



Namibia Network Of AIDS Service Organizations

Meeting of membership-based Umbrella Organisations to explore the establishment
of a Non-State Actors Network of Namibia / Civil Society Actors Network

Mr. Sandie Tjaronda, Executive Director

Arebbusch Lodge, Windhoek
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Overview

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Introduction

NANASO is a **national umbrella body** of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) providing network services to **member organisations** active in the field of HIVa and AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB) and other **emerging epidemics/pandemics**.

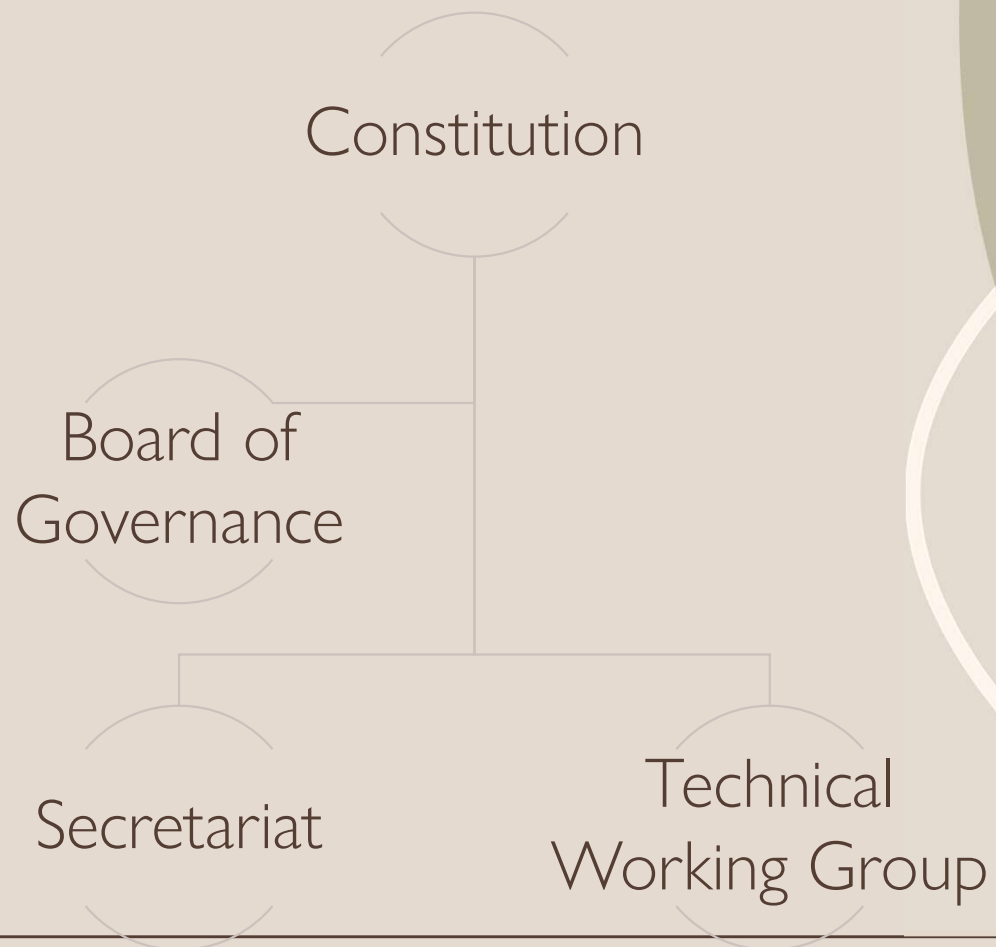
NANASO's aim is to **strengthen** its member organisations to **maximise their potential** in order to effectively respond to these diseases and related health concerns in Namibia, and to act as their **advocacy mouthpiece** on matters of common interest.

NANASO was established as a Welfare Organization in 1991 at the “**summit**” of HIV in Namibia.

Moving to a new office space yet to be officially announced



Structure



Membership layers

INGO, AM

NNGO

CBOs, SGs,
CLO, FBO, PI



Primary goals



To be a hub of information sharing and coordination of members unique role to meaningfully engage with other stakeholders including government, development partners, private sector and individuals.

To hold aloft a beacon of sharing and caring during traumatic and stressful times of pandemic and epidemic devastation

To influence strategic policy and support structural linkages to leverage on shared responsibility toward epidemic control

To shape the narrative on the disease evolution to reduce legal and structural barriers that fuel stigma and discrimination

To fortify the capacity of members on strategic programmatic and financial management as well improve their visibility



Purpose



- To facilitate networking and coordination among member organization
- To stimulate collaboration within members
- To advocate for improved members' visibility and protect their interests/space

Key Activities of the network



- Networking activities
- Information sharing through information centre and other means of communication incl email; facebook and website
- Members' periodic needs assessments
- Fund-raising on behalf of members
- Policy Direction influence including national strategic framework
- Training on application of new tools and sharing the resources
- Advocacy and lobbying for members in the corridor of power
- Grant management
- Advocating for health policy including National Health Insurance
- Development of new policies such as the HIV COVID 19 NCES



Support provided to members

- Trainings on various areas including advocacy, basic financial management, governance, networking, fundraising, proposal writing
- Member's Directory
- Developing Members Data-Base
- Mapping members operations to understand their location, targeted populations/beneficiaries, reach and challenges
- Fundraising for members to provide small grants
- Secured the differentiated service model as a means for implementation
- Supported to develop the social contracting
- Improved access to healthcare through advocating for simplified ART guidelines, PMTCT, ANC, Quality healthcare, community system strengthening, bi-directional referrals, adherence systems and support groups to reduce stigma and discrimination

Key achievement

- Organized advocacy
- Collaboration amongst members
- Improved Coordination
- Seamless flow of funding through funding channels such as Global Fund
- Differentiated Service Delivery models
- Community Adherence Systems
- Community Led Monitoring
- Community System Strengthening
- On- time data to inform policy
- Up to date data-base of members
- Coordination of members' activities to reduce duplications
- Advocating for Social Determinant of Health and Health in All (HiA) and Whole of Society (WoS) approach to healthcare
- Inequality as a threat to achieving UHC and ending the epidemic
- Connecting the DOTS--- HIV collaboration with TB, COVID 19, Nutrition, social protection, GBV and access to Human Rights etc



Challenges



- Members autonomy vs network, a complex balancing Act
- Shifting funding landscape
- Donor's rigid requirements premised on top-down approach
- Balancing urban and rural dynamics representation in community engagement
- Unifying the diverse voices and interests
- Legal literacy and epidemiological context for members
- Coordination is not a prioritized function in the funding scope

Expectation from the network



- Improved Members' Coordination
- Advocate for members' interests
- Sift and share information based on area of interest
- Support to build a funding pool
- Stimulate Domestic Resources Mobilization through PPP, Social Contracting etc
- Protect diminishing Civic Space
- Coordinate donor support
- Enhance capacity of members
- Room for learning, evolution and creativity



Opuwo, Mbamana!

Mr. Sandie Tjaronda
stjizaatjaronda@gmail.com

www.nanaso.com

Telephone: +264 814734266