Nobel winner Malala promotes education at Kenya refugee camp

DADAAB, Kenya — Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai visited the world’s largest refugee camp on her 19th birthday on Tuesday and voiced concern that Kenya’s plans to close it could create “a generation lost.”

The government announced in May that it plans to close the camp in eastern Kenya near the Somali border by the end of the year.

 “As we all know, the camp is going to be closed down soon, so I want to make sure that these girls don’t become a generation lost, and there are alternative facilities for them to continue with their education,” Malala said.

Malala urged President Uhuru Kenyatta to take his time in deciding on the fate of the camp and take into consideration the need to provide education.

 “I am here to speak for my unheard sisters of Somalia striving for education every day,” she said.

Malala, an outspoken advocate for the education of girls in her native Pakistan, was shot in the head and severely wounded in 2012 by Taliban militants while returning home from school. For her courage, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014.