

# SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE INFORMATION CLEARINGHOUSE



## Pact for the Future

## **Chapter 4 Youth and Future Generations**

Comparison - REV 1 vs REV 2



ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT





Global Governance Innovation Network

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### Pact for the Future- Comparison - REV 1 vs REV 2 - Chapter 4 Youth and Future Generations

**ABOUT:** The first revision (<u>REV 1</u>) of the Pact for the Future was released on May 14, 2024, followed by the second revision (<u>REV 2</u>) on July 17, 2024. The latter was developed after the Second Reading with member states. This bulletin will provide a focused analysis of Chapter 4, highlighting the differences between REV 1 and REV 2. A bulletin focusing on Chapter 4, comparing the <u>Zero Draft</u> and REV 1 was published earlier by the ICH team and can be found <u>here</u>.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** REV 2 marks a significant evolution in the approach to addressing the needs and rights of children and youth by moving beyond the limitations established in REV 1. Also, REV 2 emphasizes a more comprehensive strategy that not only prioritizes human rights but also integrates social and economic development for a wider demographic, including vulnerable populations. The modifications reflect a robust commitment to equitable access to quality education and social inclusion, especially in emergencies. Furthermore, REV 2 enhances the scope of investment in social services and encourages active youth participation in shaping their futures, fostering intergenerational cooperation, and addressing challenges linked to climate change. The revision also points to a clearer pathway towards fully realizing and protecting the rights of young individuals. It shifts the language from prescriptive guidelines to supportive recommendations, promoting community engagement and inclusivity in decision-making processes. Notably, it acknowledges the dynamic role that youth can play in advocating for their rights while also addressing negative stereotypes and harmful practices that hinder their potential. In general, REV 2 represents a comprehensive, action-oriented commitment to uplift children and youth through a broader lens of human rights, sustainability, and inclusivity. However, the transition from a focus on direct investment in the fund to a broader strategy that emphasizes raising awareness and encouraging contributions may raise some concerns.

**METHODOLOGY:** This bulletin focuses on Chapter 4, providing a detailed comparison between REV 1 and REV 2. Key changes in each operational paragraph and action are clearly identified in the accompanying comparison table. Changes, whether they are removals, additions, or modifications, are highlighted in the table. The content of REV 1 that has been removed in REV 2 has been indicated by yellow highlights in column 1, and the content that has been added to REV 2 but not found in REV 1 is indicated by green highlights in column 2. Specific terms that were modified from REV 1 to REV 2 are indicated by orange highlights in both column 1 and 2. Additionally, the "Author's Observations" with an objective analysis of the changes are presented in the rightmost column and are italicized to differentiate from the excerpts in the other columns.

DISCLAIMER: This bulletin is intended to provide an overview of the latest developments and is not a comprehensive summary or record of the SOTF processes. It was prepared independently and the content does not reflect the specific views of any of the partner organizations. Contact Fergus Watt (<u>ferguswatt6@gmail.com</u>) for more information. Material is not copyrighted and can be distributed freely.





#### **HEADLINES:**

- → Clear inclusion of children in chapter 4 in REV 2.
- → A More Inclusive Approach to Youth and Children in Social and Economic Development in REV 2.
- → Promotion of Intergenerational Solidarity for Enhanced Social Outcomes in Rev 2.
- → Increased youth participation is requested in decision-making and policy-making processes in REV 2.
- → Reporting on the progress made regarding these matters at the 2025 High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly, commemorating the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth and its subsequent follow-up, was omitted in REV 2.
- → REV 2 addressed quality education and resilience during emergencies.
- → REV 2 considers a broader understanding of challenges faced by young people, including but not limited to discrimination.
- → REV 1 was more prescriptive and focused on establishing formal bodies with specific mandates and resources. In contrast, REV 2 takes a more supportive and encouraging tone, emphasizing collaborative efforts and the provision of meaningful engagement opportunities without the same level of emphasis on formal structures or resources.
- → REV 2 contains language on ensuring the fulfillment of rights for vulnerable and marginalized youth.
- → REV 2 Encourages Community Engagement Over Prescriptive Guidelines.
- → REV 2 recognizes the intersection of environmental and human rights issues.
- → The mention of establishing a Global Youth Investment platform was retained in REV 2; however, the omission of the Second World Summit for Social Development reduces the clarity of the timeline for this initiative.

