AFRICA FOR WOMEN’S RIGHTS
"RATIFY AND RESPECT!"

CAMPAIGN KIT
2009

for the Campaign "Focal Points" and other Civil Society Organisations in Africa

"Determined to ensure that the rights of women are promoted, realised and protected in order to enable them to enjoy fully all their human rights..."

INTRODUCTION

I. THE CAMPAIGN
1. The Campaign’s Objectives "From advocacy... to law... to reality"
   A. Ratify!
   B. Respect!
   C. Mobilisation of all!
   D. Strength in unity
2. The Campaign’s actors and their roles
   A. The Steering Committee
   B. The focal points
   C. Other civil society actors
3. Extract from the Campaign Declaration

II. CALL TO ACTION!
1. Campaign material
2. Campaign timeline
3. Actions at the national level
   A. Specific actions
   B. Actions to mobilise the media and the general public and put pressure on national authorities
4. Actions at the regional and international levels
5. Evaluate progress!

III. CONTACTS
1. Contact of the Steering Committee
2. Contacts of the Steering Committee members organisations

IV. APPENDIX
1. Ratification status of the principal women’s rights protection instruments
2. Questionnaire for the preparation of the Dossier of Claims and Concerns
INTRODUCTION

The year 2009 marks the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), yet women’s human rights continue to be violated across the African continent and worldwide. Whilst there have been positive reforms of law and practice in some African states, there is still a long way to go to combat violence and discrimination against women.

In order to give new impetus to the struggle for respect of women’s human rights six international and regional organisations, together with their members and partners in over forty African countries, have decided to join forces to launch a campaign, targeting all governments across the continent, to demand respect for women’s human rights:

**Africa for women’s rights: ratify and respect!**

This kit, intended for the use of national human rights and women’s rights NGOs, sets out the objectives and structure of the Campaign and provides guidelines for organising actions throughout its duration.
I. THE CAMPAIGN

“Discrimination and violence against women inflict “an untold cost on all humankind”, in the words of Ban-Ki Moon1. This injustice calls for immediate action on the part of all, women and men, for the sake of humanity”. 
The Campaign Steering Committee

1. The Campaign’s Objectives
“From advocacy... to law... to reality”

In the majority of African countries, discrimination remains rooted in law and in practice: women are denied equal rights to inheritance, property, custody and guardianship of children, and are subjugated to their husbands. Women have unequal and limited access to education, health, justice and public affairs. Violence continues to be perpetrated against women in both the public and private spheres. Across the continent women continue to suffer domestic and sexual violence, harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation, widowhood rites, wife inheritance, forced and early marriage. In a number of countries, recent escalation of political violence has particularly targeted women. In times of armed conflict, women are often the first victims, with sexual violence used as a weapon of war.

Strengthening respect for women’s human rights requires reform of the legal framework. The fulfilment of women’s human rights is dependent on the political will of governments to RATIFY international and regional instruments for the protection of women’s human rights and to RESPECT their international obligations, by reforming national laws and taking all necessary steps to ensure their implementation.

The goals of this Campaign are to obtain concrete commitments at the international level, legal reforms at the national level and the demonstration of political will by all governments to ensure such reforms are respected. All the states of the continent are targeted by this initiative, which will take different forms depending on the situation within each country.

A. RATIFY!

The Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa provide a legal framework to fight violations of women’s human rights. By ratifying these instruments, states commit themselves to take all necessary measures to end discrimination and ensure respect of women’s human rights.

1. Extract from a speech made on 25 February 2008 by the United Nations Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon to the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, on the UN global campaign for gender equality and to end violence against women.
Whilst almost all African states have ratified CEDAW (51 of 53), 8 states have entered reservations to this Convention, which undermine the very principle of non-discrimination. 35 states have not ratified its Optional Protocol, which allows individual women to seek redress for violations before the CEDAW Committee, responsible for monitoring implementation of the Convention. Further, 5 years after its adoption, 28 states have still not ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s rights on the Rights of Women in Africa. (Figures in January 2009)

- **WE CALL UPON** African states to ratify these instruments without reservation.

**B. RESPECT!**

Even states that have adhered to these instruments have so far failed to take the measures required to ensure their implementation.

