



**CAMEROON YOUTHS AND STUDENTS  
FORUM FOR PEACE  
CAMYOSFOP**

*MOTTO: PEACE – JUSTICE – PROGRESS*

*DEVISE: PAIX – JUSTICE – PROGRES*

**NGO with Special Consultative Status with the UN**

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**PD GRANTS COMPETITION**

**Creating Awareness of Africa's Forest Biodiversity**

**PROJECT IMPLEMENTOR:**

**Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP)**

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:**

**EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CAMEROON  
WORLD WILD FUND FOR NATURE (WWF), CAMEROON**

**REPORT ON:**

**ENGAGING CHILDREN AND YOUTHS AND ENHANCING AWARENESS  
ON THE PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY**

**October 2014 - May 2015**



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## A. INTRODUCTION

Cameroon is one of the most bio diverse countries in Africa with 9000 species of flora, 297 species of mammals, 849 species of birds, 373 species of reptiles and amphibians, 451 species of fish, and 6 ecosystems namely: marine and coastal, semi-arid, tropical, humid and dense forest, mountain, savannah, and fresh water. Unfortunately, this amazing biodiversity is under serious threat due to poor livelihood habits.

Conversely, the United Nations declared 2011 – 2020 as the Decade on Biodiversity which incorporates the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and is a focus in the Post 2015 Development Agenda, thus highlighting the role of the youth in promoting biodiversity is preponderant.

It is on these bases that the Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP) carried out from October 2014 – May 2015 the project entitled **‘Engaging Children and Youths and Enhancing Awareness on the Protection of Biodiversity,’** as a means of **sensitizing and involving children, youth and the general public on the importance of protecting Cameroon’s biodiversity.**

Thus the following activities:

- Engaging 5 community radios to vigorously raise awareness on the protection of biodiversity
- Organize an essay competition with 20 secondary schools in Yaounde
- Organize an excursion with 10 primary schools to Mvog-Betsi Zoo-Botanical Garden and a painting competition of best Animalia
- Engage Cameroonian youth in online discussions on preservation of our biodiversity
- Sensitize people on environmental protection through posters, flyers and stickers.

In order to boost the project, CAMYOSFOP also contracted a partnership with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) that facilitated activities such as the zoo excursion and painting competition with 10 primary schools and the essay competition and the biodiversity cultural jamboree with 20 secondary schools in Yaounde. The project went from November 2014 to May 2015.

## B. ACTIVITIES

The main activities carried out were implemented thus:

### I. ENGAGEMENT WITH RADIO STATIONS

Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) were signed with 5 radio stations namely:

1. **Radio Environnement** in Yaoundé;
2. **Radio Health International** in Yaoundé;
3. **Radio Femme** in Mbalmayo;
4. **Bui Community Radio**, Kumbo, in the North West;
5. **Ocean City Radio**, Limbe the South West.

Following the terms of the MoUs each of the radio stations produced 3 programs on the protection of Cameroon's biodiversity and rebroadcasted each of the program once, giving a total of 30 programs. The programs were either debate, interactive with telephone calls and with the participation of panellists. The topics discussed were amongst others included: **The role of youths in protecting endangered species; How can forest resources be sustainably managed; and Universal access to water and basic sanitation; climate change and biodiversity and on CAMYOSFOP's engagement in this cause.**

At the end of the project each radio station sent in CDs with the required three programs they had broadcasted.

### II. ZOO EXCURSION AND PAINTING COMPETITION WITH 10 PRIMARY SCHOOLS

During the Zoo Excursion and painting competition by the 10 selected primary schools, CAMYOSFOP engaged in partnership with the World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF), an international organization involved in environmental and wildlife protection; thus the pertinence of their engagement with CAMYOSFOP in this project.

