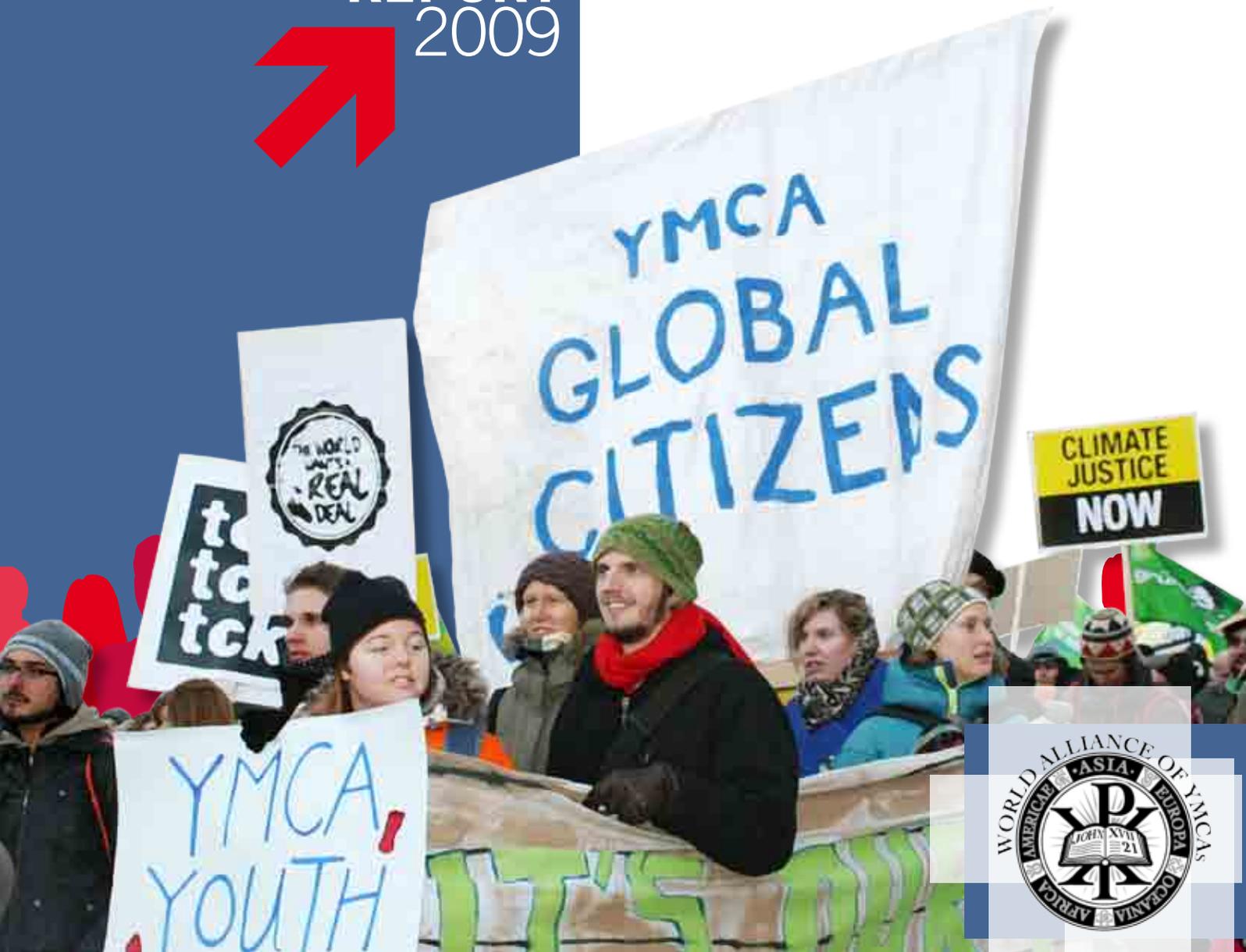


# WORLD ALLIANCE OF YMCAs

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2009



The World Alliance of YMCAs is a global ecumenical Movement for young people, working in 125 countries, with over 45 million members. YMCAs work for social justice and peace, with a focus on young people and their communities, regardless of religion, race, gender or culture. The World Alliance of YMCAs' secretariat is based in Geneva, Switzerland. Its work in the areas of advocacy, capacity building, fundraising and communications, supports the efforts of National and Local YMCAs.

Published by:  
World Alliance of YMCAs  
12 Clos Belmont  
1208 Geneva  
Switzerland

Tel: (+41 22) 849 51 00  
Fax: (+41 22) 849 51 10  
Email: [office@ymca.int](mailto:office@ymca.int)  
Website: [www.ymca.int](http://www.ymca.int)

© World Alliance of YMCAs, Geneva, May 2010  
Printed in Switzerland  
Designed by Mondofragilis  
Layout by John Ainsworth

## World Alliance of YMCAs Annual Report 2009 Contents

Abbreviations.....	4
Preface.....	5
2009 at a glance.....	6
Action and Impact in 2009.....	8
1. Advocating for Change.....	8
- Youth Justice.....	9
- Climate Change.....	10
- HIV/AIDS.....	11
- Right to Food.....	12
- Global Citizenship.....	13
2. Responding to Emergencies.....	14
3. Strengthening YMCAs to serve Youth and Communities.....	16
- Helping YMCAs in Crisis.....	16
- Developing “Transformational Leaders” in the YMCA.....	17
- Using New Technologies to Share Knowledge.....	18
- Mobilising Resources for the YMCA.....	18
- Communicating inside and outside the YMCA.....	19
4. Highlights from YMCA Regions.....	20
5. Preparing for the 17th World Council of YMCAs.....	24
Partnerships and Representation.....	26
Governance.....	28
Financial Overview.....	30
Contact Us.....	32

## Abbreviations

AAJ	Africa Alliance of YMCAs
APAY	Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs
EAA	Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance
FAO	United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation
GOP	Global Operating Plan
ICMYO	International Coordinating Meeting of Youth NGOs
LACA	Latin America and Caribbean Alliance of YMCAs
NGO	Non-governmental Organisation
NIS	Newly Independent States
PLHIV	People living with HIV
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
UNRWA	The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
YWCA	Young Women's Christian Association

## Preface

### YMCA: Striving for Global Citizenship for All

The establishment of the first YMCA in England in 1844 was a response to the challenges facing young people at the dawn of the industrial revolution. Today, in the same way, the YMCA is called to respond to the many crises facing humanity at this historical juncture. Nurturing 'global citizens' who understand the need for global solidarity in the face of major global challenges such as migration, HIV/AIDS, and climate change, has thus become an imperative for YMCAs.

