

**Sports & Achievements of Youth Some  
Bodies in the  
First Decade GCC Countries During the  
of the  
1995/ 1985 .International Youth Year**

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# The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf

Secretariat General

## Some Achievements of Youth & Sports Bodies in the GCC Countries During the First Decade of the International Youth Year.

1985 /1995

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### **Introduction**

From time to time, some institutions strive for breaking monotony which may befall their plans and projects, and accordingly tend to the refurbishment of executive mechanisms, introduce new ideas and methods for the project subject of renovation, or invent slogans and denominations which shall have impact on the morale of its executing personnel as well as its beneficiaries, which draw attention of people, fill them with enthusiasm and materialize the idea into reality with a new dimension.

Inspired by this, the United Nations went ahead to boost its programs in the field of development and youth welfare when it proposed the idea of the International Youth Year and declared three axes that required to intensify the efforts thereby, namely *Participation, Development & Peace*, as these axes are implicitly existing under the goals behind establishment of the United Nations and they are materialized through various programs running under the auspices of the United Nations, and these goals were again introduced in the above manner in order to lend the idea a new dimension and enthuse an innovative spirit in youth so they can reach a more vital level of participation. The General Assembly adopted two Resolutions i.e. No. 34/151 dated 17 December 1979 and No. 35/126 dated 11 December 1980 stating that the Year 1985 shall be named as the International Youth Year under the slogan of "*Participation, Development & Peace*". Following these resolutions, international, continental and regional consultative committees were formed, preliminary and follow-up meetings were held to implement the recommendations issued by these committees, and execute plans and programs which were approved with the purpose of participation in the efforts aimed to achieve the goals of the International youth Year.

The GCC Countries were among those countries which were very keen to participate in these meetings and take positive initiatives towards this trend. The GCC Secretariat General took part in the meeting which was held by the Economic Committee for West Asia in Baghdad in which the regional action plan in West Asia was approved for the International Youth Year. The action plan consisted of twenty eight pages which was of great interest for the youth and sports bodies in the GCC Countries upon laying down its own planning.

Since the participation is among the important principles of the social work and while the development is a combination of manpower and environmental resources, and their interaction helps to achieve welfare for a man or fulfill his increasingly new requirements so that he can serve humanity by promoting stability, peace and cooperation with his fellow brethren. The participation or development can not be achieved in absence of peace which is the result of the participation and development. The United Nations combined these three powers in a single track to face the problems which threaten the man and his environment. The youth are common factors to boost this trend as they are concerned with this project and because they are vital elements in this stage, they will carry on the responsibilities of the future.

Henceforth, the trend of the United Nations was sharp and active and inspiring for playing the role in human responsibilities, due to which it is a must to welcome the International Youth Year and extend all possible support in order to materialize its goals and put up initiatives which aim at materializing those goals into reality.

Following the goals laid by Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf and inspired by its role towards the man , environment and society, the GCC Secretariat General is taking up the joint action in this filed, and is presenting this publication which consists of most important achievements of the GCC Countries in the filed of youth and sports activities on the occasion of the International Youth Year, and feels proud of achievements of the GCC Countries during the first decade of the International Youth Year, whether it was at the local level of each state or combined platform of the GCC Countries or their participation at the international level. Moreover, it appreciates that the United Nations takes care of the youth and draws people's attention to their care and exploitation of their energies for participation, development and peace.

The Secretariat General hopes that this documentary pamphlet will be beneficial in enriching the experience, and that its efforts will be combined with the efforts of other countries so that this publication may serve as a reference to upcoming generations. In the end, The Secretariat General would like to point out that there are many achievements to its credit which could not find place in this report, as they were implemented by other authorities such as Ministries of Education and Ministries of Social Affairs etc. while this report concentrates on prominent efforts exerted by the youth and sports bodies.

## **The Secretariat General**

### **Philosophy of youth and sports activities in the GCC Countries**

The youth and sports bodies in the GCC Countries are following a comprehensive method regarding youth welfare and sports, as they view their institutions as they are educational institutions in a comprehensive sense of education (physical, mental and spiritual) and any other bodies and institutions which take part in forming the personality of a good citizen.

At this point, we find that most of the youth and sports institutions in the GCC Countries carry out sports, cultural, social and scientific activities, because the nature of the social life in the GCC Countries requires this trend, but the comprehensiveness did not come in the way of independent specialized institutions like specialized Scientific Centers as well as professional, literary and cultural clubs.

