

FROM PANDEMIC TO PREVENTION - THE WAY TO FURTHER DEMAND REDUCTION IN THE AMERICAS

Side event during the 64th Sessions of
the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)



Apr 12, 2021



07:10 AM to 08:00 AM

Eastern Time (US and Canada)

(GMT -4) (Paraguay)

13:10 PM to 14:00 PM

(GMT +2) (Vienna)



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In Paraguay, the pandemic did not mean a pause in prevention activities, as in many other countries, a reengineering of prevention processes was carried out in order to reach the population constantly and widely, looking for those most vulnerable, leaving no one behind. Our country and other states have developed actions using technology as an ally, to go from face-to-face to virtual, seeking to expand coverage and reach to distant locations, and at the same time, generate a broad and systemic territorial approach.

In these difficult times of confinement, mental health has also occupied a main topic of discussion at the level of prevention processes due to a worrying increase in the consumption of prohibited substances as well as those of free sale and regulated; being an issue that should not be neglected in the prevention actions that are addressed.

According to the UNODC, the increase in unemployment and the reduction of opportunities caused by the pandemic can disproportionately affect the poorest, making them more vulnerable to drug use and also to drug trafficking and cultivation to earn money. The world drug problem deepens at this juncture, affecting even more vulnerable and marginalized groups, which with the economic crisis and overwhelmed health systems, exacerbate their situation.

In this side event, we will exchange experiences on lessons learned in times of pandemic at the national, regional and global levels so to effectively address prevention and can achieve the goals of sustainable development, promote justice, foster partnerships.

All this aiming at a joint and coordinated work, both at the national, regional and multilateral level, through international cooperation.

PANELISTS

SENAD

Abg. Cont. Zully Rolón
Minister Executive Secretary
of the National Anti-Drug
Secretariat of Paraguay

PAHO

Dr. Luis Alfonso Bello
Regional Advisor on Substance
Use Pan-American Health
Organization

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