

## Extraordinary General Assembly of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2017  
17:00, Board Room C2, VIC

### DRAFT MINUTES

#### 1. Adoption of the draft agenda approved

#### 2. Roll Call

##### 21 Member Organizations attended in person (all in good standing)

- African Action on Aids (AAA)
- Associacao de Reabilitacao de Toxicodependentes de Macau (ARTM)
- Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales
- EURAD
- FORUT – Campaign for Development and Solidarity
- Foundation for a Drug-Free Europe
- International Council on Alcohol and Addiction
- International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC)
- International Federation of Non-Governmental Organisations for the Prevention of Drug and Substance Abuse (IFNGO)
- International Federation of Social Workers
- IOGT International
- IOGT NTO
- KETHEA
- Mexico Unido Contra la Delincuencia
- Organizacao das Familias da Asia e do Pacifico (OFAP)
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP)
- Turkish Green Crescent
- Verein zur Förderung der Volkerverständigung
- Women's Federation for World Peace International
- World Federation Against Drugs (WFAD)
- ZONTA International

##### 12 Member Organisations attended via online conference (all in good standing)

- Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy
- Comunità di Venezia Società Cooperativa Sociale
- Foundation for Alternative Approaches to Addiction – Think & do tank

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Chairperson	Treasurer	Deputy Treasurer	Secretary	Deputy Secretary	Project Officer
Esbjörn Hörnberg	Jamie Bridge	Zoran Jelic	Luciana Pol	Wilson Box	Sarah Pirker
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- International HIV/AIDS Alliance
- IOGT-NTO Junior Association
- Slum Child Foundation
- Washington Office on Latinamerica
- European Cities Against Drugs
- HRI
- Human Rights Watch
- Transform International

#### Board members

- Esbjörn Hörnberg, Chair
- Luciana Pol, Secretary and acting Vice-Chair
- Jamie Bridge, Treasurer
- Zoran Jelic, Vice-Treasurer

#### Also present:

- Billy Batware, UNODC Civil Society Team (CST)

In addition 26 valid proxy votes were held. For complete list please see ANNEX 1.

### **3. Approval of the minutes of the last meeting**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 22 June 2017 have been circulated and are available for download on the [website](#). The Committee **approved** the draft as a correct record of the meeting

### **4. Apologies for absence**

To note any apologies for absence received by the Secretary in advance of the meeting or received at the meeting.

#### Apologies received by Secretary prior to the meeting:

- International Inner Wheel
- Shola Mese Foundation
- San Patrigano

#### Apologies received from Board members

- Wilson Box, Vice Secretary

### **5. Membership**

The Committee was informed about current developments within the membership. VNGOC currently has 194 members of which 100 are in good standing and 20 are unresponsive.

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## 6. Board

The Committee was informed about the resignation of the Vice-Chair, Katherine Pettus. The Board thanked Katherine Pettus for her excellent work and informed the Committee that the position of Vice-Chair will not be filled until the next elections in March 2018.

The board asked for approval from the membership on prolonging the term of the board until March 2018.

**Approved.**

10 minute break to determine whether all members present are in good standing and eligible to vote during the following discussions.

## 7. Revision of the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure

The amendments of the statutes and the rules of procedure were discussed and voted upon. The approved new documents can be found on the [website](#).

- a. **Resolution 7.1:** The General Assembly formally adopts the VNGOC Statutes as revised in September 2017, and including changes agreed at the Extraordinary General Assembly on 27th September. **ADOPTED.**

To use a language that is as inclusive as possible it was discussed and approved to remove the term “Drug Policy NGOs” from the statutes and replace it with non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

- b. **Resolution 7.2:** The General Assembly formally adopts the VNGOC Rules of Procedure as revised in September 2017, and including changes agreed at the Extraordinary General Assembly on 27th September. **ADOPTED.**

**Point 5** of the RoP (Membership Fees): The Membership agrees to use the term revenue instead of budget and add cash as a possible method for paying the membership fees.  
Point

**Point 8** (Voting at General Assemblies): Some members suggested that a 48h deadline for proxy votes is too harsh, to compromise it was decided to put the deadline at midnight before the GA.

**Point 9** (Board Elections): FORUT put forward the proposal of staggered elections and asked for clarification from the board on their proposal on holding elections for 3 board positions every year. The membership discussed in some detail the merits of staggering the elections and whether this could indeed be a way to ensure more continuity or only

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means that nothing gets done because everyone is always in election mode. The proposal of the board was **approved**.

