

HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE 2030 AND 2063 AGENDAS IN THE AFRICA REGION:

PRESENTATION OF KEY ELEMENTS OF NANHRI/DIHR PUBLICATION ON THE AGENDAS AND THE ROLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

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TITLE: HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE 2030 AND 2063 AGENDAS

- A joint Publication by both NANHRI/DIHR
- The Publication provides an overview of the human rights relevance of the main content of the 2030 and 2063 Agendas as well as the main convergences and differences between the two
- It also provides an overview of regional and national implementation and monitoring architecture of the two Agendas with a view to identifying commonalities and convergences, strengths and gaps and critical entry points for ensuring a human rights-based approach
- It dissects the key issues, challenges and relevant institutions. Primarily aimed at NHRIs in the Africa Region, it is a useful reference material for other human rights and non-human rights actors at both national and regional levels

OUTLINE OF
PRESENTATION

The Agendas and the African
Development Project

Key considerations that frame
and unite agendas 2030 and
2063

Recommendations for
participation of stakeholders in
the execution of the agendas

A. THE AGENDAS AND THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

- The 2 most ambitious development projects yet, of the UN and AU, both arrived at after extensive national consultations .
- One a global flag ship program over 15 years and the other an African regional roadmap with a 50-year horizon
- Both aspire to the overall goal of sustainable development
- Agendas attractive to human rights and development organizations because;
 - ✓ core human rights principles such as non-discrimination, participation and accountability are deeply ingrained in the fabric of the agendas
 - ✓ (therefore) Realizing the agendas will be achieving human rights for everyone
 - ✓ Both the 2030 and 2063 agenda are underpinned by international and regional human rights instruments and labour standards

AGENDAS AND THE AFRICAN PROJECT cnd.

- Also;

The political status and developmental implications of agendas 2030 and 2063 make it imperative that NHRIs, civil society, allies and development partners adopt and participate in ensuring their successful realization.

- However;

For the African Region, the 2 agendas signify parallel tracks in the march towards the Africa We Want therefore **there are organizational, operational and resource implications to contend with**

- Hence;

The preparation of a combined briefing paper on the 2 agendas by NANHRI and DIHR, the utility of which is to;

- ✓ Provide a comparative overview of both agenda
- ✓ Provide practical insights and experiences of how the agendas can be operationalized concretely and efficiently

B. OVERVIEW OF THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS EMBEDDED IN THE AGENDAS

Non-Discrimination:

- Discrimination and inequality play a significant role in uneven development outcomes for different sectors of society.
- Disaggregation of data is the principal way in which uneven development progress – which may be linked to discrimination – can be assessed and strategies developed to address their specific challenges.
- ***Stakeholders in the implementation, follow up and review of the agendas therefore should expect to produce, examine and infuse data which is disaggregated by sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability and geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts to the process***

CORE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS cnd.

Non-Discrimination:

- **Targets addressing discrimination in agenda 2030**
 - Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development (16.b)
 - Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard (10.3)
 - Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels. (5.c.)
- **Aspirations addressing discrimination in agenda 2063**
 - Inclusive growth, especially for children, women, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable groups, (Aspiration 1)
 - Ending gender, racial and other forms of discrimination (Aspiration 2.15)
 - Putting in place systems respecting diversity, promoting tolerance and sanctions on ethnic and other discrimination (Aspiration 3)
 - Gender equality and the rights of the child (Aspiration 6)

CORE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS cntd.

Participation:

- 2030 and 2063 Agendas were developed using large-scale participatory processes involving national governments and a range of key stakeholders from academia, civil society, labour groups and other interest groups.
- Agenda 2030 identifies 9 key groupings for inclusion and participation in the agendas' processes - Women, Children and youth, Indigenous peoples, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Local authorities, Workers and trade unions, Business and industry, Scientific and technological community and Farmers.
- Agenda 2063 states that for fair outcomes, stakeholders, especially at the national level should be part of processes to set targets, develop key activities and outputs of the implementation process, monitoring and evaluation process
- ***To ensure respect for the principle of inclusive and participatory processes involving rights-holders, the NANHRI and DIHR suggest that coordination mechanisms as well as awareness-raising and information-sharing with relevant stakeholders, highlighting opportunities for their contribution and participation will be necessary.***

CORE PRINCIPLES OF HUMAN RIGHTS cnd.

- **Accountability:**
- The purpose of FUR is to ensure accountability. FUR mechanisms should respect human rights and be inclusive, participatory, transparent, gender-sensitive.
- A human rights-based approach goes further than traditional development programming by requiring stakeholders to be accountable not only for specific results, to account within a framework of specific human rights entitlements and corresponding obligations established under international law.
- For accountability to be effective, rights-holders should be able to understand and claim their rights *including analysis of the capacities needed for rights-holders.*
- ***Stakeholders are again called upon to ensure that the principles of inclusion and non-discrimination are brought to bear on the mechanisms for accountability***

SUMMARY OF THE
CORE PRINCIPLES
OF HRBA AS
REFLECTED IN
AGENDAS 2030
AND 2063

Non-discrimination:	Participation:	Accountability:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All people are equal and entitled to their human rights without discrimination of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, ethnicity, age, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, disability, property, birth or other status. - Analysis should include all stakeholders - Priority must be accorded marginalised, excluded and most strongly affected by inequality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Every person is entitled to active, free and meaningful participation in development in which human rights and fundamental freedoms can be realized. - People are key actors in their own development. - Participation is both a means and a goal, and monitoring and evaluation should address both development processes and outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - States and other duty-bearers are answerable for the observance of human rights. - legal norms and standards enshrined in human rights instruments must be complied with. - Rights-holders must be able to seek appropriate redress for wrongs. - Accountability is closely linked to the right to access information and the capacities needed for rights holders to claim their rights effectively.

