



**African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR)**

**81<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session: Human Rights Situations in Africa**

**17 October – 6 November 2024, Banjul, The Gambia.**

**Statement delivered by Africa Albinism Network on behalf of Under the Same Sun  
on "the human rights situation of persons with albinism in Africa"**

The Africa Albinism Network, speaking on behalf of Under the Same Sun and over 200 albinism groups across Africa, draws your attention to the human rights situation of persons with albinism in Africa

Persons with albinism across Africa continue to face violence, discrimination, and profound stigma despite international recognition of their rights and welfare. Physical attacks and other human rights abuses targeting persons with albinism are still on the rise. For instance, between January 2020 to date, we have 76 reported attacks including 20 murders, 4 mutilations of body parts, 15 trafficking, 21 individual surviving various forms of attacks such as rape and 9 missing persons. Even in death, we cannot rest in peace because at least six graves have been exhumed for the sake of stealing the remains of persons with albinism. A staggering 46 of these attacks involved children with albinism meaning 61 percent of the total number of attacks<sup>1</sup> within the period under review. This situation demands urgent action from all stakeholders, particularly from member States and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).

It is also important to highlight the impacts of climate change, particularly rising UV radiation on persons with albinism. Climate change is inducing skin cancer among persons with albinism with at least one source indicating that the majority contract or die from skin cancer by age 40<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.underthesamesun.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Attacks-of-PWA-2-page\\_13.02.2024.pdf](https://www.underthesamesun.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Attacks-of-PWA-2-page_13.02.2024.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://beyondsuncare.org/en/skin-cancer/>

## Kwame Andrews Daklo. / OBS. 493 (Under the Same Sun)

We commend the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) for their dedicated efforts in holding a day of general discussion on the rights of children with albinism during their 43<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session in April 2024. The [outcome statement](#) that emerged from this discussion will lead to a Guiding Note to assist Member States in reporting on the situation of children with albinism.

Furthermore, we acknowledge the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights for holding a public hearing on the landmark case filed by the Centre for Human Rights and others against the United Republic of Tanzania. This case represents a significant step towards accountability and justice for victims of violence and discrimination against persons with albinism.

Finally, we call upon the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to urge all African governments to domesticate the African Union Plan of Action on Albinism through National Action Plans on albinism and to appoint the AU Special Envoy on albinism which the AU Commission decided to appoint since 2021 but still to be appointed. We also urge member states of the AU to add sunscreens to their National Essential Medicines List to protect persons with albinism from the impact of climate change.

Thank you