



# Defenders in Focus

The Bi-Annual e-Newsletter for members and partners of the  
East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network

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## PROGRAM UPDATES



Mr. Hassan Shire at the ACHPR April 2012

the Access to Information Proclamation, 2008 and the Anti Terrorism Proclamation, 2009. [For more information please click here.](#)

EHAHRDP also supported side events on the shrinking of civil society space in Africa and on human rights in Somalia, with Hassan Shire, EHAHRDP's executive director, in the chair for the latter.

## ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

Through its advocacy program, EHAHRDP continues to raise awareness on the situation of HRDs in the sub-region and support network members access the regional and international human rights mechanisms. Highlights from the first half of 2012, included successful advocacy for the establishment of a new UN special rapporteur to examine the human rights situation in Eritrea and the adoption of a strong resolution on the situation in Ethiopia by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, as well as the approval of EHAHRDP's application for consultative ('ECOSOC') status at the United Nations.

### African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) and NGO Forum

EHAHRDP staff and Network members took part in the 51<sup>st</sup> session of the ACHPR which took place in Banjul from 18<sup>th</sup> April to 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012, as well as the NGO Forum beforehand. For remarks delivered by the Network chairperson at the session, [please click here for more information.](#)

Among the main issues on the agenda at this session was the consideration of Sudan's Periodic report among other countries. A woman human rights defender from Sudan, sponsored by EHAHRDP, shared powerful testimony on the experiences of women in IDP camps in Southern Kordofan. EHAHRDP joined its member the African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies in submitting a shadow report on Sudan, which can be [accessed here.](#)

At this session EHAHRDP stepped up its advocacy efforts against the restrictions in the Charities and Societies Proclamation (2009) and the challenges facing human rights defenders in Ethiopia, which has been an issue in focus throughout this period. A resolution passed by the Commission on the human rights situation on Ethiopia on 2<sup>nd</sup> May called on the Ethiopian government to amend the CSP in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. The resolution further called on the Ethiopian government to remove the restrictions on freedom of expression imposed on the mass media by

EHAHRDP made interventions during the ACHPR session on the situation of HRDs and freedom of expression; members spoke on behalf of the Network on the issues of torture and women's rights.

### United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC)

EHAHRDP maintained its presence at the Human Rights Council to engage with UN mechanisms, raising awareness of the challenges facing HRDs in the sub region and advocating for concrete measures to improve their working environment.

In January 2012, EHAHRDP's application for **ECOSOC consultative status** was considered by the Committee on NGOs in New York. Hassan Shire attended the meeting and took part in a Question and Answer session with members of the committee on EHAHRDP's application. The Committee recommended EHAHRDP for special consultative status, a decision which was approved by ECOSOC on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012. This status will allow EHAHRDP to deepen its engagement at

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the UN level. We take this opportunity to thank all those partners who have given and continue to give practical support to EHAHRDP to participate at the UN.

EHAHRDP is celebrating an important success at the Human Rights Council, with the **establishment of a special rapporteur on the human rights situation in Eritrea**. [Click on this link for more details](#). Since September 2011, EHAHRDP has been advocating actively at the UN Human Rights Council with a number of partners, including Human Rights Concern-Eritrea (the Network's focal point on Eritrea) for greater attention to be paid to the situation of chronic human rights violations in the country. [EHAHRDP's efforts included coordinating a letter endorsed by the NGO Forum](#) before the April session of the ACHPR, and another letter endorsed by a global [group of NGOs in June](#), both calling on the HRC members to establish the special rapporteur's mandate. In a first step at the Council's March session, the delegation of Somalia read a joint cross-regional statement on behalf of 44 countries, expressing concern about the human rights situation in Eritrea and calling for further action. In a historic move at the 20<sup>th</sup> session of the HRC in June-



Advocacy at Human Rights Council 2012

China and Russia disassociated themselves, but did not call for a vote). The resolution strongly condemns human rights violations in the country and creates a new special rapporteur. The mandate-holder, to be appointed in September, will report back to the Council in June 2013 at the 23<sup>rd</sup> session.

Also at the June 2012 session, EHAHRDP co-organised with CIVICUS, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, a side event entitled **"Ethiopia: Civil Society Stifled"**, whose panelists included Maina Kiai, the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, as well as a prominent HRD from Ethiopia. A number of government delegations – including that of Ethiopia – were present at the event and made interventions, as well as many Ethiopians in the diaspora.

