

Dear Members of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (VNGOC),

We are writing to report on nominations for the Board positions of Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. The VNGOC Nominating Committee is charged with examining nominations for the VNGOC Board that are up for a vote, which this year includes the positions of Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. We review all applications to ensure eligibility to serve on the board, based on the support of a VNGOC member organization, and that organization's good standing in VNGOC.

We also provide a slate of our recommended candidates. This is to ensure that the elected Board can be as representative of the VNGOC membership as possible – it is to the benefit of the entire VNGOC membership to support the proposed slate. However, while VNGOC members have the option of voting based on the slate, there is no obligation to do so, neither official nor implied. All VNGOC members are free to vote for any eligible candidate they feel would best serve the Board.

In considering who from among these candidates to recommend on our slate, we considered a range of objectives for the VNGOC Board, including geographic representation, gender balance, representation of key global drug policy objectives of the UN and civil society, lived experience as part of a population impacted by drugs or drug policies, and applicants' experience and record of service. With just three positions being filled this year, this of course involved difficult choices and leaving out qualified applicants with compelling backgrounds and expertise.

The following candidates are eligible for the upcoming elections.

Deputy Chairperson

Candidate	Organisation	Country
<u>Charity Monareng</u>	TB HIV Care	South Africa
<u>Esteban Wood</u>	FUNDACIÓN PARA LA PROMOCIÓN DE LA SALUD HUMANA	Argentina
<u>Ganna Dovbakh</u>	Eurasian harm reduction association (EHRA)	Ukraine

Treasurer

Candidate	Organisation	Country
<u>Beatrix Vas</u>	Youth RISE	Hungary

Secretary

Candidate	Organisation	Country
<u>Asia Almas Ashraf</u>	World Federation Against Drugs	Pakistan

The following candidates are our recommended slate:

Deputy Chairperson

Candidate	Organisation	Country
Charity Monareng	TB HIV Care	South Africa

Treasurer

Candidate	Organisation	Country
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Secretary

Candidate	Organisation	Country
Asia Almas Ashraf	World Federation Against Drugs	Pakistan

Statements from the nominees on their rationale for seeking election and the contribution they can offer to the work of the VNGOC are available at the links above and as a complete PDF.

A separate vote for each of the Board positions will be conducted at the Annual General Meeting on 20th March in the following order: Deputy Chairperson, Treasurer, and Secretary. A simple majority of those voting will be required to elect the Board.

Only VNGOC member organizations in good standing (i.e., paid the 2023 & 2024 membership fee) may cast one vote for each of the Board positions. **Members can participate by voting in real-time (i.e., in person, remotely, or by proxy) or in advance (by completing an online ballot).**

VNGOC Board Elections

HOW TO VOTE

only VNGOC members in good standing having paid the 2023& 2024 membership fees are eligible to vote*



The VNGOC Annual General Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 20 March 2024 at 4PM** at the Vienna International Centre (Room CR-7) and online.

1 REAL-TIME IN PERSON

Each organization **must select one representative to vote for their organization by emailing the name of the voting representative to info@vngoc.org** up to 24hrs in advance of the meeting, latest by Tuesday, 19 March 2024 at 4PM.

Representatives can pick up the voting form at the beginning of the meeting. Votes must be registered on the official form that is provided and submitted confidentially to the Election Committee during the relevant agenda item.

2 REAL-TIME VIA MS TEAMS

Designated representatives participating remotely will need to register their votes through a private message to the VNGOC staff hosting the meeting.

All members wishing to vote remotely **must email info@vngoc.org** no later than 4hrs before the start of the meeting, **specifically by Thursday, 20 March 2024 at 12noon CET.**

3 REAL-TIME VIA PROXY

Member organizations unable to participate in the AGM, may assign their voting rights to representative of another member organization in good standing who will be attending in person.

Proxy assignments must be **submitted to the VNGOC before Wednesday, 19 March 2024 at 11.59PM CET using the [official online form](#)**. A designated representative may hold a maximum of three (3) proxy votes.

4 IN ADVANCE E-VOTING

Member organizations unable to participate in real-time may submit their votes in advance between 24hrs and 1hr before the start of the meeting, specifically between Tuesday, 19 March 2024 4PM CET and Wednesday 20 March, 3PM CET.

Members interested in voting electronically in advance should send an email to info@vngoc.org to receive instructions and an individual voter key.