



Augusto Nogueira

ARTM - Association of Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers of Macau, www.artmmacau.com

Supported by:

Associação Ares do Pinhal

Candidate for:

Deputy Chairperson

Introduction:

I am currently holding the position of deputy treasurer at the VNGOC and I think my contribution to the VNGOC, to the members and to the President of the VNGOC can be much more effective and supportive been the vice president. I am active person, I am former user and through my association I run a therapeutic community, a prevention department, a social reintegration vocational training, after care department and harm reduction services, I strongly believe that all perspectives are important and we should work all together instead polarization.

What makes you a strong candidate for this position?

I have been on the board for 3 years, besides that I accumulate other positions in other international associations that allow me to gain experience for the position of vice president. I fully understand the concept of the VNGOC, how we are here to serve the members in a equal and balance way and not for self or ideological ideas.

Why do you want to join the VNGOC Board, and how do you envision fulfilling this role?

Support the chair of the VNGOC, support all members in equal and balance way, promote the services of VNGOC, promote VNGOC among the member states and other international bodies.

How do you plan to represent the diverse voices, regions, and stakeholders of the VNGOC community?

By being transparent, equal and balanced.

Main areas of work:

Prevention; Treatment; Recovery & Social re-integration; Harm Reduction;



Beatrix Vas

Youth RISE, <https://youthrise.org/>

Supported by:

Transform Drug Policy Foundation

Candidate for:

Deput Chairperson and Treasurer

Introduction:

I currently serve as Treasurer of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (since 2022) and as Secretary of the New York NGO Committee on Drugs (since 2021). I have been active in youth-led drug policy reform advocacy since 2019, regularly participating in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs in various roles. From my work with Youth RISE and on various youth initiatives, including the Paradigma Coalition, I bring community and youth perspectives into international policy spaces. I am committed to expanding access, transparency and coordination to ensure that those most affected by drug policies can meaningfully engage. My goal is for every member organization to feel represented by the VNGOC, and to feel that participation in the Committee facilitates and strengthens their work at the UN.

What makes you a strong candidate for this position?

On the VNGOC and NYNGOC, I have worked closely on governance, coordination, and member engagement. I have participated in the CND since 2020. I have worked and volunteered in drug policy and harm reduction since 2018, starting as a student. I hold a Master of Public Administration from Central European University, specializing in Security, Development and Communications. My professional experience includes advising legislators in more than 20 countries on topics of decriminalization, harm reduction and legal regulation. I also bring my personal experience with drugs and drug policies and community-based perspectives through my work with youth-led initiatives.

Why do you want to join the VNGOC Board, and how do you envision fulfilling this role?

I seek another term to strengthen civil society access to drug policy processes at a critical time of change across the UN system. I will continue improving our member engagement in the CND and other high-level fora, with a focus on underrepresented groups, including youth and people with lived or living experience. I will support the Ad-Hoc Youth Working Group and aim to expand its capacity and sustainability as a platform for input, coordination, mentorship and collaboration. I aim to support partnerships with other relevant civil society platforms, to strengthen strategic coordination and provide members with information and opportunities to exchange with UN agencies and member states.

How do you plan to represent the diverse voices, regions, and stakeholders of the VNGOC community?

I am committed to inclusive representation by proactively engaging community-led organizations - particularly youth, Indigenous people and people with lived and living experience of drug use; as well as organizations from the Global South and from thematic areas that are underrepresented among our membership. I will continue to support fostering dialogue and collaboration among our member organizations, including through the VNGOC Ad-hoc working group, and aim to create space and opportunities for VNGOC members to reflect on and evaluate the performance of the Board. I aim to make sure that each of our members feel represented and feels that belonging to the VNGOC supports their work at the UN.

Main areas of work:

Policy Reform;

.



Julie Delvaux

Community Alliances for Drug Free Youth,
www.cadfy.org

Supported by:

Fundación para la Mejora de la Vida, la Cultura y la
Sociedad

Candidate for:

Treasurer

Introduction:

Julie Delvaux is a drug prevention specialist from Belgium, focused on evidence-based prevention, youth safeguarding, and community health. She brings a practical, outcomes-oriented approach to programme design, training, and multi-stakeholder coordination. Her work promotes balanced, human-rights-based drug policies that prioritise prevention. As a candidate for Treasurer of the VNGOC, she brings solid financial management experience from other organisations and aims to ensure responsible use of resources to support strong civil-society engagement.

What makes you a strong candidate for this position?

I combine hands-on prevention practice with coordination, governance, and financial management skills. I bring 11 years of experience in drug prevention, designing and delivering evidence-based programmes, training frontline actors, and building partnerships with NGOs and public institutions. I also have 10 years in leadership and coordination roles, co-chairing drug prevention groups and managing multi-stakeholder projects with clear deliverables, budgets, monitoring, and reporting. I have provided accountancy and financial administration for multiple organizations ensuring compliant bookkeeping, budget control, and transparent financial reporting.

Why do you want to join the VNGOC Board, and how do you envision fulfilling this role?

I want to join the VNGOC Board to strengthen civil-society impact in UN drug policy by elevating prevention, health, and community safety. As Treasurer, I will ensure transparent financial management, responsible use of resources, and oversight of membership contributions. My goals are to support prevention and youth safeguarding in policy discussions, strengthen collaboration across regions and networks, and deliver efficient, accountable board operations with clear reporting that members can rely on.

How do you plan to represent the diverse voices, regions, and stakeholders of the VNGOC community?