In March 2012, EHAHRDP supported two human rights defenders working on LGBTI issues in Uganda to attend the HRC session to carry out advocacy activities around the **high-level panel on sexual orientation and**

**gender identity**, the result of tireless advocacy by many HRDs around the world. The adoption of Uganda's UPR working group

report also took place at this session, just weeks after the Anti-Homosexuality Bill was reintroduced into parliament in February. The NGOs present at the session made strong statements during the adoption of the UPR reports of both Uganda and Tanzania. EHAHRDP's delegates from Tanzania (Zanzibar as well as mainland) were the only NGO representatives from the country to make a statement during the UPR adoption session.

### National and Regional-level advocacy

In line with their obligations under the EU Guidelines on HRDs, the EU delegation and member states missions in Uganda presented the inaugural EU HRD award in May 2012. Gerald Kankya, Program Coordinator of the Twerwaneho Listeners Club (TLC), was the overall winner of the award presented at a reception at the Swedish ambassador's residence. EHAHRDP's protection assistant, Stella Murungi, was shortlisted for the award for her support to HRDs at risk.

Targeted assassinations of media workers in **Somalia** continued at an alarming rate in early 2012. EHAHRDP has reiterated its call for credible investigations and prosecutions of those responsible and for the authorities to publicly condemn such attacks and recognize the value of the work of human rights defenders.

### PROTECTION ACTIVITIES

The EHAHRDP Protection program continues to cater for emergency support including HRDs' evacuation from risky areas, capacity building, internship and psycho-social assistance. From January through June, forty human rights defenders have received support. One exiled Eritrean human rights defender



Side event on Sudan, ACHPR April 2012

July 2012, a resolution was submitted by three members of the African Group and passed by consensus at the Council (only

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had this to say about our program:

*"Thank you EHAHRDP!!! I am an Eritrean journalist who lives in Kampala. Eritrea is led by a regime which is known for its anti-press policies where journalists are oppressed. I fled Eritrea and came to Uganda to save my dear life. In such difficult times it is sure that one needs a friend in deed not a friend in need. And such a friend is East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP): I thank them every single day for supporting me. With their help I managed my daily living expenses and I was able to open a website: [www.unitedheartz.com](http://www.unitedheartz.com).*

*When I say THANK YOU EHAHRDP it is not only from my side. It is also on behalf of those indirect beneficiaries. I had some legal issues with my case which EHAHRDP defended and argued on my behalf, to create a secure atmosphere and enable me to work effectively as a journalist, human rights defender and activist. Smiles and hope-giving faces of EHAHRDP staff are more than the funds given. I hope I will always see them the same!!"*

The Protection Program continues to extend support and technical assistance as well as security management to human rights defenders from the sub-region. Partnerships with diplomatic missions, local, national and international organizations are constantly strengthened with a view of finding lasting and sustainable solutions to the challenges facing human rights defenders.

### Trial Observation

Protection program has also continued to closely monitor trials involving human rights defenders. This year, the team has so far observed the Ernest Manirumva trial in Burundi, and one case involving a local partner in western Uganda. The aim of these trial observation missions is to ensure that the due process of the law is observed.

In **Uganda**, Dan Rubombora from Twer-waneho Listeners Club was charged with destroying property and criminal trespass. He works as the organization's trainer, participates in weekly radio talk shows as a panelist and translates a quarterly human rights report released by TLC into the local language. He had been found guilty and had appealed the verdict due to procedural irregularities and lack of sufficient evidence. The trial observation mission attended the hearing which was adjourned to 30<sup>th</sup> August 2012 as the respondent in the matter – the state – was ill prepared.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

### ACTIVITIES

#### Training on Strategic Advocacy and Campaigning

Following a comparative study carried out in five countries in the East and Horn of Africa in 2009 to assess the capacity of HRDs to advocate for their own rights, through regular interaction with the HRDs, EHAHRDP identified a major gap in terms of capacity in the area of strategic campaigning and advocacy. With this in mind EHAHRDP organized a strategic advocacy and campaigning workshop for members and partners from four of the eleven countries that it covers (Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania and Uganda) from 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2012 at the Speke Resort Munyonyo, Kampala.

