

# Annual report

World Federation Against Drugs

Swedish identification number: 802447-5850

World Federation Against Drugs, WFAD, was founded as a result of the 1<sup>st</sup> World Forum Against Drugs in 2008 in May 2009. WFAD is an international umbrella organization with the aim to work for a restrictive and balanced drug policy. The work of WFAD is built on the principles of universal fellowship and basic human and democratic rights. We believe that working for a drug-free world will promote human development, dignity, democracy, tolerance, equality, freedom and justice.

The WFAD recognizes that civil society has the right to fact-based information about the risks and damage caused by drugs. All people have the right to be protected from the harms created by drug use; and drug users have the right to the expectation of living drug-free and having the opportunity to lead productive, working lives.

The WFAD adheres to the Declaration signed at the World Forum Against Drugs in Stockholm, Sweden in September of 2008. The work of the WFAD will be in accordance to the Basic Principles.<sup>1</sup> The WFAD adheres to Article 33 of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child that states:

*“States Parties shall take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children from the illicit use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances as defined in the relevant international treaties, and to prevent the use of children in the illicit production and trafficking of such substances.”*

The organization is based on its members, by the end of 2016 WFAD had 197 organizations as members. The mission of WFAD is to harness the power of the world’s NGOs to curb the epidemics of illicit drug use by supporting the drug-free aims and the UN conventions.

## International Board

In March 2016 the 4<sup>th</sup> Congress of WFAD took place. According to the constitution of WFAD the board members of WFAD is elected for a period of two year, the board shall represent the six world regions (Europe, Asia, Oceania, Africa, North America, Latin America) with one representative and one deputy and one International President shall also be elected. The following persons was elected at the congress to serve as members of the board.

International President: Sven-Olov Carlsson, Sweden

Oceania: Jo Baxter (Vice President), Australia

Europe: Per Johansson (Secretary of the board), Sweden

Africa: Rogers Kasirye, Uganda

Asia: Rima Saade Turk, Lebanon

North America: Robert L. DuPont, USA

Latin America: Carmen Fernandez, Mexico

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<sup>1</sup> <http://wfad.se/about-wfad/wfad-declaration>

Deputy Board Members:

Oceania: Mike Sabin, New Zealand

Europe: Monica Barzanti, Italy

Africa: Eze Eluchie, Nigeria

Asia: Munawar Fayyaz Sunny, Pakistan

North America: Calvina Fay, USA

Latin America: Ivan Alvarado, Chile

During the year the board had one board meeting in person in connection with the 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum Against Drugs and six board meetings via Skype.

## Administration

Linda Nilsson is hired as Secretary General of WFAD. The bookkeeping is outsourced to Visma Services AB. Visma has handled the bookkeeping for WFAD and also done the financial annual statement since 2014.

Mårten Eklund is hired part time as webmaster of [www.wfad.se](http://www.wfad.se) and has also provided the office with technical support during the year.

The address of WFAD is: Ragvaldsgatan 14, 118 46 Stockholm, Sweden.

## Website

The website of WFAD has been managed by the webmaster Mårten Eklund during 2016. The Secretary General of WFAD has had the main responsibility of the content of the website. The total number of visitors for the year was 14.319.

During 2014 WFAD started to send out newsletter to the members. The newsletter consists of relevant news for the members but is also an opportunity for members to be introduced to each other. Each newsletter has therefore aimed at containing an introduction of a member of WFAD. In total six newsletter has been sent out to the membership during 2016.

## Membership development

WFAD had 159 member the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2016, on December 31 WFAD had 197 member organizations. Hence, WFAD grow with 38 new member organizations during the year. Out of the new members of WFAD 26 were from the African continent. Hence 95 of WFAD's members origins from Africa by the end of 2016. The membership form the other regions is as follows; 45 member organizations from Asia (7 new during 2016) 33 member organizations from Europe (four new in 2016), eleven members from Latin America (one new in 2016), nine members from North America, and four from Oceania.

WFAD continues to grow with a remarkable speed. In order to be able to handle the number of application the board has decided to delegate the decision around the membership to the board member or the deputy board member in the region and Per Johansson and Sven-Olov Carlsson. If there are any hesitations around the membership application the decision needs to be taken by the full board.

The membership is confirmed by the Congress, according to the statutes of WFAD.

During 2016 the board of WFAD updated the criteria for admitting new members and decided upon the following: The board member in the region is assessing the applicant according with the following criteria;

1. The organization needs to show a proof of registration as a non-for profit organization. Exception can be done if the preconditions in the country is not friendly for civil society, but then the organization needs to show some other document to valid their existence.
2. The organization needs to able to verify activities that correlates with the mission and vision of WFAD.
3. The organization needs to fully endorse the WFAD platform

## Main achievements

### 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum Against Drugs

One of the most important achievements of WFAD since the foundation has been to host the World Forum Against Drugs. The Forums have been hosted every two years, since 2008.

The 5<sup>th</sup> World Forum Against Drugs was held in Vienna, Austria on March 12-13, 2016. For the first time since the 1<sup>st</sup> World Forum Against Drugs in 2008 the Forum was held outside Sweden. 2016 was a special year in international drug policy, in April the biggest meeting in almost 20 years took place, the United Nations General Session on the World Drug Problem. The board of WFAD therefore decided to host the 5<sup>th</sup> Forum in connection to the 59<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs which was held the week after the Forum. The CND meeting was the last big meeting before the UNGASS and hence also one of the last opportunities to influence the members states before the UNGASS meeting.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Forum had two main aims; to spread knowledge, experience and practical methods among WFAD's members and to gather knowledge, priorities and experience to serve as an input in the UNGASS preparations.

The program for the Forum was centered on prevention, both theoretical parts and practical implementation of prevention activities. Since the main target group of the Forum was the members of WFAD we also wanted to give them the possibility to present their work. We therefore asked all that registered to participate at the Forum if they also wanted to make presentations their work. From the applicants the program committee chose four participants to present at the Forum. They were from Kenya, Sweden, Pakistan and Lebanon and they all focused on prevention and what we can learn from their countries and experience.

The Forum gathered around 75 participants form 25 countries, all the six continents were represented at the Forum. The Forum's main target group was the members of WFAD, unlike previous Forums we did not aim for big number of participants – the aim was to reach around 70 participants. With a few exceptions the participants of the Forum were all members of WFAD. One practical obstacle was the refugee crises in Europe and the consequences of closing borders where Austria had a leading role within EU. This meant that many of the applicant had problems with getting visa and around 10 persons got their visa rejected, all of them came from Nigeria or Pakistan. Persons from other areas of the world had problems but were able to get visa after support both from WFAD office and in some cases also from UNODC.

In total around 20 persons form the membership were granted support for most or parts of the costs to participate at the Forum. This was to meet the aim of the forum was to strengthen WFAD's member organizations and to enable member organizations to influence the UNGASS process.

### CND

The Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) was established by the Economic and Social Council in 1946, to assist the ECOSOC in supervising the application of the international drug control treaties. In

1991, the General Assembly further expanded the mandates of the CND to enable it to function as the governing body of the UNODC, and to approve the budget of the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, which accounts for over 90 per cent of the resources available to the United Nations for drug control, it is hence one of the places where all countries of the world meet and talk about global drug policy.

WFAD planned, together with our partners three side events at CND.

- Families and Drugs, to present family support program and highlight the importance of families in the recovery process. The event was hosted by San Partignano with WFAD, Eurad and Recovery Users Network as co-sponsors.
- Breaching the Conventions? Experience of cannabis legalization worldwide. The aim of the event was to highlight the problems from especially the states in the US with cannabis legalization. The event was organized by Community Alliance for Drug Free Youth, Smart Approaches to Marijuana, ECAD and WFAD.
- Voices from the youth – protect the Future. The aim was to give the youth themselves a possibility to have their say on prevention and global drug policy. The event was organized by Active – Sobriety, Friendship and Peace, Uganda Youth Development Link, African Youths Initiatives on Crime Prevention and WFAD.

Since we had the Forum right before the CND we had the possibility to use the knowledge and experience of some of our member organizations to be co-sponsors of the event and also contribute with their and their organizations knowledge to the CND. Unfortunately one of the planned co-hosts was denied visa (African Youths Initiatives on Crime Prevention) but since we had more members in Vienna for the Forum we were able to find a replacement in Paul Mburu from Soberlife Foundation to present his experience from Kenya instead of the Nigerian organization.

At the Congress of WFAD the members made a statement around the legalization of cannabis that is being done in opposition to the conventions in some areas of the world. The statement was printed and distributed widely at the CND to encourage member states to discuss the issues of legalization at the CND and also to encourage more member states to reject the path of legalization as a way forward.

## UNGASS

The biggest international meeting on drug policy in nearly 20 years, the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problems, UNGASS, took place April 19-21 2016. The preparations for the UNGASS meeting has been intense since 2014 when the negotiations started. The board of UNGASS.

WFAD has taken active part in both the preparations and the UNGASS meeting. In 2014 WFAD and ECAD applied and got support from the Ministry of Health in Sweden to produce a report under the umbrella of Drug Policy Future, DPF. The report was called "*The Future of Drug Policy*" and was ready in November 2015. During 2016 we have used the report to spread ideas, both in policy and practical implementation, for improving our work to solve the World Drug Problem. The report is based on the ten principles of DPF that was developed when the network was created. For the UNGASS meeting we also developed a short version of the report, "*Prevent. Don't Promote*", is was spread widely during the UNGASS meeting and has also been used after the meeting during the discussions on the implementation of the outcome document. Under the umbrella of DPF we also handed out flyers with the main that we need to focus on prevention. DPF also developed a statement with the main

message that we should focus on action and implement the many good strategies that exist and turn words into action. The statement was signed by over 300 organizations around the world.

On February 10 a preparatory meeting was held in New York, an Informal Interactive Stakeholder Consultation with the civil society with the aim to provide input from the civil society to the member states. Several of WFAD members were invited to speak at the occasion.

The Secretary General of WFAD, Linda Nilsson, was invited to the UNGASS meeting as part of the Swedish delegation. WFAD was able to support some of our member organizations with travel support to enable more voices from the civil society grassroot organizations to get their voices heard at the UNGASS meeting. Together with our network we were also co-hosting two side events during the UNGASS meeting;

- THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OF INVESTING IN RECOVERY  
Organized by San Patrignano Foundation, Stichting Eurad (Europe Against Drug), RUN, World Federation Against Drugs, and European Cities Against Drugs
- ALTERNATIVE LEGAL REGIMES FOR CANNABIS: WHAT ARE THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIETY IMPACTS?  
Organized by the Governments of Sri Lanka, Sweden and Latvia, Community Alliance for Drug Free Youth, Smart Approaches to Marijuana, World Federation Against Drugs and European Cities Against Drugs

The result of the UNGASS meeting was the outcome document. Although the negotiations between the countries were long and sometimes very difficult since the view on drug policy differs a lot between the member states they succeeded in a compromise that provides a good platform for the global policy on drugs. The member states confirmed their support for the Drug conventions as the foundation for drug policy, and also reaffirmed their commitment to aim of a drug-free world. The big controversies in the negotiations and also at the UNGASS meeting were around;

- Death Penalty, many countries wanted to have a statement in the document against the death penalty, which failed. China and a number of countries primarily in Asia refused to let that into the document. There is a recommendation around proportionality in sentencing in the outcome document, but the negotiations did not succeed to condemn the death penalty.
- Harm Reduction, a number of countries wanted to have the concept of Harm Reduction in the outcome document. The concept is not well defined and is not a used concept in the UN language. Hence, some of the interventions commonly defined as harm reduction measures were recommended in the outcome document but the concept of Harm Reduction was not mentioned.
- Legal status on cannabis, some countries have legalized cannabis in violation of the conventions. This was not addressed at all in the outcome paper, and was mostly discussed in the corridors of the UNGASS meeting.