C. KEY CONSIDERATIONS THAT FRAME AND UNITE AGENDAS 2030 AND 2063

- Both agendas are mostly aspirational and indicative and recognize the national and regional specificities that must drive their successful execution.
- There are extensive convergences (in themes, goals, targets) between agenda 2030 and 2063 that provide opportunity for assimilating the 2 agendas into a single coherent implementation mechanism and organizing framework for HRIs and civil society generally at the national and regional levels.
- **Agenda 2063 (Africa's project) must not be seen only as a response to Africa's specific developmental necessities but also in essence, a concrete response to the national and regional specificity required for implementation of the global 2030 agenda.**

(crucial point for how the African region forges ahead with the execution of the dual developmental frameworks)

D. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE EXECUTION OF THE AGENDAS

- **Defining National Plans**

- ✓ Guidance on HRBA approaches for implementation and review of the agendas;
- ✓ Assistance in shaping national indicators;
- ✓ Promoting transparent and inclusive processes in the development of national strategies
- ✓ Developing tools for monitoring, data collection

- **Participation in Implementation of the Agendas**

Using existing institutional mechanisms, convening and mobilizational capacities to shape, advise, educate, promote, participate in execution of the agendas

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION cnd.

- **Follow up and Review**

The whole point of FUR is to ensure accountability.

FUR processes enable progress to be assessed by linking the monitoring and data gathering exercises to reporting and review mechanisms.

Stakeholders are expected to;

- ✓ Act as Independent accountability mechanisms (monitoring and reporting)
- ✓ Feed into and participate in the national, regional and global monitoring, review and reporting processes

*Note: Partnerships and alliances will be required in all phases of stakeholder participation
(colleague will deliberate deeper on the matter of partnerships)*

THE MULTI-LEVELLED MONITORING OF THE 2030 AND 2063 AGENDAS

- The publication devotes a number of chapters to discussing the three levelled implementation and monitoring architecture at national, regional and international levels.
- At the Global level is the High Level-Political Forum. An important element of the HLPF is the Voluntary National Review (VNR) where countries present their progress and challenges. It is a platform partnerships
- At the Regional level it discusses the role of Regional Forums on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the UNECA for the Africa Region and the Regional Economic Communities under Agenda 2063
- The AU organs especially the AU Commission and its role in monitoring and evaluation based on inputs from RECS and the UNECA is equally well discussed

THE ROLE OF NHRIS IN ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

- The Publication which is actually meant to assist NHRIs better appreciate their role in ensuring accountability at the national level devotes a lot of space to discussing the expected national level engagement of NHRIs in SDG and Agenda 2063 implementation in African countries
- The Global Alliance of NHRIs (GANHRI) Merida Declaration a landmark document on SDG implementation by NHRIs is dispassionately discussed as well as the Kigali Declaration and Plan of Action on the 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development and the African Agenda 2063 and the role of National Human Rights Institutions well expatiated with practical examples from Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria

THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK FOR FUR

Follow Up and Review Framework	
2030	2063
<p><i>National level:</i> States are encouraged to develop “ambitious national responses” to the implementation of the Agenda, building on existing sustainable development frameworks, where appropriate. The Agenda calls for regular and inclusive reviews of progress at national and sub-national levels that draw on contributions from stakeholder groups.</p>	<p><i>National Level:</i> National priorities are a fundamental source of ideas for Agenda 2063 and States should use 10-Year Implementation Plan as basis for developing national development plans. Emphasises importance of alignment of national development planning with the Agenda. National focus on multi-stakeholder monitoring and evaluation of processes and outcomes of implementation.</p>
<p><i>Regional level:</i> States are encouraged to undertake voluntary reviews based on national FUR processes and identify the most suitable forum for such peer learning and exchange of best practices. Regional Forums on Sustainable Development (RFSD) have been established in many regions, under the auspices of the UN Regional Economic Commissions (UNECA). In Africa, the African Regional Forum for Sustainable Development (ARFSD), gathers perspectives from the African region to feed into the HLPF. This involves a number of key regional institutions as well as many other stakeholders.</p>	<p><i>Regional Level:</i> Entry point for all Agenda 2063 initiatives that have to be adopted by Member States. The Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) will serve as the fulcrum for the implementation at the regional level. They will adapt the Agenda 2063 results framework to regional realities and facilitate / coordinate implementation by member states and develop/implement monitoring and evaluation framework at the regional level. The RECs also feed information to the UNECA in order to contribute to a regional overview of priorities.</p>
<p><i>Global level:</i> The institutional framework for FUR revolves around the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), which will meet annually. The purpose of the global-level FUR is to keep track of global progress on implementation, provide political leadership and guidance, and address new and emerging issues. The HLPF will comprise both thematic debates and voluntary state reviews. For the voluntary state review, States can report on progress in domestic implementation as a basis for exchanging best practices and building partnerships.</p>	<p><i>Continental Level:</i> AU Organs, especially the African Union Commission (AUC), will be responsible for setting the broad results framework and monitoring and evaluation based on inputs from the RECS and the UNECA, among others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for the Ten-Year Implementation Plans. - Provides the broad policy guidelines on the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063; - Facilitates the integration of regional monitoring and evaluation reports into a continental report; - Oversees the execution of continental programmes and projects.

THANK YOU