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Republika ng Pilipinas

## Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

**OUA MEMO 00-1121-0065**

**MEMORANDUM**

03 November 2021

For: **Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Regional and Division Youth Formation Coordinators  
School Heads  
BKD Coordinators  
BKD Officers and Members  
All Others Concerned**

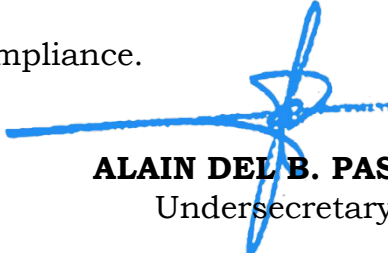
Subject: **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS for the United Nations Office on  
Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Youth Forum 2022**

The Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services - Youth Formation Division (BLSS-YFD), is **calling for interested applicants for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Youth Forum 2022**. The event is looking for students who are considered to be the most active youth leaders in preventing the use of illegal drugs.

Interested applicants may fill out the application form and submit it to [blss.yfd@deped.gov.ph](mailto:blss.yfd@deped.gov.ph) (cc: [juniel.doloque@deped.gov.ph](mailto:juniel.doloque@deped.gov.ph)) with subject name 'UNODC\_Application\_<Region>.' Deadline of the application period is on **10 November 2021 (Wednesday) at 5:00 p.m.** For details on the program and guidelines for application, please refer to **Annex A** and **Enclosure 1**.

For questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Adolf P. Aguilar, Chief of BLSS-Youth Formation Division, through 0919-093-4914 or email at [blss.yfd@deped.gov.ph](mailto:blss.yfd@deped.gov.ph) cc: [juniel.doloque@deped.gov.ph](mailto:juniel.doloque@deped.gov.ph).

For immediate dissemination and compliance.

  
**ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA**  
Undersecretary



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### Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRMMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]

Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City  
Rm 519, Mabini Bldg; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: (+632) 86337203, (+632) 86376207  
Email: [usec.admin@deped.gov.ph](mailto:usec.admin@deped.gov.ph); Facebook/Twitter @depedtayo

## **Annex A**

# **UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC) YOUTH FORUM 2022**

### **Showcase:**

#### **Invitation for Nominations**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations (Vienna).

At the same time, the Department of Foreign Affairs is calling for nominations to the UNODC Youth Forum 2022. *(Please see attached reference.)*

#### **About United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Youth Forum**

The Youth Forum is an annual event organized by the UNODC Youth Initiative in the broader context of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). The Forum encourages networking among the participants as well as learning from the experiences of other youth from different parts of the world.

Since 2012, the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section (PTRS) has continued to expand the Youth Initiative and support for the Youth Forum. It has been a decade since the launch of the first Youth Forum. It has held 10 Youth Forums with 20 strong youth voices representing their fellow youth participants, 97 countries supporting the youth, 371 empowered youths and countless young people becoming the change they want to see in their communities.

#### **The goals of the program are:**

1. To gather youth to allow them to exchange ideas, visions and different perspectives on how to better protect the health and well-being of their peers and provide them with an opportunity to convey their joint message to the global level policy makers.
2. To educate youth on evidence-based drug use prevention and empower them to become active in their schools, communities and youth groups to advocate for substance use prevention.

#### **Important Dates**

The Youth Forum is typically held in March of every year and is expected to be a three-day event. It should be noted that UNODC primarily uses e-mail to disseminate information regarding the dates and schedule of events of the Youth Forum 2022.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

In selecting your most active youth candidate for the Youth Forum 2022, please refer to the following qualifications below:

1. Participants should be between 14 to 23 years old.



2. Knowledgeable or interested in the prevention of the use of illegal drugs or health promotion.
3. Actively working towards promoting a safe and healthy environment and development of youth in their schools and communities.
4. Fully competent in English verbally when there are no interpretation services available.
5. Has the capacity to work online. (Access to stable internet connection is required.)

### **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

1. Among all interested applicants, only 3 delegates will be endorsed by DepEd, through the BLSS-YFD, to represent the Department.
2. Endorsed delegates may undergo screening and assessment by the Permanent Mission for nomination to the UNODC Youth Forum 2022.
3. Student must be 14-23 years old and must be currently enrolled in school year 2021-2022.
4. Regions/Divisions can send multiple applications to the program.
5. Deadline for application is on **November 13, 2021 (Saturday) at 5 pm.**
6. Submit the application form in **pdf format** at [blss.yfd@deped.gov.ph](mailto:blss.yfd@deped.gov.ph) cc: [juniel.doloque@deped.gov.ph](mailto:juniel.doloque@deped.gov.ph) with the subject name 'UNODC\_Application\_,<Region>.'
6. **Wait for the confirmation email/text from the Youth Formation Division for your scheduled Zoom interview from November 16, 2021 (Tuesday) onwards.**



