## 2014 STATEMENT A CIVIL SOCIETY CALL ON THE ROAD TO UNGASS 2016

The Civil Society calls upon States to continue working toward a world free of drugs. The Human Rights establish it must be guaranteed the highest level of health to all people. The best way to ensure this right is to guarantee that everybody, especially children and young people, grow and develop in a healthy environment with education and job opportunities.

We emphasize that Article 33 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child calls for comprehensive measures to protect children from use, production and trafficking of drugs based on United Nations instruments. Prevention is a pillar on this task, which commits the government, the school, the parents, the media and all the society.

We urge States to deepen actions that guarantee the non-criminalization and stigmatization of drug users; and strengthen the treatment programs by promoting their availability and good practices based on the evidence of their effectiveness.

Recovery and social reintegration are feasible, through comprehensive approaches with family and community.

On the Road to UNGASS 2016 is necessary to differentiate health public policies from security health public policies relative to the users.

We propose a Hemispheric Consultation on Public Opinion, which results can be considered on UNGASS 2016.

We strongly support the establishment of a Civil Society Task Force to lead the process of NGO engagement towards UNGASS 2016. The group should comprise of a balanced representation of NGO networks and be installed under the leadership the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs.

The aim of this taskforce would be the inclusivity of civil society participation in the preparations and building a strong consensus around the many areas of common ground NGOs and member states have.

Building on the expertise and experience of the VNGOC, we will succeed in ensuring a strong and consistent civil society voice in preparations for and at the 2016 UNGASS.

We emphasize that all people, especially children and young people do not need drugs; they need opportunities and a future with hope.

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