Youth Representatives at the 2nd High Level Panel meeting

**Analia Brizuela** is a journalist and keen cyclist from Argentina. Finding her income from journalism to be insufficient for her needs, she decided to set up an enterprise which would include her hobby of cycling: “Biker’s Cyclotourism”. Analia launched her tours around the city of Salta on bicycles three years ago. Hers was the first project approved by Fundacion Impulsar which has been in operation since 1999 and which helps young people set up and manage their own business, particularly when the appropriate financial and practical help has not been available. She is now assisting the Fundacion as a mentor for other young aspiring entrepreneurs. The assistance she received included loans to purchase bicycles and equipment, and a further advance to publish guides for “Biker’s Cyclotourism”.

**Rajiv Chandna**, from India, is a Director for AIESEC International based in the Netherlands, for the term 2003-04. AIESEC is the world’s largest student-run organization, and has been facilitating the international traineeship exchange program over the past 50 years. This program focuses on developing youth, in order to make a positive impact on a society. This is done by exposing participants to relevant societal issues like CSR, Development Issues, Immigrant integration, at the same time providing an International traineeship experience, so that the individual is directly involved in, and is positively contributing to the above issues. Rajiv had been a part of AIESEC for the past five years, with the present assignment concluding in April as the President of AIESEC in Switzerland for the term 2002-03. Earlier, he was Vice President for AIESEC in India, responsible for overall coordination and management of more than 150 incoming traineeship exchanges in the Development Sector.

**Raquel Cuentas** from Peru is the President of the Instituto de Apoyo al Movimiento Autonomo de Mujeres Campesinas (IAMAMC), an organization that works with indigenous women assisting them in legal issues, productivity, entrepreneurship and women’s rights. As a social worker and activist, she has worked for the Ministry of Health, NGOs and participated in national and international conferences. These include the XIX Annual Conference on Latin America organized by the Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association of the University of Texas, the Workshop on Gender organized by the World University Service of Canada, the Seminar on Culture and Globalization and the Virtual Forum on Rural Youth organized by the Latin American Network of Rural Youth. She was chosen to participate by the IDB in the Youth Leadership Seminar, from among a number of other youth in Peru.

**Shane Frith** has been the International Youth Democratic Union (IYDU) Chairman since September 2002. Prior to this he has served at IYDU Deputy Chairman, Treasurer, and Policy Committee Chairman. Through these roles Shane has been on the IYDU Executive since 1995. A member of the New Zealand National Party, Shane has filled many positions since becoming active in the party in 1987, including standing twice for Parliament and serving on the Auckland Divisional Council. He has recently served as electorate chairman for Auckland Central.

**Mounina Kane** from Senegal is currently General Manager of the Nina Hotel in Dakar, Senegal. Before that her experience ranged from Citicorp in Dakar and the IMF in Washington to the Calliope Company in France and the African American Institute in New York. In each of these she has brought her marketing, research, finance and organizational skills to bear. She holds an MBA in Finance from the American University in Washington DC and a BA in Finance from George Washington University.

**Emil Kirjas** is from Macedonia and is the International Secretary of Liberal Democratic Youth since 2002. He is also the Head of the Office in Macedonia of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation. He has
also been responsible for running the Solidarity Fund for Youth Mobility at the Directorate of Youth and Sport, at the Council of Europe. He has taken part in a number of campaigns and workshops including on Conflict Resolution and the European Campaign against Racism, Intolerance, Anti-Semitism and Xenophobia. International Conferences include the World Youth Forum of the UN System in Dakar in 2001.

Dharaka Larimore-Hall from the United States is a UN Coordinator for the International Union of Socialist Youth. A freelance writer and activist, he was also the Chair of the Working Group on Employment of the 1998 World Youth Forum held in Braga, Portugal and attended the World Youth Forum in Dakar in 2001. He has worked for many years on issues of labour support, prison justice and anti-racism.

Khai Loon Lee from Malaysia, graduated from University of Technology of Malaysia in property management in 2001. He has worked with Malaysia Youth and Students Democratic Movement and has been involved in the youth movement. In May 2002 he was elected Regional Secretary of the Asian Student Association, which has 52 member organizations from 26 countries throughout Asia and the Pacific region. One of the main aims of ASA concerns organizing, cooperating and fostering solidarity among youth and students towards education rights, human rights and participation in policy making processes. He is currently also working, both as mediator and counsellor, with Indonesian migrant workers in Hong Kong who are facing problems with employers and recruitment agencies.

Ndidi Nwuneli is the founder of Leadership Effectiveness Accountability and Professionalism (LEAP) Africa, a training and coaching organization committed to empowering and equipping a new cadre of African leaders. LEAP works primarily with entrepreneurs and youth. Prior to this, she served as executive director for the FATE Foundation Nigeria, a nonprofit organization that promotes business development and entrepreneurship among Nigerian youth. FATE was a recent winner of the 2002 World Bank Development Marketplace Competition. She has also worked as a management consultant with McKinsey & Company, the Bridgespan Group, Ford Foundation’s West Africa Office, and the Center for Middle East Competitive Strategy. Nwuneli has received numerous awards and speaks widely on issues related to entrepreneurship, nonprofit management, African development and Christianity. She holds a master of business administration from the Harvard Business School and was recently recognized as a Global Leader of Tomorrow by the World Economic Forum.

Mohamed Adel Salem from Egypt is a youth representative on the Board of Club Francophone d’Egypte, an associative club that seeks to establish links with universities, NGOs, international youth organizations and business with the aim of creating programmes of technical and professional formation for youth, to help Egyptian youth through scholarships and job opportunities, to initiate volunteering programmes for youth and to promote the French language and culture. He has participated in international conferences including the UN Youth Forum in Dakar in 2001 as well as the Youth Employment Summit in Alexandria in 2002. A graduated from the Engineering Faculty at Cairo University, he is associated with the Egyptian Association for Global Development, EAGD.

Henrik Söderman from Finland is Project Officer for the World Organization of Scouts Movement, at its headquarters in Geneva. WOSM is a world-wide movement of non-formal education for young people with 28 million scouts, boys and girls in 216 countries and territories. Previously Mr Söderman has served as president of the European Youth Forum, the European platform of youth organisations. Other former leadership positions include responsibilities in student organisations, involvement in the European Movement and in the National Youth Council of Finland. Mr Söderman has followed the youth employment Network from its initiation. He was part of the youth focus group.
of the at the first High Level Panel meeting in 2001 and has subsequently contributed to its working groups.

Yvonne O'Callaghan from Ireland, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) Youth Co-ordinator

Mr. Giacomo Filback from Italy, President, European Youth Forum