

## Concept Note

### **6<sup>th</sup> Civil Society Hearing** in preparation for the **UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs**

*21 October 2015, 3-5pm  
Conference Room 2, UN Headquarters, New York, NY*

The Civil Society Task Force will hold the **6<sup>th</sup> Civil Society Hearing** at United Nations Headquarters on the margins of the General Assembly Third Committee negotiations of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution “Special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016” and the annual drugs “omnibus” resolution. The goal of the hearing is to update member states on Civil Society Task Force activities as well as to provide valuable input from civil society in preparation of the 2016 UNGASS on Drugs.

The Civil Society Hearing will consist of two panels:

- 1) Panel 1. Report on preliminary results of the Global Civil Society Survey. Civil Society Task Force members from different regions (Asia, Africa) and thematic areas (criminal justice) will discuss the status of global consultations currently underway.
- 2) Panel 2. Civil society representatives will share their knowledge and expertise in some of the emerging priority areas highlighted in the Global Civil Society Survey report, especially in addiction medicine and gender issues around incarceration.

The panel discussions will be followed by Question & Answer Session. The following is the Agenda for the meeting:

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### UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs

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#### Opening

- Mr. Esbjörn Hörnberg, Chair, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs / Chair, Civil Society Task Force
- H.E. Ambassador Khaled Shamaa, Chair, UNGASS Board (*video message*)
- Simone Monasabien, Director, UN Office on Drugs and Crime New York Office

#### Civil Society Task Force: Consultations and Findings

- Sheila Vakharia, Ph.D, Long Island University – Preliminary Report on the findings of the Global Civil Society Survey
- Eze Eluchie, People Against Drug Dependence & Ignorance, CSTF Representative for Sub-Saharan Africa (*video message*)
- Khuat Thi Hai Oanh, Center for Supporting Community Development Initiatives, CSTF Representative for Southeast and East Asia (*video message*)
- Andrea Huber, Penal Reform International, CSTF Representative for Thematic Area : Criminal Justice

Moderated by Elisa Rubini, San Patrignano / Vice Chair, Civil Society Task Force

#### Voices of Civil Society: Emerging Recommendations and Priority Areas

- Gregory C. Bunt, M.D., American Society of Addiction Medicine – Recommendations from the field of addiction medicine as it contemplates change in the 21st century
- Andrea James, Families for Justice as Healing – Gender issues and incarceration
- Questions and Answers for both panels

Moderated by Heather J. Haase, Chair, New York NGO Committee on Drugs / Vice Chair, Civil Society Task Force