In 2009, many YMCAs implemented programmes that promote global learning on issues such as poverty, multiculturalism, peace-building, human rights and the environment. This complimented existing YMCA programmes to empower young people and their communities through education and skills development, community and livelihood programmes, and promotion of civic engagement. The World Alliance of YMCAs supported this critical work by strengthening the capacity of Regional, National and Local YMCAs worldwide, and developing a fundraising strategy for the Movement.

This year, the World Alliance also promoted the rights of children and young people, and equipped young people to advocate for themselves, particularly on youth justice and climate change issues. In December for example, the World Alliance led a delegation of 28 YMCA youth from across the Movement to participate in the UN Climate Change Summit held in Copenhagen. Delegates successfully raised awareness of the YMCA Movement's work on climate change, and supported civil society's call for a fair and ambitious climate deal.

Throughout 2009, the World Alliance further strengthened its partnerships with other international ecumenical and youth organisations, and UN agencies. Most notably, the World Alliance appointed a YMCA representative to ICMYO, an international network of youth organisations advocating for young people in various forums such as the UN Youth Employment Network and other UN agencies. The World Alliance is also represented in the Social Forum Planning Committee for the World Youth Conference which will be held in Mexico in August 2010.

The YMCA is a global Movement with active presence in 125 countries, in more than 12,000 communities, with over 45 million members. It has the unique potential to transform the lives of millions of young people and their communities, and is already making a significant impact, thanks to the personal commitment and hard work of its volunteers, staff and members. We would like to thank all those who have supported the YMCA this year and look forward to continuing our journey together in 2010.



Martin Meißner  
President



Dr. Bartholomew Shaha  
Secretary General

# 2009 AT A GLANCE



**1. MARCH** - World Alliance Executive Committee Meeting

**2. MARCH** - World Alliance Trains Youth to Advocate on Youth Justice

**3. JULY** - World Alliance Secretary General Visits YMCA Switzerland National Festival

**4. AUGUST** - World Alliance Joins Seminar on Microfinance for YMCAS in the Latin America and Caribbean Region

**5. SEPTEMBER** - YMCA/YWCA Witness Visit to Palestine

**6. NOVEMBER** - Ecumenical Service for the YMCA / YWCA Week of Prayer

**7. NOVEMBER** - World Alliance Secretary General Attends YMCA Guangzhou and YMCA Beijing's 100th Anniversary Celebrations

**8. DECEMBER** - World Alliance Joins World AIDS Day Celebrations in Geneva

**9. DECEMBER** - YMCA Youth Delegation Speaks Out at UN Climate Summit

# ACTION AND IMPACT IN 2009



YMCA youth participate in side event at UN Human Rights Council

## 1. Advocating for Change

Many YMCAs advocate at the local, national and regional level; they call for adequate public policies that promote the rights of children, young people and women in particular. Through these actions, YMCAs are creating long-lasting change in the lives of millions of youth and their communities.

The World Alliance of YMCAs supports these efforts in several ways, including by speaking out on issues relevant to young people, and organising training and hands-on advocacy work at major international conferences.

## ➤ Youth Justice

From 5-22 March, the World Alliance organised a training programme on youth justice for young people from YMCAs in Sierra Leone, Honduras, South Africa, UK and Ireland. All participants had firsthand experience of the stigma and injustices that young people face in the justice system.

Participants learnt about the UN Human Rights Council (HRC), and gained the skills and confidence to successfully lobby at the 10th Session of the HRC in Geneva.

Their remarkable advocacy efforts have already had an impact; the new HRC Resolution on the Administration of Juvenile Justice will include a paragraph on the importance of the rehabilitation and reintegration of young people, thanks to their interventions.

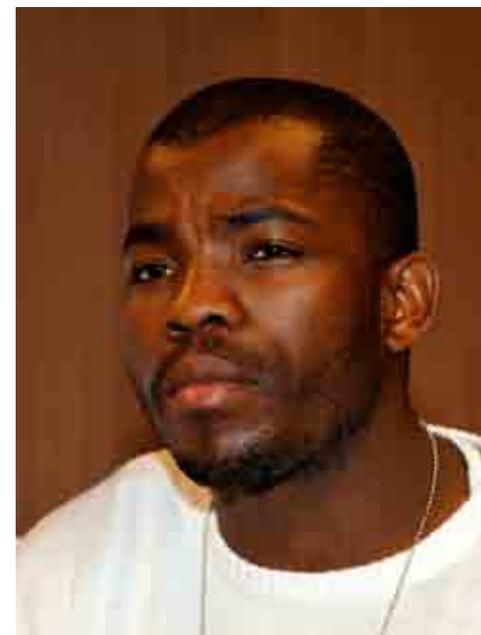
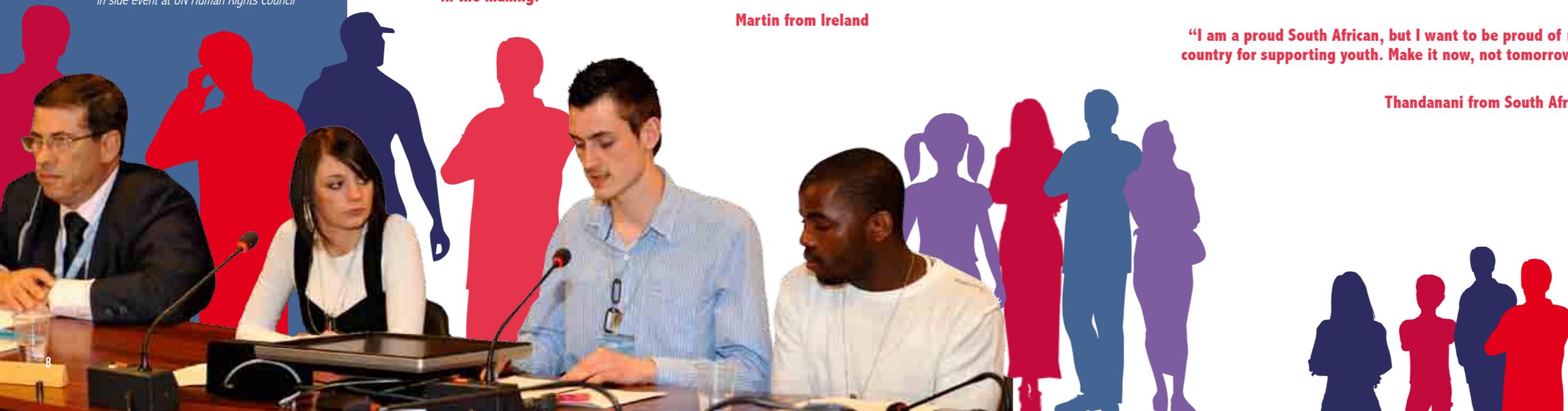


**“We’ve come here as a group to make a change and we have. We’ve organised a side event, we’ve met with delegates from our countries and we’ve influenced a resolution. It’s history in the making!”**

**Martin from Ireland**

**“I am a proud South African, but I want to be proud of my country for supporting youth. Make it now, not tomorrow.”**

**Thandanani from South Africa**





## ➤ Climate Change

The UN Climate Change Conference 2009 (COP15) took place between the 7th and 18th December 2009, in Copenhagen, Denmark. The World Alliance took 28 YMCA delegates from across the Movement, including from Hong Kong, Uruguay, Lebanon, and Sweden.

