

Reflections on
75
Years of the
Universal
Declaration of
Human Rights
&



25 Years of The Declaration on Human
Rights Defenders: A moment of reflection

Programme
4 December 2023



European
Union



**Ford
Foundation**



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Master of Ceremonies

Bonolo Makgale

Programme Manager: Democracy and Civic Engagement Unit

Centre for Human Rights,

University of Pretoria

TIME

THEME

08:30 - 09:00

Arrival and registration

OHCHR/CHR

09:00 - 09:30

Opening remarks:

Professor Nkatha Murungi

Acting Director, Centre for Human Rights

Abigail Noko

OHCHR Regional Representative

Lusako Munyenembe

Program Officer, Southern Africa, Ford Foundation

09:30 - 09:50

Messages of solidarity:

Ambassador Sandra Kramer

European Union Ambassador to South Africa

HE Ms Stella Hauya Ndayu

Malawi High Commissioner in South Africa

09:50 - 10:10

Coffee break

10:10 - 10:25

Keynote Address - Legacy and progress: the intersection between the UDHR and other international legal instruments and local realities of human rights and democracy in Africa:

Judge Dhaya Pillay

Retired Judge of the High Court in Kwa Zulu Natal

10:30 - 12:00

Panel Discussion: 75 years of the UDHR, 25 years of the HRDs Declaration – Reflections, Challenges and Looking to the Future

Moderator: Dr Michelle Maziwisa

Programme Manager LLM/MPhil HRDA, CHR

- **What strides has the UDHR made in influencing minimum standards of human rights globally and on the continent?**

Mariana Gomez

Human Rights Officer, OHCHR

- **Civil Society response to the anti-human rights movement and strategies for protecting civic space**

Dr Sishuwa Sishuwa

Senior Lecturer in History, Stellenbosch University

- **How have young people played an active role in the promotion and protection of human rights, and in what ways can this role be enhanced?**

Namatai Kwekweza

WELEAD Director

- **Enhancing frameworks protecting Human Rights Defenders – reflecting on legal and alternative mechanisms**

Khanyo Farisè

Deputy Regional Director (Research) for Southern Africa

12:00 - 12:15

Closing Remarks

Lloyd Kuveya

Assistant Director, CHR

12:15 - 13:30

Lunch

