



The Network of African Youths for Development (NAYD)

Statement of Peace

“No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.” — Nelson Mandela

The famous words by Madiba strike a chord with all of us, because in the end we all want peace – peace with ourselves, peace with our family, peace with our friends, peace in our communities, peace between communities, peace in our country, peace between countries, peace in our continent, peace between continents, because it is only through peace that we can sustainably build our lives as an individual, friend, community member, country citizen and human being on this planet.

The Network of African Youths for Development (NAYD) is a peace loving youth-led community organisation that believes togetherness is the building block of life, that holding hands to support each other in our efforts to build sustainable communities is the way to achieve our vision of making Africa a safer and more developed place for all.

NAYD rejects the actions of those who encourage conflict through tribalism, religion, colour, gender, race or any other means as a way to achieve their own selfish needs. The actions of those in South Sudan, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Burundi and anywhere else in the Continent where this happens should be judged by the Africa Union as a breach of its ultimate aim to bring the continent together as one happy family, rich in diversity and culture, blessed with talent in abundance and united in its desire to make everyone’s life peaceful and loved.

As such, all efforts should be made urgently and with great determination to address the root causes of conflict in these countries. Countries must be held accountable by the AU, international community and most importantly citizens who must rise beyond the forces that threaten cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

Paul Shaw, on behalf of [#NAYDSDGs](#)