

6th June 2014,

Dear State Member Representatives,

We address you as a network organisation of around 50 organisations, working in the fields of drug prevention and rehabilitation. We are pleased to be represented at the Forth Intersessional meeting of the CND on 10th June 2014 in Vienna, where you alongside other State Members will build upon previous consultation processes to ensure an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the 2016 Special Session.

During this session, we understand that you may wish to consider the manner in which civil society organisations can provide a meaningful and well-balanced input into the debates of the UNGASS. We understand some of the concerns which have already been expressed about civil society participation and we also share some of these concerns. In this respect, we urge you today and in future meetings to ensure that any process established for the input of civil society organisations in the UNGASS procedure respects:

- Geographical representation
- Diversity of opinion on drug policies
- Diversity of organisations spanning different topic areas
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Related to this, we would like to highlight our commitment to the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, which has been operational since 1983 and which has a rich history and governance system in facilitating relationships between NGO's and the UN system. The Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs currently represents over 150 organisations who have millions of members around the world and who represent a substantial workforce in the areas of prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery.

We look forward to the learning of the outcomes of this intersessional meeting and wish you every success in your efforts to plan an adequate, inclusive and effective preparatory process for the 2016 Special Session.

If you would like to receive feedback from the inter-sessional meeting from our network's perspective, please feel free to contact me (e-mail fay.watson@eurad.net).

Yours Sincerely,



Fay Watson, Secretary General