The 10 primary schools that participated in this activity were:

1. Peace Home Primary School
2. Ecole Primaire de Mvog-Betsi
3. Franky Academic Complex Primary School
4. Ecole Primaire Bilingue les Chapelains
5. Holy Infant Primary School
6. English Elementary School
7. Saint Francis Bilingual Primary School
8. Jumping Jacks Primary School

9. Mada Dominion Bilingual Primary School

10. Mount Zion Primary School

Each of the above primary school was represented by 10 pupils of class 3 giving a total of 100 pupils. These pupils had an amazing guided tour of the animals in the zoo and were told each animal's habitat, identified those that were endangered and informed on the things that should be done to protect them.

At the end of the zoo excursion, the kids began the drawing competition on the best animal that they saw in the zoo. The competition was in two parts. The first involved all the children, 100 in number, drawing any animal of their choice in the zoo. The pupils with the best Animalia drawing from each school were qualified to participate in the second part of the same competition. These 10 pupils thus competed in doing the best painting of their winning drawings. It was through the evaluation of the jury that the best three students were awarded.

The winners were:

- **Miss. Samienta Emmanuela** from Top International Primary School who came first and was awarded the prize of 25.000frs;
- **Mr. Ayuk Etang** from Jumping Jacks Primary School, came second and he took home the prize of 15.000frs;
- **Mr. Mougang Joshian** from St. Francis primary School came third and went home with the prize of 10.000frs.

### III. ESSAY COMPETITION AND BIODIVERSITY JAMBOREE WITH 20 SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The 20 Secondary schools that participated in the essay competition were:

1. Holy Infant secondary School
2. Mevick Bilingual Grammar School
3. English High School
4. Oxford Secondary School
5. Lycée Bilingue d'Application
6. Collège de la Retraite
7. Lycée Bilingue d'Etoug-Ebe
8. Lycée d'Elig-Essono
9. College Privé Montesquieu
10. Lycée de Nkolndongo
11. Lycée Bilingue de Nkol-Eton
12. Lycée Technique Charles Atangana
13. Lycée General Leclerc
14. CETIC Ngoa-Ekelle

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 Registration N°. 00674/RDA/J06/BAPP

15. Mario Academic Complex
16. Lycée Anguissa
17. Christian Comprehensive Secondary School
18. Lycée Bilingue d'Ekounou
19. Amity International College
20. Lycée de Biyem-Assi

The topic of the essay competition, which was written in English and French by students from Form 3 class in each institution, was, **'How does climate change affect biodiversity?'**

Over 200 students participated in this competition which was held from **March 12 – 20, 2015**. The teachers of each school corrected the scripts of their students from **March 23 – 25, 2015**, and handed the scripts of the best 5 essays from their schools to WWF on **March 24, 2015**. These scripts were corrected by WWF high officials and the winners were announced during the biodiversity jamboree.

The winners were:

1. **Aboyoyo Beatrice Eldia** from Lycée Bilingue d'Etoug-Ebe (1<sup>st</sup> Prize)
2. **Tsala Obama Hyacinthe** from Collège Montesquieu (2<sup>nd</sup> Prize)
3. **Beryl Sandra Gejung** from English High School (3<sup>rd</sup> Prize)
4. **Gwande Steve** from Lycée Bilingue d'Application
5. **Leumengne Kemojou Mylene Jessica** from Lycée General Leclerc
6. **Eletana Mydsaela Eryca** from Amity International College
7. **Ngwa Dorcas Ngum** from Mevick Bilingual Grammar School
8. **Ngah Leticia** from Lycée Bilingue de Nkol-Eton
9. **Kameni Nbouanou** from Lycée Technique Charles Atangana
10. **Babgna Bryan Dominique** from Collège de la Retraite
11. **Kamgo Domtchamp Stephane** from Christian Comprehensive Secondary School
12. **Ngarisa Thelma Bonya** from Mario Academic Complex
13. **Lalong Sonia** from Lycée Bilingue d'Ekounou
14. **Issa Janatou** from Oxford Comprehensive High School
15. **Tamenkun Kendrick Che** from Holy Infant High School
16. **Nanga Meyanga Jacqueline Patricia** from Lycée d'Anguissa
17. **Kamsu Tamto Celia Belva** from Lycée de Nkoldongo
18. **Abele Fiong Emilienne** from CETIC Ngoa-Ekelle
19. **Mimboe Dipenda Erin-Claude** from Lycée d'Elig-Essono
20. **Lycée de Biyem-Assi** dropped out of the competition due to administrative bureaucracy.