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**ENCLOSURE 1: APPLICATION FORM**



**Region:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Division:** \_\_\_\_\_



**BASIC INFORMATION**

Full Name:

Surname

First Name

Middle Name

Name Extension (Jr, Sr, III)

Home Address:

Age:

Grade Level:

Date of Birth:

Name of School:

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Teacher Adviser:

Contact Number:

Email Address of Teacher Adviser:

**SKILLS/TALENTS**

Describe yourself (maximum of 100 words):

Skills/Talents:

Awards/Achievements/Distinctions Received:

**ESSAY**

Why do you wish to apply as a delegate for the UNODC Youth Forum? (about 250 words)

**ATTACHMENTS**

You may attach proof of achievements/awards/recognition on implementing 'Barkada Kontra Droga' (BKD) Program in your school and community.

(Please use a separate sheet for this.)

I hereby certify upon my honor that all facts and information indicated herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further declare that any information given that proves to be untrue may constitute a ground for disqualification in the application. Further, I subscribe and agree that the Department of Education have the sole prerogative to select the delegates and that its decision is final and executory.

In witness hereof, I am executing and signing this statement voluntarily and without compulsion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature over Printed Name



**OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

29 October 2021

Sir/Madam:

The Department of Foreign Affairs is pleased to transmit the attached Note Verbale No. CU 2021/407/DO/DHB/PTRS dated 22 October 2021 from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in connection with their call for nominations to the UNODC Youth Forum 2022.

In its Note, the UNODC informed that the deadline for submission of nominations has been further extended until 30 November 2021.

The Philippines is invited to nominate a maximum of three (3) of its most active youth leaders with the following qualifications:

1. Aged between 14 to 23 years old;
2. Knowledgeable or interested in substance/drug use prevention or health promotion;
3. Actively working towards promoting a safe and healthy environment, and development of youth in their schools and communities;
4. Fully competent in English; and
5. Have the capacity to work online.

The nominations must include a short biography and contact details of the youth. The UNODC notes that Permanent Missions are the only entities which may nominate a youth to participate in the Forum, and the former will not be in the position to consider nominations coming directly from government agencies.

In this regard, your Agency might wish to initiate the selection process for the participation in the Youth Forum 2022. The Department would appreciate receiving the complete details of your participants through e-mail at [unio@dfa.gov.ph](mailto:unio@dfa.gov.ph) the soonest possible time for submission to the UNODC.

With my best regards.

Very truly yours,  
For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs:

**NORALYN JUBAIRA-BAJA**  
Assistant Secretary

UNIO-4-7440 - 2021  
(rgm.ntd.epm)

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED DISTRIBUTION LIST**

**DISTRIBUTION LIST**

**HON. RYAN R. ENRIQUEZ**

Chairperson and CEO

National Youth Commission

3/F West Insular Building, #135 West Avenue, Quezon City

**HON. LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES**

Secretary

Department of Education

DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City



Reference: CU 2021/407/DO/DHB/PTRS

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations (Vienna) and, referring to notes verbales CU 2021/236(A)/DO/DHB/PRTU and CU 2021/330/DO/DHB/PTRS calling for nominations to the UNODC Youth Forum 2022, has the honour to inform that the **deadline for receiving nominations has been extended until 30 November 2021**.

The Youth Forum, organized in the context of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, is an annual event of the UNODC Youth Initiative (see also [www.unodc.org/youth](http://www.unodc.org/youth)), that was introduced in 2012 through note verbale CU 2011/150. The Youth Forum aims to educate youth on evidence-based drug use prevention and empower them to become active in their schools, communities and youth groups to advocate for substance use prevention.

Since 2012 the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section (PTRS) has continued to expand the Youth Initiative and support the Youth Forum, and is now celebrating a decade since the launch of the first Youth Forum. It has been a decade encompassing 10 Youth Forums, with 20 strong youth voices representing their fellow youth participants, 97 countries supporting youths, 371 impacted and empowered youths and countless inspired young people becoming the change they want to see in their communities. To celebrate great initiatives for youths and by youths, PTRS is delighted to announce that a new section, "Youth Action" (<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/prevention/youth-initiative/youth-action.html>), was recently launched on the Youth Initiative website. Permanent Missions are invited to join in supporting exemplary youths in action by ensuring that young leaders are availed of the opportunity to engage with other youths and are educated on effective drug use prevention through the Youth Forum and become empowered to make a difference.

