

SHS e-Flash

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2nd Forum of Ministers and High-Ranking Officials Responsible for Youth in Central America

The 2nd Forum of Ministers and High-Ranking Officials responsible for Youth in Central America will be held in **San Jose** (Costa Rica), from 21-22 August, 2009 on the theme: “Towards the institutionalization of public programs of prevention”.

After the success of the 1st Forum, which was held in August 2007 and contributed to the promotion of a “Philosophy of Prevention” in the sub-region, this second meeting seeks to support the development of public policies for the prevention of violence, and should thus conclude with the adoption of a Declaration specifying the strategy that the Central American states collectively decide to implement in this domain.

This forum will bring together Ministers of Education and Youth and senior policy-makers from **El Salvador**, **Guatemala**, **Nicaragua**, the **Dominican Republic** and **Costa Rica**; as well as representatives from regional institutions such as the Organization of American States (OEA), the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI), the Central American Coalition for the Prevention of Youth Violence (CCPVJ), the Central American Educational and Cultural Coordination (CECC), The Central American Integration System (SICA/SISCA), and the Central American Observatory for Violence (OCAVI).

Representatives will also be present from several agencies and funds of the United Nations system (UNDP, UNICEF, PAHO-WHO, UNFPA); bilateral cooperation agencies (Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, and Spain); the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the Spanish Red Cross.

Created at the initiative of UNESCO, the Forum of Ministers and High-Ranking Officials responsible for Youth is an informal dialogue space that seeks to facilitate the exchange of experiences and best practices between Central American political decision-makers in the area of the prevention of youth violence.

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