

Italy – 2017

Ms. Giuseppina De Marco, Mr. Tommaso Murè

UN Youth Delegate Programme

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Youth Delegate Search: <https://youthdelegatesearch.org/italy-2017/>

63. **Ms. De Marco** (Italy), speaking as a youth delegate, said that Italy had made progress on youth-related issues and the Sustainable Development Goals. Young Italians welcomed in particular the National Sustainable Development Strategy, which recognized young people as actors of change, and the Plan for Education on Sustainability, which marked the first attempt to include sustainable development in the national education curriculum. They also welcomed the transformation of the Italian civil service from national to universal, giving young Italians the opportunity to volunteer abroad and welcoming foreigners to serve in the country. On the international level, her Government had shown its firm commitment to youth empowerment by not only launching the United Nations Youth Delegate Programme but also donating \$400,000 to the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth and \$100,000 to the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect to raise awareness among young students of civic engagement as a tool to prevent mass atrocities.

64. **Mr. Murè** (Italy), speaking as a youth delegate, said that the two challenges that were of paramount importance for both Italian and global youth were youth unemployment and young people not in employment, education or training. In developed countries, data showed a rate of young people aged from 15 to 29 not in employment, education or training of around 25 per cent. To overlook such a portion of the youth population would be to dramatically reduce the ability of young people to bring about significant change. Education and civic engagement must be the [*10*] starting point in ensuring that the potential of the largest-ever generation of young people did not go to waste. In that regard, non-formal education could be a great tool. Youth delegates welcomed further work on the development of national comprehensive systems of recognition of non-formal and informal learning. They encouraged the Committee to give serious consideration to including young people not in employment, education or training in the draft resolution on youth to be presented at the current session.