The aim of the training was to equip human rights activists with tools to conduct strategic advocacy and campaigning. During the workshop, the HRDs got hands-on exercises on how to carry out their work effectively. They also shared experiences on the working environments for human rights defenders in their respective countries.

The training covered EHAHRDP's overall advocacy objectives of supporting and strengthening the international and regional framework for the protection of human rights and human rights defenders by transferring the skills needed to actively engage in utilising and thereby strengthening existing protection mechanisms for HRDs, such as the UN Special Rapporteur on HRDs, the African Court, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and the UN Human Rights Council.

The training was a successful as the participants pointed out in their self-evaluation after the workshop that they had moved from one level to proficiency level. They recommended that EHAHRDP and its partners should organize similar events at the national level.

#### Training on Organizational Management and Administration for HRDs in Uganda

EHAHRDP with support from the Fund for Global Human Rights organized training on organizational management and administration for human rights defenders in Uganda. The training was facilitated by Resource Alliance, an organization that builds skills, knowledge and promote excellence within civil society through capacity building and it took place at the Arch Apartments from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

The overall purpose of the training was to enhance participants' knowledge and understanding of organizational internal and external management and administration for efficiency and effectiveness.

To achieve the overall purpose, 16 participants were selected from within civil society. For purposes of equal opportunity for all, special attention was accorded mainly to members of organization who have never

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benefited from a similar training. The training covered a range of topics including time, internal leadership and human resource management, as well as organizational strategic planning.

At the end of the training, participants stressed the importance of the training in their daily human rights work and that their expectations were met. They found the training relevant with a positive impact to their work and appreciated the quality of the learning materials and aids used during the training. Some of the skills they acquired from the training included: internal management skills, effective time and stress management skills, monitoring, documentation, reporting and evaluation skills.

#### **Monitoring, Documenting and Reporting training for activists working on LGBTI Human Rights.**

On 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012, EHAHRDP organized a skills building workshop for activists working for the recognition and respect for LGBTI rights as provided for under international law at Esella Country Lodge, outside Kampala. However on the first day, the training was interrupted by the Uganda Police and media and brought to an abrupt end. Some workshop participants including EHAHRDP staff were detained in a police bus for approximately an hour. The incident occurred barely four months after another LGBTI workshop was closed down by the Minister of State for Ethics and Integrity. EHAHRDP in a joint statement with FHRI, Freedom House, Amnesty International, Frontline Defenders and CSCHRCL called on the Ugandan authorities to end their silence on the harassment of LGBTI activists. [For particular details visit this link.](#)

*“EHAHRDP extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to all our partner organizations, donors and network members who stood by us*

*during this period and offered overwhelming support. Let us continue working together to advocate for human rights for all”,* said Hassan Shire.

### **PAN AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS NETWORK**

From 17-20 April 2012 Pan African HRDs held a Steering Committee meeting in Banjul, The Gambia, prior to the 51<sup>st</sup> session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights. The five sub-regional networks (Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies for North Africa HRDs Community, East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network, West Africa Human Rights Defenders Network, Southern African Human Rights Defenders Trust and Central African Human Rights Defenders Network) and the representatives of most at risk HRDs groups identified as groups of HRDs requiring specific protection (sexual minority rights defenders and HRDs working in armed conflict/post conflict areas, Women HRDs and journalists fighting to end impunity and corruption). Each sub regional network reported activities undertaken for the past six months and discussed research funding trends for sub-regional networks, the possibility to improve advocacy strategy and protection of most at risk HRDs.

The Pan African HRDs Steering committee met, among others, a number of government delegates at the African Commission, some of the special procedures and members of the African Commission including Reine Alapini-Gansou, Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders, Maiga Soyata, Special rapporteur on Women’s rights in Africa, Bechir Kalfallah, Chairperson of the Working group on ESC rights in Africa, and Pacifique Manirakiza, Chairperson of the Working Group on Extractive Industries, Environment and Human Rights Violations. The discussion with the Commissioners was focused on how to

strengthen the collaboration of the Pan African HRDs Network with these special procedures and how to support the effectiveness and the visibility of action taken by their respective mandates.

The Steering Committee as the supervisory and advisory body tasked to monitor the implementation of Kampala Plan of Action will meet from 24-26 August in Kampala, Uganda, the meeting aims to bring together joint initiatives to ensure continuity and to guarantee that the activities of the Network are implemented in a timely and professional manner in order to strengthen the efforts of regional networks throughout the continent.

