2019 Consultation on the future of the VNGOC

Summary of Results, December 2019
Overview

• Total of **64 responses** received

• **86%** are VNGOC members

• **48%** are both VNGOC and NYNGOC members

• **6%** are NYNGOC members only

• **94%** receive the emails and communications from VNGOC

• **95%** of them find these communications useful
Do you feel engaged in the work of the VNGOC?

87% said “yes”
13% said “no”

Selected suggestions:

• More newsletters / email alerts
• More balance
• More regional presence or meetings
• Digitally-enabled discussions
• Content in other languages
VNGOC Strengths

• Promoting / coordinating participation and engagement of NGOs
• Regular communications and dissemination of information
• Bringing actors together and networking
• Representing balanced views and a collective voice
• Institutional credibility with the UN, member states and others
• Strong presence in Vienna
• Approachable, receptive and active Board and staff
• Inclusive speaker selection processes
• Collaboration with NYNGOC
Things To Do Better…

• Greater geographical inclusiveness and regional actions and opportunities
• Strive for balance in terms of regional, thematic and political perspectives
• More opportunities for NGOs to meet, share experiences and discuss issues
• Engaging all members, including affected populations
• More communications and summaries of UN meetings – with translations
• Improve remote participation opportunities in UN fora and VNGOC meetings
• Building consensus or developing joint positions
• Improve coordination with NYNGOC
• Fundraising
Option 1: Status Quo: “Is the current situation [two Committees] satisfactory?”

52% said “yes”  
(3% unsure / no answer)  
45% said “no”

Selected suggestions:  
• Formalize relationship (MoU) to define roles etc.  
• Better collaboration and communication  
• Better engagement in Geneva and elsewhere  
• Regional focal points or representation
Option 2: Greater collaboration with NYNGOC and other relevant NGO Committees

- 75% said “yes”
  (15% unsure / no answer)
- 10% said “no”

Selected suggestions:
- Formalize relationship (MoU)
- VNGOC should be main coordinating body
- Better exchange of information
- Joint fundraising
- Joint speaker selections
- Support several, independent regional committees
Option 3: A unified, Global NGO Committee on Drugs?

58% supported this option (24% unsure / no answer)
18% did not support

Selected suggestions:
• Elections that ensure broad and balanced representation
• Regional and affected population representation
• Regional and thematic sub-groups or hubs
• Use the CSTF or similar model
• Needs blessing from VNGOC and NYNGOC memberships
Better Engagement from Regions

Suggestions Include:

• Fundraising for translation, regional meetings and more representative participation in meetings

• Better regional representation (e.g. on Board, through CSTF-type structure, or through regional sub committees and hubs)

• Better use of communication technologies and remote participation

• Diversifying the membership (e.g. through concerted outreach)

• Improving dissemination of information, especially in non-English
Next Steps:

- Call issued in November for ad-hoc working groups on regional engagement (Africa and Asia-Pacific)
- African Civil Society Common Position initiative (regional call for sign-on)
- VNGOC Informal Members Meeting, 13th December 2019
- Findings and options to be presented at VNGOC AGM, 4th March 2020
- New “Civil Society Thematic Dialogue” planned for 6th March 2020 (TBC topic = prevention?)