

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**OF THE VIENNA NGO COMMITTEE ON NARCOTIC DRUGS**  
**Friday, 24 November 2006**

**Present:**

**Members:**

R. Benesch (Sorooptimist International), rbenesch@utanet.at  
F. Berger (International Police Association), franz.berger@ipa.at  
E. Carlin (Mentor Foundation), ec@mentoruk.org  
E. Frei (Salvation Army), NGO@swi.salvationarmy.org  
S. Gfundner (Zonta International), Sylvia.gfundner@chello.at  
E. Hauer-Rona (ICW), boefv.ncwaustralia@utanet.at  
J. Kamminga (The Senlis Council), kamminga@senliscouncil.net  
G. Köcher (IFUW)  
M. Parenzan (IFBPW), marlene.parenzan@chello.at  
Dr. F. Poldrugo (ISAM), polydrug@units.it  
E. Pomberger (Pax Romana, ICMICA-IMCS)  
Dr. M. Riehl, (WFWPI), maria@riehl.at  
R. Spalt (CelS), rosetta.spalt@gmx.at  
I. Szabolcs (IFUW), szabolcsing@hotmail.com  
E. Tongue (Chairperson) (IFUW),  
K. Tripp (Sorooptimist International), tripp@mdw.ac.at  
M. Tupay, (ACWW), monica.tupay@utanet.at  
E. von Wartburg (ICAA), esther.wartburg@aon.at  
B. Walsberger (European Union of Women, (barfrina@utanet.at  
F. Zeidler (Rotary International), f.zeidler@aon.at

**UNODC:**

M. Dummar Frahi, mirella.frahi@unodc.org  
C. Dos Santos, cicero.dos.santos@unvienna.org

**Guests:**

M. Barzanti, (San Patrignano), mbarzanti@sanpatrignano.org  
G. Dimitz (IFSW), g.dimitz@aon.at  
S. Franke (IFSW), silvia.frank@aon.at  
M. Luppi, (San Patrignano) mluppi@sanpatrignano.org  
J. Rubio-Andre's (CelS), julia.rubio@aon.at

**Regrets:**

E. Efthimiou-Mordaunt (John Mordaunt Trust), andria3a@yahoo.co.uk  
F. Gehart (Vice-President of CONGO), friedrich.gehart@gmx.net  
L. Gundacker (WFWPI), lilly.austria@flashbox.at  
H. Kaschitz, (Sorooptimist International), hpkaschitz@aol.com  
W. Köhler, (Lions Club), koehler.wolfgang@chello.at  
T. Legl (1st Vice-Chairman), (ICAA, Euro-TC), thomas.legl@gmx.at  
I. Luxon (IFUW)  
Dr. M. Musalek (Anton Proksch Institute), musalek@api.or.at  
M. Perron (2nd Vice-Chair) (Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse),  
mperron@ccsa.ca  
G. Somogyi (Beckley Found. Drug Policy Prog.), gs@internationaldrugpolicy.net

**Agenda**

1. Approval of the agenda
2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 10 May 2006
3. Elections to the 2007/2008 Board (Chair: E. Pomberger)
4. 2007 "Mini-Forum"
5. Schedule of NGO activities during 2007 Commission on Narcotic Drugs  
Monday: briefing on Committee's website, briefing for new NGOs, review of CND agenda and identification of key NGO interests  
Tuesday to Friday: Informal meeting of NGOs at 09:30 to discuss journal and previous days events, "Mini-Forum", presentation by M. Perron to CND on International Forum, meeting of the Committee, NGO reception? other matters
6. Report on the theme of the International Day Against Drug Abuse (26 June)
7. Joint meeting with the Vienna Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
8. Any other business.

The Chairperson, E. Tongue, opened the meeting with the first item on the agenda:

**1. Approval of the agenda**

The agenda was approved without a change.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 10 May 2006**

E. Pomberger requested that for agenda item 7, all references to "Selection Committee" be replaced by "Nomination Committee" for the elections to the Board. The Secretary took note of these corrections, after which the minutes were approved.

**3. Elections to the 2007/2008 Board (Chair: E. Pomberger)**

E. Tongue gave the chair to E. Pomberger, Chairperson of the Nominations Committee, for the elections to the Board 2007-2008. She informed members that the Nominations Committee had requested candidates in its letter of 25 September with a deadline for reply of 15 October. They had received ten nominations which had been notified to members by letter of 23 October. In the meantime, M. Perron had withdrawn his candidature for Chairman.

All organizations with ECOSOC status which had paid their membership fee for 2006 were entitled to vote by a show of hands (14 present). The result was as follows:

Chairman: Eva Tongue (unanimous)

First Vice-Chairman: Michel Perron (10 votes), Thomas Legl (4 votes)

Second Vice-Chairman: Eric Carlin (8 votes), Thomas Legl (6 votes)

Secretary: Barbara Walsberger (unanimous)

Deputy Secretary: Elisabeth Frei (unanimous)

Treasurer: Ingrid Szabolcs (unanimous)

Currently, the Rules of Procedure did not foresee a Deputy Treasurer. However, as the Treasurer spends much time abroad, it was agreed that Esther von Wartburg would assist her and that the Rules of Procedure would be changed in the near future, inter alia to accommodate the position of Deputy Treasurer.

E. Pomberger thanked the old Board for its hard work and offered her best wishes to the new Board. E. Tongue thanked the members for their confidence in electing her to the chair for another two years.

