



## **NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AUTHORITY**

### **THE NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE CONFERENCE**

**THEME: A SOCIETY FREE OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE**

**DATES: JANUARY 25- 27, 2012**

**VENUE: KENYA INSTITUTE OF ADMINISTRATION; LOWER KABETE**

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The abuse of alcohol and other substances, including narcotic drugs, has permeated every sphere of the Kenyan society leaving behind untold suffering, decay and underdevelopment.

Drug abuse is a noted danger to public health and the quality of life that consequently affects the political, economic and social stability of the nation. Previously viewed as a social and criminal problem, drug abuse and illicit trafficking has in the recent years become a major threat to the health and security of all persons as it is responsible for the destruction of many, majority in their prime age.

According to a National Survey on Alcohol and Drug Use undertaken by NACADA in the year 2007, at least 13% of Kenyans aged 15 and 65 years are current consumers of alcohol. The report further indicated that alcohol poses the greatest harm to Kenyans as evidenced by the numerous calamities associated with excessive consumption and adulteration of alcohol. In September 2011, thirty two (32) deaths were reported following consumption of adulterated drinks. Others that survived the ordeal are reported to have lost their sight.

Tobacco is consumed by almost 7 million Kenyans, which translates to about 22% of persons aged 15 – 65 years. In addition, over 5.5% of the same population was reported to chew Khat (*Miraa*), a stimulant that when chewed, produces cathinone, an internationally controlled drug under schedule I of the UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

Cannabis is the number one most preferred Narcotic in Kenya followed by heroin and cocaine. Emerging trends also point to the growing demand for synthetic drugs and amphetamines. According to the 2007 report, close to 400,000 Kenyans aged between 15 and 65 years smoke cannabis whilst 0.1 % of the same population use heroin.



The above figures are however noted to have escalated as indicated in subsequent sectional or regional surveys. An example is the increase in the abuse of heroin in Kenya's Coast Province from 0.4% in 2007 to 2.6% in 2009.

## **2. EFFECTS OF ADA**

As a social and health problem, its intricacies are evidenced by the far reaching effects it has had on individuals, families and societies.

The socio-economic effects of alcohol and drug abuse among others are:- Under development, unproductivity, loss of jobs, increased levels of household poverty, idleness and hooliganism, illiteracy and child labor, corruption, loss of investor confidence, broken families due to irresponsibility, impotence and violence.

On the other hand, the health complication associated with drug abuse include: - various cancers and ulcers, kidney and liver dysfunctions, inability to control bowels, diarrhea and associated 'hygiene' infections, impotence, partial or complete blindness and ultimate death.

Further, findings from the Public Sector Survey, 2010 conducted by the Authority fourteen (14) public sector institutions indicated that the current usage of alcohol in the workplace ranged from a high of 68% to a low of 27%. The consumption of tobacco products ranged between 16.8% and 37.2% and that of Miraa at a clustered 5%. From the survey, it was noted that the abuse of alcohol and other substances results into:-

- Workplace conflicts;
- Health complications;
- Frequent sick leaves and health-related absenteeism;
- Accidents due to poor concentration;
- Increased risk of job termination;
- Poor performance;
- Corruption;
- Violence and,
- Family breakages.

The above effects are noted to strain the Government's developmental initiatives and place an immense burden on families.



### **3. GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN FIGHTING DRUG ABUSE**

The abuse of alcohol and drugs is one of the most significant health, social and economic issues facing the country today. It transcends ethnic, political, cultural and religious boundaries and requires the active participation of the entire community to control, reduce and eventually eradicate.