Whilst ratification, without reservation, of international and regional women’s rights protection instruments is indispensable, it is meaningless if it is not accompanied by reforms of national law. It is only through the implementation of these instruments in the national law of each state that women fully enjoy their rights and have access to remedies when they are violated. States must therefore abolish discriminatory laws and adopt legislation to protect women’s human rights when the laws in force do not permit full and effective application of international and regional conventions.

- **WE CALL UPON** African states to bring national legislation in conformity with the provisions of international and regional women’s human rights protection instruments, to abolish discriminatory laws and adopt laws for the protection of women’s human rights.

**But the adoption of laws is not enough.** Laws must be accompanied by measures to ensure their effective implementation: publication, information on their content and recourse mechanisms, training of all those involved in their application (judges, lawyers, police officers, health workers, etc). Measures must be taken to ensure access to justice for victims of violations and sufficient human and financial resources must be allocated.

- **WE CALL UPON** the African states to put in place all necessary measures to ensure the effective application of these laws.
C. MOBILISATION OF ALL!

In order to achieve these objectives, the Campaign aims to mobilise all sections of society, women and men. Only through increased general awareness of women’s human rights will it be possible to achieve legal and de facto gender equality.

The Campaign calls upon generalist human rights NGOs to work alongside organisations specialised in the protection of women’s rights. The struggle for respect of women’s human rights should not be stigmatised as a fight led by women for their rights, but should be a common struggle for the respect of human rights. This collaboration at the national level between human rights and women’s rights NGOs aims to contribute to making women’s rights a priority of generalist organisations.

The Campaign will not only target national authorities but will also mobilise regional and international bodies, in order to increase pressure on states to ratify women’s human rights protection instruments and to respect the obligations such instruments impose.

All civil society organisations, both human rights and women’s rights NGOs, must work together to combat discrimination and violence against women.

- **WE CALL UPON** all national, regional and international actors to join the Campaign so that, together, we can achieve gender equality and full respect of women’s human rights.

Further information on the Campaign is available on the blog: www.africa4womensrights.org
D. STRENGTH IN UNITY!

The Campaign aims to combine forces and to share experience and strategies. It is essential to avoid duplicating efforts, but rather to work together to reinforce mobilisation for women’s human rights in Africa. This Campaign is intended to complement rather than compete with other initiatives for women’s rights in Africa, such as:

− "Solidarity for African Women’s Rights" (SOAWR), a coalition of 30 organisations, including the “Réseau du développement et de la communication des femmes africaines” (FEMNET) and the African Center for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHR), which campaigns for the promotion and respect of the Protocol to the African Charter on Women’s Rights in Africa. http://www.soawr.org/en/members/

− "Gender is my Agenda", a campaign launched by Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS) for the respect of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (DSEGA), adopted by Heads of State of the Member States of the African Union in July 2004. www.genderismyagenda.com

− "Equality without reservation", a campaign launched in 2006 by a coalition of NGOs, coordinated by the Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc (ADFM) with the support of FIDH, which calls on Arab countries to withdraw reservations entered upon ratification of CEDAW and to ratify its Optional Protocol. www.blog.ma/cedaw/ and blog.gardonslesyeuxouverts.org/post/2008/03/04/Legalite-sans-reserve
2. The Campaign’s actors and their roles

A. THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee is responsible for creating the basic tools of the Campaign and disseminating them among their members and partners at national level (the “focal points”), coordinating the actions of the focal points, and conducting awareness-raising and advocacy actions at the national, regional and international levels.

The Steering Committee is composed of two generalist human rights organisations:

• The International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
• The African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS)

And four regional organisations specialising in women’s rights:

• Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)
• Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF)
• Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA)
• Women’s Aid Collective (WACOL)

The members of the Campaign Steering Committee together with their national partners form a network of over 100 organisations working for the promotion and protection of human rights and women’s rights across Africa.

To contact member organisations of the Steering Committee, see below or visit the blog: www.africa4womensrights.org
B. THE FOCAL POINTS

Two focal points will co-ordinate the Campaign at the national level in each country:

- One generalist human rights organisation
- One specialist women’s rights organisation

The focal points will work together to implement the Campaign, the aim of this partnership being closer cooperation between specialist NGOs and generalist NGOs, and a greater contribution by the latter to the promotion and protection of women’s rights.

C. OTHER CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS

The Campaign aims to mobilise all sections of society, men and women of all ages and origins, to join the movement for women’s rights in Africa.