#### **RESOURCES:**

- 1. <u>Pact for the Future: Rev. 2</u>
- 2. <u>Pact for the Future: Rev. 1</u>
- 3. Pact for the Future: Zero Draft





#### **COMPARISON:**



REV 1 (highlighted below in yellow are items that were removed; highlighted in both columns in orange are specific terms that were modified)	REV 2 (highlighted below in green are items that were added; highlighted in both columns in orange are specific terms that were modified)	Author's Observations
40. Today's generation of young people is the largest in history, with most of them living in developing countries. They are critical agents of positive change. However, across our world, millions of children and young people are deprived of the conditions they need to reach their full potential. Too many children and young people continue to live in extreme poverty, without access to critical services. We recognize that, together with future generations, they will live with the consequences of our actions and our inaction. We commit to transformative levels of investment in, and engagement by, young people at national and international levels to secure a better future for all.	58. Today's generation of children and young people is the largest in history, with most of them living in developing countries. They are critical agents of positive change and we welcome their important contributions to sustainable development, human rights and peace and security. However, across our world, millions of children and young people are deprived of the conditions they need to reach their full potential and fulfill their human rights, especially those in vulnerable situations. Children and young people continue to live in extreme poverty, without access to critical, basic services. We recognize that, together with future generations, they will live with the consequences of our actions and ourinaction. We commit to transformative levels of investment in, and engagement by, young people at national and international levels to secure a better future for all.	<i>REV 2 includes children</i> <i>explicitly, emphasizes</i> <i>contributions to human rights</i> <i>and sustainable development,</i> <i>and highlights the human rights</i> <i>aspect of the challenges faced.</i>
41. We recognize that youth are a distinct group from future generations. We must ensure that decision- making today takes greater account of the rights and interests of the generations to come. We have annexed a Declaration on Future Generations to the Pact for the Future that details our commitments in this regard.	59. We recognize that <b>children</b> and youth are a distinct group from future generations. We must ensure that decision-making and <b>policy-making</b> today takes greater account of the needs and interests of the generations to come, <b>and balanced with the</b> <b>needs and interests of</b> <b>current generations.</b> We have annexed a Declaration on Future Generations to the Pact for the	<i>REV 2 broadens the scope to include children, shifts the focus from rights to needs, and emphasizes the importance of balancing the interests of both current and future generations.</i>



	Future that details our commitments in this regard.	
Action 32. We will invest in social services for young people so they can reach their full potential	Action 37. We will invest in the social and <b>economic</b> <b>development</b> of <b>children</b> and young people so they can reach their full potential.	The transition from Action 32 to Action 37 might reflect a shift from a specific focus on social services aimed at young people to a broader, more integrated approach that includes both social and economic development for a wider age range, including children.
	42 ( REV 1 ) vs 60 ( REV 2 )	
42. We stress the importance of investing in essential social services for young people, especially health, education and social protection. To fulfill their full potential and secure decent work and quality employment, young people must have access to education opportunities throughout their lives that equip them with the knowledge, skills and values they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. We <b>agree</b> to:	60. We stress the importance of investing in, and <b>ensuring</b> <b>equitable access to</b> , essential social services for <b>children</b> and young people, especially health, education and social protection, <b>to</b> <b>advance their social and</b> <b>economic development</b> . To fulfill their full potential and secure decent, <b>productive</b> work and quality employment, young people must have access to quality education opportunities, <b>including in emergencies</b> , throughout their lives that equip them with the knowledge, skills and values they need to thrive in a rapidly changing world. We <b>decide</b> to:	The modifications indicate a broader perspective encompassing both children and young people, a stronger emphasis on equitable access and social-economic development, as well as a more actionable commitment. The focus on quality education, especially during emergencies, is a crucial addition that could reflect an awareness of the challenges faced in various contexts.
<ul> <li>(42 a) Scale up investment in critical social services for young people and ensure that their specific needs are reflected in national and international development strategies.</li> <li>(42 f) Request the Secretary-General to develop, in advance of the Second World Summit for Social Development, a Global Youth Investment platform to attract and better finance youth-related programming at the country</li> </ul>	(60 a) Scale up investment <b>from</b> <b>all sources</b> in <b>essential</b> social services for young people and ensure that their specific needs and <b>priorities</b> are reflected in national, regional and international development strategies, <b>ensure that services</b> <b>are accessible to all young</b> <b>persons and</b> request the Secretary- General to establish a Global Youth Investment platform to attract and better finance youth-related programming at the	REV 2 adopts a more inclusive, multi-faceted, and action- oriented tone compared to REV 1. It expands the scope of investment in social services for young people, highlights the importance of accessibility, and calls for decisive action. However, it does omit mention of the Second World Summit for Social Development, which diminishes the precision of the timeline for these initiatives.