The winners were awarded their prizes during the Jamboree, which was held on **May 13, 2015** at the Mvog-Betsi Zoo Botanical Garden. Students and teachers from the participating

secondary schools were present, as well as, the teacher coordinators of the 10 primary schools.

The students showcased all they had learned on the protection of biodiversity through their participation in debates, quizzes, dramas, and journalistic reports. The winners of each activity were declared and the best three students in the essay competition were awarded their prizes. They are:

1. **Aboyoyo Beatrice Eldia** from Lycée Bilingue d'Etoug-Ebe (1<sup>st</sup> Prize). Received a trophy and a cash prize of 100,000 FCFA
2. **Tsala Obama Hyacinthe** from Collège Montesquieu (2<sup>nd</sup> Prize). Received a trophy and a cash prize of 60,000 FCFA
3. **Beryl Sandra Gejung** from English High School (3<sup>rd</sup> Prize). Receive a trophy and a cash prize of 40,000 FCFA

WWF granted certificates to all 19 winners of the essay competition and CAMYOSFOP granted certificates of participation to the 10 primary schools that had participated in the zoo excursion and the drawing and painting competition.

#### IV. SENSITIZATION THROUGH POSTERS, FLYERS AND STICKERS

CAMYOSFOP designed and printed 1000 posters, 5,000 flyers and 1,000 stickers. These communication tools were distributed to various schools involve in the project, embassies, international organizations several NGOs with particular attention to those that focus on environmental protection, the radio stations engaged in the project and the public in general.

#### V. ENGAGING CAMEROONIAN YOUTHS IN ONLINE DISCUSSIONS

During the implementation period of the biodiversity project, online discussions were held on Facebook, Twitter and the CAMYOSFOP website. These online discussions were facilitated by the CAMYOSFOP Web Master, through a number of *questions (See Annex at the end of the report)* Unfortunately in December 2015, the CAMYOSFOP website was hacked by a terrorist group and was immediately shot down. Till date, CAMYOSFOP still awaits the re-establishment of the website and perhaps the creation of an entire new website. Never-the-less during that period, CAMYOSFOP had already engaged over 100,000 Cameroonian youth in the discussion

## C. CONCLUSION

The project which was a great success, ended on **May 13, 2015** and CAMYOSFOP succeeded in sensitizing over 300 pupils and students in Yaounde with an expected multiplier effect that could be estimated at over 30,000 Cameroonian youth. CAMYOSFOP also sensitized numerous institutions and uncountable citizens in the Centre region, North West region and the South West region through its radio shows and the distribution of flyers, stickers and posters.

## D. APPENDIX

### PHOTO REPORTING OF THE PROJECT

#### **Vsist of the Mvog-Betsi Zoo-Botanical Garden, Yaounde and Painting competition by 10 Primary Schools on 10 December 2014**



*The Kids Looking at the Chimpanzees*

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*A cross section of the kids listening to Papa Nico, the zoo guide*



**Mr. Ngali Eugene, Executive Director of  
CAMYOSFOP giving a welcome note to**

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*Mr. Alexandre Brecher,  
Communications Manager for  
WWF  
giving a short presentation on  
wildlife protection*



*The kids listening to Mr. Kome  
Abel of WWF, as he  
gesticulates while telling a  
story on wildlife protection*

## **PRIZE AWARD CEREMONY OF THE BIODIVERSITY ESSAY COMPETITION WITH 20 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN YAOUNDE**



*A Cross Section of the participants*



*Dr Hanson Njiforti Country Director of WWF during his opening address for the Award Ceremony*

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*From Left to Right: Ngelim Eugene, Executive Director – CAMYOSFOP, Mr. Alexandre Brecher, Communications Manager for WWF and Dr Hanson Njiforti, Country Director, WWF*



