



ACERWC Secretariat

E-mail: acerwc-secretariat@africa-union.org

Tel: +266 52 01 00 18 | P.O.Box: 13460,

Address: Nala House, Balfour Road Maseru
Kingdom of Lesotho

RESOLUTION NO. 22/2022 ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON BIRTH REGISTRATION AND NATIONALITY

The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), meeting at its 40th Ordinary Session, held from 23 November 2022 to 01 December 2022 in Maseru, the Kingdom of Lesotho;

Considering its mandate on the promotion of the rights and welfare of the child in Africa pursuant to the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

Recalling Article 38(1) of the African Children's Charter that authorises the ACERWC to establish its own Rules of Procedures, which the ACERWC developed and revised in 2013, 2015 and 2020 respectively;

Considering Rule 58 of the Revised Rules of Procedure, which allows the ACERWC to establish special mechanisms and assign specific tasks or mandates to either an individual member or group of members concerning the preparation of its sessions or the execution of special programs, studies and projects;

Mindful of the fact that the preamble of the Revised Rules of Procedure provides that "Special mechanisms" shall be understood to mean either special rapporteur, working group, study group, sub-committee or other subsidiary body established by the Committee with a specific mandate;

Considering the ACERWC's decision on the establishment of country and thematic based rapporteurs, adopted at its 28th ordinary Session held on 21 October – 1 November 2016 in Banjul, The Gambia;

Noting with concern that birth registration and nationality remain critical for most African children;

Recognizing that the right to birth registration and nationality is crucial to the enjoyment of many other rights of the child in Africa;

Underscoring the magnitude of the work of the Special Rapporteur in the quest for solutions to problems arising in the context birth registration and nationality in Africa;

Decides to amend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to name, birth registration and nationality and appoint **Karoonawtee Chooramun** as Special Rapporteur on Birth Registration and Nationality. The mandate calls on the Special Rapporteur to:

- i. Seek, receive, examine and act upon information about birth registration and nationality in Africa;
- ii. Submit reports at every ordinary session of the ACERWC;
- iii. Cooperate and engage in dialogue with Member States, National human Rights Institutions, relevant intergovernmental organisations, international and regional mechanisms, United Nations Agencies, civil society organisations and other stakeholders on issues relating to birth registration and nationality;
- iv. Take the lead in the development of the ACERWC's documents, including General Comments, concerning birth registration and nationality;
- v. Serve as a focal point on birth registration and nationality;
- vi. Set standards and develop effective strategies to better protect the right to birth registration and nationality;
- vii. Follow up on the implementation of his/her recommendations; and
- viii. Raise awareness on and promote the implementation of the right to birth registration and nationality under the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

Done in Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho, 1 December 2022.