Belgium – 2013

Mr. Denis Naets, Ms. Elien Raport

UN Youth Delegate Programme

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25. **Mr. Naets** (Belgium), speaking as a youth delegate, said that it was essential for young people to have access to high-level political meetings and decision-making forums and welcomed the Secretary-General's focus on working with and for young people, as well as the recent appointment of an Envoy on Youth. He strongly supported the establishment of an effective forum on youth that would be authorized to monitor and report to the General Assembly on progress in the World Programme of Action for Youth and youth development.

26. **Ms. Raport** (Belgium), speaking as a youth delegate, said that young people faced many global concerns that required a global response, and they were counting on the United Nations, which many of them still considered a beacon of hope. The living conditions of future generations must not be compromised by short-sightedness or a lack of political will, and young people had a right to be represented when decision saffecting their future were made. On their return to Belgium, the youth delegates hoped to be able to report positively to their peers on how the United Nations was responding to the challenges before it.

