

Position Paper from the Delegate of Morocco

- **Committee:** World Health Organization (WHO)
- **Agenda:** Combating Global Substance Abuse

I. Background of the Issue

Substance abuse, including the misuse of drugs, alcohol, and prescription medications, poses a serious threat to public health, societal well-being, and economic development worldwide. The proliferation of narcotics, rising addiction rates among youth, and limited access to treatment amplify this crisis—especially in low- and middle-income nations.

II. Morocco's Position

Morocco acknowledges substance abuse as a pressing health and societal issue. Strategically located between Europe and Africa, the country faces unique challenges linked to narcotic trafficking and youth vulnerability. The government has taken notable steps, including preventive education campaigns, mental health support services, and enforcement against illegal drug trade.

Morocco believes that effective solutions require international collaboration, strong public health frameworks, and cultural sensitivity. The country prioritizes harm reduction, rehabilitation, and reintegration of affected individuals.

III. Proposed Solutions

- ❖ **Education & Awareness:** Implement nationwide campaigns targeting youth, families, and schools to reduce stigma and misinformation.
- ❖ **Health Infrastructure:** Invest in addiction treatment centres, especially in underserved areas, and train healthcare professionals in substance abuse management.

- ❖ **Cross-Border Coordination:** Strengthen data-sharing and strategic partnerships with neighbouring countries to counter trafficking and adopt best practices.
- ❖ **Community Empowerment:** Support NGOs and community leaders to offer psychological support and reintegration programs.
- ❖ **Technology Integration:** Utilize AI and digital platforms to monitor substance trends, provide virtual counselling, and improve treatment outcomes.

IV. Commitment to Action

Morocco pledges to be a proactive contributor to WHO's mission of combating substance abuse. The nation advocates a balanced approach that integrates public health, law enforcement, education, and community resilience. Morocco calls upon member states to prioritize prevention, protect vulnerable populations, and share resources for global impact.