



12th October, 2016

Dear High Commissioner,

***CommonTies* Event for Young Commonwealth Citizens in UK
Friday 21st October 2016**

As you may be aware, in May 2016 the Commonwealth Secretariat launched a new *CommonTies* initiative, aimed at engaging and connecting young Commonwealth citizens aged 18-29 who are temporarily in the UK for work or study.

We are now planning the Autumn Event for *CommonTies*, which will be held in two parts on 21st October, and we would appreciate your support in informing any young people in your networks who may be interested in attending.

- Part 1: 13:00 - 15:00 - Interactive Panel at Marlborough House, Pall Mall

This session will encourage the young people to consider how they might turn their talents to public service, to contribute to making a difference in the world. Participants will engage with a high level panel who have chosen to pursue careers in national and international public service, using their skills and expertise to create change in their countries and across the globe.

- Part 2: 15:30 - 17:30 - Youth Development Index Launch at Australia House, 1 The Strand

The *CommonTies* participants will move to Australia House to attend the reception for the Launch of the Commonwealth's new *2016 Global Youth Development Index & Report (YDI)*. They will hear how the YDI can be used as a tool to drive stronger youth development in their countries; and will also engage with High Commissioners and other distinguished leaders and youth sector stakeholders invited to the launch.

The *CommonTies* flyer is attached. We kindly ask you to disseminate it to eligible young people in your networks and encourage them to register and attend. Once registered, young people will also receive a formal invitation to the YDI Launch.

We also look forward to welcoming you to the YDI Launch. You will have received your invitation through Huddle - please let us know if this is not the case.

If you have questions, or require more information, please contact Ms Chifundo Chilera on c.chilera@commonwealth.int or phone +44 20 7747 6456.

We look forward to seeing you and your young people on 21st October.

Yours sincerely,

Katherine Ellis
Director, Youth Affairs