

**Shaun Shelly**  
TB/HIV Care (SA Drug Policy Division)

Candidate for:  
**Deputy Secretary**

I am dedicated to the understanding, researching and implementation of effective drug policies. TB/HIV Care is the leading drug policy civil society organisation in South Africa and the largest provider of health and HIV prevention services for PWUD. TB/HIV Care's SA Drug Policy division, which I head up, is the only organisation that specifically looks at drug policy and its effectiveness and impacts on communities in South Africa. In this role I founded the annual SA Drug Policy Week and I have played an active role in developing South Africa's response to drug use through various technical committees for the Central Drug Authority and The National Department of Health, as well as by providing input on the National Strategic Plan on HIV, TB, and STIs. Internationally I have been on a number of expert groups and provided co-authorship of the UNODC Stimulants and HIV Tool. I won the 2016 South African Society of Psychiatrist's Special Recognition Award for my advocacy, writing teaching and on-going research in the field of addiction. I was also an Open Societies International Drug Policy Fellow. I have worked in a variety of settings, including psychiatric hospitals, community programmes, schools, and therapeutic communities. I have worked with people who use drugs, law enforcement, medical practitioners, religious groups, lay-people and families. Apart from my role as head of PWUD Projects, Policy, Advocacy and Human Rights at TB/HIV Care, I hold a research position at the University of Pretoria, Department of Family Medicine, where I am implementing a Community Oriented Substance Use Programme in the City of Tshwane. I have had numerous speaking engagements at both local and international conferences.

In terms of the VNGOC, I feel that I can bring a cross-disciplinary knowledge, based on research, data, experience and meta-view of the policy landscape, combined with a first-hand understanding of the impacts policy and drugs have on marginalised communities and the availability of drugs, both licit and illicit. I would hope to bring a meaningful contribution through my skills in organisation, writing and relationship-building, which have been demonstrated by the rapid advancement of the position of TB/HIV Care in the Drug Policy world, a role they only started to explore since 2014 when I joined the organisation.

I hope to be able to encourage critical thinking and meaningful debate at all levels, while strengthening inter-organisational relationships through diplomacy, respect of multiple viewpoints and identifying common purpose.

I travel to Vienna annually for the CND at my organisation's expense.

I appreciate this opportunity and for the chance to learn more about the working of the international drug policy systems and mechanisms, as well as further understand the role of civil society and the VNGOC in this process.