

State Resolution, February 19th 2004, concerning the installation of the National Youth Institute (Decree Installation National Youth Institute)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAME

In consideration that – in accordance with the execution of the youth policy by the government – it is desirable to stipulate the following rules for a consultation organ of and for youth concerning youth policy;

Has, hearing the State Council, confirmed undermentioned, by the Board of Ministers prepared State Resolution:

GENERAL REGULATIONS

Article 1

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|----|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| a. | Minister | : the Minister in charge of the youth policy; |
| b. | Youth | : persons in the age-category 0 – 25 years; |
| c. | Youth Institute | : the institute for youth that will be set up by this State Resolution; |
| d. | Youth Advice Council | : the policy organ of the government that brings out advices to the Government; |
| e. | Youth Districts Council | : the representing organ of the youth per district; |
| f. | Youth Parliament | : the national representing organ of the youth. |
| g. | Youth Ambassador | : the representative of the youth in the Caricom; |
| h. | Youth Congress | : the meeting of all institutions which are handling youth affairs. |

GOAL AND ASSIGNMENTS

Article 2

A National Youth Institute will be installed, hereafter mentioned as “the Institute”, shortening N.Y.I.

Article 3

In the Institute the youth will be represented by the Youth Parliament.

Article 4

The goal of the Institute is to express and to have a full experience of the right on participation of the youth on management level, so that the youth policy will be direct and efficient.

Article 5

1. The main assignments of the Institute are:

- to provide the government information and insights so that there will be a harmonious youth policy that's relevant to the community.
 - the monitoring of and the supervision on the execution of the youth policy.
2. The other assignments of the Institute are:
 - a. to take in point of views concerning youth affairs;
 - b. the nomination of youth ambassadors;
 - c. the consultation of the relevant persons and organizations occupied with youth affairs;
 - d. the organization of the annual National Youth Congress;
 - e. draw up an agenda for the National Youth Congress;
 - f. the process of the results of the National Youth Congress in a note in favor of the government;
 - g. to step into consideration with the Youth Advice Council.
 3. The Institute has, in any case, the undermentioned departments;
 - a. An office of the clerk containing a staff of 1 (one) clerk and 2 (two) substitute clerks.
 - b. An Secretariat.
 - c. The division Information and Guidance.
 - d. The division Documentation and Library.
 - e. The division Logistics and Reproduction.

THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Article 6

1. The Youth Parliament is part of the Institute and consists of twenty-nine (29) members who will represent the youth from all the districts of the Republic of Suriname.
2. The members of the Youth Parliament will be elected per district in a manner that will be further conformed in a State Resolution.
3. The members of the Youth Parliament must have the minimum age of fifteen (15) years and the maximum age of twenty-five (25) years.
4. The duration of the session of the members of the Youth Parliament is set for three years.
5. The members of the Youth Parliament could at most be elected for two times.
6. The election of the members of the Youth Parliament will, every time, take place in the month August, however for the elections which are to be held for the first time there will be deviated from the month August.
7. The inauguration of the Youth Parliament will take place by or on behalf of the President of the Republic of Suriname at the latest three months after the elections.

8. The sitting Youth Parliament will remain in function until a newly elected Youth Parliament is functional.

9. A bad participating member of the Youth Parliament can be recalled in a manner which will be further regulated by decree.

Article 7

1. The youth in the age category of fifteen (15) until twenty-five (25) years can nominate themselves in their district for the election as member of the Youth Parliament.

2. The youth with the most votes per district will have session in the Youth Parliament.

3. The youth that hasn't been elected for the Youth Parliament will, per district, have session in the Youth Districts Council.

4. The working procedure of the Youth Parliament and the Youth Districts Council will be further regulated in a decree.

THE YOUTH ADVICE COUNCIL

Article 8

1. There will be a Youth Advice Council on behalf of the Institute.

2. In the Youth Advice Council at least seven (7) and at most eleven (11) experts on youth affairs will have session.

3. The members of the Youth Advice Council shall be appointed by or on behalf of the President of the Republic of Suriname on recommendation of the Minister after consultation with the Institute.

4. The Youth Ambassadors are officially member of the Youth Advice Council.

5. The Institute and the Youth Advice Council are directly covered by the President of the Republic of Suriname.

ASSIGNMENTS AND COMPETENCES

Article 9

The assignments of the Youth Advice Council are:

- a. To advise and give recommendations to the government in behalf of the youth policy, after consultation of the Youth Parliament;
- b. To advise and to give recommendations to the Institute;

- c. To consult with the Institute;
- d. To process the opinion of the Institute into advices to the government.

THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRES

Article 10

1. In the National Youth Congres participates the Youth Parliament, the Youth Districts Councils, the Youth Advice Council, government institutions which are occupied with youth affairs and youth organizations.
2. In the National Youth Congres youth in the age category twelve (12) and twenty-five (25) years will participate.
3. The goal of the National Youth Congres is to maximize the right on participation.
4. The assignments of the National Youth Congress are:
 - a. The evaluation of the Institute;
 - b. The evaluation of the execution of the youth policy;
 - c. To give recommendations concerning youth policy.
5. The National Youth Congress has the competence to recall a badly participating member as representative, in a manner which will be further regulated by decree; in that case the person with the most votes in the district of that person that has been recalled, shall fill in the position.

Article 11

Further rules concerning the structure and the working procedure of the Institute shall be resolved by decree.

