



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

## **DAY OF GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE SOLUTIONS TO THE CHALLENGES FACED BY CHILDREN WITH ALBINISM**

### **OUTCOME STATEMENT**

**Acknowledging** that children with albinism face unique health, social, and safety challenges that require urgent and tailored responses to ensure the full enjoyment of their rights and welfare

**Being cognizant** of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child; Africa's Agenda for Children 2040; the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa; the African Union Plan of Action to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa (2021-2031); and the Pan African Parliament Guidelines on the elimination of harmful practices related to accusations of witchcraft and ritual attacks.

**Concerned** about the entrenched stigma, prejudice, and social isolation faced by children with albinism, which are compounded by multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination that impact their rights to life, health, security, and education

**Deeply concerned** by the reports of harmful practices, including mutilations, killings, and trafficking targeting children with albinism, and the significant gaps in the rights to health and education, including the critical provision of reasonable accommodation and assistance, including access to lifesaving sunscreen

**Recognizing** the vital role that can be played by the ACERWC, Member States to the African Union, international, non-governmental, civil society organizations, and members of the community in advocating and contributing to an inclusive and equitable society for children with albinism

**We, the participants of the Day of General Discussion on the solutions to the challenges faced by children with albinism, on 17 April 2024, reaffirm Resolution No. 19/2022 of the ACERWC Working Group on the Rights of Children with Disabilities on the situation of children with albinism in Africa,**

**1. Urge the ACERWC and African Union to:**

- Expedite the appointment of a Special Envoy on Albinism by the African Union to oversee the effective implementation of the African Union Plan of Action to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa
- Encourage Member States to enact and rigorously enforce legislation aimed at safeguarding the rights and welfare of children with albinism
- Develop and adopt a Guiding Note on the protection and promotion of the rights and welfare of children with albinism in Africa

**2. Urge Member States of the African Union to:**

- Ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and domesticate the African Union Plan of Action to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa (2021-2031) through the adoption of national action plans on albinism
- Involve children with albinism and organisations of persons with albinism in the development of laws and policies related to them, and strengthen the capacity of children with albinism to be self-advocates and advocate for their rights in their families and communities.
- In line with international human rights laws and standards, develop a specific national strategy to address the provision and access to free or affordable healthcare services, protective gear, sunscreens and assistive devices required by children with albinism,
- Ensure that there are legal provisions on inclusive education, and to protect and prevent the violation of the rights of children with albinism and respond to their

psychosocial needs where they have experienced and are exposed to harm, and further ensure perpetrators of attacks against children with albinism are brought to justice

**3. Urge international/non-governmental/civil society organisations to:**

- Collaborate with Member States to enhance awareness-raising efforts to foster understanding and acceptance of children with albinism, with targeted sensitization sessions for school staff, parents, and pupils to combat bullying, and discrimination, and ensure the rights of education for children with albinism
- Provide technical assistance and capacity-building support to Member States in collecting and analysing data disaggregated by disability, including albinism, to inform policy development and programming
- Collaborate with Member States to develop and implement comprehensive national strategies and action plans specifically addressing the needs of children with albinism
- Advocate for the ratification and implementation of international and regional instruments on the rights of persons with albinism and monitor compliance by Member States to ensure accountability
- Allocate resources and funding to support programs and initiatives aimed at addressing the unique challenges faced by children with albinism including access to healthcare, education, and social services
- Conduct research and data collection efforts to understand better the prevalence and impact of discrimination and violence against children with albinism, informing evidence-based advocacy and programming

**Adopted on 17 April 2024  
Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho**