



The Role of Family & Civil **Society in Combating Drugs**

Malika El Bouanani

Deputy Chairperson National Anti-Drug Coalition Morocco

Introduction

Having this conference held by inviting antidrug civil society organizations shows clearly Malaysia's commitment of continued efforts and hard work in cooperation with all partners by making use of all the available tools in order to fighting drug abuse, that threatens humanity, the most important element of development and advancement.

Introduction

Development from Roger Garaudi's perspective becomes an economic growth with no objective, produces whatsoever in a growing fast, be it useful or useless, harmful or killer, like weapons and drugs.

The seriousness of the drug on human

Drug abuse is one of the issues which attracts the concern of thinkers, politicians, and human rights activists. Many books have been published, studies and researches have been conducted, conferences and seminars have been held, regulations and laws have been promulgated on this issue. Mass media has focused on such issue, whose increasingly danger has caused deaths in lives and leaves negative socital impacts on the economic, social, cultural and psychological fields.

- Drug, which causes daily deaths in lives among youth and is prohibited by the religious laws, is one of the biggest problems facing the world today, in particular, the Islamic world, especially.
- In light of this painful situation, the international community worked on fighting its cultivation, production and chasing its promoters, A set of laws and legislative texts was put on at the international and regional level in order to stop the loss of lives, on its ruins owners and promoters get rich.

But despite all intensive efforts to reduce this phenomenon, the world is experiencing, nowadays, an upward rise in the number of consumers of narcotic drugs, and this increases the spread of corruption, crime and diseases like "AIDS" and prostitution, which destructs the communities building values as well as open the door of suffering.

- At the level of laws, we have the agreement on drug substance, which was signed in 1961, came into force in 13 December 1964, and amended by the 1972Protocol. Such agreement is considered to be a great achievement in the
- history of international drug control efforts

Also to be held in April 2016 the Extraordinary General Assembly of the combination of the United Nations, which will be an important moment for discussion and criticism of international policy in the field of drugs; station is to analyze and evaluate the level of successes and failures in the field of drug control policy and across the world

Who is the National Coalition antidrug of Morocco?

- The national anti-drug coalition of Morocco is an independent national organization that fights drugs and smoking and protect the youth from drug abuse.
- It consists of approximately 300 different associations from all parts of Morocco with various specialties such as women & family, childhood ,youth, students' organizations, and other associations concerned with fighting drugs.

Work fields

- Legislation
- Mediation
- Strengthen the capacity of societies
- Networking nationally and internationally

The reference framework

- The reference framework, which was adopted by the Moroccan National Coalition against drug abuse in building its proposals to protect and save the family and young people from drugs, stems from:
- 1) the Islamic perspective that glorifies the human and equipes him with mind;

The reference framework

- 2) the new ammended Moroccan constitution, which is considered as a real charter within the framework of participatory democracy and through its ratification of the right of safety for all;
- 3) and the norms of international law and international agreements and conventions that have been devoted to respect the human right to life, especially the child's right to life by ensuring his physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development to the fullest and family sound environment.

- Before dwelling into the responsibility of family and the mission which is entrusted with, we must ask the following questions to reach the depth of the problem and such questions are an introduction to knowledge and a key to work.
- Who is responsible for the spread of drugs?
- Who drives youth drug abuse ?
- What is the role of family, educational institutions, social normes, mass media, and civil society in protecting the youth from this phenomenon?

- There is no doubt that the family has equitable capabilities as one of the most important strongholds of protecting Islamic elements of socialization,
- and is considered the cornerstone in the developmental process of the individual spiritually, intellectually socially, and scientifically,

• Family is a strong equation in the process of forming the community awareness and building of governance values for individuals

- However, most analysts, writers, intellectuals and workers in place mention that drug addiction among children and youth of educational institutions is due: to the disintegration and problems faced by family, which have negative impact on the behavior and pattern of thinking of children.
- Weak awareness of the responsibility of education and care
- For this reason, the recovery process should initially look at the roots of the cause, where a rising rates are observed in the following:

- Who are responsibility ?
- Crimes among children and youth.
- school drop
- violence in educational institutions and among families
- committing suicide among youth
- People infected by AIDS due to drug injection

- Confirming that the family is responsible for involving children in the world of drugs, crime and murder,
- Drug Division of the United Nations included in its book, published in 1982, on "United Nations and drug control" that among the factors leading to substance use:
- unemployment,
- and the growth of slums are social-family disintegration
- and poor parental supervision.

- Civil society is one of the most important elements for achieving development and awareness at the economic, cultural and social levels.
- It is rich in its nature and reflects the concerns of a wide cross-section of people by responding to their aspirations.

- Giving civil society an advanced status through recognizing its complementary roles and value to the work and achievements of governments,
- and through the establishment of the principle of participatory democracy that makes of civil society a key partner in establishing the values of immunity and protection of the family and the achievement of sustainable development.

