



ACERWC
African Committee of Experts on
the Rights and Welfare of the Child

41st Ordinary Session of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child

26 April - 06 May 2023
Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho

PROGRAM OF WORK

An Organ of the



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PROGRAM OF WORK

DAY 1 April 26, 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-12:30	Working Group Meeting on Children with Disabilities	Closed Session
13:30-17:00	Working Group on Children's Rights and Climate Change	

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DAY 2 27 April 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-12:30	Working Group on Children Rights and Business	Closed Session
13:30-17:00	Working Group on Implementation of Decisions	

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DAY 3 28 April 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
08:30-10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Procedural Matters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Adoption of the Agenda and the Program of Work. ii. Organization of work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Assignments of Committee Members for consideration of applications for Observer and Affiliate Status 	Closed Session
10:00-11:15	<p>Official Opening of the 41st Session of the ACERWC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Remarks by children's representative (5 Minutes)- ii. Remarks by CSO Forum representative (5 Minutes)- Ms Felistus Motimedi iii. Remarks by GIZ representative Ms. Sophia Gallina (5 Minutes) iv. Remarks by the NANHRIs representative (5 Minutes)- Mr Gilbert Sebihogo v. Remarks by the UNICEF representative (5 Minutes) vi. Remarks by the UNCRC representative (5 Minutes)- Ms. Mikiko OTANI vii. Remarks by UN SRSG-VAC- (5 Minutes)- Dr. Najat Maalla M'jid viii. Remarks by the AGA Secretariat (5 Minutes)- Amb. Salah S. Hammad ix. Remarks by the Commissioner of Health, Humanitarian and Social Affairs (7 Minutes)- H.E Minata Cessouma Samate x. Remarks by the Chairperson of the ACERWC (7 Minutes)- Hon. Joseph Ndayisenga xi. Remarks by Hon Deputy Prime Minister Chief Justice Nthomeng Majara of the Kingdom of Lesotho 	Open Session
11:15-11:30	Family Photo and Health Break	
11:30-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remarks by representatives of Member States(3 minutes each) • Remarks by NHRIs with Affiliate Status (3 minutes each) 	

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
13:00-14:00	Lunch	Open Session
14:00-14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizations with Observer Status (3 minutes each) 	
14:45-15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Africa Governance Architecture Session (7 minutes each)- Presentations on selected relevant activities and possible areas of synergies with the ACERWC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights ii. The African Court on Human and peoples' Rights iii. APRM iv. PAP v. AU-ECOSOCC 	
15:30-15:45	Health Break	
15:45-16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on the Rights and Welfare of Children with Disabilities (by NANHRI) 	
16:30-17:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children with Albinism in Africa 	

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DAY 4 29 April 2023

DAY OF GENERAL DISCUSSION ON PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM DRUG USE

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-09:30	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Remark by the ACERWC- Remark by the HHS Setting the context <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Introduction on the objective and content of the program	
<u>09:00-10:45</u>	Panel I – Perceptions of substance abuse in Africa and children’s rights: prevalence, protection and prevention Moderator- TBC	
<u>11:00-13:00</u>	Panel II – Best practices of select African countries: addressing the rise of substance abuse among children Moderator- TBC	
<u>14:00-15:15</u>	Panel III – Adequacy of the existing protective rights against substance abuse: a review of the effectiveness of international and regional frameworks- TBC	
<u>15:30-16:30</u>	Panel IV – Prevention methods and awareness campaigns: International and regional perspectives	
<u>16:30-17:00</u>	Outcome Statement Closing Remarks	

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DAY 5 01 May 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-09:45	Joint General Comment on FGM	Open Session
09:45-10:30	Presentation and Discussion on the Draft VAC Guidelines	
10:30-11:15	Presentation on Agenda 2040 Action Plan	
11:15-11:30	Health Break	
11:30-12:15	Presentation and discussion – study on the impact of climate change on children in Africa	
12:15-13:00	Presentation by ACPF <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Economic Case for Investing in Children in Africa: Investing in Our Common Future (2021)• Good Practices on Child-Sensitive Economic Policies in Africa (2022)• Policy brief: Child-Sensitive Economic Policies in Africa: Highlights of Good Practices (2022)	
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consideration of the Initial Report of the Republic Botswana	Open Session

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DAY 6 02 May 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration of the Periodic Report of the Republic Cote d'Ivoire	Open Session
13:10-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration of the Initial Report of the Republic of Djibouti	

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DAY 7 03 May 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-12:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration of the Periodic Report of the Kingdom of Lesotho	Open Session
14:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration of the Periodic Report of the Republic of South Africa	

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DAY 8 04 May 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Periodic Report of Benin	Closed Session
14:00-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Periodic Report of Mozambique	Closed Session

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DAY 9 05 May 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-12:00	Consideration of CSO Complementary Report on the Periodic Report of Senegal	Closed Session
14:00-17:00	<p>Pending Communications</p> <p>i. Communication No: 0015/Com/003/2020 submitted by Taha Fadul, Nisreen Mustafa, Somia Shampaty and Nawras Elfatih (on behalf of Abbas Mohamed AL-Nour Musa Al-Emam, Modathir Alrayah Mohamed Badawi and Fadoul Almoula Aljaili Nourallah) against the Republic of The Sudan</p> <p>ii. Communication No: 0017/Com/001/2021 -Child Rights and Rehabilitation Network, Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa and Center for Human Rights (On Behalf of Children Affected by Witchcraft Accusations in Nigeria) against the Federal Republic of Nigeria</p> <p>iii. Communication No: 0019/Com/001/2022- Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa and Mr. Solomon Joojo Cobbinah (on behalf of school-girls living in villages along the River Offin in the Ashanti Region of Ghana) against the Republic of Ghana</p> <p>iv. Communication No: 0020/Com/002/2022- Lawyars Associated for Human Rights in Africa (on behalf of Children of Jehovah's Witnesses) against the State of Eritrea</p> <p>v. Communication No: 0021/Com/003/2022-People Serving Girls at Risk and Equality Now (on behalf of Esnart Kenesi) against the Republic of Malawi</p> <p>vi. Communication No: 0022/Com/004/2022-Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA) against the Republic of Burundi</p> <p>vii. Communication No:0023/Com/005/2022 IHRDA and Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria (On Behalf of Children in Nigeria) against the Federal Republic of Nigeria</p>	

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DAY 10 06 May 2023

TIME (Southern African Time)	ITEM/ACTIVITY	Access to Session
09:00-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Request for an advisory Opinionii. Presentation on draft 2024 ACERWC Budgetiii. Presentation on audit reportsiv. The AU Champion on Children's Rightsv. Presentation for Adoption:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Study on the Status of Implementation of Decisions of the ACERWC;• Study on Children's Rights and Business in Africa;• Study on the Status of Children with Disabilities in Africa;• Joint General Comment on FGM• Guidelines on Children's Rights during Election• Implementation plan of Agenda 2040vi. Request for Observer Statusvii. Request for Affiliate Status from NHRIs	Closed Session
14:00-16:00	Adoption of Decisions	
16:00-1700	Adoption of report and closing remarks	Open Session