Civil society organisations are invited to contact the “focal points” in their country for information on the Campaign’s actions and to get involved in its implementation.

CONTACT THE FOCAL POINTS IN YOUR COUNTRY
Visit the blog for the full list of Focal Points:

www.africa4womensrights.org
3. Extract from the Campaign Declaration

WE, national, regional and international human rights and women’s rights organisations, present throughout Africa

CONCERNED BY:

- Persistent widespread discrimination and violence against women: In the majority of African countries discrimination remains rooted in law and practice: women are denied equal rights to inheritance, property, custody and guardianship of children, and are subjugated to their husbands. Women have unequal and limited access to education, health, justice and public affairs.

Violence continues to be perpetrated against women in both the public and private spheres. Across the continent women continue to suffer domestic and sexual violence, harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation, widowhood rites, wife inheritance, forced and early marriage. In a number of countries recent escalation of political violence has particularly targeted women. In times of armed conflict, women are often the first victims, with sexual violence used as a weapon of war.

- Weak adherence to international and regional women’s human rights protection instruments:
  International law requires states to take all necessary measures to end discrimination and ensure respect for women’s human rights. However, whilst almost all African states have ratified the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), 8 states have entered reservations to this Convention, which undermine the very principle of non-discrimination; and 35 states have not ratified its Optional Protocol, which allows individual women to seek redress for violations. Further, 5 years after its adoption, 28 states have still not ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

- The failure of states to make the necessary legal and political reforms to end violations of women’s human rights: Even states that have adhered to these instruments have so far failed to take the measures required to ensure their implementation. States continue to maintain laws that expressly or indirectly discriminate against women and fail to adopt legislation and policies to protect women from violence and discrimination. Where such laws do exist, violations often go unpunished and impunity prevails. Insufficient efforts are made to raise awareness on women’s human rights and to guarantee access to independent and impartial justice. Many states do not even comply with the obligation to submit periodic reports on the implementation of international and regional instruments, reflecting a serious lack of commitment to protect and promote women’s human rights.
RECOGNISING:

- **The need for mobilisation:** All civil society organisations, both human rights NGOs and women’s rights organisations, need to work together to combat discrimination and violence against women, which harm entire societies and future generations.

**REITERATE** that national governments have the primary responsibility of ensuring respect for women’s human rights. Culture tradition and religion cannot be invoked as justifications for violations of women’s human rights. The elimination of discrimination and violence against women is above all a matter of political will.

Sign the Campaign Declaration online:  
www.africa4womensrights.org
II. CALL TO ACTION!

Mobilisation, awareness-raising and advocacy actions will be carried out at the national, regional and international levels from the beginning of 2009.

1. Campaign material

All the Campaign tools are available on the blog: www.africa4womensrights.org

These tools can be used in the context of the each organisation’s daily actions and/or during actions specifically organised in the framework of the Campaign.

The Campaign Declaration, to be signed by all: organisations should download the Declaration, publish it on their websites and circulate it via email and in hard copy to organisations and individuals for signature. Signatures can be entered online on the Campaign blog or sent to contact@africa4womensrights.org. A maximum number of signatures will lend weight to the Campaign and to the demands addressed to national authorities and regional and international organisations.

The Campaign Presentation Brochure, to be downloaded and distributed to civil society organisations and to the public. This brochure sets out the reasons for launching the Campaign, its objectives and explains how to get involved.

The Campaign Logo, to be downloaded and incorporated into all documents produced in the framework of the Campaign. This logo will give visibility to the Campaign and will unite our actions across the continent. Together let’s create a united movement for women’s human rights in Africa!

The Campaign Poster, to be downloaded and displayed as widely as possible by all available means. This basic poster can be adapted according to your needs, for example by adding photos, details of your events, etc.

The Campaign Web Banner, to be downloaded and incorporated into the web site of each organisation.