*Handing over of trophy and cash prize to the Winner of the Essay Competition Aboyoyo Beatrice Eldia represented by a fellow student colleague from Lycée Bilingue d'Etoug-Ebe .*

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## **ONLINE DISCUSSIONS ON FACEBOOK, TWITTERS AND CAMYOSFOP WEBSITE**

1. Put something online that'll be counting down days to the online discussion
2. Hi everyone, today begins the month of OCTOBER ... 14 more days to CAMYOSFOP's Online Discussion on the Protection of Cameroon's Biodiversity. We'll like to begin by laying down the rules.

Our online discussions will consist of 34 QUESTIONS within 34 DAYS. The questions for each day may be rephrased within the day to facilitate more of our audience's understanding.

The evaluation of your responses will be done by 3 expert members of our Jury, whose persons will be kept anonymous.

During the days of this challenge or our online discussion, our jury will assess:

- (a) what responses were most accurate,
- (b) who was our most active participant,
- (c) who is most informed,
- (d) who was most articulate,
- (e) who is most likely to carry out a developmental project on biodiversity
- (f) who was most willing to learn, and
- (g) for the bonus questions: what are the most innovative and/or most clever responses

This will be done on a total of ... POINTS, and only the First-three winners will be announced on the last day NOVEMBER 18.

Do not forget the winners of these discussions will be awarded the following prizes: (a) .... Frs CFA, (b) ... Frs CFA, and (c) ... Frs CFA

3. Hi everyone, today is WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 15, 2014. It's the Number One Day for CAMYOSFOP's Online Discussion on the Protection of Cameroon's Biodiversity. So here is the first question for today:
  - 1) What do you understand by biodiversity?
  - 2) Can you name at least ... of Cameroon's relevant biodiversity?
  - 3) How much of Cameroon's biodiversity are we loosing?
  - 4) Why are we loosing these biodiversity?
  - 5) How do threats of biodiversity affect us?
  - 6) What species that existed in Cameroon have become extinct?
  - 7) What is a biodiversity hotspot? - **an area with strong biodiversity were species are in danger of disappearing**, an area with a very high number of unique species, an area recently invaded by human population and settlement? - To be considered a biodiversity hotspot, an area needs to have lost at least 70 percent of its original habitat area.

- 8) Human intervention has caused species to disappear since when? – 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Middle ages, **the Stone Age** - Since the Stone Age, human behavior has caused the extinction of other species.
- 9) About what percentage of the world's drugs used today are of natural origin? – 20%, **50%**, 90% - Studies show that more than 50 percent of the drugs on the market in the United States are based on plants or other natural products.
- 10)** Which of the following is not a threat to biodiversity? – population growth, using a pesticide, **driving an electric car** - While cars produce a large amount of pollution, electric cars can eliminate harmful emissions and help the environment.
- 11) What do you understand by eco-system?
- 12) What percentage of species that existed on earth have become extinct? – 25, 50, **99** - More than 99 percent of the species that once inhabited the earth have disappeared, mostly due to major environmental changes that resulted in mass extinction events.
- 13) Where can you find the most threatened ecosystems? – **fresh water**, sea, forest - Due to pollution and overfishing, rivers and lakes are more at risk than any other ecosystems.
- 14) How much more energy is needed to produce recycled paper? – **70%**, 50%, 20% - Recycling paper requires less energy, uses less water and causes less pollution than making new paper. Making new paper uses 70 percent more energy than producing the same amount of paper through recycling.
- 15) What's the biggest threat to biodiversity? – overhunting, population growth, **deforestation** - More than half of the world's species live in forests. As forests get smaller, entire species might get wiped out before scientists even get a chance to discover them.
- 16) Name three things you can do to protect our biodiversity
- 17) How many mosquitoes can a single bat eat in an hour? – 10, 150, **600** - Bats, each of which can eat up to 600 mosquitoes in a single hour, are essential to help control pests. Destroying their habitats or exposing them to chemicals and herbicides can affect the balance of the ecosystem
- 18) How do livestock and cattle ranches affect biodiversity? – **overgrazing can cause soil erosion**, animal pheromones can destroy all of the plant life in an area, livestock can scare wildlife away – When livestock is restricted to grazing in a single area, they will eat away at the grass until it's all gone. This can cause soil erosion and drive away local animals that can no longer use the grass as nourishment or hideaway.
- 19) What industry causes most pollution? – **paper production**, diamond mining, software development - While most industries cause some level of pollution, paper factories are one of the worst enemies of the environment, since they cause both water and air pollution.
- 20) Which animals have been most affected by overexploitation? – exotic pets, deer and other wild game **megafauna**, **fish** - More than a quarter of the fishing areas in the world have been overexploited, resulting in serious changes in the environment and biodiversity of ecosystems.
- 21) What can you or an individual do to protect our Biodiversity?
- 22) What is the meaning of the sign ...? – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – mention the 4<sup>th</sup> R in the answer
- 23)** What is the meaning of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle? réduire, réutiliser, recycler
- 24) Three of these answers are wrong? 7 ways to go green are (1) switch off the light when leaving a room, (2) plant a tree **(3) wash laundry in hot water** (4) Reuse scrap paper. Print on two sides, or let your kids color on the back side of used paper. (5) **Stop using some reusable bags. Order disposable bags** (6) Read a lot about going green and try practicing what you learn (7) **Always switch your TV off on standby**
- 25) Bonus question: What is the role of youth in protecting endangered species?
- 26) Bonus question: How can forest resources be sustainably managed?

