

# ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION

cicad



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**May 6 to 8, 2009**  
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**RIOD**

**IBERO-AMERICAN NETWORK OF NGOs WORKING IN DRUG ADDICTION**

# Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra

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## RIOD

Ibero-American Network of NGOs  
Working in Drug Addiction



# Meeting of RIOD in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia

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# Declaration of Santa Cruz de la Sierra

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**The 54 agencies from 17 countries represented on the Ibero-American Network of NGOs Working in Drug Addiction (RIOD), meeting in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on April 20 to 24, 2009, having seen that:**



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- **Drug use is one of those social and public health problems that require global, comprehensive answers drawn up within the framework of human rights and promoting the construction of citizenship and sustainable development.**
  - **Institutions, civil society, and individuals have the right and the obligation to participate in the design, execution, and assessment of public policies, in conjunction with governments.**

# Declare that:

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- Human rights are due to all persons, irrespective of whether they do or do not have drug use problems.
- Drug use is not just an individual problem; it is also a social and public health issue.
- Prevention is the priority for promoting healthy lifestyles and for strengthening the social fabric.

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- Assistance, treatment, rehabilitation, and social inclusion programs must accompany, strengthen, and recognize drug users as subjects of rights and as protagonists in their processes of change.
  - It is the prevention, assistance, and social inclusion programs that must adapt to people and to their potential and needs.

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- **People with drug problems have the right to appropriate attention, regardless of the country where they live and their legal or criminal situation.**
  - **The diversity of interventions and of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs is a vital element in social inclusion processes.**



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- **International agencies, the governments of Ibero-America, and international cooperation agencies must be assisted by social organizations in designing, implementing, and assessing public policies for drugs.**

# We urge governments and international agencies to:

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- Recognize the value of and promote the participation of the different social players in the design, execution, and assessment of public policies for drugs.
- Allocate adequate resources for the development of prevention, treatment, and social inclusion programs, placing priority on those that particularly target populations living in conditions of increased social exclusion.

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 24 April 2009



# Thank you very much.