level.	country level. 60 a (REV2) combined both 42 a and 42 f (REV 1)	
(42 b) Accelerate efforts to ensure young people enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and access to universal health coverage, including sexual and reproductive health.	(60 b) Accelerate efforts to ensure <b>all</b> young people enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, access to universal health coverage, including sexual and reproductive health, <b>and address all the</b> <b>challenges faced by</b> <b>developing countries to</b> <b>achieve these goals.</b>	The changes reflect a broader and more inclusive approach towards ensuring health for young people, with an added focus on addressing the specific challenges faced by developing countries. This indicates a deeper consideration of structural factors influencing health outcomes.
<ul> <li>(42 c) Build education systems and life-long learning societies that are tailored to the needs of young people today and in the future by enhancing curricula, harnessing digital technologies and improving access to technical and vocational training for the digital and green transitions.</li> <li>(42 d) Support developing countries to significantly increase investment in education, especially early childhood education, including by ensuring policy coherence among international actors, protecting education budgets in times of shocks and debt distress, and exploring innovative financing opportunities.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>(60 c) Support developing countries to significantly increase investment from all sources in education and skills, especially early childhood and girls education and skills, to build inclusive, accessible and resilient education systems and life-long learning societies that are tailored to the needs of young people today and in the future by enhancing curricula, improving teachers' professional development, harnessing digital technologies and improving access to technical and vocational training to help young people contribute to their societies.</li> <li>60 C (REV2) combined both 42 c and 42 d (REV 1)</li> </ul>	REV 2 shows a broader and more inclusive approach, emphasizing various sources of investment, a focus on gender- sensitive education, resilience, teacher development, and a commitment to enabling young people to actively contribute to society. In contrast, REV 1 gave more emphasis to the financial aspects, especially in the context of providing support during crises.
(42 e) Create sustainable jobs and decent livelihoods for youth, especially in developing countries and particularly for young women, and establish universal, adequate, comprehensive and sustainable social protection systems.	(60 d) Create sustainable jobs and decent livelihoods for youth, especially in developing countries and particularly for young women and <b>young people in</b> <b>vulnerable situations</b> , and establish <b>and ensure young</b> <b>people's access</b> to universal, adequate, comprehensive,	REV 2 broadens the scope to include young people in vulnerable situations, emphasizes ensuring access to these protections, and introduces the idea of nationally- appropriate systems.