- 27)** Bonus question: question on universal access to water and basic sanitation
- 28)** On an average how many children die from diarrhoea caused by unsafe water and poor sanitation? -
- 29)** What is the Cameroon's government most recent action to involve its citizens in protecting our biodiversity?
- 30)** How are our fauna and flora affected by pollution?
- 31)** How many people worldwide are forced to defecate outdoors due to inadequate sanitation?
- 32)** How much of the world's fresh water is available to drink?
- 33)** What proportion of hospital patients in developing countries are being treated for diseases caused by poor water and sanitation?

## **DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR RADIO TALK SHOWS**

### **1. The role of youths in protecting endangered species**

Round table discussion of young people

- Journalist
- 6 young people
  - NGOs (hgvc)
  - University student in environment
  - 1 CAMYOSFOP youth
  - National Youth council
  - Youth from the Diaspora
  - Breed animals/have restaurant

### **2. How can forest resources be sustainably managed?**

Interactive

- Journalist
- 2 expert (WWF, Min of forestry and wildlife)
- Radio calls debate

### **3. Universal access to water and basic sanitation**

Interactive

- Journalist
- 2 expert (GWP, MIN of water and energy)
- Radio calls debate

### **Radios involved**

- Oceans city radio
- Bui community radio
- Radio health international
- Radio environmental
- Radio campus

**PROGRAM FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS' VISIT TO THE ZOO**  
**AND PAINTING COMPETITION**

**Date:** Wednesday, December 10, 2014

**Venue:** Mvog-Betsi Zoo

TIME		ACTIVITY	PERSON IN CHARGE
<b>OPENING</b>			
08:00 – 09:00	–	Arrival & entrance of participants into the zoo	Teacher supervisors & CAMYOSFOP staff
09:00 – 09:15	–	Welcome note to participants	CAMYOSFOP
		Statement by the US Embassy in Cameroon	US Embassy representative
		Word from the Curator of the zoo	Zoo Curator
		Remarks by Government official	Representative of the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
		Family Picture	
<b>THE ZOO EXCURSION AND PAINTING COMPETITION</b>			
09:15 – 10:00	–	Guided visit of the zoo animals and birds	Zoo guide
10:00 – 10:15	–	Presentation on the Importance of protecting wildlife	WWF
10:15 – 11:45	–	Painting Competition & Evaluation of paintings	CAMYOSFOP
11:45 – 12:00	–	Award of prizes to first three paints.	CAMYOSFOP
<b>CLOSING</b>			
12:00		Closing remarks	
		Refreshments and end of visit	

**ESSAY COMPETITION ON CAMEROON'S BIODIVERSITY**  
**WITH 20 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN YAOUNDE**

**I. OBJECTIVE OF THE ESSAY COMPETITION:**

Raise awareness on the protection of Cameroon's biodiversity through an essay competition with Form 3 students of 20 secondary schools on the protection of Cameroon's biodiversity.

