



SEMINAR ON INTERNATIONAL ALCOHOL POLICY & GLOBAL SOLIDARITY

Friday October 10th 2008 13.00-16.00
Hotel Euroopa, Tallinn, Estonia

Background:

In its session Thursday 22 May the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution that calls for the development of a global strategy to reduce harmful use of alcohol. The member states of the World Health Organization will now embark on a process that will lead up to the adoption of a Global Strategy at the 63rd World Health Assembly in May 2010. One element in this process is that WHO shall "consult with intergovernmental organizations, health professionals, nongovernmental organizations and economic operators on ways they could contribute to reducing harmful use of alcohol". At the seminar in Tallin on the 10th of October, participants will get an introduction to the process that has lead up to the decision at this year's Health Assembly. The process for the coming months, including the involvement of civil society, will be introduced.

Program:

- 13.00 **Opening**
Introduction of program and participants
- 13.10 **The process prior to the World Health Assembly 2008 and the role of governments till May 2010**
Presentation by **Marianne Kristensen**, International advisor, National Board of Health, Denmark, member of the WHO executive board.
- 13.45 **The process towards a Global Strategy in 2010; perspectives from civil society**
Presentation by **Øystein Bakke**, Secretary - Global Alcohol Policy Alliance and Project Manager - Alcohol, Drugs and Development in FORUT – Norwegian Campaign for Development and Solidarity.
- 14.20 Coffee break
- 14.35 Comments to the issue and to the presentations:
Is there a special role for the countries in the northern dimension area?
Mikko Vienonen, Manager, Expert group on Social Inclusions, Healthy Lifestyle and Work ability (SIHLWA EG) Northern Dimension Partnership in Public Health and social wellbeing (NDPHS).
- 14.50 **Is there a special role for Baltic countries?**
Representative from government or NGO in Estonia, Estonia
- 15.05 **Discussion based on the presentations:**
- How can civil society best contribute to the process in the World Health Organization, at national as well as international level?
 - How can NGOs and governments cooperate in this process?
 - Is there a special role and responsibility for civil society organizations and governments in Nordic and Baltic countries?
- 15.50 Closing remarks

Moderator:

Dag Endal, Project Coordinator, FORUT: Norwegian Campaign for Development and Solidarity

Organizers of the seminar:

NordAN: Nordic Alcohol- and Drug Policy Network
FORUT: Norwegian Campaign for Development and Solidarity
GAPA: Global Alcohol Policy Alliance

Connected to NordAN Conference 2008