

## INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

Press Release No: 000003456/2021

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021

Venue: Banjul, Gambia.

### MEDIA ADVISORY

#### 69th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human & Peoples' Rights (ACHPR)

**What:** The Public sessions of the 69th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human & Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).

The Commission will focus on the following Session activities:

1. Swearing in of newly elected Commissioners and re-elected Commissioner;
2. Election of new Bureau;
3. Re-distribution of country responsibilities and Re-allocation of Special Mechanisms Mandates;
4. Human Rights Situation in Africa;
5. Consideration of State Party Reports;
6. Consideration of Applications for Affiliate Status from NHRIs and for Observer Status from NGOs;
7. Activity Reports of Commissioners;
8. Panel Discussions;
9. Consideration of Communications;
10. Consideration of Concluding Observations;
11. Consideration of Promotion Mission Reports.

**When:** *Public Session Zoom Webinar links:*

- **15 – 25 November 2021: Public Session**

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Q3KvMs6YTwe\\_bLPtefEz1A](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Q3KvMs6YTwe_bLPtefEz1A)

- **05 December 2021 – Closing Ceremony (Public Session)**

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Q3KvMs6YTwe\\_bLPtefEz1A](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Q3KvMs6YTwe_bLPtefEz1A)

- **05 December 2021 – Media Conference (Following Closing Ceremony - Public Session)**

[https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_g3ja4zkqQ8i1qROMxS8SXA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_g3ja4zkqQ8i1qROMxS8SXA)

- **PUBLIC SESSION DOCUMENTS:** 69<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session Public Documents

[69th Ordinary Session Public Documents](#)

**Where:** The public sessions will be held virtually. Log in to join in the links provided above to participate. The Ordinary Session will be live streamed

on: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgwJmiMTf59J0jYZJJtfzuw>

**Who:** Convened by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, all States Parties, Organs of the African Union, National Human Rights Institutions, International Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, and other members of the general public are invited to attend.

## NOTE FOR EDITORS:

The ACHPR is composed of eleven Commissioners, nationals of Member States of the African Union elected in their individual capacity. The ACHPR meets 4 (four) times a year in Ordinary Sessions, which may include Extra-Ordinary Sessions.

During its 39<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session, held from 14-15 October 2021, the Executive Council of the African Union took a decision to elect 3 (three) new Members and re-elect 1 (one) Member, of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights namely: *Mrs. Janet Ramatoulie Salah-Njie (The Gambia)*, *Ms. Ourveena Geereesha Topsy-Sonoo (Mauritius)*, *Mr. Idrissa Sow (Senegal)* and *Dr. Solomon Ayele Dersso (Ethiopia)*.

The three (3) incoming Commissioners will replace outgoing Commissioners whose terms of Office have ended namely: *Hon. Commissioner Jamesina Essie L. King (Sierra Leone – former Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to information in Africa and Chairperson of the Resolutions Committee)*; *Hon. Commissioner Zainabo Sylvie KAYITESI (Rwanda-former Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa and Chair, Chairperson of the Working Group on Communications)*; *Late Hon. Commissioner Ndiame Gaye (Senegal – former Chairperson of the Working Group on the Death Penalty, Extra-judicial, Summary or Arbitrary Killings and Enforced Disappearances in Africa)*

3. Article 38 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, read together with Rule 10 of the Rules of Procedure of the ACHPR, prescribes that a solemn declaration be made by the incoming commissioners to discharge their duties impartially and faithfully.

### For further information please contact:

**Ms. Lindiwe Khumalo**, | Ag. Executive Secretary | African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights |  
Tel: +220 4410 505 / 506 | E-mail: [achpr.stcincoming@africa-union.org](mailto:achpr.stcincoming@africa-union.org) | Banjul, Gambia.

### For press enquiries, please contact:

**Mr. Etwell Karikoga** | African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights |  
Tel: +251 115 517 700 | E-mail: [Karikogae@africa-union.org](mailto:Karikogae@africa-union.org) | OR [au-banjul@africa-union.org](mailto:au-banjul@africa-union.org) | Banjul, Gambia.

### For documentation and materials, please contact:

**Mr. Elliot Nsega**, Tel. +220 230 4361: E-mail: [NsegaE@Africa-Union.Org](mailto:NsegaE@Africa-Union.Org) | [Au-Banjul@Africa-Union.Org](mailto:Au-Banjul@Africa-Union.Org) |

Further information on the ACHPR can be obtained from the ACHPR's website at [www.Achpr.Org](http://www.Achpr.Org) .

**Information and Communication Directorate**, African Union Commission | E-mail: [DIC@africa-union.org](mailto:DIC@africa-union.org)  
Web: [au.int](http://au.int) | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | Follow Us: [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)