**Point 9** (Board Elections and Nominations Committee): FORUT proposed the following: need a diverse board and the election committee should be a vehicle to insure that – EC should propose candidates for each position then the GA can vote on this. Would propose to limit voting to the time of the GA either present in person or online or via proxy. Of course it is not possible for everyone to come but nevertheless it should be done in person. Then the positions should be voted on one after another to ensure to make it possible for the GA to compose a board that is balanced.

Other members argued against real time voting mainly for reasons of time differences. The Secretary, Luciana Pol pointed out that no time could be selected without excluding a whole region and that real time voting would only be giving priority to European members. In an interest to promote a diverse panel voting should be as flexible as possible.

Members agreeing with FORUTs proposal argued that proxy voting precludes any last minute discussions and that getting up early or in the middle of the night is part of the job. Voting in person is extremely important as only then one can consider discussions and other opinions.

The Vice-Treasurer, Zoran Jelic pointed out that the board struggled to come up with the best solution. Dags argument is very good if we had elections of whole board but when it is staggered you can vote more strategically. This leaves it with the GA to be inclusive and try to do the best. We would like that the nomination committee encourages the membership to think about equality, balance and diversity.

FORUT: There are no best solutions but we have to find 2<sup>nd</sup> best solutions – don't want to limit participation but we have come a long way (by technical means and by changing the statutes). We are an international organization but we are addressing the Vienna issues and we are based in Vienna – and yes it is easier to send an email but we should also strive for as many as possible to attend in person. Main argument is to have an election process to vote position by position. If you vote 24h before you only vote for your favored candidates and not those that diversity would suggest. Real time voting gives people time to reconsider their vote.

TNI: Proposal of the board balances the pros and cons very well – Most inclusive is if there are a whole range of possibilities. See your point regarding to voting position for position but this is addressed by the staggered system.

FORUT: Thank you for the great discussion. Will not present my proposal, discussion will be reflected in the minutes and we will give this proposal a try.

- c. **Resolution 7.3:** The General Assembly agrees to stagger Board terms, so that three positions elected in March 2018 will be for just one year (Chair, Deputy Secretary and Deputy Treasurer) and elections will in future be held for three Board positions every year. **ADOPTED**

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## 8. Financial Report

The financial report for January to September 2017 was presented. (see Annex 2 for details). The Treasurer briefly presented a grant opportunity from the EU Commission with the deadline in October and asked for member organisations interested in collaborating with VNGOC and UNODC on this.

## 9. Global Structure of the VNGOC and possible name change

To discuss the issues brought up by the membership during the June 22 meeting concerning the global structure of the VNGOC, future developments and a name change.

As the discussions have already been very lengthy on the statutes and Rules of Procedure it was decided to come up with a concrete proposal for the next meeting or the GA in March with the goal to find ways to include southern organisations better.

## 10. Civil Society Task Force

The Chair, Esbjörn Hörnberg gave a brief update on the CSTF. The day before the meeting he received a draft of the new MoU and once this was discussed within the board it will be shared with the membership.

## 11. UNODC update

To receive an update on developments within UNODC from the Civil Society Team and other sections of UNODC as appropriate.

Billy Batware from the UNODC Civil Society Team gave an update on the work of the UNODC and also introduced the EU Funding proposal which will be a joint project of VNGOC and UNODC Civil Society Team. He also gave an update on the improved Marketplace, the second phase starting in October. The new Marketplace will be easier to use will include many new feature, will be mobile friendly and in general will make it easier to connect with peers around the world.

## 12. Any other business

GREa briefly presented GREa and Geneva Platform, an initiative that brings together CSOs working on Health, Human Rights and Drug issues. The project is still in an early stage but the membership will be kept updated.

## 13. Dates of next meetings

The next meeting will be held on December 7, 2017.

