

## **RESOLUTION NO.4/2017 ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN**

The African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), meeting at its 30th Ordinary Session, held from 6 December to 12 December 2017, in Khartoum, Sudan:

**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 and 2015 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 violence against children remains a pervasive challenge in Africa in the home setting, at school, in institutions and on street;

**Underscoring** the need to tackle all forms of violence against children by changing societal mindsets, putting in place necessary legal and institutional frameworks and ensuring zero tolerance;

**Decides** to appoint Mrs. Aver Gavar as Special Rapporteur on violence against children with effect from December 2017. The mandate calls on the Special Rapporteur to:

- i. Analyze the root causes of violence against children;
- ii. Seek, receive, examine and act upon information on the situation of violence against children;
- iii. Mobilize action and political support to end all forms of violence against children in Africa;
- iv. Generate renewed concern on the harmful effects of violence against children to promote behavioral and social change, and to achieve effective progress;
- v. Cooperate and engage in dialogue with Member States, National human Rights Institutions, relevant intergovernmental organizations, international and regional mechanisms, UN Agencies and CSOs to end violence against children;
- vi. Set standards and develop strategies to end all forms of violence against children;
- vii. Conduct activities, which could raise awareness on the impact of violence against children;
- viii. Issue statements on violence against children where appropriate and if decided by the Committee;
- ix. Take the lead on developments of the Committee's documents, including General Comments and resolutions, related to violence against children;
- x. Serve as a focal point on area of violence against children and;
- xi. Report to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child annually on the activities undertaken under the mandate.

Done in Khartoum, Sudan, December 2017.