21st Annual Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting

5-6 September 2024

Session 1 Overview

Session Title

Dialogue Session: SEA RC Leaders and SEA Youth

Theme: Youth contribution for the future of Red Cross/Red Crescent Humanitarian Innovation

Presenter(s) and National Society(s)	Chair
 Representative from SEA Youth Forum 1. Regita Galuh Parvati, Coordinator Youth Center, Indonesia Red Cross 2. Andi Chaeridwan – Youth Leader, Indonesia Red Cross 3. Hak Phichsean – Youth Volunteer, Cambodian Red Cross 	Benjamin Williams Secretary General Singapore Red Cross

Key Objectives of the Session

- Present SEA Youth Forum outcome and action plan for 2024-2025
- Exchange dialogue between youth and RCRC leaders on "youth contribution for the future of RCRC and humanitarian Innovation"
- Present and handover Youth Call for Action

Background and Current Issues - Key Insights & Contextual Factors

Youth play an essential role in all Southeast Asian (SEA) National Societies volunteer activities, as they possess the requisite knowledge and skills to effectively champion and implement the National Societies missions and mandates. Our regional youth leaders need to be involved in decision-making processes at both implementation and strategic levels. The Phnom Penh call for action underscores a collective commitment among SEA National Society leadership and youth to foster youth activities and participation, with the 2024 Youth Leaders aiming to advance this agenda by formulating a youth statement building upon past outcomes.

Youth are the primary stakeholders and key actors in climate action. They are the most concerned by the irreversible effects of climate change and must have a central role in strategic planning and designing policy to reflect their interest in the future. Following the Phnom Penh Call for Action, the Youth Forum 2024 will be a platform to integrate youth engagement in decision-making with the Movement's climate priority. Beyond this, Southeast Asia grapples with severe climate-induced disasters, given its vulnerability to extreme weather events and rising sea levels. More than 680 million people are at risk as the intensity and frequency of typhoons, floods, and droughts are escalating. Concurrently, air pollution worsens with rising temperatures, compounded by the ecosystem's natural resilience and biodiversity being compromised due to human infrastructure and activity. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement faces mounting pressure to respond to these evolving crises. In 2021, IFRC and ICRC launched the Climate and Environmental Charter, endorsed by all Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies. This commitment involves heightening responses, reducing carbon footprints, and empowering youth to lead and innovate solutions, ensuring communities adapt and thrive amidst the ongoing climate crisis.

This 1.5 hour session will focus on providing a platform for youth to present and share the outcome of the youth forum (2nd to 4th September 2024) to the senior leaders while having exchange dialogue on the topic of "**Youth Contribution for the future of RCRC** / **Humanitarian Innovation**".