



Charity Monareng

TB HIV Care

VNGOC member organisation since 2016

Supported by:

International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC)

Candidate for:

Deputy Chairperson

With six years of experience in the drug policy field, I have served as the Parliamentary and Policy Research Officer at TB HIV Care, alongside serving as an Ad hoc working group expert for the Africa Civil Society platform, which seeks to bring together civil society organisations working in the space of drug prevention, treatment, harm reduction and drug policy. In my position as the parliamentary policy researcher, I have actively represented TB HIV Care at the Vienna NGO Committee (VNGOC) and engaged with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) since 2019. Furthermore, I have extended my involvement to the Africa Union Commission, initially attending as an observer and later assuming a vital role as a key expert for my country's delegation on CND matters.

My professional journey reflects a rich hallmark of advocacy, policy research, and grassroots organizing, particularly focused on drugs and drug policies and their impact on the health and well-being of mankind with much focus on public health. My commitment to empowering youth in the drug policy arena has been amplified through my work with the Students for Sensible Drug Policy. Simultaneously, my roles at TB HIV Care, and as a board member of the South African Network of People Who Use Drugs and Stand Action, have allowed me to apply my expertise in advocacy and public health effectively.

With my background in Criminology, International Studies, and Social Development, complemented by my ongoing pursuit of a PhD in Public Law, I possess a robust theoretical foundation and a nuanced understanding of the intricate socio-political dynamics surrounding drug policy. My engagement with the VNGOC and participation in the CND underscore my dedication to international collaboration and my aspiration to contribute to global efforts addressing pressing issues related to drug policy, human rights, and sustainable development.

Joining the Vienna NGO Committee presents an exciting opportunity for me to contribute to meaningful initiatives aimed at addressing global challenges and fostering positive change. Through collaborative endeavours with NGOs and other stakeholders, I aim to leverage my skills to support advocacy efforts, raise awareness, and facilitate constructive dialogue on critical issues about drug policy, human rights, and sustainable development. It is also a great opportunity to continue to mobilise CSOs in the African region to actively engage with the VNGOC.