Concept paper of the Fifth Meeting of the CICA Youth Council

Introduction
Pursuant to the Regulations of the CICA Youth Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council), the Council is an advisory body responsible for coordinating the activities of its member youth organizations, associations and movements of the CICA Member States. The CICA Youth Council aims to promote comprehensive cooperation among the youth of the CICA Member States towards strengthening interaction, peace and friendship in Asia.

Cooperation among youth is essential for sustainable development of relations among the CICA Member States in socio-economic and humanitarian fields.

In this regard, it is essential to promote effective regional cooperation among national youth organizations and to encourage the youth of the CICA Member States to participate in the implementation of the youth policy of the CICA Member States.

Meeting objectives:
Promoting effective regional cooperation among national youth organizations of the CICA Member States and encouraging the youth of the CICA Member States to participate in the implementation of the youth policy of the CICA Member States, elaborating recommendations and proposals to improve the conditions for cooperation in the interest of the youth in CICA;

Items to be discussed:
1) Youth and student exchange programmes

Expected outcomes:
Promoting intercultural dialogue among students and teachers, ensuring mutual enrichment of cultures, languages, historical and national traditions of different peoples.
Equipping young people with strong communication skills and professional qualifications, providing them international travel opportunities to gather elemental knowledge on other countries and cultures, encouraging them to improve their foreign language skills.

2) Countering youth radicalization

*Expected outcomes:*

- Strengthening friendly relations in youth policy. Sharing experiences, creating the most enabling environment for the development and fulfillment of the potential of young people.
- Sharing experiences on measures to counter the spread of extremist ideologies among youth, building social trust, lectures on the dangers of fundamentalist ideologies and religious extremism.

3) Discussing preventive measures against harmful behaviours among youth

*Expected outcomes:*

- Exposing young people to sports, culture, creativity, enabling personal fulfilment, as well as improving social skills of adolescents;
- Studying best practices on harmful and destructive behaviours among youth, presenting case studies in preventing such behaviours, open discussion.

4) Prioritizing youth development in national and regional development agenda

*Expected outcomes:*

Sharing achievements and experiences in advocating youth development among the CICA Member States

5) Presentation on the contribution of the Parliamentary Group of Young Parliamentarians in the development of youth policy in the Turkic Speaking States

*(Speaker: CICA Observer Organization – TURKPA)*

*Expected outcomes:*

The development of young parliamentarians seeks to ensure the real participation of young citizens, youth associations in implementing state policy.

6) Discussion and development of recommendations of the meeting of the CICA Youth Council.
**Meeting time:** 14-15 July 2022

**Meeting format:** hybrid, Nur-Sultan

**Meeting Host:** Ministry of Information and Social Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, CICA Secretariat, Nazarbayev University.

**Participants:**
- representatives of government agencies, youth organizations, associations, and movements of the CICA Member States;
- CICA Observer Organizations and partners: UN, TurkPA, SCO.

**Meeting languages:** English, Russian.