In recognition of the threats posed by alcohol and drug abuse, the Government has established necessary institutions and enacted relevant legal structures to address the menace. In 2007, Parliament ratified the formation of the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse Authority. The Authority is mandated to coordinate various multi-sectoral efforts aimed at preventing, controlling and mitigating the menace of alcohol and drug abuse within the Country and the core functions are to:

- Provide directly or in collaboration with other institutions, agencies or organizations, facilities for coordination of public education against drug abuse;
- Co-ordinate the implementation of the National Action Plan on curbing drug abuse by citizens of Kenya especially the youth and children;
- Play an effective role in the development, setting up and, expansion of rehabilitation centres for the rehabilitation of drug dependants;
- Prepare and maintain a register of licensed persons to offer expert advice on treatment and prevention services in the field of drug abuse;
- Liaise with relevant authorities in carrying out training or approving the training curriculum of trainers in the campaign against drug abuse;
- Advise on best practices and discipline of licensed drug rehabilitation operators;
- Undertake research directly or in collaboration with other organisations or bodies on matters relating to drug abuse and chemical substances.

### **4. THE CONFERENCE**

Owing to the continued deterioration of the country's drug abuse situation, the Authority has planned a National Conference on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to:-



- a) Create awareness amongst key stakeholders on the socio-economic effects of drug abuse towards declaration of ADA a national disaster;
- b) Provide a platform for key stakeholders to share their experiences in undertaking drug related programmes.
- c) Document best practices in the prevention, control and mitigation of alcohol and drug abuse.

It is, therefore, imperative that participants review current trends on drug abuse to inform the development of effective and sustainable programmes towards the prevention, control and mitigation of drug abuse.

## **5. PLENARY PRESENTATIONS**

These will be presented by renowned personalities in their line of profession. Topics at plenary will include:-

- i. Alcohol and Drug Abuse and National Security
- ii. Alcohol and Drug Abuse in the Workplace: Effects and Lessons Learnt
- iii. Effect of Alcohol and Drug Abuse on Education
- iv. Effect of Alcohol and Drug Abuse on the Economy
- v. Global Trends in Drug Abuse
- vi. Role of Media in the fight Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- vii. Role of Religion/ Spirituality in the Fight against Alcohol and Drug Abuse
- viii. The Law and Drugs

## **6. CALL FOR PAPERS**

The Authority is inviting papers on health and socio-economic effects of Alcohol and Drug Abuse and best practices interventions related to the campaign against alcohol and drug abuse in Kenya. These will be presented in the breakaway meetings of the conference.

### **6.1. Guidelines for health and socio-economic effects papers**

The research papers should be completed and a summary prepared within the following components:-

- Background of the study
- Problem Statement and Justification
- Study Goal and Objectives
- Literature review (brief)
- Methodology
- Key findings



- Implications of the findings to the Campaign against drug abuse
- Lessons learnt from the findings
- Research gaps
- Recommendation for policy development
- Key References

### **6.2. Guidelines for Best Practice Papers**

The case study should focus on either of the following themes: Anti-drugs public education and awareness; Treatment and rehabilitation, and Policy and research.

The submitted case studies should include:-

- Problem statement/policy issue addressed and its importance
- Impact of the problem
- Steps taken to address the problem
- Results
- Challenges
- Lessons learned
- Recommendations

***NB: The received papers will be reviewed within the Conference themes and the best selected for presentation at the symposium.***

### **7. FEES PAYABLE**

The registration fee is **Kshs. 1,500** payable to:

<b>A/C: NAME</b>	NACADA AUTHORITY
<b>A/C NO</b>	0180296330592
<b>BANK</b>	EQUITY
<b>BRANCH</b>	COMMUNITY
<b>BANK CODE</b>	068
<b>SWIFT CODE</b>	EQBLKENA

Registration closes on **January 16, 2012**

### **8. PARTICIPATION**

The Conference is open to all with a minimum target of 500 participants. Participants are requested to register by completing the attached registration form. The completed form and evidence of payment can be delivered to NACADA Authority, NSSF Building, Block "A" Eastern Wing, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor, emailed to [conference@nacada.go.ke](mailto:conference@nacada.go.ke) or faxed to **020- 2721994**.



**9. VENUE & DATE**

The Conference shall take place in January 25-27, 2011 at the Kenya Institute of Administration (KIA), Lower Kabete, Nairobi.

**10. CONFERENCE PACKAGE**

Participants shall be provided with a conference bag containing a T-Shirt, Pen, Note book, assorted publications, publicity materials and a certificate of participation.

**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

National Coordinator/CEO

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