Under the slogan “YMCA Global Citizens: Acting and Advocating for Climate Justice” – the delegates participated in various advocacy and communications activities. They succeeded in giving visibility to the YMCA Movement’s extensive work in the field of climate change, and supported other youth and ecumenical partner organisations in the call for a “global climate deal in Copenhagen that is fair, ambitious and binding.”



### YClimateAction in Sweden

The “YClimateAction” project run by YWCA-YMCA Sweden gives young people the opportunity to learn about climate change issues, and how to advocate on them. Young people are trained and supported to participate in national and international meetings on climate change. In 2009, Y ClimateAction supported a group of Swedish young people to participate in COP 15.

## ➤ HIV / AIDS

In 2009, The World Alliance of YMCAs continued to advocate for the rights of people living with HIV (PLHIV). Together with YMCAs in over 30 countries, the World Alliance is committed to working for the prevention of HIV/AIDS, fighting gender inequality and discrimination against PLHIV, and ensuring care for orphans and children affected by HIV.

### Celebrating World AIDS Day

On World AIDS Day (1 December), the World Alliance of YMCAs joined other international faith-based organisations in the call for urgent action on HIV. It also joined the celebrations in Geneva, which included a human red ribbon, Ecumenical Worship and live performance by Gleeson Job, Young Professional at the World Alliance of YMCAs.

## Youth Changing Youth through YMCA Ghana’s HIV/AIDS programme

In eastern Ghana the HIV prevalence rate has been steadily increasing; 90% of new infections are among ages 15 – 49. Using a peer educator model, this Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) programme educates young people on HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment, and dispels common myths.

High school and university students are trained over several years before they graduate to become peer educators. In Koforidua alone, 700 peer educators have been trained and are active.

“This programme has helped me so much as with proper knowledge, I have changed my behaviour. I know how to protect myself. I have been working with about 150 of my peers and I would say most of them have benefitted and have changed,” said Lucy Karamah.

*Gleeson Job, World Alliance of YMCAs, Performing for World AIDS Day*



## ➤ Right to Food

The World Alliance of YMCAs strongly supports the Food for Life Campaign run by the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance (EAA)<sup>1</sup>. The Campaign aims to 'address global hunger and improve livelihoods in harmony with creation and social justice'. Dr Pablo Prado, President of YMCA Guatemala, represents the World Alliance on the Strategy Group for the Food Campaign.

In 2009, EAA members wrote to the UN Secretary General, who later endorsed the Campaign, and to the Director General of the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) to share their hopes and concerns. They stressed that we need "just and sustainable solutions that support local producers and economies in ways that preserve the environment for future generations."

Community Kitchen, YMCA Hong Kong



## YMCA Guatemala Speaks out on Hunger Issues

In September 2009 the Guatemalan Ecumenical Council organised a National Colloquium on Hunger. 30 participants came from religious organisations, communities of faith and theological institutions. The YMCA's Dr. Pablo Prado was a guest speaker; he commented that "access to sufficient and nutritious food is a right, not a privilege of those who can afford it, nor a mere commodity."

The YMCA also made a public statement calling on local Guatemalan communities to create networks of solidarity, share food with those who have less, and together denounce the structural causes of hunger. "We demand justice for hungry people. We hunger for justice that builds the foundation for a Guatemala where the dignity of God's people is respected."

<sup>1</sup> The EAA is an international network of churches and church-related organisations committed to campaigning together on common concerns.

## ➤ Global Citizenship

The YMCA's global reach makes it a natural place for nurturing global consciousness among young people, enabling them to build connections between their realities and those faced by young people in other parts of the world.

In October 2009, the World Alliance organised a Conference on Global Citizenship in Coventry, England. YMCA staff from across the Movement shared good practices on Global Citizenship programmes, and developed a framework to guide YMCA work on Global Citizenship among young people. The group agreed for example that Global Citizenship programmes must be relevant to young people, help them think critically about global issues, and empower young people to have a voice and take action.

## Global Citizenship Education in Japan

In August 2009, YMCA Japan organised its first Youth Global Citizenship Project. Held at the YMCA Tozanso international conference centre, 60 YMCA participants from Japan, China, Korea, Hong Kong and Taiwan were present. Participants did practical fieldwork on "multicultural society", "peace", "the poverty gap" and "sustainable development", visiting real projects, to get a deeper understanding of the issues. On the last day, participants developed an action plan to bring these learnings to their local YMCAs and communities.

## YMCA Go Global Programme

The YMCA Go Global programme, run by the International Branch of the YMCA of Greater New York, connects motivated volunteers with opportunities for service and capacity building with YMCAs and other NGOs around the world. Volunteers generally work in youth development, English instruction, environmental conservation, administrative support, and community outreach.

It is hoped that YMCA Go Global volunteers will enable their host movements to grow and further enhance the amazing programmes they are providing, while gaining valuable experience and knowledge they will bring back to their home communities.

The YMCA of Greater New York has provided international exchange and service opportunities for roughly 10,000 young people annually from over 84 countries since 1911.

For more information: [www.internationalymca.org](http://www.internationalymca.org)



# ACTION AND IMPACT IN 2009



## 2. Responding to Emergencies

Because of their rootedness in local communities, YMCAs are well placed to quickly and efficiently respond in emergency situations. The World Alliance of YMCAs supports these actions by helping YMCAs to develop short and long-term intervention strategies, launching funding appeals, and by managing pledges.

During 2009, in collaboration with YMCA Area Alliances, the World Alliance of YMCAs coordinated international responses to several emergency situations including:

### ➤ Sri Lanka (April 2009)

When continued violence in the northeast of Sri Lanka claimed the lives of thousands of innocent civilians and displaced thousands more, the YMCA responded quickly to meet the basic needs of the internally displaced (IDPs), including milk and nourishment for young children. In the longer term, Local YMCAs were also asked to provide education, recreation and psycho-social support to children in IDP camps.

