



ISLA's participation at side events preceding the 61st Ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (28 – 31 October)

The Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa collaborates with human rights partners at ACHPR 61 to share key knowledge, convene civil society activities and events, aimed at strengthening the standard setting mechanisms of the Commission and building the capacity of NGOs interested in engaging with the various processes of the Commission. Stay informed and join these key side events during the NGO forum week at ACHPR61.

Workshops

- 1 Introduction to the Communications Procedure of the African Commission
- 2 Introduction to the African Human Rights Systems
- 3 Researching International Human Rights Law Current Challenges and Opportunities

General Meetings

- 4 Women's Rights Platform at the African Commission General Meeting
- 5 The Litigants forum Meeting

Panel Discussions

- 6 Closing The Gap: Advancing SRHR in Africa Through Research, Advocacy and Litigation

Legal Aid Services

- 7 Legal Aid Clinic

Working Dinner

- 8 ISLA Publications

Launch

- 9 Human Rights Watch report launch

Contact the ISLA team in Banjul

ISLA team in Banjul contactable from
27.10.2017 –
01.11.2017

Kay Mahonde
Legal Researcher –
Violence against Women
(Mobile) +220 2883605
(Gambia)

Sibongile Ndashe
Executive Director
+220 2872929 (Gambia)
+27 647542538 (South Africa)

Tarisayi Radu
Legal Researcher – Women's
Land and Property Rights:
+220 2872959 (Gambia)

Workshops

- 1 Introduction to the Communications Procedure of the African Commission

VENUE: Kairaba Beach Hotel,
Venue Room 1

DATE AND TIME:

29 October 09:00 - 10:30

ISLA as part of the litigants forum will host a workshop on the protective mandate of the African Commission through the use of the Communications procedure. Particular focus will be on equipping participants with information on how to ensure compliance with the requirements of filing communications under article 56 of the African Charter.

RSVP to tarisayi@the-isla.org

- 2 Introduction to the African Human Rights Systems

VENUE: Kairaba Beach Hotel,
Venue Room 2

DATE AND TIME:

28 October 14:00 - 15:30

Synergia and ISLA will facilitate a workshop on the standard setting mechanisms of the African Human Rights Mechanisms. The workshop has three modules:

- The Structure of the African Commission: General African Union structure and how it relates to the African Commission, basic legal documents; mandates and functioning of the commission;
 - An introduction to the various mechanisms that are used to set norms within the region and Create a space for obtaining contributions from various actors engaging the norms and standard setting procedures of the Commission; and
 - Practice of the African Commission: Who are the current commissioners and what are their mandates, how to do advocacy with commissioners during sessions and intersessions
- RSVP** to kay@the-isla.org

- 3 Researching International Human Rights Law Current Challenges and Opportunities

VENUE: Kairaba Beach Hotel,
Venue Room 1

DATE AND TIME:

30 October 09:00 - 10:30

The International Justice Resource Center (IJRC), together with the Institute for Human Rights and Democracy in Africa (IHRDA) and the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA), will host a training session to share updated tools and strategies for conducting research in international human rights law.

Concept note

RSVP to tarisayi@the-isla.org

General Meetings

- 4 Women's Rights Platform at the African Commission General Meeting

VENUE: Kairaba Beach Hotel,
Venue Room 2

DATE AND TIME:

29 October 11:00 - 12:30

ISLA as part of the women's rights platform will co-host a meeting on the progress and inter-session activities of the platform. Further the meeting will;

- introduce new members to the collective and discuss participation
- provide the group with an update on the work of the Special Rapporteur and opportunities for collaboration
- upcoming events at the Commission (including next session) by members

Concept note

RSVP to kay@the-isla.org

- 5 The Litigants forum Meeting

VENUE: Senegambia Hotel,
Salon Amina

DATE AND TIME:

31 October 15:00 - 16:30

ISLA as part of the litigants forum will participate in a meeting to discuss developments in our collective effort to strengthen the communications mandate of the African Commission.

The meeting will focus on the following:

- Progress on implementing the litigants forum resolution;
- Update on the working groups;
- Update on the cause list;
- Development on communications in particular our response to the commission's failure to prioritise communications; and
- Summaries of latest decisions

Concept note

RSVP to Ofagbemi@ihrda.org

or tarisayi@the-isla.org

Panel Discussions

- 6 Closing The Gap: Advancing SRHR in Africa Through Research, Advocacy and Litigation

VENUE: Kairaba Beach Hotel,
Venue Room 1

DATE AND TIME:

29 October 14:00 - 16:00

The Coalition of Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN), the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA) and the Dullah Omar Institute (DOI) aimed at advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in Eastern and Southern Africa will host a panel discussion titled "Closing The Gap: Advancing SRHR in Africa Through Research, Advocacy and Litigation". For the panel discussion,

the DOI will lead a discussion on the link between coerced and forced sterilisation and gender-based violence in Africa. Following this, KELIN will lead a discussion on the intersectionality of issues that affect women's reproductive health and rights within the context of forced Sterilisation and ISLA will conclude with a discussion on the regional experiences on litigating cases of forced sterilisation.

Concept note:

RSVP to

ebenezerdurojaye19@gmail.com

or nwere@kelinkenya.org

Legal Aid Services

- 7 Legal Aid Clinic

VENUE: Kairaba Beach Hotel,
Venue Room 1

DATE AND TIME:

31 October 10:00 - 13:00

Members of the litigants group who litigate before the African Court

Working Dinner

- 8 ISLA Publications

VENUE: Leo's Beach Hotel, Brufut

DATE AND TIME:

31 October 19:00 - 22:00

ISLA and partners have published two calls for publications, Writing her rights, and African Feminist Judgments Project. This is an informal dinner for those who have expressed interest in the project and others who would like to know more about ISLA publications

Writing her rights concept note
African Feminist Judgment Project
concept note

RSVP to tarisayi@the-isla.org

or kay@the-isla.org

Launch

- 9 Human Rights Watch report launch

VENUE: Leo's Beach Hotel, Brufut

DATE AND TIME: 31 October 16:00

Human Rights Watch together with Solace Initiative, Centre for Popular Education Human Rights Ghana, Synergia – Initiatives for Human Rights and ISLA will be launching a Human Rights Watch report on violence and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity and expression in the Republic of Ghana.