



THE 30TH AFS YOUTH ASSEMBLY DECLARATION OF IMPACT

Background and Purpose

More than 500 young leaders from 84 countries gathered in New York City from August 8–10, 2025, for the 30th AFS Youth Assembly, united under the powerful theme: “Defying Adversity: Empowering Young Global Citizens to Lead.”

In an era where global challenges like climate change, inequality, and conflict transcend borders, collaboration across sectors and communities is more essential than ever. As the world calls for urgent action, young people are rising to meet the moment, driven by their energy, creativity, and determination to build a better future.

Recognizing this potential, the AFS Youth Assembly Alumni Impact Network harnesses the power of youth leadership to advance meaningful solutions and accelerate progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals.

At this milestone Assembly, the Network proudly commits to the **Declaration of Impact**, a roadmap that outlines shared priorities and actions to guide its collective efforts moving forward. This declaration stands as both a promise and a call to action to lead with purpose, collaborate across borders, and drive meaningful change starting within every region of the world.

This declaration begins with a global commitment followed by regional declarations to meet the specific needs and priorities of each region.

Global Declaration

We, the youth of every corner of the world, stand united in purpose and resolve. From Europe to Asia, Oceania, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, North America and the Middle East, our dreams are not just visions. They are blueprints for action. We believe that the challenges of our time demand more than words; they demand courage, partnership, and a commitment to justice, peace, and sustainability. Alone, we can make a difference. But together, we can transform the world. Today, at the 30th AFS Youth Assembly, we declare our readiness to work tirelessly across borders, to hold power to account, to lift each other up, and to create a future that reflects the dignity and hope of all humanity.



Region of Africa Declaration

We, the youth of Africa, stand united in our commitment to collaboration, consistency, and intentional action, determined to seize and create opportunities that shape a better future. We are empowered and equipped to confront the **challenges of poverty, the absence of quality education, and the persistent inequalities faced by women and girls**—driving lasting change across our communities and beyond.

Region of Asia and Oceania Declaration

We, the youth of Asia and Oceania region, believe that while individual efforts bring in the momentum, it is through collective action that true transformation happens.

Together, we are stronger, our voices louder, and our impact even greater. Unity is the key to creating a future that reflects us all as one. It's easy to go alone—but together, we can change everything. Going forward, we will collaborate across our regions to create lasting change and work toward **eradicating misinformation and disinformation to build trust and solidarity**.

Region of Latin America and the Caribbean's

We, the youth of Latin America and the Caribbean, commit to using our dreams as bridges for social impact. Aware that we are agents of change, we will work tirelessly to transform our communities. While we support all of the SDGs, we are especially focused on **quality education, ending poverty, gender equality, and sustainability**. Together, through shared knowledge and genuine passion, we aim to create lasting change for our generation.

Region of Europe Declaration

We commit to holding European actors responsible for their actions, both within and outside of Europe. As the region of EUROPE we will tackle the lack of responsibility of big companies and their affiliates regarding **human rights and sustainable climate policies**.

Region of Middle East and North Africa Declaration

On behalf of the youth of the Middle East and North Africa, we declare that our generation will no longer be defined by the barriers we inherit, but by the futures we create.

We demand **access to quality education that equips us for the world we live in**, platforms to lead in decision-making, and opportunities to turn our ideas into action. We have seen how talent is lost not for lack of vision, but for lack of access, mentorship, and connection. **We pledge to bridge these gaps** ourselves and we call on the global community to stand with us. We are not the leaders of tomorrow; we are the change-makers of today and our impact will not wait.

Region of North America Declaration

North America is a region with extraordinary resources. Yet, access to **quality education** is uneven, and **youth mental health** is under strain.

Artificial intelligence, the most powerful tool of our time, can help us change this and tackle the challenges ahead - and with the resources we have, it is our responsibility to ensure every community, no matter how big or small, moves forward.