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	sustainable and <b>nationally-</b> <b>appropriate</b> social protection systems.	
	(60 e) Empower, encourage and support young people to pursue entrepreneurship and innovation and transform their ideas into viable business opportunities.	This addition shows the acknowledgment of the potential of youth to drive economic and social transformation.
	Completely new	
Action 33. We will promote <mark>equal opportunities</mark> for all young people, <b>especially the most vulnerable and marginalized</b> , protect them from <b>violence</b> , and foster social inclusion and integration.	Action 38. We will promote, protect and <b>respect the human</b> <b>rights</b> of all young people and foster social inclusion and integration.	REV 1 is more focused on vulnerable and marginalized groups and highlights the need for protection from violence. In contrast, REV 2 adopts a broader view of all young people, emphasizes human rights, and lacks a specific mention of protection, thus potentially implying a less urgent focus on violence and victimization.
	43 ( REV 1 ) vs 61 ( REV 2 )	
43. We reaffirm the importance of ensuring the rights of all young persons, including the most vulnerable, and those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. We <b>agree</b> to:	61. We reaffirm the importance of ensuring <b>the full enjoyment</b> of the rights of all young persons, <b>protect them from violence,</b> <b>and foster social inclusion</b> <b>and integration especially the</b> <b>poorest</b> , those in vulnerable situations and those facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. We <b>decide</b> to:	REV 2 builds upon REV 1 by emphasizing the full enjoyment of rights, incorporates the protection from violence, stresses the importance of social inclusion and integration, specifies the groups targeted for support, and adopts a firmer commitment toward actions planned. There is a clear transition from recognizing rights to ensuring those rights are fully realized and protected for vulnerable young persons.



(43 a) Fight and eradicate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, islamophobia and antisemitism, and all forms of intolerance that impact young people and hinder their ability to fulfill their potential.	(61 a) Fight and eradicate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and all forms of intolerance that impact young people and hinder their ability to fulfill their potential, <b>and counter</b> <b>religious hatred that</b> <b>constitutes incitement to</b> <b>discrimination, hostility or</b> <b>violence and promote human</b> <b>security.</b>	The changes reflect a shift toward a broader and more nuanced understanding of discrimination, incorporating elements related to incitement and security while removing specific references to certain forms of hatred. This might indicate a potential strategic emphasis on promoting general human safety over focusing on specific types of discrimination.
	(61 b) Intensify international, regional, and national efforts to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and eliminate all forms of child labor. Completely new	This addition represents a step towards a more comprehensive commitment to human rights.
(43 b) Address the challenges faced by all young women and girls, including by combating gender stereotypes and negative social norms and eliminating discrimination, all forms of violence, and harmful practices.	(61 c) Address the challenges faced by all young women and girls, including by combating negative gender stereotypes and negative social norms and eliminating discrimination, all forms of violence, and harmful practices, <b>including female genital</b> <b>mutilation and child</b> <b>marriage.</b>	REV 2 builds upon REV 1 by refining the focus on negative gender stereotypes and providing concrete examples of harmful practices. REV 2 enhances the clarity and urgency of the issues being addressed, suggesting that addressing these specific challenges may require particular attention and tailored responses.
(43 c) Eliminate all barriers that hinder young persons with disabilities and invest in assistive technologies that can promote their full and equal participation in society.	(61 d) <b>Enhance inclusion</b> and eliminate all barriers that hinder young persons with disabilities <b>to</b> <b>attain and maintain</b> <b>maximum autonomy</b> , <b>independence and full</b> <b>inclusion and participation in</b> <b>all aspects of life</b> and invest in	REV 2 has added more elements such as autonomy, independence, and the significance of participation. It reflects a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the needs of young persons with disabilities



	assistive technologies that can promote their full, equal and <b>meaningful</b> participation in society.	in society.
	(61 e) Address the adverse impact of climate change and other environmental challenges that constitute threats to the ability of young persons to enjoy all human rights, in particular the right to a clean and healthy environment. Completely new	This addition represents an advancement in recognizing the relationship between climate change and human rights, especially concerning the rights of young people.
	(61 f) Strengthen intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations by promoting opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, in the workplace and in society- at-large.	This addition adds focus on intergenerational partnerships and solidarity which could yield significant social benefits by promoting understanding and cooperation across age groups.
	Completely new	
Action 34. We will strengthen meaningful youth participation at the national level.	Action 39. We will strengthen meaningful youth participation at the national level.	
44 ( REV 1 ) vs 62 ( REV 2 )		
44. We commend the important contributions that young people are already making to the advancement	62. We commend the important contributions that young people are already making to the	The changes reflect a transition from a somewhat passive acknowledgment of young



