



International Drug Policy Consortium

Philippines

United Nations

International Narcotics Control Board

To: Mr. Werner Sipp, International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)

2nd August 2016,

Dear Mr Sipp

We are writing to request that the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as authorities with responsibility for international drug control, urgently take action to condemn the extrajudicial killings suspected of using or dealing drugs in the Philippines, and to call for an immediate halt to these killings.

704 people have been killed between the 10th of May to the 29th of July 2016, as reported by media outlet monitoring the number of drug-related deaths. ABS CBN News¹ These killings have reportedly taken place in several parts of the country, including Manila, Bulacan, Cebu, Rizal, Abra, Bataan, #²The rapidly rising

eliminate drug-related problems in the country.

Mr. Rodrigo Duterte won the presidential election held in the Philippines on 10 May 2016, and was inaugurated as president on 30 June 2016. Since his election campaign, Mr. Duterte has repeatedly urged law enforcement agencies, the public at large and even the Communist Veterans' and the Army (NPA) to kill people suspected of drug trafficking drugs as well as people who use drugs, as part of his pledge to end criminal activity within three to six months in the Philippines. Although U.S. State Dept. has expressed its support for Duterte's adherence to due process and the rule of law, Duterte's actions have been widely criticized and contradict his stated human rights obligations.³

Instead of ensuring the protection and rights of people who use drugs, including the right to health and provision of voluntary, evidence-based drug treatment and harm reduction services, President Duterte has called for them to be killed. Instead of ensuring the rights of people suspected of committing drug-related crimes to due process and to a fair trial, the President has called for them to be executed on the spot. Despite reports of killings that involve no violent resistance, President, Solicitor General and Chief of Police have assured law enforcement officers that they will be protected against conviction of criminal offenses in the discharge of their anti-drug related duties, thereby implying impunity for extrajudicial killings.⁵

The outcome document of the UNGASS on the world drug problem that took place in April 2016, states the following:

4. (b) bis. Promote effective supervision of drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities by competent domestic authorities to ensure adequate quality of drug treatment and rehabilitation services and to prevent any possible acts of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in accordance with domestic legislation and applicable international law;

4. (o) Promote and implement effective criminal justice responses to drug crimes to bring perpetrators to justice that ensure legal guarantees and due process safeguards pertaining to criminal justice proceedings, including practical measures to uphold the prohibition of arbitrary arrest and detention and of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to eliminate impunity, in accordance with relevant and applicable international law and taking into account United Nations standards and norms on crime prevention and criminal justice, and ensure timely access to legal aid and the right to a fair trial;

UNODC and the INCB are committed to a human rights-based approach to drug control. The 2016 UNODC World Drug Report states that the concept of a human rights-based approach is a concept wider than mere coercion; it also encompasses inclusive access to justice delivered fairly and in full respect of human rights, through a robust system that places authority in the hands of relevant institutions, with appropriate safeguards. The report adds that compliance with the rule of law and international standards concerning, inter alia, the proportionality, collective responsibility and compliance with international human rights law is essential for the effective implementation of drug control policies. The foreword to the 2016 INCB Annual Report states that the drug control system should be based on the principles of proportionality, collective responsibility and compliance with international human rights law.

The approach taken by President Duterte clearly deviates from these important global norms for the implementation of drug control policies.

With many lives at stake, it is of critical importance for the UNODC and INCB as global authorities on international drug control to demand an end to the atrocities and to state unequivocally that such actions do not constitute acceptable drug control measures. We call on the UNODC and INCB to communicate with the Philippines government the following messages:

- a. In line with global drug control. All measures taken to control drugs in the Philippines must be grounded in international law.
- b. Request that President Duterte put an immediate end to incitements to kill people suspected of committing drug-related offences.
- c. Encourage President Duterte to uphold the rule of law and ensure that the right to due process and a fair trial is guaranteed to all people suspected of committing drug crimes in line with the conclusions of the 2016 UNODC World Drug Report.
- d. Promote an evidence-based and health-focused approach to people who use drugs, including voluntary treatment and harm reduction, instead of compulsory detention, in line with UN guidance.
- e. In line with the international human rights obligations of the Philippines and with the official position of both the UNODC and the INCB, the Philippines must not impose the death penalty for drug offences.

We look forward to your urgent response and action.