CLOSING PROVISIONS

Article 12

With the operation of this State Resolution there will be withdrawn:

- a. The State Resolution of May 12th, 1976, concerning the insatllation of a Youth Institute (S.R. 1976, # 23);
- b. The State Resolution of November 20th, 1999, concerning installation of the National Youth Institute (S.R. 1999, # 75);
- c. The Presidential Decree of November 20th, 1999 # PB 025/99, concerning installation of the during the National Youth Congres on November 20th, 1999 elected members of the Youth Council (S. R. 1999, # 90).

Article 13

1. This State Resolution can be mentioned as “Decree Installation National Youth Institute”.
2. It shall be announced in the Statute-Book of the Republic of Suriname.
3. It will be active from the day following of that of his announcement.
4. The Minister in charge of the youth policy is in charge of execution of this State Resolution.

Given in Paramaribo, February 19th 2004

R.R. VENETIAAN

Published in Paramaribo, March 5th 2004
The Minister of Internal Affairs,

U. JOELLA-SEWNUNDUN

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NOTE OF EXPLANATION

General

The general youth policy of the government is the policy concerning the position of the youth in the community and aimed on creating the conditions for her development.

The Directorate of Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Education and Community Development has the care for the development and promotion of a coordinated and planned youth policy.

One of the conditions for a optimal development of the youth is the right on participation. This means that a child among other things must be able to participate in community life and openly must be able to express his/her opinion.

This means that the government must develop a policy in which youth will get full opportunity to express their opinion and to be heard in every occasions concerning them.

To express this right on participation pre-eminently the National Youth Institute is a suitable instrument.

The National Youth Institute has a parliament in which representatives of youth throughout the whole country has session.

This institute serves as consultation c.q. input organ of the youth by which the government with the formulation of the youth policy will get input by the youth. This organ will also be a guarding mechanism of the youth, with regard to the youth policy of the government.

Explanation per article

Article 1:

In this article the definitions are inserted. Out of sub b it shows that this State Resolution is in application to youth in the age-category 0 until 25 years.

Article 3:

Out of this article it shows that the Youth Parliament is part of the Youth Institute and is also the representing organ of the youth.

Article 4:

The Youth Institute must realise the input on the youth policy by which the youth also will decide about the policy.

Article 5 paragraph 3:

The mentioned departments are a guarantee for a good and professional administrative support of the Institute.

Article 6 paragraph 1:

There is chosen for 29 members in stead of 51 members to prevent that the Youth Parliament becomes a big organ.

Article 6 paragraph 2:

By this definition the representing of the whole nation is guaranteed, therefore the democracy is stimulated.

Article 6 paragraph 3:

There is chosen for a minimum age of 15 years for the members of the Youth Parliament because for input on this level it is necessary that the youth is on a certain development level. The maximum age is 25 years because under youth is meant all persons till 25 years.

Article 6 paragraph 4 and 5:

There is chosen for a sitting period of three years to establish a bigger mobility of the representatives. Therefore it was decided that the members of the Youth Parliament could be chosen for at least two times.

Article 6 paragraph 6:

In the month August the Summer vacation begins so therefore the elections won't disturb the education.

Article 6 paragraph 7:

Since the Youth Institute is under the President of the Republic of Surinam it is necessary that the Youth Parliament is installed by or behalf of the President.

Article 6 paragraph 8:

This definition is inserted to prevent that there will be a vacuum.

Article 7 paragraph 1:

Here there is chosen for a maximum age-limit of 22 years because the sitting period in the Youth Parliament is set on three years by which a 22 year old elected person doesn't pass the age-limit of 25 years.

Article 7 paragraph 2 and 4 are clear.

Article 8 paragraph 1:

The Youth Advice Council is installed on behalf of the youth and has to put into words the opinion of the youth into advices to the government.

Article 8 paragraph 2:

To prevent that the Youth Advice Council becomes too small or too big there is chosen for a minimum and maximum limit. To guarantee a good and professional functioning it is prescribed that the members of the Youth Advice Council have to be expert on youth affairs. Experts are all who have build up a yearly experience in their work or profession in connection with youth affairs or have had schooling on MO, HBO or Academic Level in the area of youth affairs.

Article 8 paragraph 3 and 5 are clear.

Article 8 paragraph 4:

This definition accomplishes that the regional development on the area of youth affairs is taken into account in the advices. In the Caricom Youth Ambassadors Program the possibility is created for each member-state to delegate two youth ambassadors.

Article 9 is clear.

Article 10:

There is chosen to organise a annual National Youth Congress in the Easter vacation because the youth is free from school and study, so there can be a optimal input for the congress.

Article 10 paragraph 1:

Yearly all institutions, NGO's and GO's, get the opportunity to speak out at the National Youth Congress about the youth policy and all relevant affairs concerning the youth.

Article 10 paragraph 2:

The minimum age-limit here is set for 12 years because the 12 year old are qualified to vote. They must be in the opportunity to speak out about the pursued policy by their representatives.

Article 10 paragraph 3 is clear.

Article 10 paragraph 4:

Out of this definition it shows clearly that the National Youth Congress has a controlling authority on the pursued policy of the Institute and the pursued policy by the government.

Article 10 paragraph 5:

This article settles the sanction on bad functioning by the members of the Youth Parliament.

Paramaribo, February 19th 2004

R.R. VENETIAAN