

CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY MISSION TO NAMIBIA



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Roadmap for the ratification of, and accession to, the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons (Kampala Convention)

The Centre for Human Rights urges the Republic of Namibia to ratify the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Africa (Kampala Convention). This Roadmap provides a concise introduction to the Kampala Convention, its status of ratification, and the significance of increased ratification and accession by all member states of the African Union, including the Republic of Namibia.

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1. INTRODUCTION TO THE KAMPALA CONVENTION

The Kampala Convention was adopted by the African Union heads of State and Government on 23 October 2009 and entered into force on 6 December 2012.

The aim of the Convention is to prevent internal displacement, protect internally displaced persons (IDPs), and provide for durable solutions to internal displacement in the African region. To achieve these aims, it sets out the rights of IDPs and lays obligations on states, armed groups, non-state actors, and other relevant actors. The rights of IDPs enshrined in the Convention include, but are not limited to, the right not to be displaced, the right to non-discrimination, the right to seek safety, the right to education, the right to food, and the right to shelter. The obligations of states include, but are not limited to, the obligation not to arbitrarily displace individuals and groups, and to prohibit and prevent the same; the obligation to respect and guarantee the human rights of IDPs; the obligation to provide or facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance to IDPs; and the obligation to put in place legal, policy and institutional frameworks for the protection of IDPs, and to allocate resources for these purposes.

2. THE STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF THE KAMPALA CONVENTION

The majority of African states are parties to the Kampala Convention. Thus far, 33 African Union members have ratified the Kampala Convention. These are Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Congo, Djibouti, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Mali, Malawi, Mozambique, Mauritania, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Republic, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, eSwatini, Togo, Rwanda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Namibia signed the Convention on 23 October 2009 but it is yet to ratify it.

3. WHY SHOULD STATES RATIFY THE KAMPALA CONVENTION?

In general, the reasons for governments to ratify the Kampala Convention are twofold. Firstly, ratifying the Convention means a commitment to preventing internal displacement and protecting the rights of IDPs.

Secondly, it has political benefits to governments and states broadly. This is because internal displacement has a potential of creating instability, which besets governments' stability. A state that ratifies human rights treaties that protect the rights of its people and pays attention to the protection of the most vulnerable sections of its people, will have a good reputation, which has positive implications on its position in the international community of states.

The following are more specific reasons that fall within the above general rationales.

- The situation of internal displacement is very serious, both in terms of the unprecedented number of IDPs in African countries, and the dire situation of a significant number of IDPs in the region. In Sub-Saharan Africa, conflict and violence triggered the displacement of 11.6 million persons, and disasters accounted for the displacement of 2.6 million persons in 2021.¹ IDPs are often neglected in national policies and development planning, resulting in the insufficient allocation of resources for their protection. Consequently, IDPs in many instances lack necessities like shelter, food, and access to health care. Because the Kampala Convention brings the issue of IDPs to the fore and requires states to proactively work towards the prevention and protection of IDPs, states that genuinely commit to the Convention are more likely to be prepared to deal with internal displacement more effectively.
- Although there are human rights treaties that protect the rights of refugees, there is no displacement-specific binding international treaty that protects the rights of IDPs, apart from the Protocols relating to internal displacement in Great Lakes Region, which apply only in the Great Lakes

1 Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre.

Region. This hampers the effective protection of the rights of IDPs. The Kampala Convention brings IDPs to the forefront and aims to end their suffering and human rights violations. Therefore, the increased ratification of the Kampala Convention will fill the legal gap in international human rights and humanitarian law and is a significant step forward to the protection of the rights of IDPs.