of human rights, sustainable development and peace and security in their own countries. We can only meaningfully meet the needs and aspirations of all young people if we systematically listen to them, work with them, and give them a chance to shape the future. We <b>agree</b> to:	advancement of human rights, sustainable development and peace and security in their own countries. We can only meet the needs and aspirations of all young people if we systematically listen to them, work with them, <b>and</b> <b>provide them with</b> <b>meaningful opportunities to</b> <b>shape the future</b> . We <b>decide</b> to:	people's role to a more dynamic and proactive commitment to involving them in shaping their futures, suggesting a greater emphasis on actionable outcomes.
(44 a) Establish national youth consultative bodies where they do not exist, with the mandate and the requisite resources to engage in national policy making and decision-making processes supported, upon request, by the United Nations system.	(62 a) Encourage and support the establishment of mechanisms at the national level, where they do not exist, to consult with young people and provide them with meaningful opportunities to engage in national policy making and decision-making processes supported, upon request, by the United Nations system.	REV 1 was more prescriptive and focused on establishing formal bodies with specific mandates and resources. In contrast, REV 2 takes a more supportive and encouraging tone, emphasizing collaborative efforts and the provision of meaningful engagement opportunities without the same level of emphasis on formal structures or resources.
(44 b) Consider establishing intergenerational dialogues to build stronger partnerships between governments and youth.	( 62 b) Consider establishing intergenerational dialogues to build stronger partnerships between <b>individuals of</b> <b>different age groups,</b> <b>including youth</b> , and between governments and youth.	The changes suggest a shift towards a more comprehensive and inclusive approach regarding intergenerational dialogues, fostering connections not only between governments and youth but also among individuals across various age groups. REV 2 emphasizes the importance of broader social interaction and community building among diverse age demographics.
(44 c) Address the challenges and remove the barriers that prevent meaningful and equal participation of all youth, including for young women, <b>in social, economic,</b>	(62 c) Address the challenges and remove the barriers that prevent <b>full</b> , meaningful and equal participation of all youth, including for young women,	REV 2 reflects a more inclusive, focused, and comprehensive approach to addressing the participation of various youth groups in national policy and



A constructionRemoved from Chapter 4 and mentioned in Chapter 2 in Action zo and Operational Paragraph mentioned in Chapter 2 in Action zo and Operational Paragraph 38.Removed completely(52 d) Provide accessible and capacity-building support for youth-led and youth-focused organizations.The changes reflect a shift from fazeibility to prioritizing accessibility and transparent funding support for youth-led and youth-focused(44 g) Report on progress made on these matters at the 2025 High-level plenary meeting of the General Kassembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and its follow-up.Image and the anguage.Removed completelyImage and the follow-up. Removed completelyImage and the anguage.	political and public affairs. (44 d) <b>Promote</b> the representation of young people in formal political structures, especially young women, <b>including through</b> removing legislative or policy barriers that directly or indirectly prevent young people from running for public leadership positions.	youth with disabilities, and other individuals or groups in vulnerable situations in national policy and decision- making, and improve the representation of young people in formal political structures, especially young women. 62 c ( REV 2 ) combined both 44 c and 44 d ( REV 1 )	decision-making, while enhancing clarity and specificity compared to REV 1
capacity-building support for youth-led and youth-focused organizations.transparent funding support for youth-led and youth-focused organizations.flexibility to prioritizing accessibility and transparency in funding and support for youth- led organizations.(44 g) Report on progress made on these matters at the 2025 High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and its follow-up.transparent funding and support for youth-focusedWhile the General Assembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and its follow-up.while the language.	meaningful and inclusive participation of all youth in conflict prevention and resolution, peacebuilding, peace processes, post-conflict processes and humanitarian action.		mentioned in Chapter 2 in Action 20 and Operational Paragraph
(44 g) Report on progress made on these matters at the 2025 High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and its follow-up.	capacity-building support for youth-led and youth-focused	<b>transparent</b> funding and capacity-building support for youth-led and youth-focused	flexibility to prioritizing accessibility and transparency in funding and support for youth-
	made on these matters at the 2025 High-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth, and its follow-up.		call for comprehensive review of the entire Pact during the 83rd session, the omission of a focused review in 2025 reflects a decline