Yours sincerely,

1. A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing), USA
2. Acción Semilla Boliviana, Bolivia
3. Acción Técnica Social (ATS), Colombia
4. ACON Health, Australia
5. Active Society Nepa
6. Advocacy, Research, Training and Services Foundation, Pakistan
7. AFEW International, Netherlands
8. African Law Foundation, Nigeria
9. Agencia Piaget para o Desenvolvimento, Portugal
10. AIDS Committee of Ottawa, Canada
11. Aids Orphan UK Trust, UK
12. Akei-Drug Policy Program, Philippines
13. A-Klinikkasäätö Terveys ja Sosiaalivointapiste Vinkki, Finland
14. Alliance for Public Health, Ukraine
15. Alliance of Women to Advocate for Change, Uganda
16. Amitiel Welfare Society, Pakistan
17. Andean Information Network, Bolivia
18. Andrey Rykov Foundation for Health and Social Justice, Russia
19. ASEAN Parliamentarians for Human Rights, Indonesia
20. Asia Catalyst USA
21. Asian Harm Reduction Network, Myanmar
22. Asian Network of People Who Use Drugs, Thailand
23. Asia-Pacific Addiction Research Institute, Japan
24. Asociación Costarricense para el Estudio e Intervención en Drogas, Costa Rica
25. Association "Adaptation", Bulgaria
26. Association de Lutte Contre le Sida, Morocco
27. Association DrogArt, Slovenia
28. Association for Harm Reduction STIGMA, Slovenia
29. Association for protection sustainable development, Hisar, India
30. Association Guyanaise de Réduction des Risques, French Guyana
31. Association Prevent, Serbia
32. Association for the Prevention of Drug Abuse, India
33. Association SVIT Koper, Slovenia
34. Associazione Luca Coscioni, Italy
35. Ateneo Human Rights Center, Philippines
36. Australian Drug Foundation, Australia
37. Australian Drug Law Reform Foundation, Australia
38. Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations, Thailand
39. Australian Lawyers Alliance, Australia
40. AutoSupport des Usagers de Drogues, France
41. Bagong Amalayan Prostitution Survivors Collective, Philippines
42. Beckley Foundations, UK
43. Beijing Yirenping Center, China
44. Blue Cross of Nigeria
45. Broken No More, USA
46. Buklod Olongapo, Philippines
47. CACTUS Montréal, Canada
48. Campaign for a Life of Dignity (KAMP), Philippines
49. Canadian AIDS Society, Canada
50. Canadian Association of People Who Use Drugs, Canada
51. Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, Canada
52. Canadian Harm Reduction Network, Canada
53. Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network, Canada
54. Canadian Treatment Action Council, Canada
55. Cannabis Alliance, USA
56. Caribbean Drug and Alcohol Research Institute, Saint Lucia
57. Center for Harm Reduction Therapy, USA
58. Center for Studies on Public Security and Citizenship at the University Candido Mendes, Brazil
59. Center for Sustainable Community Development, Vietnam
60. Center for the Empowerment of Young People Who Are Living With HIV and AIDS, Serbia
61. Centre for Law Enforcement and Public Health, Australia
62. Centro Cáritas de formación para la atención de las farmacodependencias y situaciones críticas asociadas AC (CAFAC), Colombia
63. Chicago Recovery Alliance, USA
64. China Against the Death Penalty, China
65. Chundevi Society Nepal
66. Civic Association Odysseus, Slovakia
67. Civil Society Organisations Forum on HIV and AIDS (FOCDHAS), Serbia
68. Coalition Against Trafficking in Women Asia Pacific (CATWAP), Philippines

