



**CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENTS**



**SAFEGUARDING
YOUTH RIGHTS**

AFRICAN YOUTH HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

*"Empowering African Youth for the
Realisation of Human Rights"*

VENUE:
ZOOM PLATFORM

DATE:
3 - 4 SEPTEMBER 2024

AFRICA YOUTH HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

PROGRAMME

Day 1: Tuesday, 03 September 2024

Morning Session

Moderator: Ompha Tshamano

09:00-09:20 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Jonathan MD Yanzee

Executive Director, Campaign for Human Rights and Development

Lloyd Kuveya

Assistant Director, Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria

09:20-11:00 **Overview of the Normative Framework of the African Human Rights system and the United Nations Human Rights system**

The session will discuss the normative framework of the African Human Rights System and the United Nations Human Rights System. The session will highlight the key principles, regulations, and mechanisms that form the basis of these two human rights systems, focusing on how these mechanisms address youth-specific issues.

Facilitator:

Charles Kajoloweka–Youth and Society (YAS)

11:00-11:30 **Tea Break**

Moderator: Clement Agyemang

11:30-13:00 **Panel Discussion on Youth Participation in Governance and Decision-making**

The session aims to address the involvement of young people in governance structures and decision-making, highlighting the challenges they encounter in exercising this right. It also emphasises the significance of youth engagement in elections and explores misconceptions about youth participation, drawing on case studies from South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, and

Namibia. The session will conclude by discussing potential areas of involvement and opportunities for bilateral dialogue to enhance the capabilities of young people.

Panellists:

- Bwanika Lwanga–Activist
- Sarabel Odera – Future Africa, Kenya
- Dr Zainab Olaitan– Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation (IPATC)
- Jessica Uiras (Namibia) – Human Rights Analyst and Inhouse Researcher

13:00-14:00 **Lunch Break**

Moderator: Ompha Tshamano

14:00-15:30 **Panel discussion on Freedom of Expression Online and Online Safety for African Youth**

The session aims to examine the information landscapes and will delve into the challenges that African Youth encounter when exercising their right to freedom of expression online. It will frame the concept of freedom of expression and its importance in upholding human rights, aiming to hold various stakeholders accountable and promote transparency. The session also seeks to address the shrinking civic space/ restrictive environments for participation in the civic space, as a result of government actions thereby reducing participation.

Panellists:

- Diana Nandudu–Human Rights Network for Journalists, Uganda
- Bridgette Ndlovu–Paradigm Initiative, Zimbabwe

Day 2: Wednesday, 04 September 2024

Moderator: Rosevitha Ndumbu

09:00-09:10 **Recap**

09:10-11:00 **Gender and the realisation of human rights in Africa**

The session will uncover the dire effects of the construction of gender in the realisation of youth human rights in Africa. It will also discuss how gender plays a role in restricting young people's involvement in the broader human rights framework. Additionally, the session will ultimately shed light on the Maputo protocol and its potential to promote the rights of girls in Africa. The session will be conducted within an intersectional framework. The session will discuss the impact of gender on the realisation of human rights from an intersectional perspective, focusing on the vulnerability experienced by young people, including Persons With Disabilities, those with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, expressions, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), and individuals from rural communities.

Panellists:

- Awa Gai
- Lilian Mbuti
- Motlatli Motseole
- Bianca Knight

11:00-11:30 **Tea Break**

Moderator: Emihle Majikija

11:30-13:00 **Climate justice and youth participation**

This panel explores the intersection of climate justice and the dynamic role of youth in driving environmental change. It will address the critical need for equitable climate action that considers the voices and needs of the most vulnerable communities, particularly young people who are both inheriting and actively shaping the future of our planet. The discussion will highlight successful youth-led initiatives, the impact of grassroots activism, and strategies for amplifying young voices in climate policy and decision-making.

Panellists:

- Adelaide Chapoga–Centre for Environmental Law
- Rutendo Mugabe–Centre for Human Rights
- Mosupatsila Nare–Women's Institute for Leadership Development
- Samrawit Getaneh–African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child
- Emmanuel D. Wilson–ICPD

Moderator: Emihle Majikija

14:00-14:30

Action Planning

14:30-15:00

Presentation and discussions

Moderator: Ompha Tshamano and Emihle Majikija

15:00-15:30

Conference Evaluation and Certificates

15:30-15:45

Closing Remarks

Lloyd Kuveya–Centre for Human Rights