



F i r s t a n n o u n c e m e n t



Welcome to...

The 3rd World Forum Against Drugs

May 21st to 23rd, 2012 | Stockholm, Sweden

The modern drug abuse epidemic is a global threat to public health and to public safety. The World Federation Against Drugs, WFAD, is the international organisation of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) using the best strategies to reduce illegal drug use and the serious negative consequences that result from drug use.

World Federation Against Drugs is rooted in the Swedish experience with the drug abuse epidemic and the resulting balanced and restrictive Swedish drug policy that enjoys broad support across the political spectrum in Sweden. This policy has produced one of the lowest rates of drug use in the developed world.

A major challenge of the 21st century is to find more effective ways to reduce drug use and the illegal drug trafficking that fuels this epidemic. The challenge is great because drugs effectively hijack the human brain's reward centres subverting the essential values and behaviours that are necessary for the survival of individuals, families, communities and nations. The World Federation Against Drugs is dedicated to identifying and promoting effective and affordable programmes, policies, and laws consistent with modern

culture and values that limit illegal drug use and illegal drug trafficking. These initiatives build on a century of international efforts to limit the use of illegal drugs. The work of World Federation Against Drugs builds on these earlier efforts, working both to extend and improve them and to create new initiatives that can significantly increase these efforts.

World Federation Against Drugs main goal is to harness the awesome power of the world's NGOs to reverse the drug abuse epidemic by supporting the drug-free goal and the drug abuse prevention treaties of the United Nations. World Federation Against Drugs focuses especially on the UN Treaty on the Rights of the Child which calls on all nations to protect children from both drug use and drug sales.

At the heart of World Federation Against Drugs' approach is the commitment to a balance of efforts in law enforcement and efforts in prevention and treatment, to find better ways for the criminal justice system to work with treatment and prevention system. Together they can do a better job of reducing illegal drug use than either can do alone.

The main aim of the 3rd World Forum Against Drugs is to develop support for a balanced and restrictive policy for illicit drugs

The World Forum Against Drugs is an arena for exchanging knowledge and experience, to describe new research, and to inspire to new methods of prevention. The World Forum is hosted and organised by World Federation Against Drugs. The World Forum takes place every two years. It is a meeting place for people all around the world who work to prevent drug abuse through grassroots efforts, on a voluntary basis, professionally or as policymakers.

The 1st Forum was hosted in Sweden in 2008 by a group of Swedish NGOs. An outcome of the first Forum was the founding of the World Federation Against Drugs which went on to organize the 2nd World Forum in 2009. The 3rd World Forum will be held in Stockholm on May 21-23, 2012.

Programme of the Forum

There will be three main themes:

- » Human rights and the right of the child to be protected from illicit drugs
- » Illicit drug use and trafficking problems of Latin America
- » Primary prevention and its role in drug policy

Plenary sessions

The opening plenary session on May 21, 2012 will be the official inauguration of the World Forum.

Her Majesty, Queen Silvia of Sweden has agreed to be the patron of the 3rd World Forum and will formally open the Forum on May 21, 2012.

A number of distinguished guests are invited to attend and deliver keynote presentations, including the Minister for Children and the Elderly of Sweden, Maria Larsson and the US drug czar R. Gil Kerlikowske. The closing session of the World Forum will take place on May 23, 2012 with keynote presentations and resolutions developed at the Forum.

Seminars

The programme will include parallel seminars and workshops with a focus on ways to reduce illegal drug use and the illegal trafficking of drugs. Experts from all over the world will address the three themes of the Forum.

Language

The official language of the 3rd World Forum Against Drugs is English. Plenary sessions and seminars will be held in English.

Registration

Registration will open in late October, 2011. The deadline for the early registration fee is January 31, 2012.

Venue and Date

The 3rd World Forum Against Drugs will be held at Münchenbryggeriet in Stockholm Sweden on May 21-23, 2012.



Contacts



Project Manager

Linda Nilsson
linda.nilsson@wfad.se
+46 8 714 81 15

Programme committee

Per Johansson
per.johansson@wfad.se
+46 708 301 789

International President, WFAD

Sven-Olov Carlsson
sven-olov.carlsson@wfad.se
+46 705 549 989

For the latest information about the Forum, please visit www.wfad.se