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# #AfricaFitForChildren

## SIDE EVENT ON INTERSEX CHILDREN'S RIGHTS DURING THE 42ND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD

9 NOVEMBER 2023  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

### CONCEPT NOTE

#### 1. BACKGROUND

At the 22nd meeting of the CSO Forum for the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (CSO Forum), held from 26 - 27 April 2023, in Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho, the Centre for Human Rights (CHR) hosted a discussion on the sexual and reproductive rights of children, with a particular focus on the implications of the Resolution of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Resolution 552 on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Intersex Persons in Africa (African Commission Resolution 552).

This discussion was held ahead of the 41st Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC). During the opening of the 41st ordinary session of the ACERWC the CHR presented its partner statement, during which the CHR requested the Committee to take interests in protecting the rights of Intersex Children in Africa.

Further, the African Commission's Resolution 552 is an advocacy tool for civil society organisations to further promote and ensure the protection and promotion of children's rights in Africa. In order to maintain the momentum in advancing the rights of intersex children, the CHR intends to hold a side event ahead of the upcoming 42nd Session of the ACERWC. This side event aims to build on the discussions initiated during the previous CSO Forum and statement submitted to

the Committee regarding the sexual and reproductive rights of children, particularly in the context of intersex children and highlight the need to promote and protect the rights of intersex children in Africa in line with African Commission' Resolution 552 and Article 21 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (African Children's Charter).

## 2. OBJECTIVES

- Promote awareness among civil society organisations, stakeholders and ACERWC members about the importance of addressing intersex children's rights within the broader framework of children's sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- Continue the dialogue on intersex children's rights initiated during the previous CSO Forum by providing a dedicated platform for deeper discussions and exchange of experiences, insights, and best practices.
- Enhance the capacity of the participants to advocate for and protect the rights of intersex children, understanding the implications of the African Commission Resolution 552 and its alignment with the African Children's Charter.
- Facilitate discussions on the integration of intersex children's rights in legal and policy frameworks at regional and national levels, promoting the implementation of African Commission Resolution 552.

## 3. KEY ACTIVITIES

- Welcome and Opening Remarks- Introduce the side event's objectives and significance in advancing intersex children's rights and children's SRHR in Africa.
- Overview of the African Commission Resolution 552 -Provide a detailed overview of the resolution, highlighting the background study and implications for intersex children's rights and its alignment with the African Children's Charter.
- Capacity Building and Advocacy- Panel Discussion on building the capacity of civil society organisations and stakeholders to advocate for intersex children's rights, highlighting advocacy tools, campaigns, and collaborative efforts.
- Closing Remarks

## 4. TARGET AUDIENCE

The side event will have representatives of civil society organisations working on children's rights, members and the secretariat and of the ACERWC and government officials.

## 5. OUTCOME

The side event aims to create a platform for sustained dialogue, collaboration, and knowledgesharing on the protection and promotion of intersex children's rights within the context of children's sexual and reproductive health and rights. It aims to equip the participants with increased awareness, enhanced advocacy skills to promote and protect the rights of intersex children in Africa.