- The Convention sets forth mechanisms for states to cooperate with each other in tackling internal displacement and to monitor the progress in the protection of IDPs. State parties stand to benefit from the cooperation of member states in the prevention of internal displacement. Some of the causes of internal displacement, for example, the adverse impacts of climate change and natural disasters transcend international borders. The prevention and mitigation of these causes requires the cooperation of states. Becoming a state party to the Kampala Convention is advantageous for states because it establishes a mechanism for its member states to cooperate with each other in the prevention of internal displacement.
- The Convention provides specific guidance to state parties regarding the protection of displaced persons. It provides for the rights of internally displaced persons. Although internally displaced persons, who are mostly citizens, are entitled to the rights that any citizen has, they have peculiar needs and vulnerabilities that cannot be addressed by ordinary laws. The Kampala Convention includes the specific rights of vulnerable groups which a state party is required to protect at the domestic level.
- The Convention imposes obligations not only on state parties, but also on non-state actors. As non-state actors are, in many cases, accountable for the internal displacement of large numbers of people, the fact that the Kampala Convention imposes obligation on them is an important tool to hold them accountable. This strengthens domestic accountability mechanisms and provides a further layer of legal guarantee to IDPs to claim their rights.

- The Kampala Convention reflects African custom and the tradition of hospitality and providing protection to vulnerable groups such as IDPs. The Kampala Convention formally solidifies these customs and traditions. States must ratify it because it is a human rights treaty that advances traditional African values with the aim of solving the problem of internal displacement in Africa.

Should a state in which there are no IDPs ratify/accede to the Kampala Convention?

Yes. The fact that there are no IDPs in a certain state does not mean that there will never be internal displacement in that country in the future. Although a state might be socially, economically, and politically stable, and has no threats of conflict or war in the foreseeable future, other drivers of internal displacement, such as natural or man-made disasters may lead to internal displacement. Ratifying the Convention helps ensure that adequate legal frameworks and proactive measures are in place to protect internally displaced persons in the event of mishaps that cause internal displacement. Therefore, ratification of the Kampala Convention should not be contingent upon whether internal displacement exists in a state or not.

4. HOW CAN A MEMBER OF THE AFRICAN UNION BE A PARTY TO THE KAMPALA CONVENTION?

The procedures that need to be followed by states to ratify the Kampala Convention vary depending on the legal requirements of each state. Often, the executive arm of the government takes part in the negotiations leading up to treaty adoption, signs and ratifies treaties. This will often be followed by parliamentary approval.

Can non-signatory states become state parties to the Kampala Convention?

Yes, states that had not signed the Convention during its adoption can become state parties to the Convention.² Although signing the Convention

2 Algeria, Botswana, Cape Verde, Egypt, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, Mauritius,

during its adoption shows the goodwill of a state to be bound by the terms of the treaty, the fact that a state is not a signatory to the Convention does not preclude it from being a party to the Convention. It is crucial to note that a state will not become a state party to the treaty merely by signing it. Treaties like the Kampala Convention allow non-signatory states to become member states by acceding to the Convention. Once a state accedes to the Convention, it must deposit the instrument of accession with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

Signatory states that have not ratified the Kampala Convention

By signing a treaty, a state acknowledges 'the authenticity of the adopted text' of the treaty.³ Signing a treaty can be a signal that the state will subsequently ratify the treaty.⁴ But until the state ratifies the treaty, the terms of a treaty will not bind the state. A state that signs a treaty is under an obligation to refrain from jeopardising the object and purpose of the treaty.⁵ A state may be bound by a human rights treaty merely by signing it in some circumstances, for example, if the treaty provides so.⁶

As a signatory state, Namibia can ratify the Kampala Convention. In order to become a state party to the Kampala Convention, it must ratify the Convention and deposit its instrument of ratification with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

South Africa, Seychelles, and Sudan have not signed the Kampala Convention, nor have become parties to it subsequently.

3 F Viljoen *International human rights law in Africa* (2012) 23.

4 As above.

5 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (VCLT), art 18(a); Viljoen (n 3) 23.

6 VCLT arts 11 & 12(1)-(2).

#RatifyADP
Roadmap to ratification:
Protocol to the African
Charter on Human and
Peoples' Rights on the Rights
of Persons with
Disabilities in Africa

The Centre for Human Rights strongly urges member states of the African Union that have not ratified the African Disability Protocol to do so without delay.