**II. THEME OF THE ESSAY COMPETITION**

**'How does climate change affect biodiversity?'**

**III. CRITERIA FOR THE COMPETITION:**

1. Length of essay should be at most 250 words with an introduction, body and conclusion.
2. Essay should be written in English or French.
3. Proper presentation.
4. Only Form 3 students in each of the 20 secondary schools are participants for the competition.

**IV. CHRONOGRAM FOR THE ESSAY COMPETITION.**

No	Activity	Date of Execution
1.	Contacts/introduction of the project to the selected schools	<b>9 – 13 Feb 2015</b>
2.	Consultation meeting with Teachers on the Essay Competition / Prizes / Award ceremony ( <i>Venue - TBD</i> )	<b>20 Feb 2015</b>
3.	Launch of the Essay competition in the 20 Secondary Schools	<b>23 – 27 Feb, 2015</b>
4.	Correction of the scripts / Deliberation by the Jury	<b>2 – 4 March 2015</b>
5.	Press Release on winners of the Essay Competition	<b>4 March, 2015</b>
6.	Prize Award ceremony of the winners for the winners during a cultural manifestation on protecting Cameroon's biodiversity	<b>5 March or a day to be proposed for the activity.</b>

## **PROGRAM FOR BIODIVERSITY JAMBOREE WITH 20 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN YAOUNDE**

**Date:** Wednesday, May 13, 2015

**Venue:** Mvog Betsi Zoo Conference Hall

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>PERSON IN CHARGE</b>
12h00 – 13h30	Arrival of participants	Schools & CAMYOSFOP
13h45 – 14h00	<b>OPENING CEREMONY (2 mins per person)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of MC</li> <li>• <b>Singing of the National Anthem</b></li> <li>• Word of welcome by CAMYOSFOP</li> <li>• Statement by WWF</li> <li>• Opening Remarks by US Embassy</li> <li>• <b>Musical Interlude</b> by Richard Kings</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
14h00 – 14h15	<b>DEBATE: (Topic: Logging of trees is good for Cameroon's development) (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>For:</b> (1) Lycée d'Anguissa, (2) Mario Academic Complex Lycée, (3) Bilingue de Nkolndongo</li> <li>• <b>Against:</b> (1) Lycée Bilingue d'Etoug-Ebe, (2) College de la Retraite (3) Mevick Grammar School</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
14h15 – 14h30	<b>QUIZ (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (1) Christian Comprehensive High School, (2) Lycée Bilingue d'Application, (3) Oxford Secondary school (4) CETIC Ngoa-Ekelle</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
14h30 – 14h45	<b>DRAMA ON BIODIVERSITY (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (1) Lycée Bilingue de Nkol-Eton, (2) Amity International College</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
14h45 -14h55	<b>JOURNALISTIC REPORTS (2 mins per school)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (1) English High School, (2) College Privé Montesquieu, (3)Lycée Technique Charles Atangana, (4) Lycée Bilingue d'Ekounou</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
14h55 – 15h10	<b>DRAMA ON CLIMATE CHANGE (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (1) Holy Infant Secondary School, (2) Lycee d'Elig-Essono</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
15h10 – 15h25	<b>PRICE AWARD CEREMONY (15 mins)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall best essays</li> <li>• Best essay from each school</li> <li>• Closing remarks by CAMYOSFOP</li> <li>• <b>Musical Interlude</b> by Richard Kings</li> </ul>	<b>MC</b>
15h25 – 15h30	Group photo and refreshment	<b>MC</b>