Permanent Mission of the Philippines  
to the United Nations (Vienna)  
Vienna, Austria

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**Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism**



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PTRS is in the process of inviting youth candidates to participate in the Youth Forum 2022 and is seeking **assistance from the Permanent Mission in nominating a maximum of 3 candidates considered to be the most active youth leaders in the area of drug use prevention**, as identified by stakeholders in the Philippines. Youth nominated by the Government should be actively working towards the promotion of a safe and healthy environment and the development of young people in their schools and communities.

UNODC is looking to include youth who are between 14 and 23 years of age. In addition, as the Youth Forum will be convened in English, with no interpretation services available, it is kindly requested for the nominated candidates to be fully competent in English to facilitate active participation in the Forum sessions. Enclosed is a Question and Answer sheet where more details can be found on possible suggestions for identifying and selecting appropriate youth candidates.

**Nominations, including a short biography and contact information for the candidates**, should be addressed to Ms. Su Hong, Associate Expert, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section (email: su.hong@un.org) and Ms. Elizabeth Mattfeld, Project Coordinator, Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section (email: elizabeth.mattfeld@un.org) **no later than 30 November 2021**. UNODC is at the disposal of the Permanent Mission should the need for clarification or assistance arise.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the Permanent Mission of the Philippines to the United Nations (Vienna) the assurances of its highest consideration.

22 October 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'DE' in a stylized, cursive font.



## Questions and Answers

### **Introduction**

The Youth Forum is an annual event organised by the UNODC Youth Initiative in the broader context of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). Its main objective is to gather young people, nominated by Member States and active in the field of drugs use prevention, health promotion and youth empowerment from around the world. The aim is to allow them to exchange ideas, visions and different perspectives on how to better protect the health and wellbeing of their peers and provide them with an opportunity to convey their joint message to the global level policy makers.

It is often a life changing experience to the participants - the Forum allows for networking among the participants as well as learning from the experiences of other youth from different regions of the world, on UNODC, and on global policymaking structures and discussions in the field of drug use prevention and health promotion.

Participatory thematic discussions, facilitated by UNODC experts, lead to the development of a short consensus statement by the youth that is delivered to the delegates of the CND - the policy making body of UNODC.

### **What age are the participants?**

UNODC understands that youth can be broadly defined depending on regional preference. Nominees should be at least 14 years old and no more than 23 years of age. Any youth 18 years of age or younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Activities are designed to accommodate the needs of the participants, including small group sessions with similarly aged attendees, as well as times when the groups are merged to promote sharing of ideas, experiences and community engagement.

### **Does UNODC cover the cost of travel for the youth and/or the guardian?**

UNODC has a limited amount of funding to support youth from low- and middle-income countries. In general, it is expected that the travel cost of participants from high-income countries are covered by their respective country. Decisions about funding support are not made until the full list of participants is confirmed and the amount of funding available can be compared to the travel costs of the nominees. If UNODC offers to cover the cost of travel for a nominee, and the nominee is 18 years of age or younger, the travel cost of one parent or guardian is also covered.

### **Who can nominate Youth Forum participants?**

The Permanent Mission is the only entity that can nominate youth to participate in the UNODC Youth Forum. Please understand that UNODC is not in a position to verify that a nomination arriving directly from the capital is from the mandated authority. A coordinated approach among all the concerned stakeholders in-country to identify the most appropriate youth is strongly recommended.

### **How many youths can be nominated?**

The number of nominations should be limited to no more than 3 youth from one Member State, keeping in mind that it is perfectly acceptable to nominate one or two youth. However, please note that UNODC is in a position to support the travel of only one participant in cases where more than one is nominated, and as indicated above, and provided funds are available.

### **If a youth is nominated by the Permanent Mission, does that automatically mean they participate in the Youth Forum?**

After the Permanent Mission nominates the participant(s), UNODC contacts the youth and ask them to provide a CV, complete a survey and participate in an interview. UNODC selects the best candidates to participate in the Youth Forum, primarily based on their language abilities, enthusiasm and interest in substance use prevention. UNODC does not discriminate based on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (e.g. which includes pregnancy, sexual orientation, or gender identity), religion, socio-economic status or disability. If a youth is not selected to participate in the Youth Forum, it is most often because they are not between the ages of 14 and 23, they do not have sufficient language skills, or their competence/experience lies in areas other than substance use prevention.

### **Are simultaneous interpretation services available during the Forum?**

The Youth Forum is a highly interactive environment where UNODC seeks to create a community of learners and advocates for effective prevention implementation. That being said, it is critical that the participants understand and speak English so they can interact with each other. No simultaneous interpretation is available.

