



Newsletter

Dear <<First Name>>,

Pan African Parliament Adopts Historic Resolution to Protect People with Albinism among others

In November this year, the Pan African Parliament adopted a resolution on the “Elimination of Harmful Practices related to Accusation of Witchcraft and Ritual Attacks” (HPAWR), The resolution specifically adopts a guideline to end HPAWR on the continent.

While not a magic bullet to solve the problem of HPAWR, this is nonetheless a historical step to improve protection for people with albinism in a sustainable way. Between this and the [UN resolution](#) last year, we now have for the first time, a policy on the matter. Governments, UN/development agencies working in affected countries, NGOs, etc. now have directions on how to act and intervene to protect people with albinism among others from HPWAR. We might see fruit over time, but the good seed has been planted. We congratulate the African Union and its Pan-African Parliament for this historic move.

The resolution can be read [here](#) (in English only at this time. We will share it in French and Portuguese once received). The final guidelines will be provided after an official launch next year.

Advocacy Updates

South Africa Albinism Awareness Month Reflection



Watch: In September, the national albinism awareness month in South Africa, the Africa Albinism Network and the South African National Albinism Task Force had a rich conversation tracking progress, difficulties, and the way forward. Watch above (English only).

Namibia Ombudsman Report

The Africa Albinism Network (AAN) is proud to have contributed to the publication and dissemination of the [Report](#) (English only) on the *Public Hearings on Discrimination and other Challenges Faced by Persons with Albinism in Namibia* prepared by the Office of the Ombudsman and UNESCO and published in October 2022. The following Namibian organizations contributed to the report (in alphabetical order):

- National Disability Council of Namibia
- Office of the Labor commissioner
- Office of the Deputy Minister of Disability Affairs
- Support in Namibia for Albinism Sufferers requiring Assistance (SINASRA)
- The Namibia Albino Association

Reflections on Human Rights Defenders Working in the Albinism Movement

AAN submitted a joint [report](#) (English only) to the UN in November this year in response to the Call for Input by the UN Independent Expert on the Enjoyment of Human Rights by Persons with Albinism. The report focused on human rights defenders with albinism and human rights defenders working to protect and promote the rights of Persons with Albinism. The report provides information on the experiences and views of human rights defenders with

albinism, albinism groups, and organizations working to promote the rights and welfare of persons with albinism in Africa. The report involved the contribution of five organizations, namely;

- Albinism Alive Initiative (AAI), Zimbabwe
- Albinism Foundation of Zambia (AFZ), Zambia
- Divine Connexion Worldwide (DCW), Benin
- Organization for Integration and Promotion of People with Albinism (OIPPA), Rwanda
- Swaziland Association of Persons with Albinism (SAPA), Swaziland

National Action Plan on Albinism (“NAP”) Updates

TOGO

From September 27-29, 2022, AAN supported ANAT, the association of persons with albinism in Togo to review their [Strategic Plan for The Socioeconomic Inclusion of Persons with Albinism in Togo](#) (French only) in Lomé. The purpose of the review was to analyze the extent to which the just-ended Strategic Plan aligned with the recently adopted Africa Union (AU) Implementation Matrix of The Plan of Action to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa (2021–2031, “AU Plan of Action”) and to make recommendations on ways to better align the next Togo Strategic Plan to the [AU Plan of Action](#). Participants included ANAT’s regional focal points, three Government ministries, The National Commission on Human Rights, and International NGOs.

UGANDA

On November 25, 2022, AAN supported the NGO, Albinism Umbrella to lead a dissemination meeting of its recently adopted NAP (adopted in June 2022). The workshop which took place in Kampala fostered a common understanding between albinism groups as a way for them to solidify their partnerships to implement the NAP. On December 8, 2022, the Albinism Umbrella lead another dissemination event with the government in Kampala, Uganda.



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](#)

Pierre Fabre Foundation: 3rd African Dermatology Conference



AAN participated in a Roundtable discussion on advocacy and mobilizing around albinism in Africa for the 3rd African Dermatology Conference organized by the Pierre Fabre Foundation together with the Ivorian Society of Dermatology and Venereology (SIDV) and the French-speaking African Dermatology Society (SODAF). The Roundtable was held from October 11 – 12, 2022 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. (Watch below a *short clip of the recap of the 3rd African Dermatology Conference in French* only. You may use the subtitles tool on YouTube to access the same in English and Portuguese)

The New AAN Website is Live!

AAN is pleased to present our new website. It contains a multitude of materials on albinism in general and albinism in Africa in particular (see “**Resources**”), updates on adoptions and implementation activities around the AU Plan of Action on Albinism, and opportunities to get involved.

If you wish to share your organization or personal success story about albinism on our blog on the website, feel free to send it to us via the “**Contact**” tab.

You can access the website in English, French, and Portuguese!

Please take some time to explore the site.



World Children's Day

This year, AAN joined in the worldwide celebration to champion the amazing potential of each child, regardless of their differences, appearance, color, or disability. Our campaign focused on celebrating children with albinism and bringing into focus the issues they face in parts of Africa. It also included a call to action. For more information on how you can contribute, visit our [new website](https://africaalbinismnetwork.org).



Other News

Attacks

Since our last quarterly newsletter in September 2022, new cases of [attacks](#) have been reported in the last 3 months from Malawi, Madagascar, and Tanzania. We condemn these crimes in the strongest terms and call for immediate protection measures including the implementation of the AU Plan of Action.

Here's a recap of the Year!

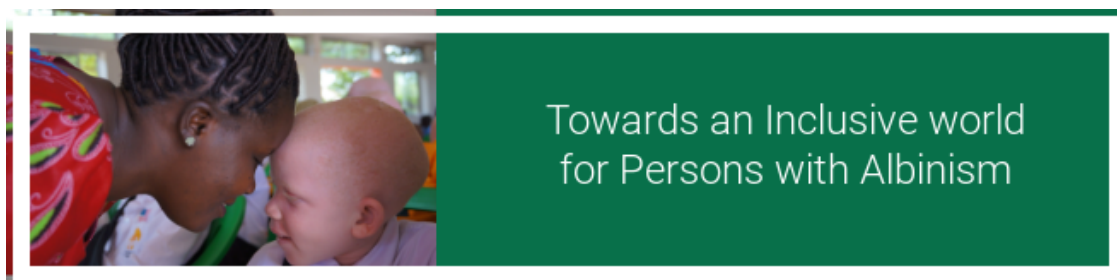
If you missed out on previous newsletters, don't worry, AAN has you covered. You can now read our previous newsletters and what has been accomplished on our resources page.

- a. [Advocacy Updates \(April 2022\)](#).
 - b. [Newsletter: IAAD Campaign \(June 2022\)](#).
 - c. [Advocacy Updates \(September 2022\)](#).
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Holiday Wishes



As we head into the holiday season, we would like to thank everyone for their contributions to making this year memorable for AAN and the albinism community as a whole.



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Africa Albinism Network · 303-15127 100 Ave · Surrey, BC V3R 0N9 · Canada