



## **MINI ADVOCACY TOOLKIT**

### **A Guide for Women and Children Impacted by Albinism**

Based on recommendations made by the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism to State Parties, development partners and Civil Society Organizations on measures to take to promote the rights and welfare of women and children impacted by albinism

See the Expert's report [here](#) for other recommendations.

#### **ABOUT THE TOOLKIT**

This mini toolkit addresses the specific needs and challenges that aim to empower and support women with albinism by providing information, guidance, and practical tools to enhance their advocacy skills and well-being.

#### **WHY IS THIS TOOLKIT IMPORTANT?**

The importance of this mini toolkit lies in its ability to consolidate information and provide guidance by offering practical tools and resources. It is an advocacy tool that promotes awareness and understanding among women impacted by albinism, that is, women with albinism, mothers of children with albinism, and those working in relevant fields.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS AND HOW TO USE THEM**

##### **Theme 1: Policy**

**Specific Recommendations to: Government:** The expert calls on our governments to pass policies such as maternal and family support, Cancer prevention, rare condition and Genetic counselling policies that ensure the

inclusion of women impacted by albinism (UNIE recommendation, Para 105)

**How to use it:**

- 1.** Work with policy advocates and legal experts to review existing policies particularly on maternal and family support and cancer prevention.
- 2.** Work with other women and disability rights advocacy groups to develop and issue policy briefs. Identify the gaps in the existing policy and suggest recommendations particularly on the inclusion of vulnerable groups including women and children with albinism.
- 3.** Engage government institutions and agencies responsible for policy development. This engagement may take several forms such as through letters, in person meetings and petitions.
- 4.** Present a unified front when engaging with policymakers.
- 5.** Work with media outlets to advocate for the inclusion of albinism in public policies.

**Theme 2: Awareness raising**

**Specific Recommendations to:** **Civil society:** The Independent Expert encouraged our government to empower albinism groups and civil society organizations representing persons with

albinism to raise awareness about albinism among health and medical professionals (UNIE recommendation, Para 108).

**How to use it:**

- 1.** Work with media to amplify the advocacy efforts, by providing them with compelling stories and data on the challenges women and children with albinism face.
- 2.** Engage with government agencies responsible for public education to include albinism in their public education campaigns.
- 2.** Work with government agencies to sensitize communities, schools, markets and churches on albinism to promote understanding of albinism to reduce or eliminate stigma and discrimination against persons with albinism particularly women and children.
- 3.** Advocate for the inclusion of persons with albinism particularly women with albinism in government training programs and initiatives.
- 4.** Form alliances with other civil society organizations and advocacy groups by pooling resources and sharing expertise to expand the impact of advocacy campaigns.

5. Publish regular reports on implementation status, highlighting successes and identifying challenges.

### **Theme 3: Capacity Development**

**Specific Recommendation to: Government:** The Independent Expert urges our government to ensure that women and children with albinism have access to education, income generating activities, capacity development programs, Human rights training initiatives and access to justice. (UNIE recommendation, Para 107).

#### **How to use it:**

1. Advocate for the adoption of a National Action Plan on Albinism in your country. Ensure that the plan has specific section on inclusive education.
2. Advocate for the inclusion of albinism in any existing policy on education and other social intervention policies.
3. Engage appropriate government agencies to train persons with albinism particularly women with albinism to acquire various skills such as business management and other employable skills.
4. Engage the legal aid departments or its equivalent to ensure persons with albinism especially women with albinism have access to justice in cases such as

attacks, gender based violent and other human rights abuses.

If you successfully execute any of the above, please inform us so we can announce it in our quarterly newsletter and social media platforms.

Send us an email with your feedback and success stories via [info@africaalbinismnetwork.org](mailto:info@africaalbinismnetwork.org) copying [kwame@africaalbinismnetwork.org](mailto:kwame@africaalbinismnetwork.org)