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## ANNEX 1 Proxy Votes

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Deputy Treasurer</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Deputy Secretary</b>	<b>Project Officer</b>
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Organisation	Acronym	Good Standing	Proxy	Acronym	Representative	Good Standing
Asociación Costarricense para el Estudio e Intervención de Políticas de Drogas	ACEID	Yes	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	CELS	Luciana Pol	Yes
Drug Policy Alliance		Yes	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	CELS	Luciana Pol	Yes
Penal Reform International	PRI	Yes	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	CELS	Luciana Pol	Yes
Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP)	SSDP	Yes	Centro de Estudios Legales y Sociales	CELS	Luciana Pol	Yes
Riksförbundet Narkotikafritt Samhälle (National Association for a Drug-Free Society)	RNS	Yes	FORUT	FORUT	Dag Endal	Yes
San Patrignano Foundation		Yes	FORUT	FORUT	Dag Endal	Yes
International Association for Applied Psychology	IAAP	Yes	International Council on Alcohol and Addiction	ICAA	Thomas Legl	Yes
Correlation Network - De Regenboog Groep		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
DIOGENIS		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
Echo		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
Federation Addiction		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
Harm Reduction Australia		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
Intercambios Asociación Civil		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
Mainline		Yes	International Drug Policy Consortium	IDPC	Ann Fordham	Yes
Active - sobriety, friendship and peace		Yes	IOGT International	IOGT	Kalle Dramstad	Yes
IOGT-NTO Junior Association	JUNIS	Yes	IOGT International	IOGT	Kalle Dramstad	Yes
Swedish Youth Temperance Organisation	UNF	Yes	IOGT International	IOGT	Kalle Dramstad	Yes
Help not Handcuffs Inc.		Yes	Mexico Unido Contra la Delincuencia	MUCD	Lisa Sanchez	Yes
Stichting International Center for Ethnobotanical Education and Policy Studies	ICEERS	No	Mexico Unido Contra la Delincuencia	MUCD	Lisa Sanchez	Yes
Washington Office on Latin America	WOLA	Yes	México Unido Contra la Delincuencia	MUCD	Lisa Sanchez	Yes
Citywide Drugs Crisis Campaign		Yes	Transnational Institute	TNI	Martin Jelsma	Yes
Fédération bruxelloise des institutions pour toxicomanes	Fedito Bxl	Yes	Transnational Institute	TNI	Martin Jelsma	Yes
Forum Droghe		Yes	Transnational Institute	TNI	Martin Jelsma	Yes
Harm Reduction Coalition		Yes	Transnational Institute	TNI	Martin Jelsma	Yes
International Doctors for Healthier Drug Policies	IDHDP	Yes	Transnational Institute	TNI	Martin Jelsma	Yes
Community Alliances for Drug Free Youth	CADFY	Yes	World Federation Against Drugs	WFAD	Linda Nilsson	Yes
Dalgarno Institute		Yes	World Federation Against Drugs	WFAD	Linda Nilsson	Yes
People Against Drug Dependence and Ignorance	PADDI	No	World Federation Against Drugs	WFAD	Linda Nilsson	Yes
Sunny Trust		No	World Federation Against Drugs	WFAD	Linda Nilsson	Yes

## ANNEX 2 Financial Report

Chairperson	Treasurer	Deputy Treasurer	Secretary	Deputy Secretary	Project Officer
Esbjörn Hörnberg	Jamie Bridge	Zoran Jelic	Luciana Pol	Wilson Box	Sarah Pirker
IOGT International <b>Sweden</b>	Int. Drug Policy Consortium <b>United Kingdom</b>	Celebrate Recovery <b>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</b>	Centro Des Estudios Legales Y Sociales <b>Argentina</b>	Zimbabwe Civil Liberties Union <b>Zimbabwe</b>	<b>Austria</b>



### Vienna NGO Committee (VNGOC) Accounts 2017

Description	2017 Budget (EUR)	EURO Actual Expenditure by end-Aug 2017	US\$ Actual Expenditure by end-Aug 2017
Opening Balance, Jan 17		€ 16.205,90	\$ 15.069,28
<b>Income</b>			
Membership Fees	€ 11.000,00	€ 6.286,22	\$ 2.967,62
Grants			
Other		€ 2.287,84	
<b>Total Income</b>	€ 11.000,00	€ 8.574,06	\$ 2.967,62
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Salary costs	€ 6.500,00	€ 6.600,38	
Travel and expenses	€ 2.000,00	€ 655,00	
Bank Fees and Charges	€ 1.500,00	€ 447,68	\$ 366,00
Communications and Postage	€ 1.000,00	€ 730,41	
Other	0	€ 2.287,84	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	€ 11.000,00	€ 10.721,31	\$ 366,00
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>		€ (2.147,25)	\$ 2.601,62
Balance, end-July		€ 14.058,65	\$ 17.670,90