### ➤ Southern Sudan (April 2009)

In response to the desperate humanitarian situation in Southern Sudan, YMCA Yambio provided emergency support to 2,500 people taking refuge in Yambio town. This included provision of supplementary food, blankets, treated mosquito nets, as well as counselling and trauma services for those affected by rape and sexual abuse.

### ➤ South East Asia (October 2009)

Following Typhoon Ketsana and an earthquake in Indonesia, YMCAs in the Philippines, Vietnam and Indonesia provided support to hundreds of people made homeless by these disasters.

### ➤ Setting Standards

This year, in collaboration with Y Care International, the World Alliance of YMCAs developed an International Emergency Coordination Protocol and a set of Emergency Response Templates for YMCAs. They provide much needed guidance to National Movements on how to plan a response, write and launch an appeal, manage funds, and report to donors.

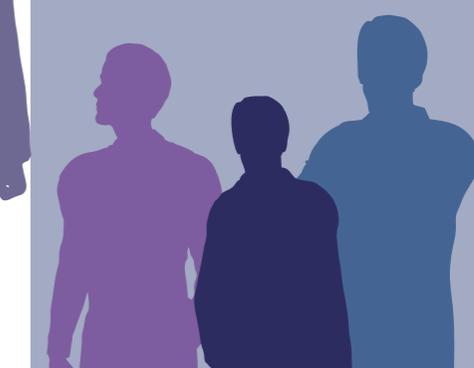
*Relief and Rehabilitation for Children in Gaza*



### Emergency Relief and Rehabilitation for Children in Gaza (January 2009)

After the outbreak of violence in December 2008, YMCA Gaza provided immediate assistance, including food, blankets and medicine to the many families taking shelter in local schools.

In the months that followed, YMCA Gaza also developed longer term actions focusing on the rehabilitation of displaced children and their communities. The YMCA is still providing psychosocial programmes to 2,500 children aged 8 to 15. YMCA animators provide creative programmes including art and handicraft classes, theatre and sports. The YMCA was also requested by 5 schools run by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) to undertake psychosocial work with their pupils.



# ACTION AND IMPACT IN 2009

## 3. Strengthening YMCAs to Serve Youth and Community

Strengthening National and Regional YMCA Movements so that they can better serve young people, is one of the World Alliance of YMCAs' main mandates. Through training, mentoring, fundraising, sharing information and good practices, the World Alliance seeks to build vibrant and relevant YMCAs.

### ➤ Helping YMCAs in Crisis

Despite the existence of many vibrant YMCAs, some Movements struggle to survive; they may lack the necessary resources to sustain their YMCA, suffer from a declining membership, or lack a clear vision for their work.

A set of strategies has been developed for helping YMCAs that need assistance; we refer to this as the Global Operating Plan (GOP). In general, a group of YMCA experts, both national and international, is created to accompany the YMCA in need. The selected YMCA is then supported to do an institutional diagnosis, and develop an action plan to get it back on track. Knowledge sharing between YMCAs through exchange of good practices is another important strategy that helps strengthen the entire Movement.

The World Alliance of YMCAs plays a critical role in the GOP process by helping to identify partners willing to support YMCAs in need, raising funds, offering technical expertise, and sharing good practices.

In 2009, 18 YMCAs, including YMCA regional structures, received support through the GOP framework. This number is growing every year. By supporting YMCAs in need, members of Local and National YMCAs often experience new inspiration for their own work, as well as a deep sense of global solidarity.

## A GOP Success Story: YMCA Ethiopia

YMCA Ethiopia was shut down for 20 years by the late military regime, and re-opened again in 1992. In 2004, YMCA Ethiopia became the first to join the GOP process and undergo an institutional diagnosis. Since then partners from YMCAs in the USA, Canada, Sweden and Germany have been accompanying YMCA Ethiopia and providing expertise.

Thanks to this co-ordinated approach, YMCA Ethiopia has achieved several concrete successes. These include the return of property confiscated by the previous government, the development of new and renovated premises, and increased membership. YMCA international partners were also able to raise funds from major international donors allowing the YMCA in Ethiopia to develop new and relevant programmes for youth such as Vocational Training Centres, HIV/ AIDS awareness, leadership development, and community engagement.

Today, the YMCA of Ethiopia has a national office and 9 regional branches, with an estimated membership of 12,000.



*YMCA Ethiopia's Addis Ketama Branch Primary School for street children*

## ➤ Developing “Transformational Leaders” for the YMCA

Throughout 2009, the World Alliance of YMCAs continued efforts to provide guidance, training and support to Local and National YMCA leaders.

From 30 March – 1 April the World Alliance of YMCAs organised a Conference for National YMCA leaders in Barcelona, Spain. YMCA leaders from all regions participated, and together explored what it means to be a “transformational leader” in the YMCA and why it is so critical in the 21st century.

The group agreed that a transformational leader must have a strong vision, show courage and conviction, be able to adapt to change, be self-critical, be a good manager, listener and communicator, have spiritual strength, and be able to bring out the best in those around her or him. The group agreed on the need to examine YMCA training and educational institutions to ensure that transformational leadership is promoted. These reflections will be taken up by the 17th World Council of YMCAs in 2010 and by the Coalition of YMCA Universities.

## ➤ Using New Technologies to Share Knowledge

Capturing and sharing knowledge among YMCAs, particularly good practices, training materials and guidelines is a unique service that the World Alliance of YMCAs can offer to the wider YMCA Movement. In September it launched a new initiative to do this, with three core components:

### Tools and Good Practice Library

This online library allows YMCA practitioners to download materials on governance, leadership development, fundraising, communications and advocacy, from both within and outside the YMCA Movement.

### YMCA Online Community

This web-based platform allows YMCA volunteers, staff and members to share good practices, questions, achievements and challenges in a safe space. Using professional software we can create discussion forums, blogs, calendars, share files and photos, and create communities on special areas of interest (<http://elgg.ymca.int>).

### E-training

In 2009 the World Alliance piloted a series of online training seminars for YMCA practitioners using “webinar” software that allows up to 200 participants to meet in a virtual space to receive real-time training, with the possibility to ask questions, vote, send instant messages, and even record the session.

## ➤ Mobilising Resources for the YMCA

In 2009, the World Alliance Executive Staff and YMCA Area Executives (known as the ‘Resource Mobilisation Team’) worked on a strategy to generate additional resources for the YMCA Movement; resources that would help YMCAs meet the increasing needs of young people around the world.

