

**In the ECOSOC Presidential Statement, it is essential to emphasize the following:**

1. As urban youth are a growing and predominant global demographic, especially those from the Global South who often live in informality, it is critical that urban youth and their needs and aspirations are represented fully in the Pact for the Future and the Declaration on Future Generations.
2. Their innovative contributions and solutions are instrumental in addressing urban issues, necessitating a shift towards more inclusive and participatory decision-making processes that consider the voices of all youth, including those marginalized or associated with armed groups.
3. Governments must critically review and align their sustainable development initiatives with the needs and aspirations of urban youth. This includes assessing the effects of these initiatives on young people and ensuring their active engagement.
4. Establishing dedicated financing mechanisms to support youth-led initiatives is crucial. This should involve allocating resources specifically for projects in urban areas, providing financial support, technical assistance, and capacity-building opportunities to empower young leaders and their organizations.
5. Transparent mechanisms that ensure the effective allocation and utilization of resources intended for youth initiatives, preventing bureaucratic hurdles that hinder the execution of impactful projects.
6. Integration of modern technology and digital tools in participatory processes, making it easier for urban youth to contribute to policy-making and project implementation regardless of their physical location.
7. Enhanced measures to protect the rights and well-being of youth activists and leaders, especially those advocating for environmental justice and sustainable urban planning, who may face opposition or threats.
8. Encouragement of urban planning and development projects that prioritize sustainable and youth-friendly public spaces, promoting mental health, community engagement, and environmental sustainability.
9. Implementation of educational curriculums that include practical skills for sustainability, peacebuilding, and civic engagement, preparing urban youth to be informed and active participants in their communities.
10. A focus on intergenerational justice is essential to ensure that today's policies do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.