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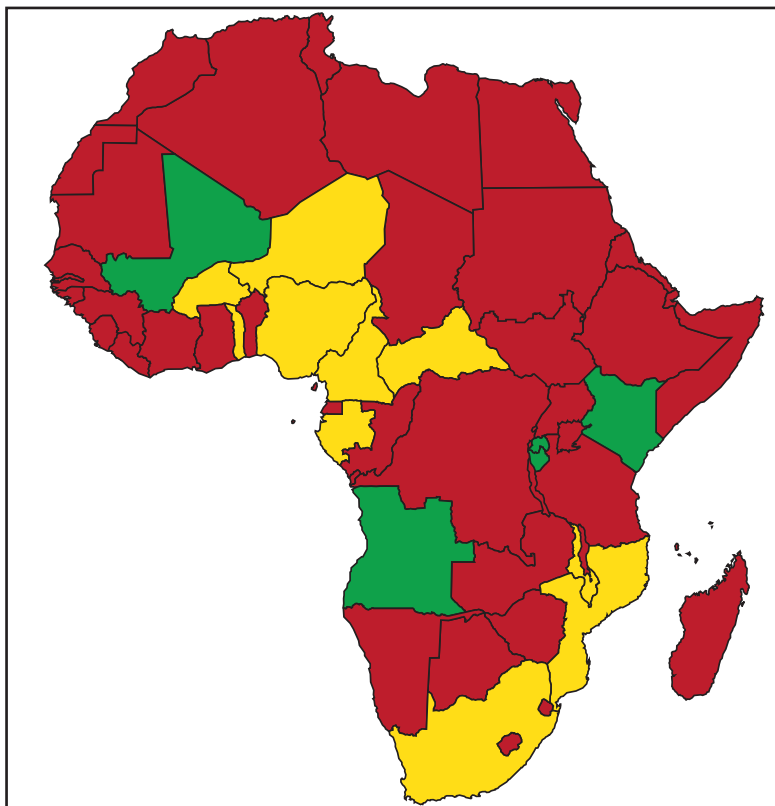
1. BACKGROUND TO THE AFRICAN DISABILITY RIGHTS PROTOCOL

The AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government adopted the African Disability Rights Protocol on 28 January 2018. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Commission) prepared this document, through a collaborative process involving state representatives, civil society and disabled persons organisations, to complement the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Charter). With the exception of a very general reference to the 'disabled' and their right to special protection in article 18(4), the African Charter does not make provision for persons with disabilities. The Africa Disability Rights Protocol addresses the continued exclusion of persons with disabilities. The Protocol contextualises the rights of persons with disabilities in Africa and provides for the specific protection of rights that are violated on the continent. The Africa Disability Rights Protocol also aims to provide a foundation that enables African Union Member States to formulate or amend laws that impact persons with disabilities, thus curing the existing gap in constitutional and legislative protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

2. STATUS OF RATIFICATION ON ADR PROTOCOL

The Protocol requires 15 AU Member States to deposit their instruments of ratification in order for it to come into force (article 38). So far, five countries have ratified the African Disability Rights Protocol, namely Angola, Burundi, Kenya, Mali and Rwanda (these countries are represented in green on the Map below). To date, ten countries have signed the Protocol, namely Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Gabon, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Niger, South Africa, and Togo (these countries are represented in yellow on the Map below). States that have neither signed nor ratified the Africa Disability Rights Protocol are indicated in red. Because the required fifteen ratifications is yet to be reached, the African Disability Rights Protocol is not yet in force. It required ten more countries to ratify it before it can come into force. Namibia has neither signed nor ratified the African Disability Rights Protocol.