Action 35. We will strengthen meaningful youth participation at the international level.	Action 40. We will strengthen meaningful youth participation at the international level.	
44 - whic	ch should be 45 ( REV 1 ) vs 63 ( ]	REV 2 )
44. We welcome the progress made in promoting the meaningful engagement of youth in the United Nations. We are determined to <b>build on</b> this work by ensuring more <b>systematic</b> youth engagement in intergovernmental processes and across the work of the UN system, and by increasing the representativeness, effectiveness and impact of youth engagement. We <b>agree</b> to:	63. We welcome the progress made in promoting the meaningful engagement of youth in the United Nations. We are determined to <b>accelerate</b> this work by ensuring more youth engagement in intergovernmental processes and across the work of the United Nations system, and by increasing the representativeness, effectiveness and impact of youth engagement <b>at the United</b> <b>Nations</b> . We <b>decide</b> to:	The changes suggest a more urgent and direct approach to youth engagement in the United Nations, reflecting a desire for quicker action and clearer commitments.
(44 a) Ensure the <b>systematic</b> , meaningful, inclusive and effective engagement of young people in <b>all</b> United Nations intergovernmental bodies and processes, taking into account principles of equitable gender and geographical representation and non- discrimination.	(63 a) Ensure meaningful, inclusive and effective engagement of young people in United Nations <b>relevant</b> intergovernmental bodies and processes, taking into account the principles of equitable gender and geographical representation and non- discrimination.	REV 2 narrows the scope of engagement from "all" bodies to "relevant" bodies, which may lead to different interpretations of inclusivity and systematic participation. The removal of "systematic" can also suggest a shift in the level of organization implied in REV 1.
(44 b) Include youth delegates in national delegations at relevant intergovernmental discussions in the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions, the Security Council and other relevant United Nations conferences.	(63 b) <b>Encourage the inclusion</b> of youth, including youth delegates, in national delegations <b>at intergovernmental</b> <b>discussions</b> in the General Assembly and its subsidiary bodies, the Economic and Social Council and <b>its subsidiary</b> <b>bodies</b> , the Security Council and United Nations conferences.	The changes transform the tone from a directive to an encouraging recommendation and clarify the inclusion of youth delegates within the broader youth category.



(44 c) Revitalize and <b>invest</b> in the United Nations Youth Fund to boost the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations.	(63 c) Revitalize and <b>raise</b> <b>awareness</b> of the United Nations Youth Fund <b>and encourage</b> <b>contributions</b> to boost the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations.	REV 2 shifts from a focus on direct investment in the fund to a broader strategy that includes raising awareness and encouraging contributions.
(44 d) Request the Secretary- General to develop, <b>in close</b> <b>consultation with Member</b> <b>States and young people, a</b> <b>global standard</b> for meaningful, representative, inclusive and safe youth engagement across the work of the United Nations.	(63 d) Request the Secretary- General to <b>continue</b> to develop <b>core principles</b> for meaningful, representative, inclusive and safe youth engagement <b>in relevant</b> <b>intergovernmental processes</b> and across the work of the United Nations, <b>for the consideration</b> <b>of Member States</b> .	REV 2 is focusing on core principles rather than a strict global standard, specifying consideration by Member States, including the role of intergovernmental processes, and somewhat reducing the emphasis on active consultation in the development phase.