

Organization: International Organization of Youth (IOY)

Name of Presenter: Nour Safta

Title of Presenter: Software Engineer, Organizing Team Member, and Representative of the International Organization of Youth

Distinguished Co-Chairs, Delegates, and Fellow Youth,

It's a real honor to take the floor on behalf of the International Organization of Youth, an organization with consultative status under the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

At IOY, we work every day to empower young people to turn their ideas into impact; through education, innovation, and policy dialogue that brings the 2030 Agenda to life.

When we talk about poverty eradication, decent work, and social inclusion, we're talking about the same human story: dignity, opportunity, and belonging. We can't fix one without working on the others, and we can't achieve any of them unless youth are part of the process, not just invited after decisions are made.

Today, digital access defines who gets a chance. When young people—especially women and those from underserved communities—gain digital skills, they open doors to learning, entrepreneurship, and independence.

That's why IOY continues to advocate for better infrastructure, affordable internet, and community-based training that help youth turn innovation into opportunity rather than be left behind by it.

Coming from a software engineering background, I've seen how technology can change what work means. But we must guide it carefully, so that automation creates opportunities instead of erasing them.

We need strong collaboration between tech companies, universities, and civil society to build ethical AI, enhance cybersecurity skills, and equip young people for the green and digital economies.

When we teach ethics along with tech skills, we make sure innovation serves people, not the other way around.

Inclusion is more than access; it is voice and representation. Young people, including women, migrants, persons with disabilities, communities discriminated on work and descent, and rural youth, must be partners in decisions that shape their future.

Through its leadership and advocacy programs, IOY helps youth bring their local realities to global policy tables.

I invite us to act with focus: bring youth into the room, fund the skills that create decent work, and measure progress openly.

IOY stands ready to partner so that every young person can learn, work with dignity, and belong.

Thank you.