The purpose of these institutions is to meet requirements of the youth as well as of man in general, in the field of developing his tendencies, boosting his talents, providing him with knowledge, building his physique, enhancing his thinking, and exploiting his energies for the service of his society, his environment and his fellow countrymen. Moreover these institutions are trying to instill a sense of citizenship and confidence in its members and its visitors.

A number of awareness campaigns were organized following beneficial methods for the man, and warning people of dangers befalling the society like indifference, non-cooperation, negligence and narcotics etc.. which damage the society and health of man. Further, they are concerned with the institutional as well as rectifying studies on which the work is based and is tested.

This trend confirms the achievements and programs which are observed by a common person and are confirmed by the resolution issued in the Second Meeting of the Youth Welfare & Sports Ministers. The Resolution issued in the Second Meeting of Heads of the Olympic Committees at the GCC Countries, which is considered a youth & sports document, defined the most important foundations and outsets on which this activity is based on:

1.	Youth welfare which means educational, spiritual, physical and comprehensive training gained through sponsoring cultural, social, sports and scientific activities etc. which develop the personality of the young and provide them with a field in which they can express their opinion and;
2.	Noble principles of sports which concentrate on physical training and development of good relations among different societies and participants in sports activities, respect for others and for their achievements.
3.	Olympic Covenant which contains principles and trends of the Olympic movement.
4.	International youth and sports activities in accordance with membership of the GCC Countries in the Arabian, Continental and International organizations, abiding by the agreements and laws and regulations governing such activities and their relations with other countries.
5.	Scout activities, their educational principles and ethics in developing the skills, hobbies, service to the environment and society.
6.	Human solidarity with peace loving societies and nations in order to participate in achieving peace, development,

	<b>mutual closeness and cooperation.</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Citizens' participation is one of the principles of the social work in order to achieve integrity between public and private sectors with an emphasis on the citizenship and participation in the development.</b>

Should we look at these foundations and principles, we shall find that they harmonize with the spirit of the trends of the Year, and this is what makes dealing with those trends by the said authorities an easily adjusting and implementing matter because of their harmony with the activities of the youth and sports institutions.

The following sectors in the GCC Countries are responsible for the youth sports affairs :

- **Ministries of Education**
- **Ministries of Higher Education**
- **Ministries of Defense**
- **Ministries of Interior**

Including all the students and scholars belonging to them.

Also, the private sector pays attention to the youth activities for its employees and staff who have their own clubs and centers which organize sports, cultural and social activities for them.

As for direct responsibility for youth and sports, it rests with youth and sports bodies and Olympic committees and their ancillary commissions, committees, unions, clubs, centers and associations. These bodies are:

- **Ministry of Education & Youth Affairs in the United Arab Emirates.**
- **General Organization for youth & sports in the State of Bahrain.**
- **General Presidency for Youth Welfare in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.**
- **General Board for Youth, Sports & Cultural Activities in the Sultanate of Oman.**
- **General Board for Youth & Sports in the State of Qatar.**
- **General Board for Youth & Sports in the State of Kuwait.**

There are several associations and scout bodies which take care of youth and juniors training.

The joint action in the field of youth and sports emphasizes the participation by the youth in chalking out the plans to aim at youth activities. Consequently, committees were formed to study youth affairs and to lay the plans which respond to achieve their expectations and aspirations, and deal with the problems and issues concerning them.

## **Achievements in the Field of International Youth Year Trends**

The GCC Countries concerned themselves with the resolution of the United Nations relating to declaration of the International Youth Year in which the UN invited all countries to concentrate on activities that should infuse in the youth a participation spirit, method of development and peace, and make them participate in making the plans that will fulfill their expectations and utilize their experience with the purpose of boosting this sector making it contribute to the service of humanity, development of the society and promotion of peace, through three axes (*Participation, Development & Peace*) the slogan of the International Youth Year and called for adoption of its goals and take practical initiatives. The activities of the GCC Countries are concentrated on the following lines:

**First : On the local level of the GCC Countries**

**Second : On the International level of the GCC Countries**

**Third : On the joint level of the GCC Countries**

**Fourth : On the joint International level of the GCC Countries**

**The Detail is given in the following pages:**

**First : The local level of the GCC Countries**

As we explained earlier when we referred to the philosophy of the youth and sports activities in the GCC Countries that their goal is to mould the personality of an individual and inspire him to participate in those activities so that his contribution can be active and beneficial for himself, his country and mankind. The GCC Countries welcomed the United Nations' declaration of the International Youth Year and showed readiness to participate in adopting the Year's goals and supporting the activities and initiatives leading to success.

