

**GROUP2: TACKLING THE ROOT CAUSES OF  
TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE EXTREMISM: A FOCUS  
ON YOUTH EDUCATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT.**

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# I. CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (AFRICA/ICGLR REGION)

- Around 70% of the population is under 30 years of age;
- Doubling of Africa's population in the next 15 years;
- A big number of Young people are unemployed or underemployed, mainly employed by informal sector, with little support from Governments, and more available to violence;
- Young people have easy access to ICT :
  - Social Media in urban area
  - SMS and FM radio in rural area



- Today's youth is more urban than the previous generation and are exposed to more urban hardships and frustrations due to job shortage, poor infrastructure, and lack of education. This resulted from rural to urban (informal settlement) movement;
- Though most children have access to primary education, some are still left out. The youth today want more and better education. The education system doesn't match with the job market;
- Groups considered as terrorists or negative forces in ICGLR/Africa includes: AQMI, Boko Haram/Islamic State in Africa, Al Shabab, FDLR, LRA, ADF/NALU...



## II. SOME ROOT CAUSES OF TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM

- Youth vulnerability and susceptibility to recruitment due to ignorance of religious teaching to violence;
- Youth vulnerability to radicalization due to unemployment/underemployment and poverty, resulting in frustration of youth without opportunities;
- Youth vulnerability to extremist views due to weak family structures resulted from difficult upbringing;




- High level of illiteracy linked to youth radicalization and extremism;
- Prevalence of conflicts in some countries and Regions, many lasting for decades, affecting certain marginalised regions and/or communities;
- Bad political governance, weak leadership and inappropriate institutions, widespread corruption, injustice and impunity; conducive to radicalization and extreme violence for the victims;
- Misconception and malpractice of democracy: tribalism, electoral violence, genocide ideology etc;
- Frustration and ground for radicalization due to inequality and injustice in sharing national revenues and resources;



- Politicians unfulfillment of promises to the youth during electoral processes, creating opportunity to negative forces for manipulation, involving them in violent demonstrations and armed groups; This leading the youth in believing that the solutions to a better future is outside the normal political mainstreams.



### III. POSSIBLE PARLIAMENTARY ACTIONS

- Citizen empowerment and Youth political involvement and participation in finding solutions;
  - Monitoring and regulating religious preaching: better use of religion;
  - Reforming education, making it more conducive to job creation for the youth;
  - Promoting the informal sector: entrepreneurial skills, access to financing for youth, etc;
  - Designing and delivering a robust program for destitute children;
  - Preventing and solving conflicts with parliamentary diplomacy.
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- Enhancing provision of education and literacy programs ;
- Promoting peace and education for the Youth: counter narratives and positive life vision by Governments and Civil Society Organisations;
- Improving good governance, including anticorruption mechanisms and campaign, rule of law, fighting impunity, etc
- Funding youth Ministries with clear mandate vis à vis other institutions;
- Better regulation of democracy, better national resources sharing and affectation, empowering all national communities;





**THANK YOU...**

