



Uganda Harm Reduction Network

Our Lives begin to End the Day we Become Silent About things that Concerns Us

*Katwe along Entebbe Road Next to Byandala House, P O Box 31762, Kampala-Uganda
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Website: www.ugandaharmreduction.org*

UHRN MEMBERSHIP STATUTE

Adopted by UHRN Secretariat on June 2, 2013, with changes on July 8, 2014,

0. DEFINITIONS

Uganda Harm Reduction Network - UHRN. It is a national drug user led network with a mission to improve the health and socio-economic well-being of drug users by offering prevention and intervention services aimed at reducing the harms associated with drug use. UHRN endorses Code of Good Practice of Non-Governmental Organizations Responding to HIV/AIDS, TB and Heps. It works in Uganda.

UHRN official language is English. UHRN website is at address;
<https://ugandaharmreduction.wordpress.com/>

UHRN Member - Member

UHRN Membership - Membership

UHRN Secretariat- Secretariat(S). It is UHRN governing body. It acts within the provision of the Statute on UHRN Secretariat

UHRN Executive Director - ED. He/she is a leader of UHRN and is elected by UHRN Board.

UHRN Secretariat - Secretariat. It is UHRN executive body. Its head is UHRN Executive Director who is accountable to Board, Secretariat(S) and Members (M).

UHRN Membership Seeker - Membership Seeker

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. UHRN is a membership based network. Its Members govern UHRN through Secretariat, which is elected and acts in line with UHRN Secretariat Statute and other UHRN regulations.



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Members participate in UHRN policy formation and evaluation, and activities.

1.2. All Members support harm reduction principles and approaches. They respect and follow UHRN regulations and decisions, including this UHRN Membership Statute.

1.3. List of Members is maintained by the Secretariat and is published at UHRN website in UHRN official language. Secretariat maintains electronic database of Members and files Membership forms in English.

1.4. Main communication between and with Members is done electronically.

II. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

2.1. There shall be three types of Membership: Individual (PWUD), Institutional (drug user led Organizations), and Supporting Member.

2.2. Mainstream of Membership is UHRN Individual (PWUD) and Institutional (drug user led Organizations) Members.

2.3. Natural persons or legal entities who cannot fulfill the above and geographical criteria for membership can become UHRN Supporting Members.

III. MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AND ACCEPTION PROCEDURE

3.1. A PWUD may become UHRN Individual Member, legal entity² (drug user led Organization) may become UHRN Institutional Member if he/she/it:

3.1.1. Agrees to and supports UHRN mission

3.1.2. Meets geographic criteria (is from or works in Uganda)



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3.1.3. is recommended by the organization/Individual (PWUD) from current UHRN member or by the UHRN Secretariat member.

3.1.4. can communicate in UHRN official language (English)

3.2. The following procedure describes the process of becoming a Member:

3.2.1. Membership seeker should fill in and submit membership application form (Electronically or in hard copy) to the Secretariat

3.2.2. In case of registered organization is applying for membership, a letter from its official representative should confirm the fact of seeking membership and a support letter from a well known organization.

3.2.3. Within the 7 working days Secretariat checks members' details to meet membership criteria and prepares the application for review to the Secretariat

3.2.4. (Changed on July 8, 2014) within 14 days, SECRETARIAT members consider the application and make a decision on granting the seeker an UHRN membership.

3.2.4.1. (changed on July 8, 2014) Should a SECRETARIAT member considering the application, or one of the SECRETARIAT members considering the application find no reason to confirm the application, the application is considered by all members of the SECRETARIAT that approves it by a qualified majority.

3.2.5. Not later than within a month after the application is received in Secretariat, the applicant is informed about the result with official letter.

3.3 Supporting members have to meet criteria 3.1.1 and 3.1.4 and are accepted following a simplified procedure: application form is submitted as described in 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 following Supporting Membership Application Forms, the application is reviewed and a decision is done by Secretariat within the 7 working days after application is received; the applicant and SECRETARIAT is informed about the result with an official letter within 14 working days after the application is received.