In October, the Pan African HRDs Network will bring together HRDs from conflict/post-conflict areas and HRDs from marginalised African Islands at the African Commission for advocacy action learning. Other upcoming activities include working to establish a functional and strong protection department in each sub regional network and to conduct advocacy at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Commission.

### **RESEARCH**

#### **EHAHRDP to launch 2nd Edition of Human Rights Defenders Resource Book**

EHAHRDP is pleased to announce the upcoming release of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition of *Defending Human Rights: A Resource Book for Human Rights Defenders*. The book has been prepared to serve as a resource for human rights defenders within and beyond East and Horn of Africa as they work to promote and protect internationally recognized human rights in difficult and sometimes-dangerous conditions.

Over six chapters and a detailed resource annex, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Resource Book covers

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some of the most pertinent topics of advocacy, security management, capacity building, and protection of human rights for human rights defenders. Topics include:

Engagement with international and regional human rights mechanisms and their effective usage;

- Trauma counseling and stress reduction;
- Security management for human rights defenders;
- Strategies for campaigning including strategies for using social media technologies;
- Defending women's human rights;
- Defending sexual minorities' rights.

The first edition had been updated in order to cover recent developments relevant to the work of human rights defenders such as the creation of the Universal Periodic Review mechanism and the value of social media for human rights work.

EHAHRDP extends its gratitude to our funders for this publication, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The Resource Book will be available in English, French, Arabic, Somali, Swahili, and Amharic online on our website at <http://www.defenddefenders.org/resource-book> - so watch that space in the coming months.

EHAHRDP's research department is currently undertaking a research project concerning the interaction between human rights defenders and the extractive industries. The research intends to examine the situation of HRDs engaging with the extractive resource industry in both Tanzania (mining) and Uganda (oil and gas) in terms

of their ability to operate in a secure and effective manner.

### HRDs and the Extractive Industry

The Research program is carrying out a study on HRDs working in the extractive industry, which is a complex sector. Access to information is vital to further the understanding of the workings of this sector for HRDs and the community more generally and as such access to information is one of the core elements of this research project and its design. The research is also focusing on the ability of HRDs and journalists to assemble freely in order to make their work more effective and engaging and to interact with different organizations and individuals in similar fields. The safety of HRDs working within the sensitive issues of the extractive industry is another of the core elements of the research, as we realize HRDs and journalists can face serious safety concerns while working with the sensitive issues of this sector. The research is also focused on the ability of HRDs to participate in the decision-making process associated with the extractive industry sector and the ability of HRDs to exercise their right to freedom of expression when interacting with the sector.

The research is intended to help EHAHRDP understand how to best support HRDs within this sector through capacity building, advocacy, and protection activities.

## AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION PROJECT

The African Human Rights Education Project (AHRE) is a four year programme developed by Amnesty International to promote human rights through education in 10 African nations: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo and Uganda. Its primary goal is to em-

power marginalised communities by ensuring that people are aware of their rights and are able to mobilize, form groups and identify local opportunities to promote or claim rights and that they have the necessary skills, tools and resources to act.

In order to strengthen civil society's capacity to implement human rights education projects, Amnesty International has partnered with two local organizations in each country. In Uganda it partnered with EHAHRDP and Action for Cooperation and Development (ACORD). These local partners work with educators and activists, providing them with the necessary training and resources to create and deliver human rights education projects that are founded on active participation and engagement.

### Activities carried out

On 13<sup>th</sup> February 2012, a partnership committee meeting was held and in attendance were the National Coordinator of AHRE, partnership committees members from EHAHRDP and ACORD as well as the Project Management Team from Dakar. This meeting was intended to fast track the project activities as well as give an update on the future of the project in Uganda.

From 14<sup>th</sup> February to 18<sup>th</sup> February, Monitoring and Evaluation visits were conducted in Kabale and Bushenyi. In Kabale, the Batwa community was visited and they shared the experience the project has brought to their community as a whole. Due to widespread sensitization in the community, there has been a reduction in the number of cases of domestic violence reported.

In Bushenyi, the AHRE team visited gold mines which were notoriously known for employing children leading to an increase in school drop outs. The team was later entertained to a drama show depicting the benefits of the projects which has advocated for

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the rights of a child.