Overall, the UNGASS meeting provided an outcome document with a lot of good recommendations and a clearer focus on public health than in the previous documents. The big challenge is now to implement the document in the national and local settings.

#### Civil Society Task Force

In 2015 the Civil Society Task Force, CSTF, on Drugs was created to ensure a comprehensive, structured, meaningful and balanced participation of the Civil Society during the UNGASS process. The CSTF consists of 31 members representing both regions, affected populations and global

approaches. The mission of the CSTF is to serve as an official liaison between the United Nations and the civil society.

WFAD is though Linda Nilsson represented in the CSTF as the global voice of prevention. Further 2 members of the board of WFAD is regional representatives, Carmen Fernandez and Eze Eluchie.

During 2015 the focus was around consultations to bring in a wide range of voices. In 2016 the main focus was around ensuring a balanced representation in both the preparatory meeting and at the UNGASS. The civil society was invited to have two representatives at each discussion. The differences between the views of drug policy is wide among the civil society and the negotiations within the CSTF were intense during the preparatory process. WFAD took active part to ensure the balance between the perspectives, both in the negotiations and also by encouraging WFAD members to apply to be speakers.

#### Post-UNGASS process

The Post-UNGASS discussions on the implementation started after the summer. There has been several consultations at UNODC in Vienna with member states and the civil society on the implementation. WFAD has taken active part in the discussions both in written and also by being in Vienna to present our statement on the process.

#### Drug Policy Futures

As mentioned above, WFAD is active in the DPF network and see this as another tool to cooperate with likeminded organizations around the world. The aim of DPF is to coordinate our efforts on international meeting such as the CND, and also to keep us updated around our activities around the world.

#### 3 Balkan

In 2015 WFAD applied and got granted project funding from ForumSyd to do a project together with four member organizations in the Balkan area; Proslavi Popravak, Preporod, NGO Izlazak and Restart. The member organizations are all active in the field of Recovery with motivation to treatment and re-socialization after treatment as their main focus. The aim of the project was to increase knowledge about the substance abuse in order to increase the cooperation and capacity of the actors involved in drug abuse in the area. This was done by mapping the activities done both by the civil society and the state actors in the area. During the project a number of problems were identified; ‘

- Lack of cooperation between actors, both between actors in the civil society and between state actors and the civil society.
- Lack of access and knowledge on treatment for young people and women, especially on the countryside.
- Lack of capacity of the civil society, and lack of knowledge to tackle new problems, for example young girls with problems or new types of drugs abused.
- Stigmatization on drug addiction and people in recovery/recovered.

The project group therefore developed a three years continuation of the project to deal with the problems identified in the first smaller project. The project will start in 2017 and continue over three years with funding from Forum Syd.

The project will consist of three component;

- To strengthen the service of the four organizations by establishing a free phone line and Substance Abuse Community Counselling Center in the three countries with the aim to motivate people to go into treatment and also with the capability to do brief interventions.
- To strengthen the cooperation between state actors and the civil society by organizing activities to meet the problems identified in the needs assessment.
- To increase the knowledge and access on treatment on the country side, with focus on the young people and women.

### Vatican

In November 2016 the Pontifical Academy of Science held a meeting at the Vatican with the theme: *"Narcotics; Problems and Solutions of this Global Issue"*. Led and inspired by Pope Francis and Queen Silvia of Sweden the meeting aimed to develop a global view of the current drug epidemic and recommendations to reverse this trend. Robert L. DuPont, board member representing North America was one of the speakers at the meeting and Linda Nilsson participated as an observer. The meeting resulted in a number of recommendations, which take a strong stance for prevention and treatment and rejects legalization for recreational use.

