Good evening. It is a pleasure to speak to the AIESEC International Congress. My university, Georgia Tech is proud to be both a sponsor for this International Congress as well as a host school to the largest student-managed association in the world. As one of the United States’ premier technological universities, we are also proud to work with you to promote global
understanding and the development of 21st century citizens.

I hope you are enjoying your stay in Atlanta, a city that is home to more than 40 universities, colleges, and community colleges.

It is an honor to introduce Andrew Young to the members of the AIESEC International Congress. While reading through your mission statement, I realized that it is altogether fitting that he address you tonight—because his career embodies the high ideals espoused by your organization. Andrew Young is without a doubt a 21st century citizen—an individual who is visionary, responsible, entrepreneurial, and who has embraced international and cultural understanding as tools to address today’s global challenges.

I first heard of Andy Young when I was an undergraduate student at Georgia Tech. I
remember hearing of his
courage and his work with
Martin Luther King Jr and
being inspired by the great
example he set. Today, Georgia
Tech graduates the highest
number of African American
engineering degrees in the
country, an honor that can be
directly traced to Andrew
Young, Martin Luther King Jr.,
and the other visionary leaders
of the Civil Rights Movement.

Since his days as a leader of the
Civil Rights Movement,
Andrew Young has spent more
than 40 years in public service.
He is one of America’s great
statesmen, whoserved as a
congressman, mayor of Atlanta,
and United States Ambassador
to the United Nations under
President Jimmy Carter.

As mayor, he helped transform
Atlanta from a regional power
to a major international city.
During his mayoral
administration, more than a half
a million jobs were created and
the metropolitan region
attracted more than $70 billion dollars in private investments and construction.

His service to Atlanta did not end after his term as mayor. Andrew Young was also instrumental in bringing the 1996 Summer Olympic Games to Atlanta. His national and international stature led credence to our bid, and during the Games and the period leading up to the Games, he served as co-chairman of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

In addition to his public service, Young has also worked in the private sector, serving as vice chairman of LawInternational Inc, a subsidiary of Law Companies Group, Inc, one of the most respected engineering and environmental consulting companies in the world.

Today, his international good deeds continue. Recently, President Clinton appointed Young chairman of the new
Southern Africa Enterprise Development Fund. This $100 million fund will help establish small and medium size businesses throughout Southern Africa. In addition, he is co-chairman of GoodWorks International, a specialty consulting group providing strategic services to corporations and governments operating in the global economy.

Throughout his career, Young has received many awards for his humanitarianism and political acumen, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, France’s Legion d’ Honneur; and more than 45 honorary degrees from American universities.

I recently had the pleasure of reading his latest book, An Easy Burden, and I encourage those of you here today to do the same. The book provided an inside look at a man who has made an international difference—a man who has
brought hope to many corners of the world—and who stands as a prime example for us all.

Ladies and gentlemen, Andrew Young.