



AFRICAN COURT COALITION

CONCEPT NOTE

Online Capacity Building Training for CSOs on Women's & Girls' Rights and Engagement with the African Human Rights Mechanisms

Introduction

The Coalition for an Effective African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Court Coalition) plans to undertake online capacity building training for African Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on women's and girls' rights to enhance their engagement with the African Human Rights mechanisms. Implemented under the GIZ African Union AWARE Project, the training will be conducted virtually in three series of linguistic jurisdictions; Anglophone, Lusophone and Francophone.

The Coalition organized an online capacity building training in 2022 under the Raoul Wallenberg Institute-Regional Africa Program under the theme; *"Training on the Rights of Women and Engagement with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights"*. The 2022 training focused on the rights of women and engagement with the African Court, however the capacity building training herein will focus on the rights of both, women and girls; and engagement with the three African Human Rights mechanisms which are the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (AFCHPR), the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC). The focus on the three organs is intended to enhance knowledge among participants on the mandate of each organ and provide them with a better understanding of the existing mechanisms that can be leveraged to promote and protect women's rights, as well as empower CSOs' with skills and tools to further create awareness about women's and girls' rights in Africa.

Capacity building initiatives are a keyway to support human (women's) rights CSOs to carry out their work, including promoting the rights of women and girls in Africa. The trainings therefore are intended to address power imbalances that often sideline sub-regional and local as well as grassroots organisations from accessing the three African Human Rights mechanisms and capacitate them to increase the sustainability of their work on the promotion of women's and girls' rights in their respective jurisdictions.

Objectives

The training is intended to:

- Build CSOs capacities to increase awareness about women and girl's rights;

- Increase awareness about existing regional mechanisms, legal instruments and jurisprudence from regional mechanisms that can be utilized to promote and protect women's and girls' rights at regional, sub-regional and national levels.
- Promote the use of gender lens in cases or issues that are not necessarily gender specific in order to promote and protect the rights of women and girls in Africa.
- Identify of challenges that hamper CSOs' utilization of the African Human Rights mechanisms to address violations of women's and girls' rights.

Format of the Capacity Building Training

The training will be conducted virtually in three series of linguistic jurisdictions; Anglophone, Lusophone and Francophone. This will help in the wide outreach of the targeted group across Africa with effective participation due to language understanding. The duration for each training will be four (4) consecutive days with a pre and post training assessment as well as a certificate of participation provided to participants.

Targeted Audience

The primary target is CSOs in Africa that focus on girls' rights, women's rights and human rights in general. Human Rights Defenders, legal practitioners, members of the national judiciaries and individuals with interest in these areas are also invited to register.

Certificates of participation will be awarded to participants who will fully participate for four days.

PROPOSED DATES:

LANGUAGE	DATES	TIME	PLATFORM
ANGLOPHONE TRAINING	19 – 22 May 2025	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM EAT	ZOOM
FRANCOPHONE TRAINING	26 – 29 May 2025	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM EAT	ZOOM
LUSOPHONE TRAINING	2 – 5 June 2025	12:00 PM – 3:00 PM EAT	ZOOM