The GCC Countries marched forward to take part in the international, continental and regional conferences which were organized to make the concept of the International Youth Year popular, and formed local committees in each state from the ministries and authorities concerned with youth affairs, educational, training, development and social work. They also formed a committee for the International youth Year in which all the GCC Countries took part at the level of a department manager to follow the joint works and activities approved for this occasion and coordinate and exchange experiences of each country regarding the activities carried out by each country.

After a number of meetings of local committees, local plans were approved which were financed by youth and sports authorities and private sector in each GCC Country. Schedule (1) shows some implementations of these plans :

### Schedule (1)

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number of implementations</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
<b>Rovers' meets</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>Periodic &amp; emergency camping, voluntary service camps such as labor and pilgrims service camps.</b>
<b>Celebrations</b>	<b>1291</b>	<b>International Day for Voluntary Work, Traffic Day, Health Day, Women Guides Day, Tree Day, Environment Day.</b>
<b>Training Courses</b>	<b>620</b>	<b>Scout, sports, organization, vocation, civil defense, first aids, cadres qualifying courses.</b>
<b>Exchange of visits</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>Mutual exchange of visits between members of different institutions, for the purposes of cooperation and gaining experience inside the country and abroad.</b>
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number of implementations</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
<b>Receptions</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>International institutions, tours</b>
<b>Girls camping</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>Girls and women guides clubs</b>
<b>Youth camps</b>	<b>1428</b>	<b>Youth camps and juniors, recreation , environmental and scientific service</b>
<b>Voluntary campaigns</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>For cleaning, labor, assistance.</b>
<b>Competitions</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>Cultural, religious, social scientific and sports</b>
<b>Charitable activities</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Competitions, festivals, exhibitions, charitable markets</b>
<b>Meets of handicapped</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>Camps, sports and festivals</b>
<b>Popularizing the institutions</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>Cultural and scientific centers; girls clubs and associations, youth centers.</b>
<b>Youth festivals</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>Meets, visits and parties and recreation</b>
<b>Symposiums</b>	<b>2600</b>	<b>Awareness, discussions on issues, and working mechanism</b>
<b>Technical activities</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>Creative arts, cartoons, caricatures</b>
<b>Orientation on the goals of the International Youth Year</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>Symposiums on youth, scout and female guides publications.</b>
<b>Sports activities</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>Championships and games for human service</b>
<b>Scientific exhibitions</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>Inventions and innovations of the youth and juniors, software</b>

		programming
Scout camping	1860	For scouts and female guides
Childhood festivals	1370	Youth wings, female guides and scout.

**Second : On the International level of the GCC Countries**

The GCC Countries are keen to take part in the International activities – regional, continental, and international, because the purpose of these activities is to bring people closer and promote cooperation among them, as well as to remove barriers, break segregation and strengthen human ties so the peace and understanding may prevail in order to make the problems diminish and facilitate their solutions. The GCC Countries are also keen to take membership in the International organizations and bodies to work shoulder to shoulder with the international community for achieving active participation, development and peace. On this track, we find that the GCC Countries have been participating in the activities which were organized on the International level in the field of International Youth Year and participated therein apart from the joint action plan. These activities are explained in Schedule (2) which describes the International activities implemented by the countries individually.

**Schedule (2)**

Activity	Number of implementation	Explanations
Arab & International Youth Festivals	223	Cultural, social, and scientific meetings and festivals on regional, continental and international levels.
Arab & International Labor Camps	216	Youth / juniors Labor Camps; recreation and environmental service.
Exhibitions	290	International Technical and Scientific Exhibitions.
Celebrations on Occasions	1270	Voluntary international Service Days and Weeks
Exchange of visits	423	Foreign visits to benefit and acquire experience from other countries.
Scout camps	214	Foreign participation in the scout and rovers activities.
Training courses and conferences	416	Spreading awareness and addressing the issues, set up action plans with the foreign societies.
Competitions	291	Foreign meetings and competitions for acquiring experience.

