



COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS: Evidence-based Preventive Strategies

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Learn About African Action on AIDS (AAA)

AAA is a tax exempt non-profit organization registered in the USA and operating under section 501(c) 3 of the IRS code. It is also registered in Cameroon (auth. No00174/A/MINAT/DAP/SDLP/S AC). It has special consultative status with the United Nations ECOSOC and the UN Department of Information.

AAA's work is based on 3 programmes:

"JUST KNOW" Campaign emphasizes" MA YEM, MA BO":

- Knowledge of one's body
- Knowledge that leads to behavior change
- Knowledge that helps to visualize a future without AIDS

"Health before Wealth" Concept promotes:

- Testing for HIV
- Clean hands (hand washing stations)
- Clean water (drinking stations)
- Dignified toilets
- Fighting against Malaria (treated mosquito bed nets)
- Vaccination
- Anti worms medicin

"Women's economic autonomy" through our Scholarship Programme. This scholarship enables each teenage orphan girl to complete at least a secondary, general or technical education that will lead to financial and economic autonomy, greatly reducing the risk of being infected with HIV through sexual abuse and violence.

The 62nd Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and its Ministerial Segment were held on 14-22 March 2019 at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), Austria, including many NGO side events.

At the opening of the ministerial segment the Executive Director of UNODC, Mr. YURY FEDOTOV said that *all societies would be better off if more resources were devoted to supporting evidence-based prevention strategies, which are a sound and effective investment in families, schools and communities.*

The UN Secretary General ANTONIO GUTERRES, in a video message, urged countries to advance prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and reintegration services, to ensure access to controlled medicines while preventing diversion and abuse, to promote alternatives to illicit drug cultivation, and to stop trafficking and organized crime, all of which would make an immense contribution to our work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The president of the General Assembly, Ms. Maria Fernanda SPINOSA GARCÉS also sent a video message.

The Commission adopted 8 resolutions, amongst which the following two on issues that are particularly linked to AAA's Strategic Objective:

- Promoting measures to prevent transmission of HIV for women who use drugs;
- Promoting measures to prevent and treat viral hepatitis C among drug users.

Constructive dialogues were held during side events some of which highlighted good results at low investment:

- The UNODC series of partnerships for school based prevention, founded on enhancing communication, involving teachers, the family and the community;
- The UNODC's program "INSPIRE" that gives Live Skills Training to: Family-Educators-Community;
- The mobilization of resources for Prevention and Recovery in low—resources settings, that encouraged projects like: 1) Uganda Youth Development Link, which views its members as prevention activists and agents of change; 2) Program 'Strong and Clear in Norway that builds parents' networks to support teenagers.

The 62nd Session of CND was therefore an important booster for AAA, because it provided *confirmation that the "African Action on AIDS' PREVENTIVE HEALTH PLAN" is a great tool for Sustainable Development since its strategic objective is to lead local populations to the appropriation of their own welfare by creating a positive environment that enables each one to develop a Personal Responsibility Attitude, a life-time commitment leading to healthy habits.*

Report by Herta Kaschitz-Wüstenhagen and Lilly Sucharipa,
Representatives of AAA to the United Nations, Vienna

For more information WEBSITES: www.unodc.org/ www.vngoc.org
<http://mp.vngoc.org>



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