

IDHDP Patrons

Prof. Michel Kazatchkine (chair)

Prof. Chris Beyrer

Prof. Adeeba Kamarulzaman

Dr. Jessie Mbwambo

Dr. Fabio Mesquita

Prof. Julio Montaner

Dr. Evan Wood

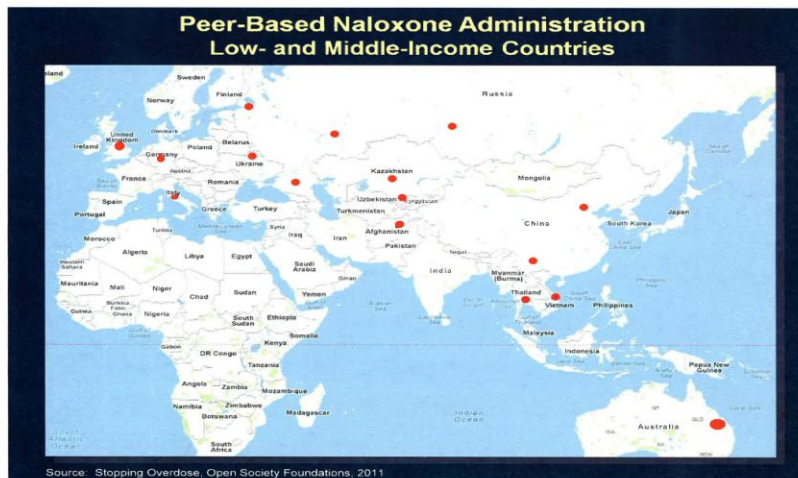
"It is estimated that between 104,000 and 263,000 deaths throughout the world could be attributed to drug use; most of the deaths that could have been prevented were fatal overdose cases and occurred among opioid users."¹

In recognition of **International Overdose Awareness Day, August 31, 2012**, International Doctors for Healthy Drug Policies supports the efforts in communities around the globe to prevent drug overdose fatalities and calls for greater governmental and international policymaker leadership, as requested in the International Narcotics Control Board's resolution, "**Promoting measures to prevent drug overdose, in particular opioid overdose**" passed in March 2012 and accessible at

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/V12/517/01/PDF/V1251701.pdf?OpenElement>

We support this important resolution encouraging Member States to include effective drug overdose prevention and treatment elements in national drug policies, including the use of opioid receptor antagonists such as naloxone. Further, it requests that the United Nations Office of Drug Control and World Health Organization research and circulate best practices on drug overdose treatment and emergency response and provide advice, guidance and capacity-building on preventing mortality from drug overdose.

It's about saving lives



•World situation with regard to drug abuse, United Nations Economic and Social Council Report of the Secretariat, 1/12.

¹ World situation with regard to drug abuse, United Nations Economic and Social Council Report of the Secretariat, 1/12