A Questionnaire to be downloaded and completed by national organisations in order to identify the principal violations of women’s human rights in each country and to draw up key recommendations to be addressed to national authorities. Once completed the questionnaire should be sent to contact@africa4womensrights.org. The responses to this questionnaire from organisations in each country will be compiled in a Dossier of Claims and Concerns. This information will serve as a basis for the advocacy activities carried out at the national, regional and international levels and will enable the Campaign to address the particular concerns in each state. (A copy of the questionnaire can be found in the annex to this Kit)

On the blog you will also find the Campaign Agenda, regularly updated.
Send us news and information on your operations … dates, places, photos, analyses, etc.
Consult the blog regularly to keep up to date on actions carried out across the continent www.africa4womensrights.org

Become members of the Campaign facebook group – “Africa for women’s rights – ratify and respect” www.facebook.com
to communicate with other members, enter information on how the Campaign is evolving, events organised, photos, videos, etc.
2. Campaign timeline

The first stage of the Campaign is planned over two years (2009-2010). Campaign activities during this period will be divided into two phases:

MOBILISATION PHASE (January 2009 – June 2009)

Objectives:
• To raise awareness of the Campaign in the media and civil society
• To give maximum visibility to the Campaign

ADVOCACY PHASE (July 2009 – December 2010)

Objectives:
• To submit the recommendations of the Campaign to national authorities and to regional and international organisations
• To bring about real, concrete reforms, in law and in practice, to improve respect for women’s human rights in Africa

3. Actions at the national level

The importance of sharing information

The Steering Committee will regularly update the Campaign blog in order to inform all the organisations involved of developments. It is important that all the focal points should maintain regular contact with the member organisations of the Steering Committee by sharing their main concerns with regards to respect for women’s rights in their countries and the recommendations issued to national authorities, as well as any actions taken and progress made. This form of two-way communication is aimed at facilitating the joint nature of this initiative, as only in this way can we form a real movement which will be coherent and which has sufficient visibility to ensure the effectiveness of advocacy actions, and the establishment of a permanent network, which is vital for the follow-up of the Campaign, in order to guarantee the long-term success of the actions undertaken within its framework.

Send information to the Steering Committee at the following address:
contact@africa4womensrights.org
What actions?

As a first step, we suggest that the focal points and other civil society organisations integrate the Campaign into their existing programmes of activities and use the tools of the Campaign (logo, Campaign Declaration, leaflet, poster etc.) within their daily actions on women’s rights. As far as possible, and taking into account the respective capacities of each organisation, we also suggest that you organise specific actions as part of the Campaign. We understand that each organisation has its own programme of activities, however, it is essential that everyone should integrate the Campaign into their actions.

Below you will find a list of suggested actions, some of which are programmed for specific dates, while others can be undertaken at any point during the Campaign, in accordance with the timetables of each organisation.

The Steering Committee of the Campaign is not in a position to financially support these actions. However, the Committee will make available the Campaign tools and will help to raise the visibility of the actions undertaken. It can also assist with the drafting of notes and support advocacy actions aimed at national authorities.

2 key dates to take action at national level:
• around 8 March, International Women’s Day
• between 25 November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and 10 December, International Human Rights Day
### A. Specific actions

#### January – June 2009

**RAISING AWARENESS ON THE CAMPAIGN!**  
**MOBILISING EVERYONE!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Circulate the Campaign Declaration for signature by national NGOs and individuals  
- Disseminate it as widely as possible, in printed version and via the internet  
- Enter the signatures online on the Campaign blog or send the lists of signatures to the Campaign Steering Committee  
Signature of the Campaign Charter by the focal points  
Launch of the Campaign blog  
- Add the Campaign banner to your organisations’ websites with a link to the blog  
- Disseminate the web address of the blog to all your contacts  
- Join the facebook group « Africa for women’s rights -ratify and respect! » and invite your contacts to join it  
**Meeting between the two focal points** in each country to prepare actions to be conducted to mark 8 March 2009. | Organisation of national actions to mark 8 March  
- Integrate the Campaign into any actions already scheduled to mark 8 March (use the Campaign logo on your posters and other documents, distribute the Campaign leaflet, gather signatures to the Campaign Declaration from NGOs and individuals, disseminate the Campaign press release to the media...)  
- Organise specific actions to publicize the Campaign (public events, e.g. marches, debates, concerts etc.), and mobilise the media, (e.g. by submitting features or press articles; obtaining air time on a national radio station; organising demonstrations in front of the offices of the main media etc.)  
- Send all the information on dates & times, venues, formats of events scheduled to the Steering Committee to be included on the Campaign blog  
- Send photographs and reviews of events organised to the Steering Committee to be included on the Campaign blog. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April-May</th>
<th>June</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Contribute to the **Dossier of Claims and Concerns** (see above, Campaign Materials)  
- **Consultation between the focal points on answers to the Questionnaire**  
- **Send the answers to the Questionnaire** to the Steering Committee to be included in the Dossier of Claims and Concerns | Send the signed **Campaign Declaration** together with the complete list of signatures to authorities and to the national media. |
### July - December 2009