Map 2: Status of ratification of Africa Disability Rights Protocol as at 30 March 2023



Green - Countries that have ratified the Protocol

Yellow - Countries that have signed the Protocol

Red - Countries that have neither signed nor ratified the Protocol

3. REASONS TO RATIFY THE AFRICAN DISABILITY RIGHTS PROTOCOL

The following are reasons why States should ratify the African Disability Rights Protocol:

- (a) Ratification by 10 more states will ensure that the Protocol enters into force. At the regional level, the requisite number of ratifications will bring the Protocol into effect, allowing persons with disabilities on the continent to enjoy its protection.
- (b) States that are already party to African Charter should extend existing protection to include disability rights. The African Disability Rights Protocol confirms and extends the rights under the African Charter to persons with disabilities who did not enjoy recognition when the African Charter was drafted. The protection of the rights of persons with disabilities are provided for under the African Charter but is not comprehensively dealt with.
- (c) The African Disability Rights Protocol adds value to and is premised on the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).⁵¹ African states already are party to the CRPD. Cameroon has signed but not ratified the CRPD. South Sudan and Eritrea are the only Africa UN Member States that have neither signed nor ratified the CRPD. By ratifying the African Disability Rights Protocol, state parties to the CRPD will largely be confirming the provisions of the CRPD but placing them in an African context and making them more relevant to the African people. The African Disability Rights Protocol takes into account the lived realities of persons with disabilities in the continent while maintaining the core values and principles as set out in the CRPD. Some of the Africa-specific disability-related concerns include harmful practices, HIV/AIDS, rights of older persons, duties of persons with disabilities, and the right to communal living.

Map 3: African States Parties to CRPD



Green - countries that have ratified the CRPD

Yellow - Countries that have signed the CRPD

Red - Countries that have neither signed nor ratified the CRPD

- (d) States would also, by ratifying the African Disability Rights Protocol, strengthen the African human rights framework. The African Disability Rights Protocol will improve the monitoring mechanisms for the protection of persons with disabilities under the African Union. This is because African countries will be under an obligation

to report on the progress of their implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities. Prior to the African Disability Rights Protocol, most disability issues were dealt with in non-binding instruments such as Grand Bay (Mauritius) Declaration and Plan of Action (which dealt with HIV/AIDS). The binding nature of the African Disability Rights Protocol will strengthen the enshrined rights and monitoring mechanisms.

- (e) Ratifying the African Disability Rights Protocol will also lead to the mainstreaming of disability rights around the continent, thus creating more continental awareness. Raising public awareness on disability can have multi-fold objectives such as sharing information with citizens without disabilities, including employers, about the rights and abilities of persons with disabilities and the existence of prejudices, which are difficult to eradicate and are often based on myths.
- (f) Ratification of the African Disability Rights Protocol will encourage domestic protection of the rights of persons with disabilities. Despite the wide ratification of the CRPD, the treaty is often not fully implemented in domestic law. The CRPD Committee continues, in its Concluding Observations on reports submitted by different African countries, to urge States Parties to strengthen their efforts to give full effect to the CRPD in domestic law and ensure its direct application in domestic courts. The African Disability Rights Protocol will provide an additional avenue to encourage the full incorporation and implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities into domestic law.
- (g) The African Disability Rights Protocol offers an opportunity for African States to show that they are serious about protecting the human rights of persons with disabilities in Africa. African States were very active in the negotiations and drafting of the African Disability Rights Protocol. In addition, the African Charter recognises the indivisibility of all human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social – and the need for them to be protected to the same degree. Ratifying the African Disability Rights Protocol corresponds well with the gains made so far at the regional as well as national levels to protect the rights of persons with disabilities.
- (h) The African Disability Rights Protocol offers enhanced regional assistance and cooperation in the protection of the rights of

persons with disabilities. The African Disability Rights Protocol provides guidance about cooperation measures already included in the African Charter. Article 33 of African Disability Rights Protocol notes that States Parties must take steps to cooperate through sharing research, technical, human and financial resources in order to achieve the full realisation of the rights in the African Disability Rights Protocol.