**4. 2007 "Mini-Forum"**

B. Walsberger recalled that the Committee, at its meeting in September, had decided the 2007 forum, instead of being based on the thematic debate, could present the work of one NGO from each region, which will be leading the regional consultations in preparation for the international forum.

M. Dummar Frahi hoped that the funds being provided by the European Commission (EC) for the international forum would be available in January 2007 so that these NGOs could be invited to the March session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). E. Tongue was concerned that this would leave little time until March for the nomination of speakers and a well prepared meeting. However, it was hoped that the Programme Committee for the international forum would have carried out some preparatory work by then concerning the organizations taking the regional leads so that, hopefully, their names would be known without waiting for the announcement of EC funds.

E. Tongue suggested that a programme be distributed to Governments before the CND and that information should appear on the monitor and in the CND Journal. It was proposed that the meeting be in the form of a panel discussion. Many comments were made on the title which, it was finally agreed, should be "NGOs working in the field on drugs". E. Carlin was requested to take the lead for the 2007 Forum and members of the Committee were invited to send him their suggestions for the programme. J. Kamminga suggested that an invitation to this meeting together with the programme be posted on the website. In reply to his question whether UNODC could also publicise the forum, M. Frahi Dummar will look into adding a link to the www.vngoc.org website on the UNODC website.

It was agreed that the forum would be held on Wednesday, 14 March 2007. M. Dummar Frahi was requested to reserve a conference room for that day.

#### **5. Schedule of NGO activities during 2007 Commission on Narcotic Drugs:**

C. Dos Santos from the CND Secretariat distributed the agenda for the CND which will be held from 12 to 16 March 2007. The thematic debate will be on *New challenges for controlling precursor chemicals*.

##### **Monday: briefing on Committee's website, briefing for new NGOs, review of CND agenda and identification of key NGO interests**

A short meeting will be organized to brief NGO colleagues on the international forum "Beyond 2008", on working with the CND and on other matters. In this connection and at the request of the Steering Committee for the international forum, B. Walsberger had drafted NGO Guidelines. She had received some requested information from the CND Secretariat before this meeting to add to the guidelines and was hoping to be sent further information in reply to a very pertinent inquiry sent to UNODC by Daniel Wolfe of the Open Society. E. Tongue requested that the guidelines be circulated to members of the Committee for their comments.

M. Dummar Frahi felt from her experience with other conferences that a briefing of NGO representatives on the first day to get to know each other and to understand the procedures of the CND would be very useful. It was agreed to hold this meeting on Monday, 12 March beginning at 2.30 p.m. If possible, NGO representatives should receive invitations to this briefing before coming to the CND.

##### **Tuesday to Friday: Informal meeting of NGOs at 09:30 to discuss journal and previous day's events, "Mini-Forum", presentation by M. Perron to CND on International Forum, meeting of the Committee, NGO reception?, other matters**

As the thematic debate on Tuesday, 13 March is not of much interest to members of the Committee, it was decided to hold a Committee meeting on that day at 10:30 a.m. in a room to be designated by the CND Secretariat for the use of the Committee during the entire session.

The "Mini-Forum" would be held on Wednesday, 14 March 2007.

Plans for informal meetings each morning and other arrangements for NGOs during the CND will be discussed at the next meeting of the Committee on 16 February.

#### **6. Report on the theme of the International Day Against Drug Abuse (26 June)**

At its last meeting, the Committee had been requested to provide comments at the November meeting on four topics proposed by UNODC for the 2007 International Day. However, after the meeting, the Secretary had been informed that a decision would be taken the following week so she sent out an email to this effect, requesting comments by 1 October. Eight comments were received in good time and were sent to UNODC. The Secretary thanked the members for their prompt action.

M. Dummar Frahi informed the Committee, however, that the decision had been postponed and had still not been taken.

#### **7. Joint meeting with the Vienna Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

B. Walsberger informed the meeting that in the course of correspondence with Dr. Christian Kuhn, Chairman of the Vienna Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, she had mentioned the Committee's wish to hold a joint meeting with the Alliance. He had been enthusiastic about this idea and had requested proposed dates.

E. Tongue suggested that a meeting would be best after the CND, possibly in May and requested E. Pomberger, who is also a member of the Alliance, to discuss dates with C. Kuhn. She did so after the meeting and came up with the following possibilities: 22, 23 or 24 May, 29, 30, 31 May (he would be travelling during the remainder of May). E. Tongue said that the draft agenda should be discussed at one of our next meetings because this will be a different type of meeting.

**8. Any other business**

**(a) Website**

B. Walsberger passed on to the Committee a message from M. Perron concerning the Committee's new website which is:

[www.vngoc.org](http://www.vngoc.org)

All members of the NGO Committee and the Programme Committee for the international forum will receive individual passwords and access codes to enter the limited access pages. Everyone was encouraged to make good use of the site which contains sections for members to add comments and to include links to their own organizations. A PowerPoint presentation would be sent to members to explain how to use the site.

**(b) Date of next meeting**

Friday, 16 February 2006 ay 2:30 p.m. in the Press Briefing Room.

Representatives without VIC passes who will be attending the meeting should please inform the Secretary by 9 February.

**(c) Staffing of M. Dummar Frahi's team**

M. Dummar Frahi introduced Violetta .. who is working as a volunteer with her team. Her assistant had moved to another post and her new assistant, Gail P, will be joining the team on 1 December. The entire team will be moving on 6 January to offices in the container and may be assigned new telephone numbers during their stay there. The Committee will be informed in due course of the new details.

Barbara Walsberger  
Secretary  
Vienna NGO Committee on Narcotic Drugs