Tours	698	Scientific tours for mutual benefit .
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**Third : On the joint level of the GCC Countries**

**On the joint level, the work started with formation of a joint committee “*International Youth Year Committee*” in which all member countries participated on the level of department director. The committee kept on its meetings and drew its plans to welcome the first decade of the International Youth Year (1985-1995), and follow up its to activities and to celebrate its tenth anniversary. Then it authorized the specialized committees to implement those activities. Those committees include “social, cultural, scientific, scout and sports committees”. Among the resolutions passed by the committees, are the following :**

- 1. Design a logo for the International Youth Year in the GCC Countries.**
- 2. Conduct a rectifying study for the youth & sports institutions in the GCC Countries in order to know the extent of benefiting from the institutions and introduce something new to their services.**
- 3. Conduct a study for folklore games and include them in sports, recreational and competitive activities.**
- 4. Conduct a study for childhood services in the GCC Countries and develop their institutions.**
- 5. Conduct local studies for issues concerning the youth and problems facing them, and proposing solutions for such problems.**
- 6. Issue a documentary booklet on the efforts exerted by the GCC Countries in the way of achieving goals of the International Youth Year.**
- 7. Celebrating the first decade of the International Youth Year.**
- 8. Celebrating the first anniversary of the first decade of the International Youth Year.**
- 9. Carry out cultural, scientific, social and sports activities.**
- 10. Hold training courses, symposiums and dialogues.**
- 11. Exchange visits with different countries in the world.**
- 12. Construction of youth and sports institutions.**
- 13. Provide financial aid to the youth and sports institutions, their programs and activities.**
- 14. Take initiatives on local and collective levels to develop the youth and sports activities.**
- 15. Highlight the goals of International Youth Year through youth and sports bodies and means of communications in each country over the first decade.**
- 16. Implement periodic joint activities. Schedule (3) explains the achievements of these plans.**
- 17. Provide opportunity to the expatriates residing in the GCC Countries so that they can pursue their sports, cultural and social activities in the youth and sports institutions.**

**Schedule (3)****Joint Activities (on the level of the GCC Countries)**

<b>N</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Number of implementations</b>	<b>Explanations</b>
1.	Youth labour camp	10	To serve environment and society.
2.	Scientific tours for the youth	11	For scientific research
3.	Youth hostels get together	2	For the youth who are members of youth hostels
4.	Exhibition of the scientific inventions	7	Scientific Inventions and innovations of the youth
5.	Scientific meet of youth	6	Scientific activities and competitions in invention.
6.	Scientific meet of Juniors	5	Scientific training courses for juniors (12-20 years)
7.	Courses for the leaders of the scientific clubs	5	Courses in the organization, administration and programs.
8.	Exhibition of creative arts and photography	6	
9.	Social desert trips	10	For social and cultural acquaintance among the GCC Countries.
10	Festival of folklore games	3	Revival of popular games
11.	Cultural competition for the youth	10	General knowledge
12.	The Holy Quran & (Hadith) Competition	7	In memorization, recitation and interpretation
13.	Festival of poetry and story.	7	Presentation of texts and arrangement of meetings dealing in criticism.
14.	Foreign cultural festival	1	Interaction with the foreign societies through multi activities
15.	Symposium of the national participation	1	Importance of the participation in social activities.
16.	Symposium on Youth & sports media activities	6	Instructional, to promote the media standard.
17.	Symposiums on girls activities	3	Role of the girl and importance of her activities.
18.	Symposiums on the officers of the juniors' centers	3	Organization, management, programs and development.
19	Scout symposiums	6	Their purpose is improving

			scout work
20.	Symposiums on Scout media activities	7	Development of scout media
21.	Symposiums on folklore games	10	For revival and promotion of the folklore games.
22.	Seminars on sports commentators	4	To raise the standard of the sports commentators during tournaments.
23.	Stage competitions for youth	5	Dialogues, production, language and technologies.
24.	Festival of folkolre arts and games	5	Performance displays of the folklore arts and games.
25.	Festival of sea life	3	Sea life
26.	Symposiums on stage arts	3	Specialized symposiums for stage arts.
27	Training Course for the staff working in the Children Centers	6	To improve performance standard of the staff working in the children centers
28	Courses for the camp leaders	6	Scout organization and management
29	Computer camps for youngsters	5	To give computer training to the youngsters
30	Sports training courses	168	In most of the sports games
31	Scientific camps	6	In astronomy, energy, agriculture, etc..
32	Scout camp	5	
33	Signal holders meetings	10	
34	Studies for the marine scout leaders	3	
35	Rovers camps	3	
36	Competitions for scientific innovations	6	Compulsory and optional ones in innovations
37	Handicapped meets	4	Social, cultural and sports
38	Meetings of training, programs, and society development directors	10	Scout activities
39	Sports championships and meetings	360	In 17 sports games
40	Olympic day for the GCC Countries	3	Celebrating the importance of the Olympic games.
41	Marine tour	4	10 young persons of each state visited around the GCC ports

**Each activity entailed visits to the land marks of the host country, and youth & sports institutions, arrangement of meetings with youth therein, work shops for**

technical meets, competitions in cultural and scientific activities such as inventions, researches and photography.