69. Coalition for Medical Marijuana New Jersey, Inc., USA
70. Colectivo por una política integral hacia las drogas, AC, Mexico
71. Collectif Urgence Toxida, Mauritius
72. Comisión Mexicana de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos, Mexico
73. Community Development Services, Sri Lanka
74. Community New Prevent (Association SVIT), Slovenia
75. Community of PLHIV, Uzbekistan
76. Corporación Humanas Chile
77. Corporación Humanas Colombia
78. Correlation Network, Netherlands
79. COUNTERfit Harm Reduction Program, Canada
80. Creative Media Centre For Development, Nigeria
81. Czech Psychedelic Society, Czech Republic
82. De Regenboog Groep, Netherlands
83. Dejusticia, Colombia
84. Delhi Drug Users Forum, India
85. Delhi Network of Positive People (DNPP+), India
86. Denver Relief Consulting, USA
87. Dianova International, Spain
88. Diogenis, Greece
89. Doctors for Cannabis Regulation, USA
90. Dose of love Association, Bulgaria
91. Drazen Zegura, Montenegrin Harm Reduction Network Link, Montenegro
92. Drug Policy Advocacy Group, Myanmar
93. Drug Policy Alliance, USA
94. Drug Policy Australia
95. Drug Policy Committee of the National Lawyers Guild, USA
96. Drug Policy Network South East Europe, Serbia
97. DrugFree and Preventive Healthcare Organization, Tanzania
98. Drugpolitician, Hungary
99.) AREAL, Slovenia
100. Ecuador cannabico, Ecuador
101. Egyptian Development and Human Rights Institute, Egypt
102. Empower Cameroon
103. Empower India
104. ENCOD, Europe
105. Entheogenic Research, Integration, and Education, USA
106. Equal Health and Rights Access and Advocacy Initiative, Nigeria
107. Equis Justicia para las Mujeres A.C, Mexico
108. Estudiantes por una Política Sensata de Drogas, Mexico
109. Ethiopia Africa Diaspora Union Millennium Council aka Rastafari Millennium Council, Ethiopia
110. European AIDS Treatment Group, Belgium
111. European Centre For Preventing Addictions Romania
112. European Economic and Social Committee, Hungary
113. European Network of People Who Use Drugs, UK
114. FAAAT, France
115. Families and Friends for Drug Law Reform, Australia
116. Families for Sensible Drug Policy, USA
117. Family Drug Support Australia
118. Federación Andaluza Enlace, Spain
119. Fédération Addiction, France
120. Fédération bruxelloise des Institutions pour Toxicomanes, Belgium
121. Federation of Hungarian Drug Therapeutic Institutes, Hungary
122. Fellowship of Reconciliation, USA
123. Foreningen for humanmarkotikapolitikk, Norway
124. Forum Droghe, Italy
125. Foundation for AIDS Rights, Thailand
126. Foundation of Gifted Life Care, Nigeria
127. Freedom Foundation India (Centers of Excellence Substance Abuse & HIV/AIDS), India
128. Gadejuristerne The Danish Street Lawyers Denmark
129. Ganja Growers and Producers Association, Jamaica
130. Gateway Foundation Nepal
131. GESTOS HIV, Communication and Gender, Brazil
132. Global Drug Policy Program, Open Society Foundations
133. Global Exchange, USA
134. Global Network of Sex Work Projects, UK
135. GRIP Montreal, Canada
136. Grupo de Ativistas em Tratamentos Portugal
137. Gruppo Abele Turin, Italy
138. Hands Off Cain, Italy
139. Harm Reduction Australia
140. Harm Reduction Coalition, USA
141. Harm Reduction Foundation, Poland
142. Harm Reduction International, UK

143. Health Officers Council of British Columbia, Canada
144. Health Poverty Action, UK
145. Help Not Handcuffs, USA
146. Help Not Harm, Ireland
147. Hepatitis Education Project, USA
148. Housing Works, USA
149. Human Rights Watch, USA
150. Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, Hungary
151. In Defense of Human Rights and Dignity Movement (iDEFEND), Philippines
152. India HIV/AIDS Alliance
153. Indian Drug User Forum, India
154. Indigenous Nationalities Women Network, Makawanpur, Nepal
155. Indonesian Coalition for Drug Policy Reform, Indonesia
156. Initiative for Health Foundation, Bulgaria
157. Institute 7 (nevisen.si), Slovenia
158. Institute for Policy Studies, Drug Policy Project, USA
159. Institute for Research and Development "Utrip", Slovenia
160. Institute VIR, Slovenia
161. Institute VOZIM, Slovenia
162. Instituto de Estudios para el Desarrollo y la Paz, Colombia
163. Intercambios Asociación Civil, Argentina
164. Intercambios Puerto R
165. International Center for Ethnobotanical Education, Research & Service, Uruguay/Spain
166. International Centre for Science in Drug Policy, Canada
167. International Civil Society Support, Netherlands
168. International Doctors for Healthier Drug Policies, UK
169. International Drug Policy Consortium, UK
170. International Harm Reduction Development Program, Open Society Foundations
171. International HIV/AIDS Alliance, UK
172. International Network of People Who Use Drugs, UK
173. International Network of Women Who Use Drugs, global
174. International Treatment Preparedness Coalition, South Asia
175. John Mordaunt Trust, UK
176. Juventas, Montenegro
177. Kaisa Ka, Philippines
178. Kilusan Para sa Pambansang Demokrasya, Philippines
179. Kirat Chamling Association, Nepal
180. Kirat Chamling Khambatim, Nepal
181. Kirat Chamling Language Culture Development Association (KCLCDA), Nepal
182. Kirat Chamling Youth Society, Nepal
183. Kirat Youth Society (KYS), Nepal
184. Krytyka Polityczna / Political Critique, Poland
185. La Società della Ragione ONLUS, Italy
186. Latin American network of people who use drugs, Latin America
187. Latinoamerica Reforma, Chile
188. Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, Australia
189. Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, UK
190. Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, USA
191. Law Enforcement and HIV Network, Australia
192. Lawyers Collective, India
193. Leader Association Safer Drug policies, Norway
194. Legalizace.cz, Czech Republic
195. Lingkar Ganja Nusantara, Indonesia
196. Maggie's Toronto Sex Workers Action Project, Canada
197. MamaCoca, France/Colombia
198. Marijuana Policy Project, USA
199. Matua Raki, New Zealand
200. Médecins du Monde / Doctors of the World, France
201. Medical Action Group, Philippines
202. México Unido Contra la Delincuencia, Mexico
203. Michigan NORML, USA
204. Mommieactivist and sons Online Radio, USA
205. Moms United and Mandated to Saving the Lives of Drug Users, Canada
206. Moms United to End the War on Drugs, USA
207. Mozaik, Romania
208. Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, USA
209. Nameless Heroes and Martyrs, Inc., Philippines
210. National Users Network Nepal
211. Netherlands Drug Policy Foundation, Netherlands
212. New Zealand Drugs Foundation, New Zealand
213. NGO-Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities, Nepal
214. Nigeria Network of People Who Use Drugs, Nigeria
215. NoBox Transition Foundation Philippines
216. Nonviolent Radical Party, Italy

