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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

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BEYOND 2008

**A GLOBAL NGO INITIATIVE ON THE REVIEW OF THE
1998-2008 UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION
(UNGASS) ON ILLICIT DRUGS**

DR. MICHEL PERRON

**Vienna NGO Committee
on Narcotic Drugs**

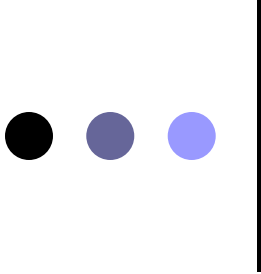


UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime

Beyond 2008

**A Global NGO Initiative on the Review of the
1998-2008 United Nations General Assembly
Special Session (UNGASS) on Illicit Drugs**

www.vngoc.org

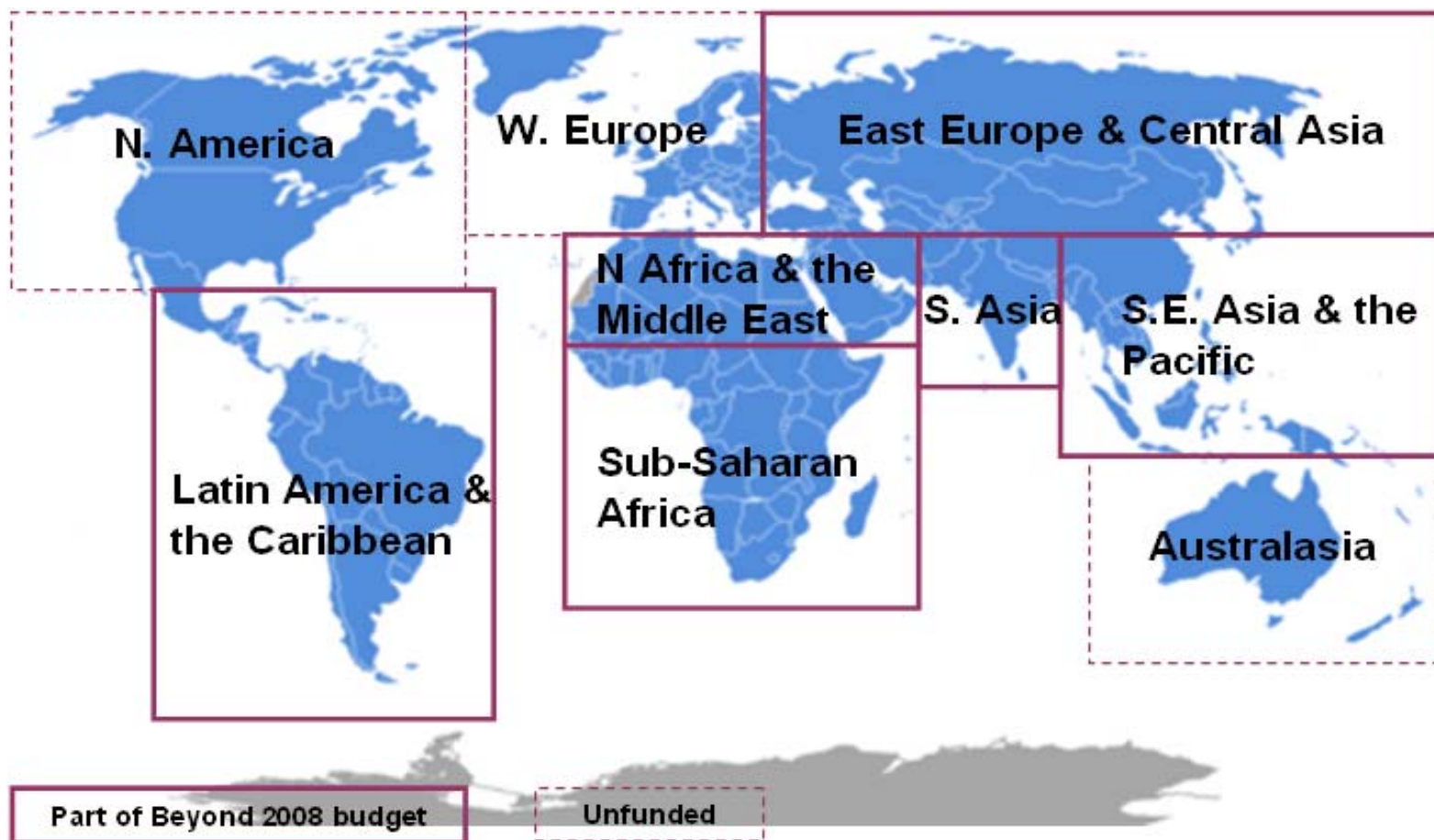


Beyond 2008: An Overview

- **The review of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on Illicit Drugs provides an opportunity for the NGO community to:**
 - reflect on its own achievements in drug control since 1998
 - rethink current collaboration mechanisms to establish more effective partnership.
 - make proposals on future directions for drug control and