The Team agreed that YMCAs need to advance in four areas - institutional capacity, communications, programme relevance, and donor relations - to become more successful fundraisers. The Team developed a plan of action and started implementing it, with notable progress in 2009.

- Each Area Alliance took action to improve the quality of governance, financial management, personnel, etc. in their regions. This was achieved through: training workshops and seminars; the development of guidelines and minimum standards; the creation of networks for sharing of good practices; and direct support to smaller YMCA Movements.

- The Team developed a framework for YMCAs to evaluate and communicate the impact of their work on youth and communities. In 2009 this was piloted in several African YMCAs. Similarly, the Latin America and Caribbean Alliance of YMCAs (LACA) ran a pilot-project to evaluate the relevance of YMCA social practices in the region (<http://ymca.reprasis.org/>). For the first time, YMCA Europe, and the Africa Alliance of YMCAs, published popular Annual Reports highlighting their activities and impact.

- All Areas took steps to evaluate and strengthen their external communications and respective brands. LACA created a corporate brand manual and successfully reduced the number of different logos being used in the region. The Africa Alliance of YMCAs underwent a similar process, and created Communications Teams in 5 countries to communicate its work to the public and donor community. YMCA Canada has entered into the early stages of a branding process. The YMCA of the USA has undertaken

an extensive consultative process and will be advancing its new branding strategy in 2010. At the global level, the World Alliance of YMCAs explored the case for creating a global YMCA brand, and will share its findings with the Movement in 2010.

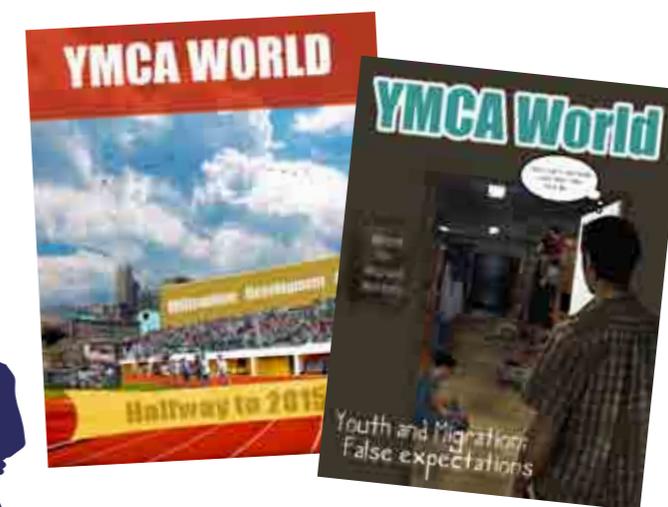
- In Europe and the Asia and Pacific region, popular fundraising campaigns were launched, and are already gathering momentum. You can view the launch of APAY’s S2S campaign here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aOzhTTxxYCU>.

“I have been immersed in a continuous learning process, especially since the creation of the Latin America and Caribbean Network on Philanthropy, Fundraising and Solidarity. Through this, we have been able to learn from good practices from the YMCAs of Mexico, Sao Paolo, Bogota, Uruguay and others...we are entering a new era in the institutional life of YMCA Peru, and are close to making our first steps in resource mobilisation.”

Pedro Vasquez Podesta, General Secretary, YMCA Peru

## ➤ Communicating inside and outside the YMCA

Using a variety of publications and multimedia the World Alliance of YMCAs shared information on the latest YMCA news, activities and events from around the world. This was directed at the global YMCA Movement, as well YMCA partners, donors, the general public and media.



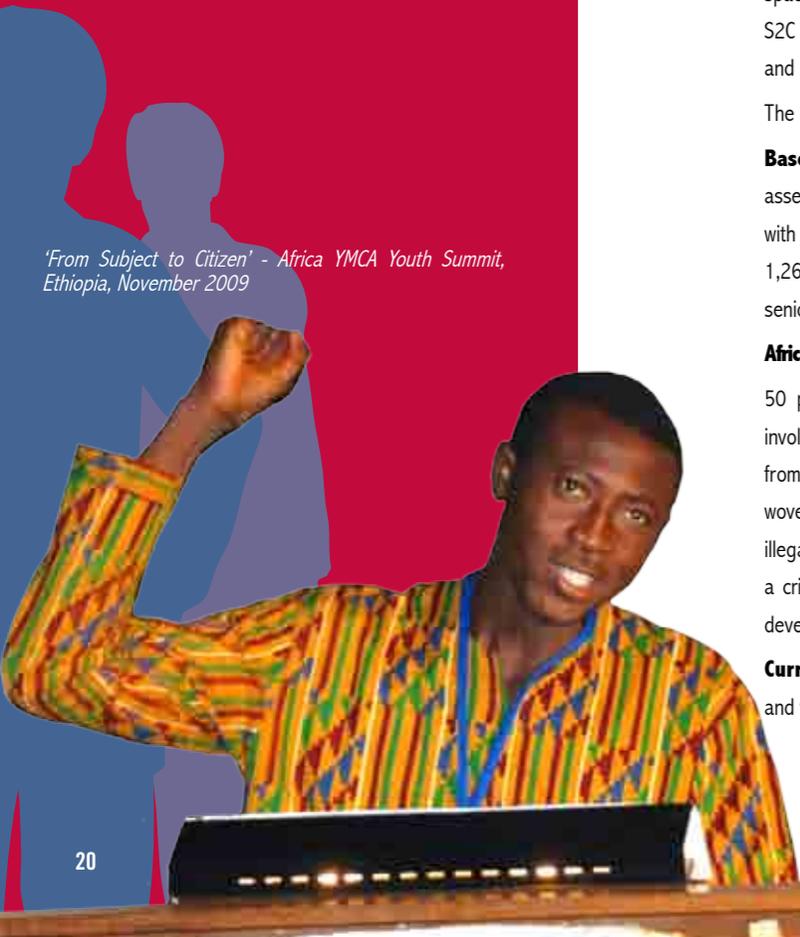
Quarterly magazine, YMCA World, to subscribe contact [john@ymca.int](mailto:john@ymca.int)



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM YMCA REGIONS



*'From Subject to Citizen' - Africa YMCA Youth Summit, Ethiopia, November 2009*



## Highlights from YMCA Regions

In addition to being members of the World Alliance of YMCAs, most YMCA National Movements are also affiliated to regional YMCA bodies, known as Area Alliances<sup>2</sup>. These are some highlights from the different Areas in 2009:

### ➤ Africa: Subject to Citizen – building the civic competence of young people in Africa (S2C)

Launched in 2009, the YMCA's S2C initiative aims to give African youth the voice, space and ability to lobby for a more just social, political and economic world order. S2C supports young people to move from "subjects" – expendable, manipulated and abused – to active "citizens", from the community to the global level.