- God created man in the best shape and granted him with mind, without which life can't go well?.
- For several reasons, the coalition's involvement in the anti-drug and his net work

the National Coalition against drugs has indentified a set of imbalances that threaten the society and family integrity, security, stability, development and social balance. They are as follows:

- Crossing of narcotic drugs all borders entries in large quantities and selling it with low prices without any pharmaceutical or administrative control.
- Children and young people are increasingly targeted. 15% of students under the age of 14 years old suffer from serious health problems due to smoking, while 52% of Moroccan youth are facing problems related to drug and alcohol addiction.

- The increase in consumption of drugs and alcohol among males by 8% and among females by 4%.
- The inadequacy of existing laws and legislations with the new promotional means of drugs, in all its kinds, among pupils and students.

• In a report issued by the Research and Studies Centre on the environment and drugs in Morocco, it was noted that more than 26% of Moroccan youth use drugs on a regular basis, 90% of them under the age of 25 years, and that addiction rate in the primary and secondary levels of education is 10%.

• the media policies, which play a primary role in changing mentalities and encouraging young people to use drugs, through the presentation of movies and advertisements that presents drugs as a solution to the social problems. And this is a negative which spoils the mentality of youth through presenting drug use as the gateway to happiness.

- In light of this unfortunate painful situation and based on the important role played by civil society organizations and business sectors of government, the National Coalition against drugs and its affiliated network has shouldered part of its responsibility towards family and society, as well as enhanced cooperation with all related institutions at the national and international levels.
- the coalition has determined the following strategies:

the coalition strategies

- To develop proposals in the field of legal and human rights legislation.
- To have partnerships with governmental and non-governmental institutions for strengthening the effectiveness
- in participatory institutions, in order to intensify efforts of raising awareness of the dangers of drugs and stopping its spread.

the coalition strategies

- To broaden networking at the national and international levels in the field of combating drugs, exchange of expertise and experience, and the formation establishment of a strong and effective lobby.
- To strengthen capacities through developing associative efficiency of the network and all members who are working in this field.

Moroccan state's efforts in the fight against drugs

- Moroccan authorities have taken voluntary steps in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to reduce the acreage, as well as trafficking in this drug.
- In this framework, a joint field study with the United Nations Office of the aforementioned enabled to estimate the acreage of about 134,000 hectares.
- Since then, significant efforts have been made it possible to reduce the acreage to about 47,000 hectares make (the equivalent of minus 65%). Our goal is very near the level is to reduce this space to less than 30,000 hectares.
- There is also a continuous on the level of security and surveillance vigilance

 To intensify efforts and cooperation between official bodies to adopt a comprehensive approach including the security, legal, educational, social and economic dimensions, along with bringing about the successful experiences and leading international expertise, and continuing to renew the mechanisms and ideas, with the hope of stopping this disastrous phenomenon, and reducing its effects on humanity.

- States should support civil society organizations
 - with financial and logistical capabilities in order to run volunteer services.

- To establishment a bank, whereby civil society associations can exchange experiences and expertise in the field of combating drug abuse
- To establish an international civil front to influence and work to change

To establish an international network to intensify efforts to put more pressure the international community to pass laws to protect the woman the family and youth from drug violence.

Since the educational process begins with the founding of family and then the latter shares this mission with the school, not to mention the other hubs including media, culture and society, a special attention should be given to family to regain its cultural and educational roles.

Drug abuse and fall into the arms of its promoters has outcomes which are related to family disintegration, poverty, violence and exploitation of children. To address this issue, we will need the following:

• The family should bear full responsibility to provide decent living that preserves dignity of the child and provide him with access to education as well as ensure that he good, safe, and stable life.

The international community should work on regaining the leading roles of family in education and care to generate a generation with noble values ;as well as to stand against a group of international laws and conventions that are harmful to family, such as sexual perversion, encouraging sexual intercourse outside marriage, and breaking all norms and values on which family relationships are based.

- To open hearing and counseling centers for students in educational institutions, universities as a mechanism for prevention and reaching drug abusers.
- Call governmental sectors to provide security protection from drug dealers for a favorable environment in educational institutions.
- To develop laws and regulations that protects the family and youth from slipping into the maze of the world of drugs and crime.

- To call for the establishment of civil bodies within the institutions, whereby parents and guardians of the students should be engaged, to control and fight drug promoters.
- To work on providing medical institutions for the treatment of addicted people in Morocco.
 - العمل على بناء ترسانة قانونية دولية لمكافحة المخدرات وربطها بالواقع العملي التطبيقي

CONCLUSION

• Finally, I hope that this conference would come up with useful outputs that support and strengthen civil society organizations with regard to financial, guidance and training levels, and to create a driving united vision to take action, implement, and address the dangers of drug and its impact on human and earth, in order to achieve socio-economic sustainable development, through involving all people for the construction and development of our countries