### ECOSOC status

During 2016 WFAD was granted consultative status by with ECOSOC. It provides WFAD with access to the many subsidiary bodies of the United Nations, for example to take part in the CND meetings and arrange side events.

## Member organizations of WFAD 2016-12-31

### Africa

People Against Drug Dependency and Ignorance  
National Council for the Prevention of Alcoholism and Drug Dependency  
Health Promotion Watch  
Africa Mental Health Foundation  
Edem Children Foundation (ECF)  
Foundation for Democratic Initiatives and Development  
Slum Child Foundation  
Tanzania Federation of Science Journalists  
Sopi Jikko  
International Network for Progressive Elimination of Poverty  
Drug Fight Malawi  
Unified Initiative for a drug free Nigeria  
Beacon Youth Movement  
Uganda Youth Development Link  
UNIDOS-Rede Nacional Contra Droga  
Greenwealth Community Initiative  
Narconon Nigeria  
Action Against Drugs International  
Shine Africa Foundation  
National Care Centre  
C-Sema  
Mapambano Centre For Children Rights  
Youth Achievement Village in Tanzania  
Children Foundation and Peace Development Ghana  
Watoto Wetu Tanzania  
Hope and Beyond  
Nigeria Alcohol prevention youth initiative  
Centre for Advocacy on Drug and Substance Abuse (CARDS)  
Youth For A Child In Christ  
ONG Association pour la Promotion du Centre de Sensibilisation et d'Information sur les Drogues  
Jacques CHIRAC de Thiaroye  
West Africa Behavioural Health Addiction & Recovery Management (WABHARM Foundation)  
The Drug Salvation Foundation – Nigeria  
Kawempe Youth Development Association, KYDA  
The Rural Woman Development Initiative  
Hope Recovery Centre  
Somali Minorities Org for Peace and Human Rights  
Tanzania youth against drugs  
Ghana Peer Changers  
Havilah Kenya  
African Youths Initiative on Crime Prevention  
Woman and Child Vision  
Community Watch Rufiji (COWARU)  
Children Education Society  
Recovery Solutions Treatment and Counseling Services

CFGL

Mkuza Youth Development Association

Youth volunteers against risk behaviours

Youths for Youths Network

Fountain of Hope Rehabilitation Center

Nature Smart Youth Program Kenya

sierra Leone Youth Development and Child Link

Butsilitsa Community Development Association

Ddrug Free Club OAU

Sub-Saharan drug abuse research and consultancy center

The Baroda Foundation

Vijana Against AIDS and Drugs Abuse

Empower the Community and Environmental Conseravtion Organization

Hepatitis Foundation of Ghana

Kenya Economic Youth Network

Liberians Against Drug Abuse

Youth Inter-Active

Centre For Peace Projects & Development

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION[CHIRO]

Reseau Africaine Contre la Drogue, les Violences et le Sida

The Organization of Journalists Against Drugs and Crime in Tanzania

International Centre for Leadership Development

Heal Africa Counselling and Training Centre

Professional Driving and Safety Academy

Peace Point Action

Protection of Girl Child Rights and Children Welfare Initiative

Save Our Youths Anti Drugs Campaign Network

Soberlife Mentorship Society

Africa Foundation for Development and Tolerance

Hepatitis Coalition of Ghana

Maranatha International Counselling Foundation

Teso Children's Development Foundaiton

Youth Against Alcohol Drugs and Substance Abuse

The Urban Hope Project

Nakuru Drop In Centre C.B.O.

Serene Intiative Project

Centre for Girls and Interaction

Club des Volontaires du Travail

Development for Accountability for Tanzania

Asumbi Treatment Centres

MOVEMENT AGAINST SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN AFRICA (MASAA)

Uganda Christian Counselors Association

Consolidated Youth for Peace & Development

Foundation for African Leadership Development (FALD)

Human Health Aid-Burundi

Youth Against Illicit Drugs International

Community Life Agency, Inc.