- 217.NORML, Norway
- 218.Observatorio de cultivos y cultivadores declarados ilícitos, Colombia
- 219.Observatorio del Sistema Penal y los Derechos Humanos de la Universidad de Barcelona, Spain
- 220.One Million Americans, Ltd., USA
- 221.ONG Encare, Uruguay
- 222.Peer Network People Use Psychoactive Substances, Greece
- 223.People Unity Youth Society (PUYS), Nepal
- 224.Persaudaraan Kom Napza Indonesia (PKNI), Indonesia
- 225.Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates, Philippines
- 226.Philippine Human Rights Information Center (PhilRights), Philippines
- 227.Physicians for Responsible Opioid Prescribing, USA
- 228.Plataforma Brasileira de Políticas de Drogas, Brazil
- 229.PlugINN, Belgium
- 230.Positive Change for Cambodia
- 231.Positive Vibes Trust, South Africa
- 232.Prévention Information et Lutte contre le SIDA, Mauritius
- 233.Proderechos, Uruguay
- 234.Projektmanagement und Supervision, Switzerland
- 235.ProLAR, Norway
- 236.Protect Families First, USA
- 237.Public Health Association of Australia, Australia
- 238.Puente, Investigación y Enlace, Bolivia
- 239.PULSE Foundation, Bulgaria
- 240.QuilHN, Australia
- 241.Radancar Ayar Association, Myanmar
- 242.Radicali Italiani, Italy
- 243.RAISSS, Central America
- 244.Rede Brasileira de Redução de Danos e Direitos Humanos, Brazil
- 245.Reentry Central, USA
- 246.Release, UK
- 247.ReverdeSer Colectivo, Mexico
- 248.Rights Reporter Foundation, Hungary
- 249.Romanian Harm Reduction Network, Romania
- 250.Safe Streets Arts Foundation, USA
- 251.Slovenian Association for Mental Health - V u o
- 252.Social Health of Ethnic Network for Empowerment, SHINE SOCKSARGEN Inc., Philippines
- 253.Social Watch Benin
- 254.Sonoran Prevention Works, USA
- 255.South India Harm Reduction Network
- 256.South Riverdale Community Health Centre, Canada
- 257.SSDP Deakin University, Australia
- 258.SSDP Hamline University, USA
- 259.SSDP Ireland
- 260.SSDP RMIT University, Australia
- 261.SSDP University of Melbourne, Australia
- 262.SSDP Victoria University, Australia
- 263.St. Ann's Corner of Harm Reduction, USA
- 264.St. Catherine Growers and Producers Association, Jamaica
- 265.Stichting Adviesburo Drugs, Netherlands
- 266.STOPAIDS, UK
- 267.StoptheDrugWar.org, USA
- 268.Street Health Community Nursing Foundation, Toronto, Canada
- 269.Strengthening Community Responses to HIV Treatment & Prevention, MENA
- 270.Students for Sensible Drug Policies, UK
- 271.Students for Sensible Drug Policies, USA
- 272.Students for Sensible Drug Policy Australia
- 273.Students for Sensible Drug Policy, University of the West Indies, Jamaica
- 274.Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, Philippines
- 275.TB/HIV Care Association, South Africa
- 276.u @ (Centre for Policy Research and Education), Philippines
- 277.Thai AIDS Treatment Action Group, Thailand
- 278.Thai Civil Society Coalition for Harm Reduction (12D), Thailand
- 279.TLF SHARE Collective, Philippines
- 280.TNI Drug & Democracy programme, Netherlands
- 281.Transform Drug Policy Foundation, UK
- 282.Treatment Action Group, Thailand
- 283.Treatment Action Group USA
- 284.Tunisian Association of Positive Prevention, Tunisia
- 285.Uganda Harm Reduction Network, Uganda
- 286.United Nations Friendship Organisation, Sri Lanka
- 287.United States Alliance of Drug Users USA
- 288.Unity Society Nepal
- 289.Veterans for Medical Cannabis Access, USA
- 290.Victorian AIDS Council, Australia
- 291.VOCAL New York, USA
- 292.Volunteers for Sustainable Development, Uganda