There was a Network, Planning and Review meeting held in Kampala from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012. The meeting brought together all the 9 micro-project participants to discuss the successes, challenges and lessons learnt since the introduction of the project in their various communities. At this meeting, one of the sustainability measures put in place was the formation of a network which will be used as a platform for fund raising and information sharing.

### EAST AFRICA HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM

East Africa Human Rights Program (EAHRP) is a human rights education initiative implemented by EHAHRDP in partnership with Equitas- Canada, Centre for Environmental Law and Governance (CELG) in Tanzania and Legal Resources Foundation Trust in Kenya, with EHAHRDP being the host and coordinating organization. The program was initiated in 2008 by a group of vibrant human rights defenders and educators in the East Africa region who came together for a training of trainers under these auspices of Equitas - International Centre for Human Rights Education based in Montreal, Canada. See [www.equitas.org](http://www.equitas.org) for more information.

The Program empowers local communities to effectively participate in governance, hold leaders accountable, promote social cohesion and ensure the full respect of the rights of women, children, discriminated against, marginalized and vulnerable groups. It targets community-based organizations and civil society organizations with strong networks at the grassroots level throughout East Africa, especially those working in remote and isolated areas.

**The program is guided by the following key objectives:**

- To strengthen the human rights knowledge and skills of activists working at the community level,
- To increase the capacity of community based organizations to implement and evaluate human rights activities
- To enhance the capacity of EHAHRDP partners in East Africa to design, implement and evaluate regional human rights education initiatives;
- To prepare publications of human rights education materials for use in local communities through education sessions at national or regional levels;
- To improve networking and collaboration between EAHRP organizers, CBOs, CSOs, and local authorities and central governments.

#### Key activities undertaken during the first quarter of 2012:

##### Advanced training of trainers

Sixteen participants had their capacity to offer effective human rights education program strengthened through Training of Community Trainers (TOT) held in Nairobi for 5 days from February 23<sup>rd</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> 2012. The training enabled the participants to use a basic instructional design model to plan and develop effective human rights training for specific target groups, apply a variety of methods and processes for evaluating their HRE activities, employ effective techniques for reflecting on their practice as human rights educators and facilitate HRE activities in their communities more effectively drawing on methods, techniques, skills, attitudes and practices during the workshop.

##### Curriculum Review

In preparation for the second annual human rights training session, the program took a process of curriculum review where a five

member curriculum team spearheaded and reviewed the curriculum to suit the growing demand for human rights education in the region,, particularly incorporating key emerging issues in the region. The overall goal of the curriculum of the East African Human Rights Training Program envisions strengthening the capacity of individuals, HRDs and grassroots organizations aimed at building a culture of human rights throughout East Africa.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual EAHRP Training

The training dubbed “Community Empowerment through Human Rights Training” was conducted from 4<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at Colline Hotel Mukono, Kampala, Uganda. Thirty six participants underwent the two weeks intensive course. Participants were from grassroots organizations with representation from thematic areas such as child rights organizations, women rights organizations, persons living with disability, persons living with HIV and AIDS, sexual minority organizations, access to justice/legal aid, development, prisons, environmental governance and poverty eradication.

### PROTECTION DESK UGANDA/ KENYA

Protection Desk Uganda/Kenya (PD-U/K) have continued to work closely with human rights defenders in the East and Horn of Africa region to build their capacity in security management. Towards the end of 2011, PD-U/K embarked on an internal reflection and strategic planning process, the outcome of which was among others the identification of key groups of HRDs with whom the Desks will closely engage in its capacity building work. Achieving attitudinal and behavioral change has proven to require an intense investment of time and commitment both by the Desks and the defenders themselves, so a

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more individualised, tailored approach taking into account the differing needs of defenders is essential.

In Tanzania, the Desks worked with activists working for the recognition and respect of LGBTI rights. While part of PD-U/K's intervention included security management training, the Desks' support included additional advisory services on key aspects of personal, organizational and community security management. The community has since formed a security committee composed of 11 organizations and individuals who continuously assess the risks in the context they work in and respond to security incidents and threats of all LGBTI persons. While strengthening their security management, PD-U/K together with EHAHRDP also stressed the importance of building protection networks. To this end, the community has been encouraged to actively identify stakeholders relevant to their protection and engage them in a dialogue about their commitments. The community has since formed a focus group that works with the EU working group on human rights and other stakeholders such as the Tanzania Coalition on HRDs for their security and protection. Best practices from other HRDs outside Tanzania are being analysed and adapted by the community. Outcomes of this process include increased security awareness of individuals and organizations as well as increased visibility and articulation of human rights issues affecting LGBTI persons among key stakeholders in Tanzania.