4. PROCESS OF RATIFICATION

- (a) The procedures through which states become bound to international human rights treaties, such as ADR Protocol, has internal and external dimensions.
- (b) At the external level, the state may sign, ratify or accede to the treaty.
- (c) Often, immediately after a treaty has been adopted, states that are present may sign the treaty. States may however also sign the treaty at a later stage. Signature does not bind a state to apply the treaty provisions. It merely indicates that they state has taken note of the treaty and sets out its intention at a later stage to be bound by the treaty by ratifying it.
- (d) States may then at any stage ratify the treaty. Ratification has to follow the prescribed internal (domestic) process. Once this process has been completed, it is of crucial importance that the state prepares an 'instrument of ratification' and deposits this with the office of the AU Legal Counsel in Addis Ababa. Without the deposit, the state's ratification does not take effect.
- (e) Sometimes a state may also 'accede' to a treaty. Accession takes place when a state has not signed a treaty, but decided to become bound. Put very simply, accession is when signature and ratification coincides. Accession has the same legal effect as ratification. In other words, a state that has not yet signed, need not first sign and later ratify the Protocol, but can do it 'all at once' by acceding to the Protocol.
- (f) At the internal level, the process through which the state become bound to a treaty depends on the relevant constitutional and other legal requirements.

- (g) In most states, it is standard that the text of the instrument is submitted to the line ministry/department responsible for Justice and Constitutional affairs for scrutiny to ensure that it is consistent with domestic law. It is also standard that the text of the Agreement is submitted to the Department/ministry responsible for International Relations and Cooperation for scrutiny to ensure that it is consistent with international law. A cabinet memorandum is often prepared by the line ministry/department responsible, and submitted to the cabinet secretariat. The process then mostly proceed to parliament.
- (h) Once the domestic process has been completed, the relevant department/ministry develops the ratification instrument.
- (i) The relevant department then ensures that the Instrument of Ratification or Accession is deposited with the AU Legal Counsel.

#AgewithRights
Roadmap to ratification:
Protocol to the
African Charter on Human
and Peoples' Rights on the
Rights of Older Persons

The Centre for Human Rights strongly urges Namibia to sign and ratify the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons without delay.

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1. BACKGROUND TO THE PROTOCOL ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

On 31 January 2016, member states of the African Union (AU) adopted the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa (Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons). The magnitude of human rights violations against older persons in Africa continues to grow unabated and the rapid expansion of population ageing and people living longer will further exacerbate the human rights situation of older persons. The number of older persons aged 60 years and older is expected to increase from 69 million in 2017 to 226 million in 2050 (UNDESA World Population Ageing, 2017). Hence, there is an urgent need for a concerted effort by States to redress the current human rights violations against older persons through enforceable obligations. Older persons experience violations of their rights at family, community and institutional levels due to multiple forms of discrimination as a result of accumulated inequalities across their life and the intersectionality of age with disability, ethnic origin, literacy levels, gender and poverty.

Consequently, in most parts of Africa older persons experience high levels of poverty and violence as well as difficulties accessing information and education, financial services and employment. Other violations include the infringement of their right to property and inheritance, especially land, access to justice, the right to housing, privacy and access to adequate health care. Ageism is also widely tolerated, resulting in negative perceptions and attitudes towards older persons which are rarely challenged.

Experiences of ageing are not uniform. Older women are disproportionately affected by these inequalities as they live longer than older men and face a triple jeopardy of sexism, disempowerment and ageism. Older women are therefore more likely to be poor, widowed, without pension or health care, socially ostracized and abused, experience generational conflict and suffer violence in old age compared to their male counterparts. Accusations of witchcraft because of age and gender stereotypes are rife, wherein older women are sometimes forced out of their homes or even killed. In addition, older women are burdened with the care of grandchildren and sick family members (Doron *et al* 2016). These factors impact on their overall health and wellbeing in old age.

The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons aims to ensure respect and protection of the rights of older persons. The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons accelerates the progressive advancement of older persons' rights in many spheres of their lives.

