



INVITATION

Panel Discussion: “Amphetamine-Type Stimulants: working towards humane drug policies”

A side event in conjunction of UNGASS on the World Drug Problem co-organized by Office of the Affairs and Projects under Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha’s Initiative, Ministry of Justice of the Kingdom of Thailand, and International Drug Policy Consortium

Tuesday 19 April 2016, 17.30 - 18.30 hrs., Conference Room 11, UNHQ

- Representatives of Member States, Observers, UN agencies and accredited NGOs are cordially invited.
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For at least the past decade, markets for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) have steadily grown and become in some regions, particularly Southeast Asia, amongst the drugs most in supply and demand. Drug policy responses to ATS have typically focused on harsh punishment, leading to disproportionate penalties and sentencing, over-incarceration and criminalisation of low-level market actors (eg. people who use or engage in low-level smuggling and transportation, as higher-level actors are rarely caught), and unbalanced investment in law enforcement measures at the expense of health interventions such as evidence-based drug treatment and harm reduction. These negative outcomes have in turn led to damaging impacts on families, economic development, public health and human security.

The objectives of this side event are as follows:

1. Critically summarizing facts and lessons learned on the effects of ATS to individual and society
2. Exchange country and regional experiences in seeking to resolve problems relating to the proliferation of ATS
3. Introduce new alternative approaches to addressing ATS-related problems, and
4. To present the work of Thailand in seeking to manage and resolve the proliferation of ATS with new measures that adopt a more humane approach, and contribute in the realization of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals.

Agenda

1. Welcoming Remarks: H.E. Gen. Nivat Meenayotin, Vice Minister of Justice ,Thailand
2. Chair: Associate Professor Dr. Apinun Aramrattana, Faculty of Medicine, Chiang Mai University, Thailand
3. Panelists:
 - 3.1 Professor Dr. Carl L. Hart, Columbia University on “(Meth) amphetamine: Fact VS. Fiction and Lessons from the Crack Hysteria”
 - 3.2 Ms. Gloria Lai, Senior Policy Officer, International Drug Policy Consortium on “ATS, harm reduction and associated global and regional drug policy developments”
 - 3.3 Dr. Alex Wodak, President of the Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation on “Australia’s Experience of (Meth) amphetamine Control”
 - 3.4 Associate Professor Sakchai Lertpanichpun, Criminal Justice Program, Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University, Thailand on “Thailand’s Experience of (Meth) amphetamine Control”.