### **Is the session open for Permanent Missions or civil society partners to participate?**

The UNODC Youth Forum is a safe space for youth from all over the world to come together and discuss the science and evidence around prevention of substance use behaviours. Therefore, the session is a closed session in order to protect the confidentiality of the youth and create a safe place for them to ask questions, interact and learn. It should be noted that parents or guardians are welcome to be in the room and, in future sessions, UNODC will make voluntary learning sessions available to the parents and guardians that are interested and have proficiency in English.

### **Are youth representing the Member State during the Commission on Narcotic Drugs?**

Youth are participants in the UNODC Youth Forum that takes place on the fringes of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. They have access to the Vienna International Centre and to the activities associated with the Youth Forum. They do not have access to participate in the Sessions or Side Events associated with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. However, special permission is arranged each year for all the participants in the Youth Forum to attend the Plenary Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs during the delivery of the Youth Statement as part of the Youth Forum. UNODC

encourages Member States to have youth be a part of their delegation to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and provide a valuable youth perspective. However, the Youth Forum participants do not have the time to be full-time delegates during the year they participate in the Youth Forum.

### **Are youth representing the Member State during the Youth Forum?**

No. The Youth Forum is a safe place for youth to exchange experiences, learn and develop a statement sharing their hopes and visions with CND. Therefore, although they are nominated by Member States, they participate in the Youth Forum in their personal capacity.

### **Do youth have responsibilities prior to the Youth Forum or following the Youth Forum?**

UNODC strives to create a community of learners and therefore, prior to the actual Youth Forum, shares information and create communities through our social media platforms. This allows us to answer any questions the youth may have prior to the event. Following the Youth Forum, UNODC expects youths to continue participating in the youth community, implementing substance use prevention activities that reflect their learnings from the Youth Forum, and being role models for future Youth Forum participants. Through these processes, UNODC continues to provide technical assistance and information to the youth as necessary. It should be noted that all activities following the Youth Forum are voluntary and UNODC provides an advisory role.

### **What are the dates and schedule of events for the Youth Forum in 2022?**

The Youth Forum is organized around the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Typically, the Commission is held in March each year. The Youth Forum is expected to be three days, with the final day being the day that the full group of youth deliver a statement to the Plenary Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The Youth Forum in 2021 took place fully online as a preventative response against the COVID-19 pandemic. The setting (in-person vs. virtual) of the Youth Forum 2022 will be highly dependent on the circumstances and safety surrounding the global pandemic. An agenda and schedule of events will be provided to all Youth Forum participants, and parents or guardians, prior to the event and with enough time for planning. It should be noted that UNODC primarily uses e-mail to disseminate information regarding logistics and the focal point from the Permanent Mission who nominated the youth is copied on these e-mails.

### **Suggestions on possible ways to identify youth candidates to nominate**

The following are suggestions that may be helpful for Permanent Missions in selecting and nominating appropriate candidates to participate in the UNODC Youth Forum.

#### **Who can help you to identify youth?**

The first logical step would be to identify Ministries or Government Agencies that work with youth and empower youth to live a healthy, happy life. This could include, but is not limited to the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Justice, or the Ministry with responsibility for substance use prevention activities. It may be helpful to ask one Ministry to coordinate the process, as the number of youths that can be nominated is limited to 3. When applicable, UNODC also suggests reaching out to youth organizations, groups, leagues, civics groups or other organized activities that are oriented toward empowering youth as leaders and/or working on substance use prevention.

Public and private schools, including higher education, may also be ways to identify youth for participation.

**What method should be used to identify up to 3 youth to participate in the UNODC Youth Forum?**

The methods for identifying youth to participate will vary from country to country, and there is no one right way. A few suggestions that may work include, 1) implementing a nation-wide application process with pre-established criteria, 2) create a contest or competition and select the highest achievers, or 3) call on Ministries and organizations to recommend or nominate youth based on a pre-established criteria with a national level committee making a final selection for the Permanent Mission to put forth. UNODC encourages Member States to use a process that is transparent, fun, creative, interactive and empowering for the youth. This will help to identify youth who will be successful at the UNODC Youth Forum and continue to contribute at the national and global level far beyond the event.

**Are there elements that should be in the recommended inclusion criteria?**

As a reminder, the youth to be nominated by the Permanent Mission must be at least 14 years of age and no older than 23 years of age. We advise that you assess the English language skills of the youth in advance of nominating them to participate. To the extent possible, the youth should have knowledge of or interest in substance/drug use prevention or health promotion. And as a final reminder, UNODC will need to maintain regular communication with the youth via e-mail and other social media platforms, so it is advised to nominate youth that have the means and capacity to work online.