### RESOURCE CENTRE

The resource centre was named after the Late **Floribert Chebeya Bahizire** a prominent human rights defender who paid the ultimate price for his human rights activism. He was found murdered in June 2010. The Floribert C. Bahizire Resource Centre be-

came fully functional on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 and since then a number of different human rights defenders from various parts of the sub-region come to utilize the facilities offered in the resource center.

The Resource Centre is equipped with a range of human rights literature, as well as computers and internet services. It offers defenders a space in which they can carry out their work and pursue their human rights activities. The IT assistant is available to help the HRDs with any problems they have and guide them where need be.

The Floribert C. Bahizire Resource Centre is open all HRDs during working hours and they are welcome to utilize all the resources there, anytime during the day.

### ISSUE IN FOCUS

#### EHAHRDP Granted Consultative Status with ECOSOC

On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012, the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at its substantive session of July 2012 adopted the recommendation of the Committee on Non Governmental Organizations to grant Special Consultative status to EHAHRDP. What does this mean for the work of EHAHRDP? This is a great milestone for EHAHRDP and its network members as the consultative status enables us to actively engage with ECOSOC, the UN Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies. For instance our members can be availed a speaking slot through EHAHRDP during the human rights council sessions. Applying for ECOSOC status may also be beneficial to our network members and partners, and so we provide some more background information here. Please see the following links for more detailed information.

<http://csonet.org/?menu=100>, on the basic facts on ECOSOC consultative status

<http://esango.un.org/paperless/Web?page=static&content=intro> for an introduction to ECOSOC consultative status.

## WHAT'S NEW

EHAHRDP's family expanded as it welcomed aboard a number of new staff members.

In February 2012 EHAHRDP welcomed Ms. Sari Naskinen in the new role of Deputy Director. She was previously with the Finnish NGO Foundation for Human Rights (KIOS) where she was in charge of grant making and partnership programmes in Eastern Africa. At EHAHRDP, Sari is in charge of programs and deals with organizational development and human resources management.

Also in February, Ms. Irene Wanjiku Maina joined EHAHRDP as Regional Coordinator for the East Africa Human Rights Program (EAHRP), from Legal Resources Foundation

Trust, a Kenyan national human rights NGO. EHAHRDP in close collaboration with Equitas and the East African Alumni of the International Human Rights Training Program and the alumni focal points from Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania are implementing the EAHRP-human rights education initiative since 2009.

At the end of February 2012, EHAHRDP's Advocacy Assistant, Ms. Caroline Magambo, left to pursue new challenges as the Communications Manager for one of our network members, Strategic Initiative for Women in Horn of Africa (SIHA).

She was replaced by Ms. Estella Kabachwezi

who joined the team in May 2012 as the new Advocacy Assistant. Estella had previously been working at Lawyers Without Borders in Kampala.

EHAHRDP is proud to integrate fresh minds into the development and implementation of projects by providing internship opportunities for local and international students. During this period EHAHRDP received two interns that is, Yvonne Nyawira (advocacy intern) and Devin Holterman (research intern) both from York University, Canada. It is hoped that the addition of the interns will advance and further build the organization's mission and enhance the interns' respective careers.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**21<sup>st</sup> Session of UN Human Rights Council**, 10<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> September 2012 in Geneva. [See the link for more details](#). Issues of interests to look out for include;

- Report of the Independent Expert on Sudan.

- Report of the Independent Expert on Somalia.

- Report of the Secretary General on Reprisals against persons cooperating with UN Human rights mechanisms. [See the link for more details](#). EHAHRDP will be

part of a panel discussion on this issue.

**52<sup>nd</sup> Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights**, 9<sup>th</sup> October to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2012, in Yamassoukro, Cote d'Ivoire (see <http://www.achpr.org/> for more details) and the preceding [NGO Forum](#) on 6<sup>th</sup>

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