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International Youth Month 2022- Press Release.

Globally, International Youth Day is celebrated annually on the 12th of August as set out by the United Nations of 1999, to raise awareness about the issues that the youth across the globe are facing. While commemorating the International Youth Day, The Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa (CoRMSA) joins the rest of the world in raising voices against the injustices, prejudice and discrimination that is happening in the world with the youths under the theme **“Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a world for all ages.”**

The Day, 12 August and the month of August, is dedicated to the young generation of our societies who are leaders of tomorrow, who plays a crucial role in bringing change to our contemporary societies. On International Youths Day, the world also celebrates the positive contributions of the youths who are working so hard towards the betterment of our societies and raising distinctive issues that needs to be addressed by our societies.

CoRMSA has learnt with great sadness from the published reports and statistics in the media about the struggles that the youth are currently facing which includes education, unemployment, discrimination, xenophobic utterances and violence, injustices and access to health, education, lack of documentation, among others.

‘It is time the world reciprocates to the effective contributions made by the youth across the world. It is time we all stand in solidarity to achieve this global effort of creating safe and conducive societies for all generations to come, including migrant youth’, argues CoRMSA.

In this regard, CoRMSA calls everyone to stand in solidarity in fighting against youth discrimination, xenophobic violence and injustices and report such incidences to relevant authorities. CoRMSA also calls all Law enforcement agencies to partake in bringing the perpetrators to book and ensure that they pay for their actions and for governments of different countries to address and find solutions to these endless challenges that the current youth generation is facing.

CoRMSA further reminds everyone that majority of the migrant youths possess critical and scarce skills that are much needed for an innovative and developed Africa and the world at large. In light of this, CoRMSA also calls upon all countries’ governments to document these migrant youths so that they can amalgamate their critical skills with those of their fellow counterparts which may lead to industrious host countries. These documents will also enable them to access basic services. CoRMSA also extends its call to the world leaders through their governments to develop intensive and effective protective mechanisms for migrant youth against xenophobia and all forms of discrimination. It further calls for an inclusive approach

that encourages youth participation in the socio-economic activities, access to education, health and social security services. This will create an even more safer and conducive environment for all the youths around the globe.

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