**DENOUNCE VIOLATIONS!**  
**CALL FOR REFORMS!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July - October</th>
<th>25 November – 10 December</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Actions around the publication of the Dossier of Claims and Concerns**  
- Widely disseminate concerns and recommendations on the women’s rights situation in your country via internet, in the press etc.  
- Organise a press conference  
- **Send letters to national authorities** (government, parliament, judiciary) to:  
  - Inform them of the concerns and recommendations identified in the Dossier of Claims and Concerns  
  - Request a meeting for your organisation  
  - Send copies of the letters to the Steering Committee to be included on the Campaign blog  
  - Inform the Steering Committee of responses received from the authorities | **Organise national Campaign actions**  
- Integrate the Campaign into actions scheduled to mark “16 days of activism against gender violence” (use the Campaign logo on your posters and other documents, distribute the Campaign leaflet, gather signatures of the declaration from NGOs and individuals, disseminate the Campaign press release to the media...)  
- Organise specific actions to publicize the Campaign (public events, e.g. marches, debates, concerts etc.), and mobilise the media (e.g. by submitting features or press articles; obtaining air time on a national radio station; organising demonstrations in front of the offices of the main media etc.)  
- Send all the information on dates & times, venues, formats of events scheduled to the Steering Committee to be included on the Campaign blog  
- Send photographs and reviews of events organised to the Steering Committee to be included on the Campaign blog |
B. Actions to mobilise the media and the general public and put pressure on national authorities which can be undertaken at any stage of the Campaign

- Organise debates, concerts, theatre, demonstrations, press conferences, petitions etc.

- Disseminate the Campaign Declaration to civil society organisations, individuals, to the national and international press

- Gather signatures to the Campaign Declaration from national organisations and from individuals and well-known people in your country

- Publish features and articles in the national press and on the Campaign blog

- Submit concerns and recommendations to the national authorities, Heads of Government, Ministers, Parliamentarians, local authorities / governors, judges etc. by sending letters and asking for meetings
4. Actions at the regional and international levels

Throughout the Campaign, in addition to its role in the coordination of the Campaign and the creation and dissemination of the Campaign tools, the Steering Committee will mobilize regional and international inter-governmental organisations together with well-known key figures across the continent, in order to give more weight to the concerns and recommendations identified by the focal points and other civil society organisations and to increase the pressure on national authorities to take concrete steps to improve respect for women’s human rights.

The Steering Committee will mobilise the international and regional media. In the name of the Campaign, the Committee will draft and disseminate press releases which will be sent to all the focal points to be disseminated at the national level.

Some examples of actions planned:

In May/June the Committee will organize a public event aiming to:
• Increase the visibility of the Campaign and its message
• Mobilize international, regional and national media
• Mobilize the organizations of African civil society

The details of this event will be publicized on the Campaign blog.

In July, the Steering Committee will organize a series of press conferences to announce the publication of the Dossier of Claims and Concerns.

The Steering Committee will organize a series of advocacy actions during the sessions and summits of regional organizations (African Union Summits, African Commission on Human and People’s Rights (ACHPR)).

The Steering Committee will relay the recommendations of the focal points to the relevant bodies of the United Nations during sessions concerning each country (CEDAW Committee; Human Rights Council; Universal Periodic Review etc.).

The Steering Committee will organize regular consultations with the UN and ACHPR Special Rapporteurs responsible for women’s rights in order to pass on the recommendations of civil society organisations and to strengthen their contribution to the implementation of such recommendations.
5. Evaluate progress!

The organisations participating in the Campaign constitute an immense network capable of monitoring progress achieved towards respect for women’s rights, as well as identifying and highlighting the remaining obstacles. Evaluation of the impact of the Campaign will be made at two levels:

Evaluation of the commitments made by states at international level: withdrawing reservations, signature or ratification of regional or international women’s human rights protection instruments. The Campaign will also record public declarations made by governments to undertake such actions.

Evaluation of legislative and practical developments at national level: abolition of discriminatory laws, the adoption of laws to protect women’s human rights in conformity with their international commitments, and the passing of measures necessary to ensure the respect of these laws.