The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons is a transformative legal instrument providing norms and standards in protecting the rights of older persons in Africa. The Protocol provides an opportune moment to ensure that older persons enjoy their full rights and freedoms on equal basis with other population groups. When older persons' rights and entitlements related to social, economic, political and cultural spheres are protected, families and society are able to benefit from the potential and talents of older persons. Therefore, it enables the continent to fully realise its demographic dividends.

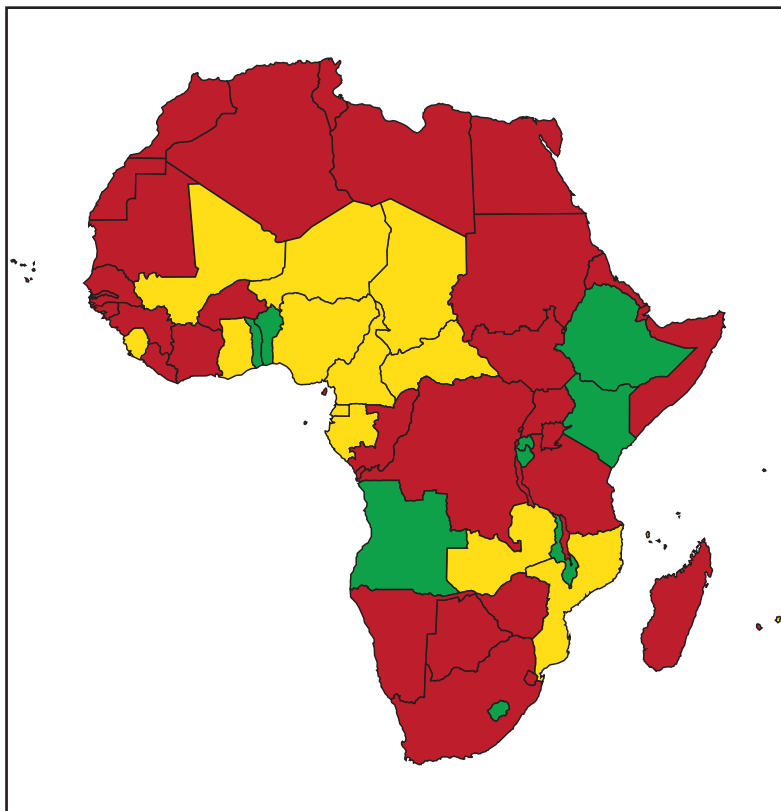
When this happens, it will be mandatory for every African Member State to design and implement action plans, policies, programmes and services that address the needs and vulnerabilities of older persons, and report on progress made in the implementation of the Protocol.

2. STATUS OF RATIFICATION OF THE PROTOCOL ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons will only come into force as a legal instrument when 15 of the 55 AU Member States have ratified it. As of 14 February 2023, 9 countries have ratified the Protocol, these are: Angola (2022), Benin (2019), Burundi (2022), Ethiopia (2020), Kenya (2021), Lesotho (2018), Malawi (2021), Rwanda (2022) and Togo (2021) (these countries are represented in green on the Map below). Countries that have signed the Protocol are Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Mozambique, Mauritius, Nigeria, Niger, Sierra Leone and Zambia these countries are represented in yellow on the Map below).

Namibia has not signed nor ratified the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons.

Map 4: States that have signed and ratified the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons



Green - Countries that have ratified the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons

Yellow - Countries that have signed the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons

Red - Countries that have neither signed nor ratified the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons

3. REASONS FOR NAMIBIA TO RATIFY THE PROTOCOL ON THE RIGHTS OF OLDER PERSONS

- The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons promotes equal participation of older persons in decision-making processes, ensuring that their potential and talents are utilised and their needs and concerns are addressed to ensure the wellbeing of millions of older persons across Africa.
- The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons serves as a tool for the development of age-friendly policies, laws, programmes and services that address the challenges faced by older persons in order to fully exercise their human rights in Africa's increasingly ageing societies.
- The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons provides standards and guidelines to help remove the stigma associated with ageing, while perpetuating more positive images of ageing and creating awareness of the contribution of older persons to the society.
- The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons helps hold governments to account for their actions towards the protection of the rights of older people and to bring all countries to a similar level and standard of protection of older persons.

