Upcoming CND meetings, and how to engage

September 2020
About the VNGOC

• Established in 1983
• More than 200 member NGOs globally
• Formal link between NGOs and relevant UN entities: CND, INCB, UNODC…
• Support / coordinate / promote engagement at CND
• Advocate for the spaces for NGOs
• Run by an elected Board of six officers, with a Project Officer based in Vienna
What is the CND?

• One of several “Functional Commissions” of ECOSOC

• The central policy-making body of the UN drug control system

• Officially it is just 53 member states

• UN agencies, academics and NGOs can also attend as “observers”

• CND meets every year in March/April

• Reconvenes in December

• Occasional CND inter-sessional meetings
2019 Speaking Opportunities

- Vienna Civil Society Hearing
- 2019 Ministerial Segment/CND
- INCB Civil Society Hearing
- VNGOC Consultation
- CND Thematic Intersessional

299 applications
53 speakers selected
28 funded by VNGOC

49% female
47% male
4% non-binary

68% in person

Region

Asia: 14
Europe: 13
Africa: 11
LA & Caribbean: 7
Nth America: 7
Oceania: 1
Thematic intersessionals

- Multiyear workplan for the implementation of all international drug policy commitments, from the 2019 Ministerial Declaration

- Full review of progress at the CND in 2029, with a mid-term review in 2024*:
  - 2019: supply reduction focus
  - 2020: health focus
  - 2021: crime focus
  - 2022: human rights focus
  - 2023: comprehensive stock-taking of overall progress

*Topics have been generalised
## Upcoming CND meetings

- **8 October:** 2nd ‘intersessional’ meeting, on the topic of the WHO recommendations on cannabis and related substances.

- **19-21 October:** 3rd ‘intersessional’ meeting, on thematic discussions:
  - That drug treatment and health services continue to fall short of meeting needs and deaths related to drug use have increased;
  - That the rate of transmission of HIV, the hepatitis C virus and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use, including injecting drug use in some countries, remains high;
  - That the adverse health consequences of and risks associated with new psychoactive substances have reached alarming levels;
  - That the availability of internationally controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including for the relief of pain and palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many parts of the world.

- **3-4 December:** Reconvened 63rd session

- **64th session of CND, April 2021 (to be confirmed)**
VNGOC Calls for Speakers

Agreed selection criteria:
- Relevance of the abstract
- Expertise of the applicant
- Range of different views
- Geographical balance
- Gender balance
- Focus of the presentation
- Form of delivery

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## Submitting a (Good) Abstract

### Do: ✅
- Apply for relevant opportunities
- Complete all sections
- Mention experience relevant to topic
- Focus on the topic
- Review your application

### Don’t: ❌
- Apply for every opportunity
- Skip questions
- Give us general info on your work
- Not mention the topic
- Apply at last minute

### Instructions:
- Read the call for speakers carefully – what is the topic, what is the opportunity, does it match your own work?
- Complete all sections of the form carefully: name, email, age etc.
- Present yourself clearly – mention your experience and expertise relevant to the call.
- The abstract itself is just 150 words – be clear and concise, relevant to the theme, and try and outline what member states stand to learn from your specific intervention.
- Ask others to proof-read and give feedback.
Why Engage?

• The central policy-making body of the UN drug control system

• Member states need to hear from NGOs, and from experiences on the ground

• A chance to promote and enhance your NGO

• A chance to influence and inform the decisions being made by governments
More information...

vngoc.org

mp.vngoc.org

unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/CND_Meetings-Current-Year.html

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