



WEBINAR INVITATION

Launch of Reports on

PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION AND ELECTIONS IN AFRICA

DATE:

26 September 2023

TIME:

08.00 GMT / 09.00 WAT / 10.00 SAST / 11.00 EAT



**Centre for
Human Rights**
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA



ACHPR
African Commission on
Human and Peoples' Rights



BACKGROUND

The Centre for Human Rights and its partners ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa, and ARTICLE 19 Western Africa invite stakeholders to the launch of the reports on **Proactive Disclosure of Information and Elections in Africa**. The reports assessed state compliance with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights 2017 ***Guidelines on Access to Information and Elections in Africa*** (the Guidelines). The studies focused on the recent elections in **Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, and The Gambia**. The reports examine the proactive disclosure of credible election-related information by election management bodies; appointing authorities; law enforcement agencies; political parties and candidates; media and regulatory bodies; election observers; and civil society, as envisaged under the Guidelines. The assessment is primarily on the basis of the Guidelines and also considers the national access to information legislative framework as well as other regional and international human rights obligations. It also assesses the application and impact of digital technologies on access to information during elections; the impact of information disorder on electoral information integrity; and access to information for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. The reports also include detailed sector-specific recommendations.

OBJECTIVE(S):

- To draw the attention of stakeholders to the Guidelines on Access to Information and Elections in Africa.
- To facilitate a dialogue evaluating the realisation of the right of access to information during the general elections in Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and The Gambia.
- To share perspectives and recommendations from the studies on Gambia, Ghana, Kenya and Uganda's compliance with the Guidelines.
- To analyse the impact of technology on electoral transparency and integrity.

SPEAKERS:

Moderator(s):

Hlengiwe Dube

Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria

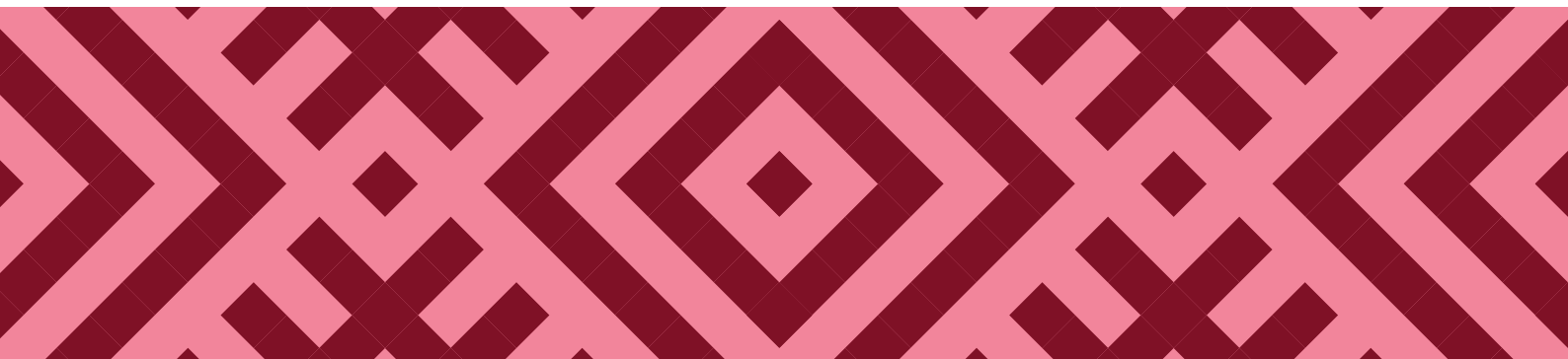
Sarah Wesonga

ARTICLE 19, Eastern Africa

Keynote Speaker:

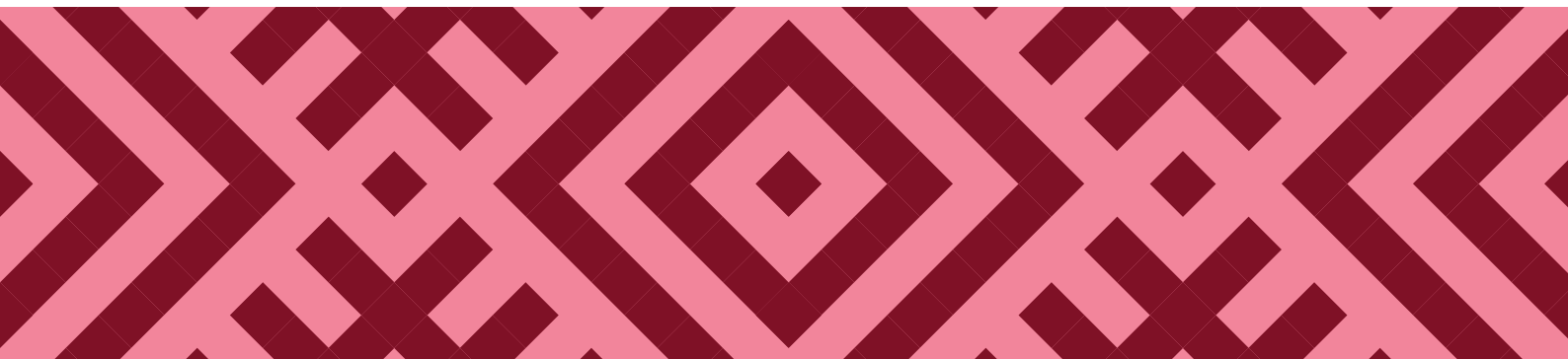
Hon. Ourveena Geerasha Topsy-Sonoo

Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa.



AGENDA:

Time	Activity
10.00-10.15	<p>Introduction and Welcoming Remarks Moderator: Hlengiwe Dube</p> <p>Lloyd Kuveya <i>Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria</i></p> <p>Dr. Patrick Mutahi <i>ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa</i></p> <p>Alfred Bulakali <i>ARTICLE 19 Senegal & West Africa Representative</i></p>
10.15-10.30	<p>Keynote address Hon. Ourveena Geerasha Topsy-Sonoo <i>Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa</i></p>
10.30-11.50	<p>Presentation of the key findings and recommendations of the studies Moderator: Sarah Wesonga</p> <p>Dr Michael Addaney–Ghana <i>Researcher for Ghana</i></p> <p>Dr Daniel Rhuweza–Uganda <i>Researcher for Uganda</i></p> <p>Jeggan Grey-Johnson–The Gambia <i>Researcher for The Gambia</i></p> <p>Lawrence Mute–Kenya <i>Researcher for Kenya</i></p>
11.50-12.00	<p>Questions All</p>
12.00-12.05	<p>Official launch of the reports Hon. Ourveena Geerasha Topsy-Sonoo <i>Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa</i></p>



- 12.05-12.20 **A glimpse into the Zimbabwean elections: Preliminary findings**
Prof Admire Mare
Researcher for Zimbabwe
- 12.20-20.40 **Elections and recent developments on the continent**
Maxwell Kadiri
Senior Strategic Litigation Officer, Open Society Foundations
- 12.40-12.55 **Plenary**
All
- 12.55-13.00 **Concluding Remarks**
Lloyd Kuveya
Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria



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