The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons enjoins Namibia to enact legislation and take other measures that provides for:

- the elimination of discrimination against older persons,
- access to justice and equal protection before the law,
- access to employment without discrimination,
- social protection,
- access to health care services,
- access to education, information and communication technology, as well as
- accessibility to infrastructure for older persons.

4. PROCESS OF RATIFICATION

1. The procedures through which states become bound to international human rights treaties, such as the Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons, has internal and external dimensions.
2. At the external level, the state may sign, ratify or accede to the treaty.
3. Often, immediately after a treaty has been adopted, states that are present may sign the treaty. States may however also sign the treaty at a later stage. Signature does not bind a state to apply the treaty provisions. It merely indicates that they state has taken note of the treaty and sets out its intention at a later stage to be bound by the treaty by ratifying it.
4. States may then at any state ratify the treaty. Ratification has to follow the prescribed internal (domestic) process. Once this process has been completed, it is of crucial importance that the state prepares an 'instrument of ratification' and deposits this with the office of the AU Legal Counsel in Addis Ababa. Without the deposit, the state's ratification does not take effect.
5. Sometimes a state may also 'accede' to a treaty. Accession takes place when a state has not signed a treaty, but decided to become bound. Put very simply, accession is when signature and ratification coincides. Accession has the same legal effect as ratification. In other words, a state that has not yet signed, need not first sign and later ratify the Protocol, but can do it 'all at once' by acceding to the Protocol.
6. At the internal level, the process through which the state become bound to a treaty depends on the relevant constitutional and other legal requirements.
7. In most states, it is standard that the text of the instrument is submitted to the line ministry/department responsible for Justice and Constitutional affairs for scrutiny to ensure that it is consistent with domestic law. It is also standard that the text of the Agreement is submitted to the Department/ministry responsible for International Relations and Cooperation for scrutiny to ensure that it is consistent with international law. A cabinet memorandum is often prepared by the line ministry/department responsible, and submitted to the cabinet secretariat. The process then mostly proceeds to parliament.

8. Once the domestic process has been completed, the relevant department/ministry develops the ratification instrument.
9. The relevant department then ensures that the Instrument of Ratification or Accession is deposited with the AU Legal Counsel.

Roadmap for the ratification of the African Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security

The Centre for Human Rights urges the Republic of Namibia to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security (African Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security).

This Roadmap provides a concise introduction to this Protocol and the significance of increased ratification of this Protocol by the Republic of Namibia.

The African Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security was adopted by the member states of the African Union on 6 February 2022. It is the first comprehensive African human rights treaty providing for the right to social security to all citizens of member states of the African Union. This human rights treaty is crucial because it seeks to ensure that no African citizen is deprived of formal social protection. Given the fact that the majority of people in Africa lack formal social protection, and millions of Africans live in poverty, ratifying the Protocol is significant because it provides protection to these vulnerable groups and guides its state parties in addressing these challenges.

The Protocol recognises social security as a right. This is of paramount importance, especially for the most vulnerable sections of African societies. It also requires states to take proactive measures to ‘promote inclusive economic and social development,’¹ which is vital to ensure that no one in Africa is subject to deprivation.

It also recognises informal social protection mechanisms and requires state parties to strengthen them. By doing so, the Protocol not only acknowledges the significance of African social protection systems but also seeks to enhance them.

The Protocol further recognises the agency of African people to pull themselves out of poverty. It requires its state parties to facilitate conditions that enable people to be self-sufficient, for example, by refraining from adopting policies that perpetuate inequality, by fostering an entrepreneurial culture and investing in education and training.

RATIFICATION AND ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE PROTOCOL

The African Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security is open for ratification. A state ratifying this Protocol is

1 Art 6(1), African Protocol on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security.

required to deposit its instrument of ratification with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.²

This Protocol will come into force when 15 member states of the African Union ratify it.

2 As above, art 32(2).



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