

## **The South African National Research Foundation**

### **L'ASSOCIATION POUR LA PROMOTION DE LA RECHERCHE EN DROIT & SECURITE EN AFRIQUE**



INTER-MIGRANT-SUISSE  
ACTION HUMANITAIRE DE MEDIATION  
AIDE ET CONSEILS AUX MIGRANTS



## **INTERNATIONAL COLLOQUIUM**

Theme:

**HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA – ACTUALIZING THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT: WHAT WILL IT TAKE?**

**19-21 November 2018**

**University of Douala**

### **I. CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION**

From time immemorial, Africa has been associated with poverty. In response the continent adopted various measures including, the Organisation of African Unity, currently African Union; the Lagos Plan of Action for the Economic Development of Africa 1980; the African Priority Programme for Economic Recovery of 1986; the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programme for Social Economic Recovery and Transformation of 1989; the African Charter for Popular Participation for Development of 1990; United Nations New Agenda for Development of Africa of 1991; the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) of 2001 the Agenda 2063. Above all, it adopted the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which erects development as a human right, or a binding entitlement that cannot be bargained away. In a similar vein, the international community took various initiatives including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and now the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Nevertheless, all these efforts seem to be wastage of time and energy as there is no reason to be optimistic. In fact, although the continent is endowed with vast amounts of mineral resources, it remains poor and underdeveloped.

The hecatomb observed off the Mediterranean, following the scourge of emigration of African youth, the high unemployment rate, increase in terrorism, lack of education and access to healthcare, as well as the enjoyment of civil and political rights are undoubtedly the testimony that there is no progress in achieving the right to development in Africa. Yet, the right is binding in the African Charter and cascades down to many African Constitutions including Cameroon, Benin, Ethiopia, Uganda, Malawi to list but a few. Similarly, the African Commission and the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights have demonstrated the justiciability of the right to development. It is on this backdrop that this International Colloquium seeks solutions for the achievement of the right to development in Africa.

Giving the critical issues of the rule of law, African cultures, development assistance, corruption, the illicit financial flow from Africa, issues around gender, and the migration crisis, the quest for solutions for the realisation of the right to development in Africa will, during the colloquium, approach these issues from these dimensions. Furthermore, a theme for case studies, comparative analysis as well as input from a multi and transdisciplinary perspectives is also to be considered. Instead of listing the themes highlighted as hindrances to the realisation of the right to development, inputs to the colloquium should focus on indicating how these hindrances can be addressed for the enjoyment of the right to development in Africa; thus, the focus is on solutions.

## **II. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE COLLOQUIUM**

Besides the general objectives to seek solutions to improve the standard of living of African people, the specific objective is to propose clear answers for the achievement of the right to development in Africa in light of the key themes/questions highlighted below.

## **III. QUESTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AT THE COLLOQUIUM**

- **Theme 1**: Fostering the rule of law/constitutionalism/governance
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa;
- **Theme 2**: Tapping into African culture and philosophies
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa;
- **Theme 3**: Addressing the shortcomings of development assistance
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa
  
- **Theme 4**: Addressing corruption
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa;
- **Theme 5**: Addressing illicit financial flows
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa;
- **Theme 6**: Addressing gender exclusion
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa;
- **Theme 7**: Addressing the migration crisis
  - for the realisation of the right to development in Africa
- Theme 8**: Actualizing the right to development: Comparative analysis, Case studies from other regions, and from a multi and transdisciplinary perspectives.

The general purpose of the symposium, as organized by the partners, is to reflect on the various issues relating to the involvement of the African human rights system in development in Africa.

#### **IV. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS/ABSTRACTS/PAPERS AND DEADLINES**

The symposium will be held in the city of Douala (Cameroon) on **19-21 November 2018**. We are inviting abstracts of papers in English and French under any of the 7 themes. Kindly indicate under which theme your abstract is submitted.

1. Proposals must be presented in the form of an abstract of **300 words in maximum** and should include the personal data of the authors: Names, affiliations, addresses. Please submit to the following email addresses: [aporedsafrique@gmail.com](mailto:aporedsafrique@gmail.com) and [dkamgsa@unisa.ac.za](mailto:dkamgsa@unisa.ac.za).
2. The full papers must meet the following format conditions: Times New Roman, 12; line spacing 1.5; justified alignment; margin 2 cm, Word format (30 pages maximum, footnotes and bibliography included). Please submit in digital format to the following email addresses: [aporedsafrique@gmail.com](mailto:aporedsafrique@gmail.com) and [dkamgsa@unisa.ac.za](mailto:dkamgsa@unisa.ac.za).
3. The deadline for receipt of proposals/abstract is **15 August 2018**.
4. Responses will be sent to authors by **30 August 2018** at the latest.
5. The receipt of full papers shall be no later than **30 October 2018**.
6. The papers will subsequently be reworked with a view to bringing out a publication (either a special issue of a journal or an edited volume of essays).

#### **V. TARGET AUDIENCE**

The colloquium aims in particular at:

1. Academics;
2. Government authorities, administrative and national security executives;
3. Legal practitioners;
4. Decentralized territorial communities;
5. Non-governmental organisations;
6. Researchers and students interested in human rights, development studies, and related fields

There will be no registration fee and tea and lunches will be free for all participants. (In-coming participants will have to cover and arrange their own transport and accommodation). We are currently negotiating preferential accommodation fees with hotels in the vicinity of the University of Douala for participants, and will send an updated list of hotels in responding to abstracts submission.

However, all papers presented during the colloquium will be peer-reviewed for publication in an edited volume on “*Actualizing the right to development in Africa.*”

**Please, kindly distribute this call for papers as widely as possible to all colleagues in your faculty as well as to other interested persons such as legal practitioners and judges.**

For further information, please write to the following email addresses:  
[aporedsafrique@gmail.com](mailto:aporedsafrique@gmail.com) and [dkamgsa@unisa.ac.za](mailto:dkamgsa@unisa.ac.za)