**WARP Summit Speech Draft (3 minutes long)**

The speech topic: “Impression on IPYG meeting”

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| Nationality: | **Estonia** |
| Organization: | **Peace Child Estonia** |
| Speaker's full name: | **Mr. Vassili Golikov** |
| Speech note:Your excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests,First let me express my thanks/acknowledgements to the organisers of this meeting for inviting me to express my impression on IPYG meeting. I am very honored by this invitation and to be given the opportunity to present my views on the contribution of Estonian Civil Society to the advancement of peace and intercultural interreligious dialogue.The Organisation which I am presenting here is called Peace Child Estonia. It`s an entirely youth-led organization aimed towards ensuring that the voice of the youth is involved in all issues that affect them. During the last 5 years Peace Child Estonia achieved considerable positive changes and has been able to have its own input in the development of Estonian Civil Society through our own initiatives and cooperation with other organisatsions and institutions home and abroad. We as an organization are promoting values and principles that we believe to have a quite broader, implicit sphere of influence, on the development of Estonian Civil Society, but also on the development of intercultural and interreligious dialogue via different activities. Therefore our Organisation has always stressed cooperation and is working with different stakeholders including funders and youth leaders. Key to our efforts to support peace, understanding and development are National Civil Society Foundation and the Council of Civil Society Development Plan that unites NGOS and government leaders in Estonia. Through our activities Peace Child Estonia aims to provide the ideal setting for preparing youth leaders to take an active role in the society, promote constructive values and do a better job in their organisations or other eventual jobs they may choose to take. However, our organization also has a strong educational mission, a duty to serve the citizens, and to foster the conditions for better understanding and living together. I do hope that the subtitle, of our declaration of the World Alliance of Religions, will spell this out very clearly: “living together as equals in dignity and peace”, thus pointing at the overriding value of human recognition which is achieved by a dialogue.This Summit today represents another step towards that goal, like all initiatives taken, from grass-roots level to the intergovernmental scale. In other words: there are no small steps, insofar they contribute to raise awareness among our fellow citizens and societies. Dialogue can only be defined by practice and practice is in the hands of the people, not of organisations.Ladies and Gentlemen,I am convinced to be speaking in the right place, although I cannot speak about the situation in your countries. You will teach me on this and I shall be happy to learn from you. We all have a long way to go and learning from each other may help shortening the road or making it easier to travel. Thank you for your attention. |