



TRANSFORM
DRUG POLICY FOUNDATION



An agenda for the 2016 Drugs UNGASS: Ensuring meaningful Civil Society participation

January 16th, 2015 – 10:00 to 13:00 hrs.

United Nations Headquarters, New York City – Auditorium Dag Hammarskjold

Goal: Review progress since the formal launching of the Civil Society Task Force (CSTF), as well as areas of opportunity for greater involvement of key communities. Promote a diverse and comprehensive agenda towards the 2016 Special Session, including meaningful participation within the official agenda.

P R O G R A M M E

09:30 hrs. Registration

10:00 hrs. *Welcoming words*
Ambassador Jorge Montaña, Mexico

10:30 hrs. *Civil society participation mechanisms: meaningful engagement at the center of the debate*

Heather Haase, NYNGOC/Elisa Rubini, VNGOC – The launch of the Civil Society Task Force and steps forwards

Aram Barra, MUCD – A message from the 2014 UNAIDS-PCB and the inclusion of other relevant actors

Ann Fordham, IDPC – What should we expect from the UNGASS?

Simone Monasebian, UNODC – The road to the UNGASS and meaningful engagement with civil society

Roberto Dondisch, Mexico – From Coercion to Development Approaches: Opportunities to Strengthen Synergies Between Government and Civil Society

Q&A for 20 minutes.

11:30 hrs. Coffee Break

11:45 hrs. *A relevant agenda that includes the voices of key communities*

Diederik Lohman, Human Rights Watch – Achieving adequate access to pain medicine, how to realise the goals of the drug conventions?

Holly Bradford, San Francisco Drug Users Union– Harm reduction as a basic principle in the public health response

Steve Rolles, Transform Drug Policy Foundation – Modernising the international drug control system in response to emerging policy challenges

Howard Josepher, LCSW, Exponents – Challenges in drug treatment in today's world

Q&A for 20 minutes.

12:55 hrs. Closing remarks