

# **Final Communiqué of the 76th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights**

## **Virtual Session 19 July to 2 August 2023**

1. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Commission) held virtually its 76<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session (the Session) from 19<sup>th</sup> February to 2 August 2023.
2. The Session was chaired by Honourable Commissioner Rémy Ngoy Lumbu, Chairperson of the Commission, assisted by Honourable Commissioner Maya Sahli Fadel, Vice-Chairperson of the Commission.
3. In his speech, the Chairperson of the Commission mentioned his re-election for the second and last term of six (6) years as a citizen of Democratic Republic of Congo, representing Central Africa, and congratulated other three (3) Commissioners, i.e, Honourable Commissioner Maria Teresa Manuela from Angola, representing Southern Africa, re-elected; Honourable Commissioner Hatem Essaiem, from Tunisia, representing Northern Africa, re-elected; and Honourable Commissioner Salma Sassi-Safer, from Algeria, representing Northern Africa, newly elected.
4. The Session was attended by the following members of the Commission:
  - i. Honourable Commissioner Rémy Ngoy Lumbu, Chairperson;
  - ii. Honourable Commissioner Maya Sahli-Fadel, Vice Chairperson;
  - iii. Honourable Commissioner Solomon Ayele Dersso;
  - iv. Honourable Commissioner Hatem Essaiem;
  - v. Honourable Commissioner Maria Teresa Manuela;
  - vi. Honourable Commissioner Mudford Zachariah Mwandenga;
  - vii. Honourable Commissioner Marie Louise Abomo;
  - viii. Honourable Commissioner Janet Ramatoulie Sallah-Njie;
  - ix. Honourable Commissioner Ourveena Geereesha Topsy-Sonoo;
  - x. Honourable Commissioner Idrissa Sow; and
  - xi. Honourable Commissioner Litha Musyimi-Ogana.
5. The Commission considered and adopted its agenda with amendments.
6. The Commission considered and adopted the following documents:
  - i. Paper on the interpretation of Article 56(2) of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Charter);

- ii. Study on the Use of Force;
- iii. Paper on Operating Procedures/Working Methods for Coordination;
- iv. Concept Note- A Comprehensive Framework for Monitoring the Implementation of the Commission's Promotion Missions;
- v. Paper on African Values.

7. The Commission considered and adopted the following reports:

- i. Report of the Secretariat on Administrative Seizures;
- ii. Report on Audit of Communications;
- iii. Report of the meeting of the working group on Communications;
- iv. Report on the Status of the Follow Up Actions from 74<sup>th</sup> Ordinary and 75<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sessions;
- v. Report on the Decisions of the 74<sup>th</sup> and 75<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sessions;
- vi. Report on the Participation of the Commission in the Kigali Retreat of the Permanent Representative Committee (PRC) on the African Union Institutional Reform;
- vii. Report of the Secretary to the Commission;
- viii. Report on the 2024 Budget Allocation for the Commission;
- ix. Report of the Chairperson of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Staff Matters;
- x. Report on the Status of Implementation of the 2023 Annual Workplan;
- xi. Report of the 77<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session Pre-mission to Tanzania.

8. The Commission also considered and adopted the Mid-Term Review of the ACHPR 2021-2025 Strategic Plan.

9. The Commission considered and adopted Concluding Observations on the following Periodic Reports:

- i. Periodic Report of the Republic of Zambia;
- ii. Periodic Report of the Republic of Senegal.

10. In relation to Communications, the Commission considered and adopted a total of sixteen (16) decisions as follows:

- i. Six (6) Communications on the Merits;
- ii. Seven (7) Communications on Admissibility, of which three (3) was declared admissible and four (4) inadmissible;
- iii. Two (2) Communications for strike-out; and
- iv. One (1) request for withdrawal.

11. Concerning Resolutions, the Commission considered and adopted three (3) Resolutions as follows:

- i. Resolution on the inclusion of refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and stateless persons in national systems, services and economic opportunities in Africa
- ii. Resolution on the serious deterioration of the human rights situation in the Republic of the Sudan as a result of the war unleashed on 15 April 2023;
- iii. Resolution on Action to be taken by the Commission in the event of a prolonged delay in the Submission of the Initial Report (Proactive Approach);
- iv. Resolution on the resurgence of unconstitutional change of governments in Africa;
- v. Resolution on the Human Rights Situation in Senegal.

12. The Resolutions adopted shall be published on the Commission's website: [www.achpr.org](http://www.achpr.org).

13. The 77st Ordinary Session of the Commission shall be held from 20 October to 9 November 2023, in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania.

**Done on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023.**