



The African Centre for  
Democracy and Human  
Rights Studies



## Human Rights Council, 61<sup>st</sup> Regular Session

### Human Rights Situation in Africa

Palais des Nations, Conference Room No. IX, Geneva (Switzerland)

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Time: 15:00 to 16:00 pm (CET)**

The promotion and protection of human rights and freedoms in Africa continues to face multiple challenges. While progress and positive developments were observed in some African regions, regress has been reported in others. Internal armed conflicts in addition to terrorist acts and military *coup d'états* or unconstitutional change of governments are the major challenges facing the protection of human rights in Africa. The Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan are the scenes of massive violations and destruction of lives and livelihoods. The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights has achieved important progress in human rights standard settings and in building cooperation with African states and intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. The object of this briefing is to set the human rights agenda for civil society partners for 2026 and beyond.

#### Panelists:

1. **Hon. Commissioner Idrissa Sow**, Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (Recorded Video Message)
2. **H.E. Paul Empole Losoko Efambe**, Permanent Representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to the United Nations Office at Geneva
3. **Ms. Hannah Forster**, Executive Director, African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies – Main Features of Human Rights Practices in Africa (By Zoom)
4. **Dr. Ghislain Patrick Lessène**, Executive Director, Centre d'Etudes Juridiques Africaines (CEJA) – Civil Society Institutional Building in Africa
5. **Mr. Moulay Lahsen Naji**, Executive Director, Independent Commission for Human Rights in North Africa, Member of the Steering Committee, NGO Forum – Human Rights Challenges in African Sub-regions

#### Moderator:

**Mr. Abdelbagi Jibril**, Main Representative to the UN Office in Geneva, ACDHRS

Light refreshments will be served.

For more information: Tel.+41 76 360 95 26 et  +41 79 921 72 73  
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