples and on the participation and inclusion of young people with respect to the cultural policies promoted by our governments, as well as proposing solutions for these problems.

In the context of globalization, driven by first-world countries on the basis of a neoliberal rationale that tries to render our identities and diversities less visible, we recognize the importance that culture has to highlight and preserve our values and because of this we believe it is urgent to uphold, also by young people, the intercultural dialogue as the only way to recognize and defend our existence as nations with respect to regional integration, where our differences are respected.

Considering the fact that youth is a valuable strategic player and continues to contribute to the social, economic and political development of our countries and possesses the knowledge, skills and competencies to participate adequately in regional integration processes, we the participants recommend that the XVII Forum of Ministers of Culture of Latin America and the Caribbean address the following proposals:


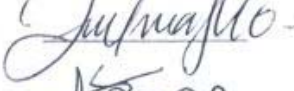

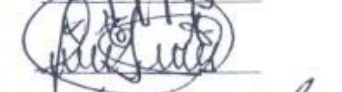


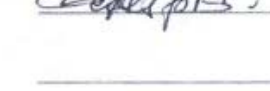

- To encourage and create models of inclusive participation that guarantee the incidence of young people on the conception, design and implementation of the cultural policies of our countries and free access to public spaces.
- To recognize our rights as creators and promoters of change and address the potential of our communities of young people; in this respect we underscore the existence of leading edge movements that must be taken into account for the contribution that they could make here and now in building our societies.
- To draw up strategies that guarantee the local, regional, and international mobility and dissemination of cultural expressions and the talent of young people.
- To encourage the use of new information and communication technologies to foster the interaction and integration of Latin American and Caribbean youth.
- To consider the value of culture as a tool for the transform of human beings, especially those in exceptional situations: natural disasters, imprisonment, addictions, disabilities, among others.

Without having exhausted the discussion, we the participants at this meeting hereby propose the following actions:

- To establish a Youth Commission that watches over the follow-up and examines cultural policies of the region and proposes initiatives to advise about cultural matters at each Meeting of Ministers and Officials of Culture.
- To institutionalize the meetings of young people for Latin American and Caribbean integration, where agreements and proposals are assessed.
- To promote cultural exchanges among young people over the short, medium and long term that make it possible to recognize Latin American and Caribbean cultural and linguistic diversity.
- To evaluate the establishment of a joint economic support fund to foster cultural initiatives of young people of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- To design a multilingual website where the various cultural expressions of our young people would be promoted and disseminated.

We who attended this meeting recognize the importance of our Meeting to consolidate a regional space to defend the Latin American and Caribbean identity, based on common values and related realities, defending diversity as an unavoidable element, which in our case enriches unity.

Executed in the city of Quito, Ecuador, April 11, 2010

COUNTRY	REPRESENTATIVE	SIGN
Bolivia	Yuco Antonio	
Paraguay	Masi Zulma	
Perú	Chocano Rodrigo	
Venezuela	Navarro Edwin	
Guatemala	Tzian Salval Angela	
Panamá	Morales Itzenith	
Dominica	Ferrol Mikael	
Granada	Telesford Lendon	
Rep. Dominicana	Felix Medrano José	_____
San Vicente	Tamika Jhon Niesha	_____

Caricom	Beighle Yldiz
Caricom	BridgeWater Sherwin
Uruguay	Machin Daniel
Cuba	Morlote Luis
Jamaica	Ellis Roberta
Nicaragua	Rivera Mario
Surinam	Yldiz Beighle
Antigua y Barbuda	Silvyn Farrel
Barbados	Randy Earmond
Ecuador	Carla Tovar

Beighle Yldiz  
BridgeWater Sherwin  
Machin Daniel  
Morlote Luis  
Ellis Roberta  
Rivera Mario  
Yldiz Beighle  
Silvyn Farrel  
Randy Earmond  
Carla Tovar