The S2C initiative has developed through three youth-driven processes:

**Baseline Survey** - Surveys were conducted in Kenya, Liberia, and Zimbabwe to assess the current and ideal situation of young people, particularly their relationship with justice administrators, and their opportunities to influence policy. A total of 1,260 young people took part as well as members of parliament, the judiciary, and senior members of government.

#### **Africa YMCA Youth Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28 October – 5 November 2009**

50 participants from 12 African YMCAs participated in the Summit. Sessions involving testimonies from youth who had struggled against all odds to transform from subject to citizen, underpinned the process of personal development that was woven throughout the programme. These included an ex-child soldier, a deported illegal immigrant and an ex-gang member. "It has made me realise that there is a crisis in Africa and as young people, we have a responsibility", "We are now developing ourselves as future leaders for Africa" said participants at the Summit.

**Curriculum Development** - An S2C curriculum was developed in December 2009, and will be tested in early 2010 with new training materials in three pilot countries.

### ➤ Asia and Pacific

In 2009, the Asia and Pacific region witnessed a series of devastating natural disasters including floods, typhoons and earthquakes. With support from the Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (APAY), local YMCAs worked hard to provide immediate aid to the affected communities.

Throughout 2009, APAY's main focus was however on strengthening YMCAs in difficult situations – financial or organisational. This was done through close monitoring, on-site visits and accompaniment. Emerging YMCA Movements in Cambodia and East Timor received special assistance to strengthen their leadership and organisational structure, and Partner Support Groups were established to provide them with long term support.

In 2009, APAY also continued to run programmes focusing on Global Citizenship education, gender, migration and climate change, in addition to launching new initiatives on ageing and alternative tourism. Youth participation and leadership development remain central to all these activities.

APAY also continued to build its interfaith connections for peace-building in the region. It strengthened its partnership with the Christian Conference of Asia and Interfaith Cooperation Forum (ICF), through which it conducted a 3-month School of Peace for youths of various faiths. It also cultivated relationships with other ecumenical youth organisations, and EASY Net (Ecumenical Asia-Pacific Students and Youth Network).

### ➤ Canada

In 2009, the Canadian YMCA focused its international efforts on collaboration with National Movements, Area organisations and the World Alliance to advance the Global Operating Plan and the global resource mobilisation strategy. Financial and technical assistance were provided to these two initiatives and joint action to strengthen organisational capacity was featured in the work of Associations and their international partner YMCA.

The YMCA of Greater Vancouver welcomed 15 leaders from Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America to the YMCA Youth Peace Network, a global youth leadership development programme now in its seventh year. Knowledge exchange was highlighted with the invitation to Sandy McIntyre, Canada's representative on the World Alliance Executive Committee, to share his expertise in YMCA governance at the Africa National General Secretaries Seminar and at the Latin American and Caribbean Volunteer Leaders and General Secretaries Summit.

In the spring, YMCAs from across Canada joined in a call for renewal that is inspiring both dialogue and action on shared opportunities and challenges within Canada. With the decision of Wayne Perkins to step down from YMCA Canada, Scott Haldane, most recently the President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Toronto, was appointed President and CEO of YMCA Canada effective January 1, 2010.

<sup>2</sup>Note that there is no regional body in North America, and though the Middle East Region has a Co-ordinating Committee, this is not a formal alliance.



## ➤ Europe: Youth Peace Festival in Caucasus

In 2007, YMCA Europe launched the Roots for Reconciliation initiative in the South Caucasus region; the aim was to promote peaceful transition following conflict. When war broke out between Russia and Georgia in August 2008, this initiative proved to be an excellent tool through which the YMCA could respond to the crisis.

This work continued throughout 2009, and culminated with the ProFest event, held from 24 – 30 August in Yerevan, Armenia. This peace festival brought together 70 young people from Georgia and Russia, Armenia and Karabagh, USA and YMCA Europe to celebrate creation, peace and justice. ProFest offered its participants a unique opportunity to share with and learn from each other, to build friendships and partnerships. The event had a life-changing impact for many attending it.

“It puts my values back into my programmes”, “it has been a deeply spiritual experience building relationships with others and with God”, “here you see the heart of the work. It is recharging me to do more”, “we’re heading in the right direction. Having our own reconciliation with God before reconciling with each other”, “God is reconciling us through Jesus Christ”, “this is [real] service”, said participants.

## ➤ Latin America and Caribbean

In 2009, the Latin America and Caribbean Alliance of YMCAs (LACA) had five core priorities: 1) To develop the capacity of National Movements, particularly in governance and fundraising; 2) To increase the scope and impact of YMCA advocacy work; 3) To share and learn from good practices in the region, and capitalise on existing resources; 4) To support the work of thematic and geographic networks using the latest information and communications technology and; 5) To develop a unified brand and corporate image.

Concrete results in the above mentioned areas include:

- Launch of regional YMCA leaders training programme with a system of accreditation and certification. More than 300 leaders from 6 YMCAs received training in 2009.
- Technical support given to help strengthen YMCAs in Central America, the Caribbean and Bolivia.
- Organisation of the 6th Uruguayan University of Citizenship and Participation, that brought together over 110 youth representatives from throughout Latin America ([www.upc.org.uy](http://www.upc.org.uy)).
- Creation of a Regional Youth Committee, and mobilisation of over 500 young people in consultative processes.
- Streamlining of the regional brand, so that almost all LACA Movements are using the same logo, as well as integrated websites and email addresses.

## ➤ Middle East

In 2009, over 190,000 community members, including children youth, women, and refugees, benefited from a range of YMCA Lebanon programmes that helped improve their health, better their income opportunities and support their livelihoods, including vocational training, agricultural development and environmental protection.

The YMCA of East Jerusalem runs programmes for the holistic development of young people, and in 2009 served as a beacon of hope for Palestinian communities throughout the West Bank. Programmes included vocational training, particularly for women, rehabilitation for disabled children and youth, and advocacy for peace with justice, tolerance, equality and respect for human rights.

In 2009 YMCA Gaza focused efforts on responding to community needs following the outbreak of violence in December 2008, including the provision of basic goods and medicine, as well as longer-term rehabilitation programmes for children aged 8 to 15.

YMCA Egypt reaches out to over 6000 young people and their communities each year. Key programme activities in 2009 included peace education, civic engagement, IT and language training, and sports.

