Dear Colleagues:

We are happy to announce that the New York NGO Committee on Drugs (“NYNGOC”) is ready to accept new members from outside the New York area. We are reaching out to organizations from around the world that are touched directly or indirectly by the drugs issue to invite them to join and have their voice heard at the United Nations, especially as we prepare for the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs (UNGASS) to be held in 2016.

Formed in 1984, the NYNGOC has a long history of participation in high-level meetings around drugs, including the 1998 Drugs UNGASS and Beyond 2008. With membership including NGOs from the human rights, public health, medical, treatment and prevention, development, criminal justice and law sectors, the NYNGOC is an important opportunity to be involved in the process leading to the upcoming UNGASS. Membership, while global in scope, is focused on the Americas: organizations in Canada, the US, Latin America and the Caribbean should ensure they are part of this effort.

The NYNGOC aims to support civil society organizations in engaging with the UN system on international drug policy and practice, facilitating the exchange of information between civil society organizations and UN agencies, member states, and other relevant UN bodies. NYNGOC intends to continue its collaboration with other NGOs, especially Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs and the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to ensure a strong NGO voice at the 2016 UNGASS on Drugs. The NYNGOC operates under the umbrella of the Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO).

To join the NYNGOC, please complete and submit the attached application form. Once approved, you will receive information about sending a payment of 20 USD per year for NYNGOC membership dues.

For more information on the New York NGO Committee, please visit us at www.nyngoc.org, and do not hesitate to contact us at NewYorkNGOC@gmail.com.