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IV. MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS, BENEFITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

4.1. Members receive all information about UHRN, are involved in UHRN governance through UHRN SECRETARIAT and other structures, are consulted regarding and involved in UHRN strategy and activities.

4.2. Members (PWUD) benefit from:

4.2.1. Mailing basic information packages with publications in English to new members and self-support groups

4.2.2. Referring to UHRN members and other organizations in case of request for collaboration, information, sample materials if that is not available at UHRN

4.2.3. Outsourcing project related activities to members

4.2.4. Provision of information about UHRN members including their contact information at UHRN website.

4.2.5. Emailing UHRN produced publications

4.2.6. Upon recommendation of UHRN Coordinator, Secretariat member or Secretariat, writing reference letter to support application for funding, for Secretariat Scholarship or position/post

4.2.7. Providing Secretariat Scholarships for conference and seminars when available

4.2.8. Disseminate information about grants, Secretariat Scholarships, and calls for proposals

4.2.9. Right to be elected to the Secretariat as representatives from their regions and/or, if relevant, as drug user community representatives

4.3. Additionally Institutional (drug user led Organizations) Members benefit from:

4.3.1. Assistance in shaping advocacy strategy and organization of international advocacy campaign



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4.3.2. Consultations on international, Regional and national policies according to information available at UHRN

4.3.3. Giving advice on potential experts, consultants, trainers (whose database is maintained by UHRN) and study tour sites for technical assistance and capacity building initiatives

4.3.4. Dissemination of press releases to media.

4.4. Members are responsible to:

4.4.1. Share the principles and approaches of harm reduction

4.4.2. Support implementation of the UHRN Mission and UHRN SECRETARIAT decisions

4.4.3. Follow the UHRN ethic principles

4.4.4. Inform about itself/himself/herself (including contact details, important information related to goals of UHRN)

4.4.5. Provide information important for UHRN

4.4.6. Participate in development of UHRN strategy and evaluation of work

4.4.7. Participate in UHRN members' needs assessment

4.4.8. Participate in elections of UHRN SECRETARIAT members, representing their region and drug user community representatives.

4.5. Supporting members have limited rights, benefits and obligations. They support implementation of the UHRN Mission and strategy, are consulted in shaping and evaluation of the Strategy, as well as receive information available about UHRN activities and other relevant information.

V. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP



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5.1. Membership ends in the following cases:

- 5.1.1. by decision of member (who is obliged to inform Secretariat)
- 5.1.2. if member organization stops operations
- 5.1.3. in case of death of Individual (PWUD) member
- 5.1.4. if SECRETARIAT decides to exclude a member in case of not complying or violating Membership Statute.

5.2. Exclusion can be initiated by any member, SECRETARIAT or Secretariat staff member who has to provide justified request providing evidence that the member whose exclusion is initiated does not comply with/ or violate Membership Statute

5.3. Secretariat request the member organization whose exclusion is initiated for response to accusations within a month

5.4. All information received submit to the Secretariat within two weeks

5.5. Secretariat makes a decision by qualified majority within two weeks

5.6. If exclusion is not confirmed, then only sides involved are informed about the result.

5.7. If exclusion is confirmed, then membership is informed (after the member is informed about exclusion) and all membership rights are taken out

VI. IMPLEMENTATION AND FINAL PROVISIONS



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6.1. This Statute on UHRN Membership is enacted from June 2, 2013 with transitional period from July 8, 2014 to update current membership.

6.2. This Statute on UHRN Membership can be changed by Secretariat.

6.3. The Statute on UHRN Membership with relevant changes if any are disseminated to Members and published on UHRN website.

6.4. Membership forms (Individual (PWUD) Member Application, Institutional (drug user led Organizations) Member Application and Supporting Member Application) are adopted by the Secretariat and are published together with other documents at UHRN website.