## ➤ USA: Strengthening Inclusion and Building Global Community

The International Group of the YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) has focused on four cornerstones for its work in 2009: strengthening YMCA Movements, newcomer/immigrant programmes, global philanthropy, and global education.

The following is a brief summary of the achievements in 2009:

- Increase in local YMCA involvement in international YMCA capacity building through partnerships, learning exchanges and training events.
- 30 youth leaders participated in cross-cultural global service-learning experiences.
- Resources were mobilised to construct and/or renovate five international YMCA camps in developing countries.
- The philanthropic capacity and fundraising results of 10 international YMCAs were strengthened.
- USAID funded youth HIV prevention and service learning programmes in Ethiopia were expanded.
- Y-USA's World Service Campaign raised \$1,2 million and exceeded the 2009 campaign by 8%.
- 300 volunteers, nationally, supported Y-USA efforts in promoting Diverse and Global Communities (mostly through World Service).
- 12 YMCAs received \$220,000 in re-grants for newcomer immigrant programmes supported through the Knight Foundation.
- Strengthening Inclusion manual developed: Engaging Asians Communities in Your YMCA.
- Strengthening Inclusion training developed and implemented: Cultural Lenses – Understanding the Influences of National Origin.



*Youth Peace Festival, Armenia, August 2009*



# PREPARING FOR THE 17<sup>TH</sup> WORLD COUNCIL OF YMCAs



## Striving for Global Citizenship for All

The World Council of YMCAs meets every four years, and is responsible for setting the policies and direction of the World Alliance, electing its Officers and Executive Committee, evaluating the work of the last four years, and deliberating on priorities for the next quadrennium.

In 2009, the World Alliance of YMCAs continued preparations for the next World Council that will take place from 19– 24 July 2010 in Hong Kong under the theme of “Striving for Global Citizenship for All”.

Highlights of the 2010 World Council will include:

- Skills building workshops
- Discussion Forums on YMCA cutting-edge issues
- Global Village for YMCA exhibits, sharing resources and materials
- Cultural Night
- Inspirational Worship Programme
- Exposure Visits to Local YMCA programmes

The World Council will also be an important milestone in several processes that are linked together: the launch of a culture of giving with resource mobilisation as an integral component of Movement strengthening; building a common YMCA identity; and lifting the YMCA profile as a Movement that is committed to addressing the needs of young people and their communities.

## International Youth Forum

Prior to the World Council Meeting, there will be a three-day International Youth Forum. It aims to empower young people to advocate on global issues that impact their lives and their communities, with a specific focus on the Millennium Development Goals. It will also provide training to prepare youth delegates for active participation at the World Council.



# PARTNERSHIPS AND REPRESENTATION



## Partnerships and Representation

Representing the YMCA Movement at world level is a core function of the World Alliance of YMCAs. Our aim is to make it easier for the voice of YMCA young people to be heard at the highest levels of policy-making and to create opportunities for new partnerships for our National YMCA Movements. To this end, the World Alliance of YMCAs fosters strategic partnerships with a range of international organisations including ecumenical bodies, UN agencies, and other youth organisations.

## ➤ Ecumenical Organisations

- World Council of Churches
- The Vatican, Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity
- Founding Member of the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance

## ➤ United Nations

The World Alliance of YMCAs has had consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations since 1947. The World Alliance participates actively in the Commission on the Status of Women (New York) and the Human Rights Council (Geneva) and collaborates with the following organisations:

- UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
- YEN - Youth Employment Network
- UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

## ➤ Youth and Other Organisations

- Y's Men International
- NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child
- CONGO - Conference of Non Governmental Organisations
- ICMYO – International Coordinating Meeting of Youth NGOs

The World Alliance of YMCAs belongs to a group of the biggest youth organisations in the world known informally as the "BIG 6" - officially termed the Alliance of Youth Chief Executive Officers. Collectively, the network reaches over 100 million young people in over 200 countries and territories.

Besides the World Alliance of YMCAs, members of the Alliance are:

- World YWCA (World Young Women's Christian Association)
- WOSM (World Organization of the Scout Movement)
- WAGGGS (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts)
- IFRC (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies)
- IAA (International Award Association)

*World Alliance participates in 10th University on Youth & Development, Mollina, Spain, September 2009*



# GOVERNANCE



## Officers and Executive Committee Members

### Officers

President: Mr. Martin Meißner, Germany  
Deputy President: Rev. Samuel D. Stephens, India  
Treasurer: Mr. Fernando Ondarza, Mexico  
Secretary General (non-voting): Dr. Bartholomew Shaha, Bangladesh

### Members

#### Africa

Ms. Sophie Ahadj, Togo  
Ms. Aisa Akapson, Nigeria  
Mr. Charles Habiah, Ghana  
Ms. Lucy Wanjiru, Kenya  
Mr. Vezinhlaha Mncwango, South Africa

#### Asia and Pacific

Dr. Jai Chang Park, Korea  
Ms. Helen McEwan, New Zealand  
Ms. Maria Cristina Miranda, Philippines  
Ms. Hiromi Nagao, Japan

#### Canada

Mr. Sandy McIntrye

#### Europe

Dr. Kjetil Fretheim, Norway  
Mr. Martin Bauer, Switzerland  
Ms. Jennie-Marie Glover, England  
Ms. Paola Petracchi, Italy

#### Latin America and Caribbean

Mr. Howard Sabga, Trinidad and Tobago  
Ms. Lucia Quintanilla, Peru  
Dr. Felipe Jurado, Chile  
Ms. Sofia Sanchez Acosta, Argentina  
Mr. Santiago Ortiz, Ecuador