- **“Beyond 2008”**
 - to contribute to the UNGASS review and contribute to future directions through:
 - regional consultations in 9 regions
 - representative Forum in July 2008
 - presentation to the CND in 2008 and 2009

Regional Consultations





Objectives

The “Beyond 2008” regional consultations and Forum will focus on **three specific objectives**:

1. To highlight tangible NGO achievements in the field of drug control, with particular emphasis on contributions to the 1998 UNGASS Action Plan such as achievement in policy, community engagement, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and social reintegration. (Please fill in the [NGO Questionnaire](#))
2. To review best practices related to collaboration mechanisms among NGOs, governments and UN agencies in various fields of endeavor and propose new and/or improved ways of working with the UNODC and CND.
3. To adopt a series of high order principles, drawn from the Conventions and their commentaries that would be tabled with the UNODC and CND for their consideration and serve as a guide for future deliberations on drug policy matters.





The objectives in detail

- Objective 1 will address the following specific questions:
 - In what ways have NGO activities in the field of drug control developed in your country/region in the period since the 1998 UNGASS?
 - What examples of alternative development projects undertaken by or involving NGOs in your country/region have been most effective and why is this?
 - What examples of drug demand reduction projects/services undertaken by NGOs in your country/ region have been most effective and why is this?



The objectives in detail

- Objectives 2 will address the following specific questions:
 - How do governments currently consult with or engage NGOs and civil society in the development of drugs policy, strategy and practice?
 - What is the experience of NGOs in engaging with UNODC and other UN organisations and agencies at the country, regional or headquarter levels?
 - To what extent are NGOs and civil society organisations involved in preparatory work for key UN meetings linked to drug control issues, such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, ECOSOC meetings, and relevant meetings of, for example, WHO, UNESCO, ILO and UNAIDS?
 - Based on the responses to the above questions, and using the recommendations made at the end of the Working Paper as a basis, how might NGOs be more effectively engaged in the development of policy, strategy and practice in the field of drug control.





The objectives in detail

- Objectives 3 will address the following specific questions:
 - Q1) *Objectives of the conventions.*
 - In your country, have controls or legislation introduced to fulfil the obligations of the UN Drug Control Conventions supported achievement of the objectives of the conventions?
 - Q2) *Flexibility within the Conventions and their interpretation.*
 - In your country, has national, state or city legislation used the flexibility within the UN Drug Control Conventions?
 - Q3) *Emphasis on the Supply and Demand sides of the drug issue within the Conventions.*
 - In your country, has emphasis on supply-side controls within the conventions affected the development and implementation of demand reduction measures?



The objectives in detail

- Objective 3 will address the following specific questions:
 - Q4) *Unintended consequences of the Conventions.*
 - Do you believe that adherence to the Conventions has resulted in unintended consequences for your country, whether positive or negative in character?
 - Q5) *High Order Principles as a guide for future deliberations on drug policy matters*
 - What over-arching principles might be suggested for consideration by CND and other UN bodies when developing proposals for drug control in the future?
 - What processes might be adopted to facilitate application and review of these principles?



The Latin America and Caribbean Consultation

The Regional Consultation was held in Lima, Peru, on 12 /13 November, 2007.

- 31 representatives of 22 countries attended in addition to 6 observers
- Report can be found at: www.vngoc.org

Regional Lead Organisations

- [Centros di Integracion Juvenil](#) (Mexico) represented by Ricardo Sanchez Huesca
- [Intercambios](#) (Argentina) represented by Graciela Touzé
- [RISE Life Management Services](#) (Jamaica) represented by Sonita Abrahams

Designated NGO Committees Representative

- *Alejandro Vassilaqui (Peru) of [CEDRO](#)*



The North America Consultations

Two Regional Consultation were held in North America with a total of 140 participants representing Canada and the USA.

- Report can be found at: www.vngoc.org

St. Petersburg Florida Consultation - Regional Lead Organisations

- Drug Free America Foundation – represented by Calvina Fay
- SUNDIAL (Support United Nations Drug Initiatives And Legislation) – represented by Kevin Sabet

Vancouver, British Columbia Consultation – Regional Lead Organisations

- Centre for Addiction Research – British Columbia – represented by Dan Reist
- Keeping the Doors Open – represented by Gillian Lynch

Designated NGO Committee Representative:

- Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse – represented by M. Perron

To note: the North America consultations were self funded.

Next steps & Timeline

