

NOMINEE BIOGRAPHY FOR POSITION ON GLEPHA BOARD

BOARD POSITION NOMINATED FOR: Vice-President Chair

NAME: Mukta Sharma



CANDIDATE STATEMENT (350 WORDS MAX)

With a background in public health, social science research with vulnerable populations and harm reduction, I have come to appreciate the need to understand and work with law enforcement agencies in the last two decades. I view them as a potential positive force that can protect the rights of all persons in a community and play a supportive role in protecting public health.

In a previous role as a board member and Chair of the Board of Harm Reduction International (previously International Harm Reduction Association), I was involved in situating harm reduction in a health rights context and pushing forward the decriminalisation agenda.

I have been involved in GLEPHA's work and board during the last twelve months and see a huge potential for the organisation. Some key priorities that I would want to contribute to going forward are the development of regional networks (particularly in Asia and Africa with their huge populations and emerging social tectonic shifts); widen the membership base of GLEPHA and better evidence collation and its knowledge management and dissemination - to ensure the widest possible discussion and understanding of areas where public health and law enforcement intersect and how it can be improved.