I will represent VNGOC's diversity by maintaining regular member check-ins, open office hours, and outreach to underrepresented groups, including youth-led organisations, grassroots initiatives, and smaller NGOs. I will ensure transparent decision-making, share clear updates on board and financial matters, and ensure responsible stewardship of resources. I will also support multilingual communication (I speak English, French, and Dutch) and foster partnerships that connect prevention, recovery, rehabilitation, and human-rights stakeholders.

Main areas of work:

Prevention; Policy Reform;



Asia Almas Ashraf

Drug Free America Foundation, <https://www.dfaf.org/>

Supported by:

World Federation Against Drugs

Candidate for:

Secretary

Introduction:

I am Asia Ashraf, a mental health and addiction specialist from Pakistan with over 18 years of experience in drug addiction treatment, rehabilitation and recovery. My professional work includes clinical services, programme development, training, and engagement with policy and systems-level initiatives at both national and international levels. I am a Humphrey Fellow alumna and ICAP-4 certified professional, guided by evidence-based and ethical practice. Over the years, I have actively contributed to civil society, public health, and human rights spaces, supporting inclusive and rights-based approaches to complex social and health challenges.

What makes you a strong candidate for this position?

I served as Secretary to the Board of the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs for two consecutive terms, actively participating in board meetings, speaker selection process, and organizing global and regional events, including webinars and panel discussions. I also represented the Committee at international forums, including at WHO conference. During my tenure, I supported outreach in Asia, helping new members join and ensuring stronger regional representation. These experiences allowed me to contribute meaningfully to the board's work and strengthen its global engagement.

Why do you want to join the VNGOC Board, and how do you envision fulfilling this role?

I want to join the VNGOC Board to contribute my experience in addiction treatment, recovery, and civil society work, and to support transparent and inclusive engagement across the Committee. Having served as Secretary for two consecutive terms, I am familiar with the board's processes and the value of fairness, collaboration, and trust. In this role, I aim to support inclusive decision-making, strengthen regional representation, and help ensure that board activities reflect diverse perspectives, while advancing evidence-based work, knowledge sharing, and meaningful international collaboration.

How do you plan to represent the diverse voices, regions, and stakeholders of the VNGOC community?

I plan to represent the diverse voices within the VNGOC community by staying closely connected with members across regions and listening to their experiences and priorities. I will



Board Elections 2026

actively bring forward perspectives from gender-sensitive and recovery-oriented programs, as well as those working with children, families, and indigenous and marginalized communities. By encouraging balanced participation in board discussions, events, and initiatives, I aim to help ensure that the Committee's work reflects the realities of its members and supports inclusive, rights-based approaches at the global level.

Main areas of work:

Prevention; Treatment; Recovery & Social re-integration; Training and Advocacy;



Karen Cumberland

CCSA - Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction, <https://www.ccsa.ca/en>

Supported by:
Proyecto Hombre

Candidate for:
Secretary

Introduction:

With over 20 years of in civil society and inside government I bring expertise in policy, partner engagement and an ability to leverage machinery and resources to develop collective approaches and sustainable impact. When I first worked for CCSA, supporting VNGOC's Beyond 2008, the power of civil society to diversify perspectives, increase pragmatic collaboration and hold accountability became clear. In 2026, at a time of political and ideological divide, I believe myself and CCSA are well positioned to build collaboration, inclusion and transparency. Our organization prides itself on working across continuums of care, across health and public safety, and on the principle that a diversity of voices makes us stronger. My professional desire to improve care, health and safety are supported by my experiences growing up in a small town that could not help my brother and father as they struggled with substance use. Being secretary would allow me to help build trust in and grow VNGOC.

What makes you a strong candidate for this position?

My work at CCSA has focused on bringing together different sectors and different perspectives into common action. From building partnerships with the EUDA, to elevating the voices of civic leaders in small Canadian towns I deeply value the power of collaboration. My previous work as a liaison for the Government of Canada to several international bodies as well as my work leading a community NGO in Canada have prepared me to support the full mandate of VNGOC. With a special interest in public policy and governance I can bring meaningful leadership and thoughtful advice to support this committee.

Why do you want to join the VNGOC Board, and how do you envision fulfilling this role?

The secretary has an important responsibility for supporting the board's function but also help ensure greater clarity, transparency and accountability. The Three goals I would have would be to support the board in: 1. Further building trust that VNGOC is the right vehicle for civil society to express its perspectives and proposed solutions. 2. Growing membership, especially from low- and middle-income countries 3. Navigating decreased global financing

by helping to find efficient ways to ensure that the voices of civil society are not cast aside. And, as much as possible to promote connection and build collaboration across VNGOC partners.

How do you plan to represent the diverse voices, regions, and stakeholders of the VNGOC community?

Few things are more critical to a board of directors than an ability to absorb and amplify diverse perspectives. However, it is an active and iterative process. The extensive experience I would bring of working with a diversity of partners includes work with international policymakers, communities, rural NGOs and indigenous groups brings with it the humility to understand that the best ideas are often from the partners hardest to reach. One of my proudest achievements at CCSA this year has been to create an ongoing neutral policy dialog among small town mayors and civic leaders from across Canada. For VNGOC Engaging with many of the member organizations throughout the year in small groups will be critical to success and understanding.

Main areas of work:

Treatment; Prevention; Harm Reduction; Policy Reform; Recovery & Social re-integration; data and monitoring;