Name of Organization: Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Purpose of meeting: Regular Alliance Meeting

Date/Time: July 13, 2012 1PM - 3PM

Chair: Dr. Karen Smith

Participants:

1. Afaf Mahfouz Women & Memory Forum afmahfouz@aol.com
2. Saad Filali Meknassi UNCAC Coalition tmaccinfo@gmail.com
3. Lloyd Klein SFC lklein@sfc.edu
4. Rosalind Harris ISS treasurer@cpcjalliance.org
5. Ilona Gedutiene IFFJ i\_gedutiene@yahoo.com
6. Karen Smith WFWPI prevention@cpcjalliance.org
7. Janis Joseph ACJS joseph@stockton.edu
8. Irene Melup ACPF 212.222.4063
9. Yael Danieli TSS yaeld@aol.com

1. Adoption of the Agenda
	1. Agenda adopted unanimously
2. Approval of March 9, 2012 Minutes
	1. Minutes were approved
3. Chairperson’s Report
	1. Karen Smith reported on the following items and facilitated discussion on the issue of the Drug Committee:
		1. The **NGO preparatory meeting for the June 26th Thematic Debate** on Drugs and Crime as a Threat to Development. On June 25th in the Bahai International Community offices, the Alliance co-hosted with the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (VNGOC) and some of the staff from the Vienna UNODC office. The Agenda for that meeting is attached for reference. A letter of thanks was also sent by email on the 6th July to the Bahai International Community UN Office.
		2. During this meeting, there was an interest expressed in the activation of a **NY based committee on drugs**. The VNGOC indicated a number of their members would be interested in being involved in the NY committee and being a virtual extension of the Vienna Committee. Rosalind Harris, Karen Smith and Michel Perron (Chair of VNGOC) had discussed this further and Rosalind, having been a past Chair of the NY Committee on Drugs and who had brought the issue to the attention of the NY Alliance was asked to make her recommendations. Rosalind reported to the Alliance and the final decision from discussions included:
			* The next meeting of the Alliance scheduled for September 14th would recapture discussions of how the Alliance could support the activation of those interested in working on the issue of drugs in NY, and to offer to maximize the existing infrastructure of the Alliance by including the work of the Committee on Drugs in its regular work.
			* Rosalind indicated she would prepare a letter of invitation to go out to contacts she had
			* The letter would also be sent out to invite those interested to the next meeting and discussion through CONGO’s list serve as well as to VNGOC to enable as many as possible to participate and offer their views.
		3. Karen further reported on the **statement the Alliance was able to make at the Thematic Debate** and noted with appreciation the work that Yael Danieli and Michael Platzer (Chair, Vienna Alliance) in being primarily responsible for the formulation of the statement from those with input, which she read on behalf of the Alliance at the “final hour” of the Debate.It was noted that the President of the General Assembly enabled the Alliance and three other NGO representatives to offer their remarks at the close of the day even as the translators were ending their day’s work.The final copy of the statement was circulated and it was noted that the statement was also available on the website: [www.CPCJAlliance.org](http://www.CPCJAlliance.org).
		4. Karen reported that in a new trend from the NY Office of UNODC, that she had been contacted by the head of the office on Friday 6th July specifically inquiring if the Alliance was intending to be present at the July 9th High-Level Segment of ECOSOC and if we were intending to make an intervention.Karen was very pleased to report that the Alliance was recognized by the Moderator with the assistance of the UNODC staff and again contributed to the discussions. She indicated that she made two succinct points, those being:
			* Encouragement that Sierra Leone and Panama had, as indicated in their statements, included civil society in almost all levels and stages of their most recent work against corruption and considered civil society as an essential partner.
			* The Alliance wished to make two recommendations regarding the theme of the afternoon session that included a focus on innovative partnerships to combat corruption.
				+ The Alliance again recommended the formation of new kind of working group made up of Member States, UN staff, issue experts and victims of corruption to provide oversight and recommendations for the country level implementation of the UN Convention on Corruption (UNCAC).
				+ The Alliance also invited all those present to join the Alliance during the week of December 3 - 10 for the Week of Highlighting “What Works” in countering corruption.
4. Karen reminded those present that throughout these high-level meetings, that a key part of the reason for the Alliance’s ability to participate is that the Alliance does represent a number of organizations and seeks to help create means for those many organizations to have a voice on issues of drugs and crime. It is also why the VNGOC were able to participate in the GA’s Thematic Debate and the third major coalition of NGOs that functions in conjunction with the UNODC is the UNCAC Coalition. In order for the members of the Alliance who were present to gain a better understanding of the UNCAC Coalition, Saad Filali Meknassi was invited to explain their organization and how the UNCAC Coalition related with Transparency International. Mr. Meknassi is also concurrently the representative of Transparency Morocco and he reviewed the history, work and developments of the UNCAC Coalition. These three main coalitions of organizations supporting the mission of UNODC are committed to staying connected and supportive of one another:
	* The Alliance (NY and Vienna)
	* VNGOC
	* UNCAC Coalition
5. Old Business
	1. Discussions continued on the topic of the Work of the Alliance with attention to the December 3 - 10 Week of Constructing a Good Society Week (See online Draft <http://cpcjalliance.org/constructing-good-society-2012/>). A number of those present had responded to the request for further input and the final title for the week was decided to be: Promoting A Just Society (PJS.)A draft flier and invitational letter would be circulated by July 27 to the Executive Committee and those present for final input and then members will be encouraged to:
		1. Plan to hold their own featured event during that week, thus highlighting the expertise of their organization.
		2. Would work to reach their contacts among Member States to gather Sponsors for the Alliance’s central event during this week—a forum in the UN. Member States that were mentioned included Costa Rica, Oman, Qatar, Morocco. But members of the Alliance are encouraged to use this Week and the UN Forum as a way to strengthen ties and make new connections with Member States who are important to their particular field of work and expertise.
	2. Janice Joseph reported on the NGO meeting with the Director General of UNODC during the 21st session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), Vienna from 23 - 27 April 2012. Highlights from Janice report include:
* Notion of women’s issues in countries’ reports appeared more often than others (Femicide)