Centre for Human Rights and Climate Change Research

Society for Bahvioural Therapy & Health  
Youth Awareness against Drug Abuse Initiative

## Asia

Forum for Drug Free Society Nepal  
Sahkar Social Welfare Association Larkana  
Nusroto Al-Anashid  
Cap; Ahmed Ali Foundation  
No Drugs Implication Life  
Bashiran Munshi Foundation  
GRANAT (National Movement Against Narcotics)  
Sunny Trust International  
The Madras Social Service Guild  
RISE  
Jatiya Tarun Sangha, JTS,  
Local Education and Economic Development, LEEDO  
Mithuru Mithuro Movement  
Rafique Research and Educational Society  
Ray of Hope  
Journey  
Alcohol and Drug Information Centre  
Sri Lanka Federation of NGOs Against Drug Abuse  
Our Own Public Health Institute  
Nada India foundation  
Just Say No Nepal  
Mithuru Sevana Drug Rebalitation  
Humanitarian Organization Providing Effective Services (HOPES)  
Afghanistan Women Saffron Association  
New World Hope Organization (NWHO)  
Center for Universal Drug Researches Approaches and Studies (CUDRAS)  
Healthy Lanka Alliance for Development  
Pakistan Rural workers Social Service Welfare Organisation  
Foundation for Innovative Social Development  
Dhaka Ahsania Mission  
Save Humanity Social Welfare Organization  
Ujala Foundation  
Fundacion TASF-Detox  
Comeback Rehab  
Nishan Foundation  
Pakistan Youth Organization  
Community Development & Entrepreneurship Foundation  
New Step Pakistan  
Drug Free Nation  
The Society for the Aid adn Rehabilitation of Drug Abusers  
Global Welfare Organization  
Life Foundation  
Development Organization for Community

Legends Society  
Common Effort

### Latin America

CELIN Bolivia  
Gradiva foundation  
Instituto de Prevention de la drogadepencia  
BRAHA - Brazilian Humanitarians in Action  
Centros de Integración Juvenil  
Comunidad La Roca  
Red Chile Previene las Drogas, CHIPRED  
Corporación Carpe Diem  
ABRAD - Associação Brasileira de Alcoolismo e Drogas  
CEDRO - Centro de Información y Educación para la Prevención del Abuso de Drogas  
Centro de Estudos da Clinica Jorge Jaber

### North America

Drug Free America Foundation, Inc  
Institute for Behavior and Health, Inc.  
CADRE, Center for Alcohol and Drug Research and Education  
Drug Prevention Network of Canada  
Lifeloc Technologies  
National Council on Alcoholism and drug Dependence-maryland Chapter  
D.A.R.E America/D.A.R.E International  
Foundation for a Drug-Free World, Florida chapter  
L.E.A.D. Inc

### Oceania

Drug Free Australia  
Dalgarno Institute  
WCTU Australia Limited  
Drug Advisory Council of Australia Inc

### Europe

IOGT-NTO  
RNS  
SIMON  
SLAN  
Hassela Solidaritet  
KSAN/WOCAD  
SMART - the Contract Concept  
Parents Contre La Drogue  
San Patrignano  
IOGT International  
ECAD  
Associazione Osservatorio Droga  
Anhöriga Mot Droger  
KRIS  
Foundation for a Drug-Free Europé

German Association for Youth Protection  
Lithuanian National Tobacco and Alcohol Control Coalition  
Preporod (eng Rebirth)  
World Federation of Athletes Against Drugs  
FORUT - Campaign for Development and Solidarity  
International Substance Abuse and Addiction Coalition  
Proslavi Oporavak - Celebrate Recovery  
Active - Sobriety Friendship and Peace  
Stijena  
Svenska Narkotikapolisföreningen  
Ungdomens Nykterhetsförbund  
Organization for foght against drugs abuse, Izlazak  
East West Detox  
Insamlingsstiftelsen Choice  
Life Skills Education CIC  
LP-verksamhetens Ideella Verksamhet  
IOGT-NTOs Juniorförbund  
Rotarian Action Group Addiction Prevention