These activities are managed by the specialized joint committees which hold its meetings periodically, set forth implementing conceptions and organizational rules and regulations, recommend incentives and souvenirs, and rectify the experiments and input modifications to the activities.

The joint activities have a positive role in improving the local activities in order to achieve inter-active or distinguishing participation which in turn improve the performance of those institutions.

The first decade of the International Youth is received as follows :

1. Speech of His Excellency the Secretary General in which he praised the idea, and urged the communication media and youth & sports authorities to give attention to the trends of International Youth Year and to youth act in this regard.
2. Media meetings with the senior officials of the International Youth Year in the GCC Countries and explain its goals, role of the public and private sectors for participation.

Fourth : On the joint International level of the GCC Countries

In line with the trends of the International Youth Year and for achieving its goals, the joint action was concerned with the contact with the international community. Two communications channels were established with the international communities. The first channel is concerned with improvement of the relations with the developing countries and for which activity camps were assigned that aim at environmental services and society development. Out of which four camps were organized in Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Egypt which were arranged in rural areas selected by the host countries responsible for establishment of those camps. Each camp included 60 young men from the GCC Countries while other sixty youth belonged to the host country. These camps were supervised by responsible authorities from host countries, the GCC Countries and the Secretariat General. Moreover, those camps were financed by the GCC Countries shared by the host countries and GCC Secretariat General. The camps erected a number of educational and youth buildings, and water tanks which were linked with the alleys. Besides, thousands of trees were planted and long agricultural and rural roads were paved, in addition to renovation of the schools and health utilities. Youth training courses were conducted in the host country and many cultural, social and sports activities including awareness programs were implemented. Those camps were highly welcomed by the host countries with their cooperation extended, and they opened doors for the voluntary service.

The second channel consisted of cultural festivals, technical and scientific exhibitions. Social, sports and scout meetings were held and organized. A great cultural festival was held in Japan and an exhibition in Paris displaying the scientific inventions of the youth

of the GCC Countries. Sports tournaments were held each in Japan and China, and social and scout visits were made to Germany and China. The GCC Countries also received artistic and sports delegations from a number of peace loving countries. During those meetings, spirit of much sought human solidarity prevailed and the delegations embodied the principles and trends of the International Youth Year.

Among the above delegations, a Japanese delegation was received which visited around the GCC Countries, along with sports teams in Football, Judo & Karate. A Japanese Musical Team, an administrative delegation from Peoples Republic of China, and a Japanese Parliamentary Delegation from Japan's Friendship Association also arrived .

A group of scientific clubs took part in the camps which were organized in France and Tunisia with scientific and diving campaigns in Jordan and Egypt. The following schedule explains the joint foreign participations of the GCC Countries.

Schedule (4) Joint activities on the foreign level

Activity	Location	Details
The first Foreign Cultural Festival	Japan, 1985	Exhibitions of Creative Arts, Children's cartoons; dresses, collections and carving work; industries and of folklore songs and dances, as well as a book exhibition and an exhibition of Arabian hospitality.
William Jones International friendship Basket Ball Championship	China, 1985	23 countries took part in this championship and the team displayed good performance. This championship presented the GCC Countries in a marvelous manner through media coverage. This championship played a positive role in promoting the Basket Ball game. The presence of Chinese Muslim population contributed to boost the morale of the players.
Japanese Youth Delegation	The GCC Countries, 1986	The delegation consisted of football, volleyball, judo, and karate teams. The Japanese teams displayed judo and karate games and also did coaching. Get

		together was arranged between the teams of the GCC Countries and they also visited the sports facilities in the GCC Countries.
Visit to Youth Hostels Associations	Germany, 1986	Field visits to the youth hostels, their activities and their uses.
First Foreign Labor Camp	Somalia, 1986	Construction of a mosque, and two class rooms, a high water storage tank, laying water pipelines to village quarters; a training course for girls in tailoring; distribution of three sewing machines to fresh graduates and a ploughing machine; cultural, sports and social activities were held.
Second Foreign Labor Camp	Sudan, 1989	Five classrooms over an area of 5m X 8m and a fencing wall were constructed for the schools. Renovation and maintenance were done to a number of school class rooms and health centers. A store room with an extra room was constructed over an area of 100m x 16,8 m..
		100 trees were planted inside the camp. A training course in sewing was conducted for the girls. A joint exhibition was arranged and a number of social, cultural and sports activities were conducted. Several field visits were also conducted
A Visit to Taipei by a scout delegation	Taiwan, 1989	Twenty five scouts joined this delegation, who observed the experiences of China in the scout field, and form friendship between the Gulf and Chinese youth.
A Scientific Tour	Jordan, Egypt	Several experiments were viewed and some

	1990	environmental studies were conducted, in addition to several field visits to the research centers.
Third Foreign Labor Camp	Syria, 1992	Five residential units with 52 M <sup>2</sup> for each unit were constructed; paving and filling of an area of 5 Km was done for pavements; landscaping and pruning of about 300 trees was done; ten toilets were constructed in the camp site; repairs were done to three schools. Cultural, social, and sports activities were organized.
A Scientific tour to Korea	Korea 1993	This visit was undertaken to know the scientific achievements and the scientific activities pursued by the Korean youth.
Fourth Foreign Labor Camp	Egypt , 1995	Plantation was done in an area of 7000 M2 and an area of 500 M2 was leveled with installation and painting and 430 trees were planted including 7 palm trees. Several social, cultural and sports activities were conducted and a number of recreational parties and exploratory visits were undertaken.
Scientific Inventions Exhibition	France , 1995	The exhibition was set up in the Scientific City in Paris, of which the prominent feature was to display the inventions of GCC youth in the scientific arena. Through this exhibition, the scientific experiments were observed in France and 54 inventions were submitted in this Exhibition.

**Celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year:**

While celebrating the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year and pursuant to the resolutions

	of the youth welfare and sports Ministers, the following activities were conducted:
-	Symposiums were organized locally on Voluntary Work and its impact on development of social activities in the field of youth activities, and make people aware of the goals and trends of the International Youth Year.
-	Hold a photo exhibition and a symposium on the goals of the International Youth Year and achievements of the GCC Countries in this field participated by all the GCC Countries.
-	Intensify the social activities specially in the field of goals of International Youth Year (namely <i>Participation, Development &amp; Peace</i> ), highlighting their goals, and issuing brochures which should explain the goals of the International Youth Year.
-	Documentation of these activities and providing the Secretariat General with their photos and description so they can be included in the brochure issued by the Secretariat General on this occasion.
-	A football tournament was organized whose revenues were collected for the sake of UNICEF.

**Fourth:**

Ministers of youth and sports issued a statement at the beginning of 1996 about the International Youth Year. Its text reads as follows:

**Statement of Ministers of Youth & Sports  
Of CooperaCouncil for the Arab States of the Gulf  
On the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of  
the International Youth Year**

The Ministers of Youth & Sports of Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf while celebrating the Tenth Anniversary of the International Youth Year, express their appreciation for the efforts exerted by the youth and sports organizations and other national institutions in the GCC Countries towards materializing the trends of the International Youth Year (*Participation, Development & Peace*), and praise the achievements attained in this field on the local level for each state as well as on the joint level of the GCC Countries.

Keeping in mind the membership of their countries in the International Organization, the ministers realize the common responsibility entrusted with the international community, and its governmental as well as private institutions to achieve the goals of the International Youth Year which aim at embodying the collective participation in order to achieve comprehensive developments, spread peace and bring people of the globe closer and closer.

The ministers confirm their determination to carry on a serious pursuit and active continuity to support youth activities which shall attain

comprehensiveness in youth care, respond to the trends which shall be beneficial for them and their countries, and deepen the relations between their societies and other communities, in compliance with their true religion – Islam – and trends of their institutions, and they shall exert their best efforts to assist the international community to keep up its best efforts to achieve the goals and trends of the International Youth Year, through the programs and plans put forth by the youth and sports institutions in the GCC Countries on the local, joint and international levels.

The ministers, while confirming their determination to intensify the efforts in this field, do not have doubt that the international community shall pursue the same efforts to support these trends, establish cooperation and coordination among its institutions to intensify good efforts and remove barriers and factors of difference among the nations.

The ministers take this opportunity to invite the international community to extend help to the developing countries and support their youth and educational institutions materially and technically, and appeal to the concerned international institutions to increase degree of awareness regarding dangers of narcotics, terrorism, and outlets of deviation, demanding opening new horizons of activities, work fields and production for the youth to wisely utilize their spare time and save their countries from any harm. The ministers while issuing this statement, declare their solidarity with the efforts exerted for care of the young generation and strengthen their ties with their countries and assimilation with their fellow partners in the world.

Wishing good luck for all.