 Countries also reported on their progress on issues of migrants and their families.

* NGO’s expressed their interest in having a larger input into resolutions
* NGO’s have the presence but the impact is still low
* There were concerns about the limitation of NGO side-events during the Commission
* Fedotov is setting up a new trend promoting informal meetings with NGO’s rather than utilizing them as part of a formal structure. Rosalind noted that such meetings may be good ways of fostering informal discussions as long as formal privileges are withheld.
	1. The online corruption initiative introduced at the last meeting was noted to have been taken up more widely in a number of countries according to reports that came out during ECOSOC’s High-Level Segment. Therefore any further work on this will lay more in the lines of endeavoring to highlight these initiatives during the PJS Week.
	2. Afaf Mahfouz was invited to give her thoughts on the unfolding Arab Spring. She indicated that Egypt’s new president is endeavoring to support a more transparent and open government, but that it is still too early to get a clear read of how things are unfolding.
1. Treasurer’s Report
	1. The treasurer reported that some more members had paid their dues, but more are encouraged to do so.
	2. The Alliance provided refreshments and support for the joint Alliance-VNGOC meeting on June 25th.
2. Information Centre Report
	1. Ilona reported on two meetings referred from Gary Hill at the Information Center and these were to be circulated by email.
3. Website Updates
	1. Alliance website has reports (and video from UN TV) of the contributions that the Alliance made during the Thematic Debate and the High-Level Segment of ECOCOC.
	2. Alliance Members are able to pay their annual dues online using either PayPal or Credit Card.
	3. Papers on Femicide (provided the Vienna Alliance) that were presented during the April Crime Commission have also been posted.
4. Reports from Working Parties
	1. Working Party on PreventionKaren noted that the work of the Prevention Working Party had essentially been rolled over into the work of the committee of the whole as the Forum@Four for now into the Promotion of a Just Society Week.
	2. Working Party on VictimsYael noted that she was heartened by the growing number of Member States that included discussion of victims in their reports and statements. This indicated that the work was making headway.
	3. Yeal reported on **Global Counter-Terrorism Forum** which was held in Madrid 9th and 10th of July in Madrid. She noted a positive trend in reparative justice: many governments spoke from the terrorism victims perspective
	4. This forum came out with a Madrid Declaration on Victims of Terrorism that encompasses the main results from the Meeting and a Plan of Action.
	5. Yael noted that the meeting was flawed because it didn’t use established field experts.
5. The Melup Report
	1. The new Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Jan Eliasson gave remarks at ECOSOC’s High-Level Segment on July 9th. He is a welcome new addition to the UN team.

Michael Platzer, who is one of the academic councils at the UN contributed to the recently published Blue Criminology Book by Slawomir Marek Rido. It could be found online at: http://bit.ly/ThC8pK

1. News from affiliates
	1. Karen reported that WFWP International held a successful side event for the ECOSOC AMR on Poverty Eradication. The event included: USG and High Representative OHRLLS, the Deputy Director of UN Women, ILO, Ambassador of Mozambique and two NGO representatives.
2. Announcement: Dr. Danieli was chosen as the American Psychological Association's recipient of the **Award for Lifetime Achievement in Trauma Psychology.** She will accept this award on 3rd of August in Orlando, FL.
3. Adjournment. Next Alliance meeting is planned on 14 September, 2012 and will have the focus on how the Alliance can support the activation of NGOs concerned with drugs and narcotics.

**Meeting of the Vienna NGO Committee**

**in partnership with**

**the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

On the occasion of the General Assembly Debate on Drugs, Crime and Development

June 25, 2012 - 14:00

Bahai Offices at 866 UN Plaza - New York

***Agenda***

Welcome and Introductions

Michel Perron, Chair of VNGOC; Karen Smith, Chair of the Alliance, NY

Overview of VNGOC and Crime Alliance mandate and priorities

Michel Perron & Karen Smith

Outline of logistics and preparations for General Assembly Debate

Distribution and review of VNGOC and Crime Alliance Statements

Guest speakers (presence and order to be confirmed closer to meeting)

- Mr. Yury Fedotov, Executive Director of the UNODC (to be confirmed)

- Representative of UNODC NY Office (to be confirmed)

- Mr. Andrei Abramov, Chief UN DESA NGO section (confirmed)

- Mirella Frahi, Civil Affairs Society Officer - Vienna (confirmed)

Other business

Discussion of future VNGOC activities at UN NY: Note this item may not be relevant to Alliance members and persons wishing to leave may do so.

Adjournment