#### Middle East

Ms. Rana El-Khoury, Lebanon

#### USA

Ms. Mary Benson  
Mr. Kenneth Colloton  
Ms. Courtney Lawrence

#### Area Presidents:

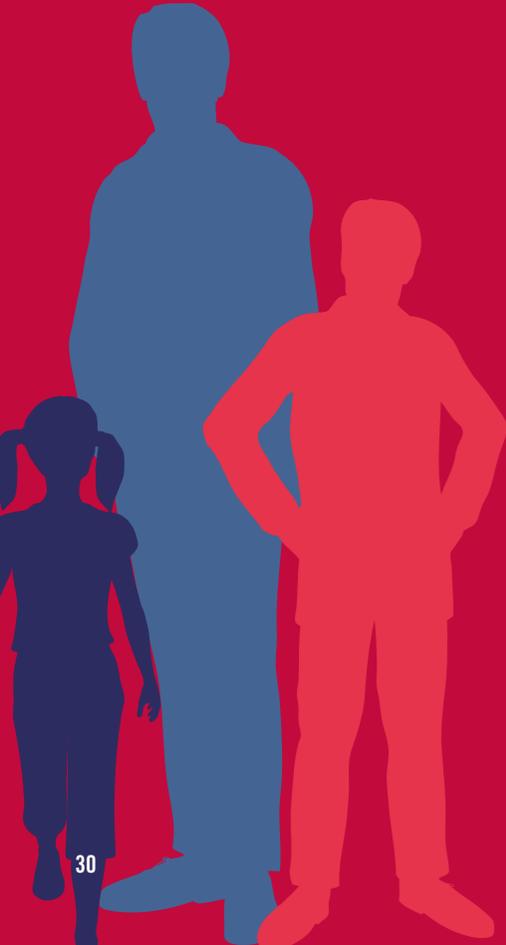
Mr Clifford Sileya, Africa Alliance of YMCAs (Zimbabwe)  
Dr. Jai Chang Park, Asia & Pacific Alliance of YMCAs (Korea)  
Mr. Peter Posner, European Alliance of YMCAs (England)  
Mr. Leopoldo Moacir Lima, Latin American & Caribbean Alliance (Brazil)

Past President (Non-Voting): Rev. Caesar Molebatsi, South Africa  
Y's Men International Liaison to the World Alliance (Non-Voting): Ms Rachele Reeg, USA  
Observer: Y Care International (Non-Voting): Mr Chris Roles, CEO

Officers, Executive Committee Members, and World Alliance Staff



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



**Deloitte.**

Deloitte SA  
 Boulevard Pléiades 20  
 Case postale 1903  
 CH-1215 Geneva 15  
 Tel: +41 (0)22 747 70 00  
 Fax: +41 (0)22 747 70 00  
 www.deloitte.ch

**Report of the auditor**

To the Executive Committee of  
 World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, Geneva

**Report on the financial statements**

As auditor, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations (the "Association"), which comprise the balance sheet, statement of income and expenditure, and notes for the year ended December 31, 2009. The financial statements of the Association for the year ended December 31, 2008 were audited by another auditor whose report, dated March 31, 2009, expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

*Executive Committee's Responsibility*

The Executive Committee is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law and the Association's articles of incorporation. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining an internal control system relevant to the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The Executive Committee is further responsible for selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers the internal control system relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control system. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2009 comply with Swiss law and the Association's articles of incorporation.

Deloitte SA

  
 Jean-Marc Jenny  
 Licensed audit expert  
 Auditor in charge

  
 Julie Tivillier

Geneva, May 12, 2010  
 JM/JT/msc

**Balance sheet as at December 31**

	2009	2008
ASSETS	CHF	CHF
Current Assets		
Cash in hand and in banks	866,307	232,946
Accounts receivable		
- miscellaneous	142,282	167,753
- invoices receivable	42,034	19,656
- contribution receivable	61,058	7,317
- general services	-	23,100
- other receivables	21,977	19,647
	<u>1,133,658</u>	<u>470,419</u>
Investment portfolio		
Cash and short term investment accounts	25,887	148,489
Long term bonds and investments	21,068,757	18,660,052
	<u>21,094,644</u>	<u>18,808,541</u>
Fixed assets		
Furniture and equipment	1	1
	<u>22,228,303</u>	<u>19,278,961</u>
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Bank overdraft	875,273	527,731
Miscellaneous payables	402,107	244,781
Projects deferred income	178,283	226,016
	<u>1,455,663</u>	<u>998,528</u>
Reserves and Funds		
Other reserves and funds	2,097,884	1,918,949
Refugees and Rehabilitation funds	1,131,179	1,131,179
Endowment funds	1,566,734	1,393,131
JR MOTT endowment funds	15,910,780	13,780,010
Net result for the year	66,063	57,164
	<u>20,772,640</u>	<u>18,280,433</u>
	<u>22,228,303</u>	<u>19,278,961</u>

# CONTACT US



## Contact Us

### The World Alliance of YMCAs

Dr Bartholomew Shaha, Secretary General

12 Clos Belmont

1208 Geneva

Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 849 51 00

Fax: +41 22 849 51 10

Website: [www.ymca.int](http://www.ymca.int)

Email: [office@ymca.int](mailto:office@ymca.int)

### Africa Alliance of YMCAs

Carlos Madjri Sanvee, General Secretary

State House Avenue,

State House Crescent

P.O. Box 60856,

Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 20 2714644/2724804

Fax: +254 20 2725909

Website: [www.africaymca.org](http://www.africaymca.org)

Email: [aaymcas@africaymca.org](mailto:aaymcas@africaymca.org)

### Asia and Pacific Alliance of YMCAs

Kohei Yamada, General Secretary

23 Waterloo Road

6th Floor, Kowloon

Hong Kong SAR

Tel: +852 2780 8347 / 2770 3168

Fax: +852 2385 4692

Website: [www.asiapacificymca.org](http://www.asiapacificymca.org)

Email: [office@asiapacificymca.org](mailto:office@asiapacificymca.org)

### Latin America and Caribbean Alliance of YMCAs

Mauricio Diaz Vandorsee, General Secretary

Vicente Rocafuerte No. 1678

Montevideo, Uruguay 11.400

Tel: +598 2 600 99 40

Website: [www.lacaymca.org](http://www.lacaymca.org)

Email: [comunicaciones@lacaymca.org](mailto:comunicaciones@lacaymca.org)

### YMCA Canada

Scott Haldane, President and CEO

42 Charles Street East, 6th Floor

Toronto, ON, M4Y 1T4

Tel: +1 416 967 9622

Fax: +1 416 967 9618

Website: <http://www.ymca.ca/>

Email: [services@ymca.ca](mailto:services@ymca.ca)

### YMCA Europe

Johan Vilhelm Eltvik, General Secretary

Na Porici 12

CZ-110 00 Prague 1

Czech Republic

Tel: +420 224 872 020

Fax: +420 224 872 025

Website: [www.ymcaeurope.com](http://www.ymcaeurope.com)

Email: [info@ymcaeurope.com](mailto:info@ymcaeurope.com)

### YMCA of the USA

Neil Nicoll, President and CEO

Selma Zaidi, Vice President, International

101 North Wacker Drive

Chicago, IL 60606

Tel: +1 800 872 9622

Website: [www.ymca.net](http://www.ymca.net)

Email: [international@ymca.net](mailto:international@ymca.net)



[www.ymca.int](http://www.ymca.int)