



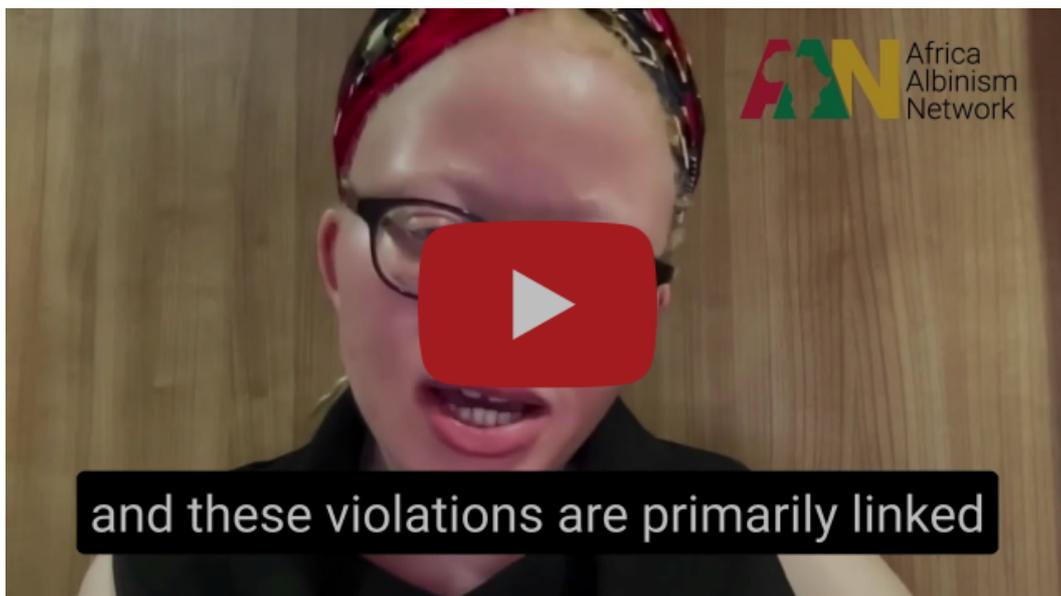
## Newsletter

Dear Africa Albinism Network,

### Advocacy Updates

#### Conference of States Parties

Africa Albinism Network submitted a video statement to the 15th session of the Conference of State Parties (COSP15) to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York in June of this year.



[Watch: AAN's video statement to the COSP15](#)

**Watch:** On Mother's day (May 18th), we joined the worldwide celebration of all mothers and conducted a panel discussion with mothers of children with albinism as well as mothers with albinism themselves from East, West, and Southern Africa.



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## National Action Plans (NAP) Updates

### **KENYA**

On July 7-8, 2022, we supported a two-day validation meeting in Mombasa led by the Albinism Society of Kenya in partnership with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and the Kenya National Commission for Human Rights. This event also involved stakeholders from other albinism groups in Nairobi and Mombasa.

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### **MALAWI**

In June 2022, we facilitated a review meeting with District Commissioners and District Chairpersons of the main albinism group: the Association of Persons with Albinism in Malawi (APAM). The main goal was to conduct a review of the current National Action Plan which is set to expire, following the completion of the 4-year implementation period. The workshop was guided by the evaluation report of the NAP which was carried out in 2021 by the Malawi Human Rights Commission (MHRC). We anticipate an updated NAP adopted by the government for another multi-year period.

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### **MOZAMBIQUE**

UNESCO Mozambique. The meeting was officially launched by the Minister of Justice, Constitution, and Religious Affairs, Her Excellency, Helena Mateus Kida. She spoke to participants and the media about the Government's commitment to protecting persons with disabilities including persons with albinism.

The Ministry plans to upgrade the Persons with Disability Unit to be a full-fledged Department which will direct more resources to ensure issues of disability are prioritized as other issues in the Ministry. Further decisions were made resulting in a successfully approved draft NAP.

On August 18-19, 2022, the government validated the draft NAP through a multi-stakeholder workshop involving participants at the previous meeting including albinism groups in Mozambique.

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### **UGANDA ADOPTS ITS NAP!**

And we are proud supporters of the process. On June 13, 2022, International Albinism Awareness Day, AAN supported our partners in Uganda for the official adoption of their NAP by the government. We congratulate our partners and the Government of Uganda on this milestone! (Photo: [albinismumbrella.org](http://albinismumbrella.org))



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### **ZAMBIA**

We organized two events with the Zambia Albinism Taskforce: team building activities in May 2022 and campaign strategy development and action plan training in June 2022. These activities were carried out in partnership with

*If you have news on the domestication or implementation of the National Action Plan on albinism in your country, contact us and we will gladly disseminate it.*

[Click to read the African Union Plan of Action](#)

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## International Albinism Awareness Day (“IAAD”) Celebration Community Celebration:

As this year’s theme states, *“United in Making Our Voice Heard”*, the celebration unfolded **with our supporting celebrations in Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia.**



The Tanzanian community marked the international Albinism Awareness Day in Karagwe, Kagera region, by raising awareness, holding educational sessions and having dermatologists perform skin cancer screening. The albinism community was also educated about the National census that is to take place in August and the importance of actively participating.

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The Zambian community marked International Albinism Awareness Day, with an event with several educational activities as well as television show coverage. The event, which took the form of a variety show, gave persons with albinism a platform that allowed them to showcase their skills and talents. Additionally, the occasion gave individual albinism groups a chance to highlight their work by putting up banners, brochures, and different products on albinism.

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### **Online Celebration:**

#### **Global Albinism Alliance (GAA) IAAD event**

We participated in the online celebration of IAAD by the Global Albinism Alliance through this video summarizing some of our work (*at 34 minutes and 26seconds*).

[Watch the Online Celebration Here](#)

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Our very own Ms. Ikponwosa Ero, the former UN independent expert who is now the Lead Strategist and Technical Adviser of the Africa Albinism Network, joined in various online celebrations. She shared brief but concise insights highlighting the successes as well as ongoing issues regarding albinism in Africa and how the domestication of the AU Plan of Action on albinism (in the form of National Action Plans) could help mitigate them. Watch video below:



The Network congratulates Xueli Abing on her appointment as UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for the fight against discrimination and racism. The Dutch model with albinism was appointed as UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador on Monday 13 June for International Albinism Awareness Day. Click [here](#) for more information. (Photo: amsterdamtimes.com)



### **A Pan-African Survey for Albinism Groups**

We need your views! We will reach out to many of you shortly to obtain your insight, experience, data, and opinions. The goal is to map the priorities of African civil society organizations advocating for the human rights of people with albinism. We hope to gain concrete insights into the African activism landscape and ultimately support a stronger movement of persons with

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## Other News

### Attacks

Since our last quarterly newsletter in April 2022, new cases of [attacks](#) have been reported in the last 4 months from Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Zambia. We condemn these crimes in the strongest terms and call for immediate protection measures including the implementation of the AU Plan of Action.

[Download: New Cases of Attacks](#)

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### Congratulations are in order!

We wish to congratulate Martin Wanyonyi Pepela on winning the Webuye East parliamentary seat in the general elections of Kenya held in August 2022. Addressing the press after being declared the winner, Mr. Pepela stated “This election is historic because it’s the first time that a person with albinism has been elected through the vote. I want to assure the people of Webuye East that I will deliver on my promises” (by [Capital news](#)). We commend these efforts by the government of Kenya and its society at large.



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Towards an Inclusive World for  
Persons with Albinism

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