293. Washington Office on Latin America, USA
 294. West Africa Drug Policy Network, Ghana
 295. WITNESS Bangladesh
 296. Woman Health Philippines, Philippines
 297. Women Who Never Give Up, USA
 298. World Federation of Public Health Associations, Australia
 299. World March of Women Philippines, Philippines
 300. Youth and Students Advancing Gender Equality (YSAGE), Philippines

301. Youth Awareness Body Nepal
 302. Youth LEAD
 303. Youth NGO Federation, Nepal
 304. Youth Organisations for Drug Action, Global
 305. Youth RISE Nepal
 306. Youth RISE Nigeria
 307. Youth RISE, Global
 308. Youth Voices Count, Thailand
 309. Zimbabwe Civil Liberties and Drug Network, Zimbabwe

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Yury Fedotov, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary General

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¹ K ABSCBN news
<http://news.absn.com/focus/v2/07/13/16/charp-the-death-toll-of-the-war-on-drugs>

² K The Inquirer <http://www.inquirer.net/794598/drugs-duterte>

³ Mr. Duterte stated, for instance:

@ o U) The Guardian
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/16/duterte-kill-criminals-and-reintroduce-angin-in-philippines>

In reference to a person suspected dealing drugs and who resists arrest, refuses to be brought to a police

o K M h The Guardian
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/05/killers-medal-philippines-president-duterte>

@ o K h The Guardian k
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/01/philippines-duterte-urges-people-to-kill-drug-addicts>

K) #) Rappler,
<http://www.rappler.com/nation/137654-duterte-cebu-drug-users-pushers-killed>

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 Speech during the Philippine Nat h h V h #
 Operations Office <http://pcoo.gov.ph/july01-2016-president-dutero-adutertes-speech-during-the-philippine-national-police-pp-assumption-of-command/>

o U) The Guardian
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/may/16/duterte-kill-criminals-and-reintroduce-angin-in-philippines>

K M The Guardian h
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/05/killers-medal-philippines-president-duterte> 1 July

h k The Guardian
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/01/philippines-duterte-urges-people-to-kill-drug-addicts>

⁴ The Philippines has ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or

Punishment, which protect rights to life, health and due process including presumption of innocence, among other human rights treaties

⁵ K

<http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2016/07/19/1604384/dutertes-drugkillings>

top lawyer urges police to embrace Rodrigo Duterte's calls and kill more criminals

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-19/philippine-top-lawyer-urges-more-killings/7588234>

Rappler, <http://www.rappler.com/nation/139483-as-a-summary-killings-vigilante-ops> 11 July

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⁶United Nations General Assembly (2016) *Joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem* A/S30/L.1 <http://www.un.org/Docs/journal/asp/ws.asp?30/L1>

⁷UNODC (2016) *2016 World Drug Report* <http://www.unodc.org/wdr2016/>

⁸INCB (2016) *2015 Annual Report* <http://www.incb.org/incb/en/publications/reports/annual-report.html>

⁹UNODC (2016) *2016 World Drug Report* <http://www.unodc.org/wdr2016/>

¹⁰See, for instance: UNODC (2009) *From coercion to cohesion: Tying drug dependence through health care, not punishment* <https://www.unodc.org/docs/treatment/Coercion>. & World Health Organization, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (2012) WHO, UNODC, UNAIDS *Technical Guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug use 2012 Revision* <http://www.who.int/hiv/topics/idu/en/index.html>