All developments can be followed on the Campaign blog:
www.africa4womensrights.org
III. CONTACTS

1. Contact of the Steering Committee

contact@africa4womensrights.org

2. Contacts of the Steering Committee members organisations

International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
www.fidh.org and http://blog.gardonslesyeuxouverts.org/

The African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS)
www.acdhrs.org

Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)
www.fasngo.org

Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF)
www.wildaf.org

Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA)
www.wlsa.org.zm

Women’s Aid Collective (WACOL)
www.wacolnigeria.org
APPENDIX

1. Ratification status of the principal women’s rights protection instruments
(at 31st January 2009)

African States which have not ratified CEDAW:
Somalia, Sudan

African States which have entered reservations to CEDAW:
Algeria; Egypt; Lesotho; Libya; Mauritania; Morocco; Niger; Tunisia.

African States which have not ratified the Optional Protocol to CEDAW:
Algeria; Benin; Burundi; Cape verde; Chad; Central African Republic; Comoros; Congo; Democratic
Republic of Congo; Djibouti; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea
Bissau; Ivory Coast; Kenya; Liberia; Madagascar; Malawi; Mauritania; Morocco; Sao Tome and Principe;
Seychelles; Sierra Leone; Somalia (not party to CEDAW); Sudan (not party to CEDAW); Swaziland; Togo;
Tunisia; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe

African States which have not ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People’s
Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa:
Algeria; Botswana; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Congo; Democratic Republic of
Congo; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gabon; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Ivory Coast; Kenya;
Madagascar; Mauritius; Niger; Saharawi Arabic Democratic Republic; Sierra Leone; Somalia; Sudan;
Swaziland; Tunisia; Uganda

Visit the Campaign blog for the latest developments:
www.africa4womensrights.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COUNTRIES</th>
<th>Protocol CADHP</th>
<th>CEDAW</th>
<th>Protocol CEDAW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape verde</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chad</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comoros</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Djibouti</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equatorial Guinea</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eritrea</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesotho</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>NOT PARTY TO AU</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTRIES</td>
<td>Protocol CADHP</td>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Protocol CEDAW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saharawi Arabic Democratic Republic</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>NOT RECOGNIZED BY UN</td>
<td>NOT RECOGNIZED BY UN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sao Tome and Principe</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seychelles</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swaziland</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>R (with reservations)</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statistics (54 countries)</strong></td>
<td>25 ratifications</td>
<td>51 ratifications (8 with reservations)</td>
<td>18 ratifications (53 recognized States)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(53 recognized States)</td>
<td>(53 recognized States)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

X: No action
S: Signed
R: Ratified

- 3 instruments ratified
- 2 instruments ratified
- 1 instrument ratified
- 0 instrument ratified
2. Questionnaire for the preparation of the Dossier of Claims and Concerns

**AFRICA FOR WOMEN’S RIGHTS**

**RATIFY AND RESPECT!**

**Questionnaire**

Contribution to the “Dossier of Claims and Concerns” to be completed and sent back to contact@africa4womensrights.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>COUNTRY:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Status of ratification of principal women’s rights protection instruments:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reservations:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PRESENTATION OF THE FOCAL POINTS:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of the NGO general for the Defense of Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of the NGO specialist for the Defense of Human Rights</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>RECENT ADVANCES FOR THE REALISATION OF WOMEN’S HUMAN RIGHTS:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Legislative reforms to protect women’s human rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Other advances</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PRINCIPAL CONCERNS ON VIOLATIONS OF WOMEN’S HUMAN RIGHTS:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Discriminatory laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Principal obstacles to the application of laws protecting women’s human rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Principal violations of women’s human rights in practice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TESTIMONIES:</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide 3 concrete testimonies from victims of violations illustrating the principal concerns identified above:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **KEY RECOMMENDATIONS TO NATIONAL AUTHORITIES:** |
International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
www.fidh.org and http://blog.gardonslesyeuxouverts.org/

Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)
www.fasngo.org

The African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies (ACDHRS)
www.acdhrs.org

Women’s Aid Collective (WACOL)
www.wacolnigeria.org

Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF)
www.wildaf.org

Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA)
www.wlsa.org.zm

All information on the Campaign is available on the blog:
www.africa4womensrights.org