



INTERNATIONAL
ALBINISM
AWARENESS DAY
2025

**DEMANDING OUR
RIGHTS:
PROTECT OUR SKIN,
PRESERVE OUR LIVES!**

#SkinHealth4Life

IMPACT REPORT



Africa Albinism Network

PROTEGENDO VIDAS DO CÂNCER DE PELE

ASSINE A PETIÇÃO À ORGANIZAÇÃO MUNDIAL DA SAÚDE (OMS) NA DESCRIÇÃO.



© Jacquelyn Martin



Africa Albinism Network

LET'S REACH 10,000 SIGNATURES!

PETITION LINK



SCAN ME



**ONE YEAR AGO...
YOU SUPPORTED OUR
PETITION TO PROTECT
PEOPLE WITH ALBINISM
FROM SKIN CANCER.**

MUHIMU

Africa Albinism Network

WITO WA KUCHUKUA HATUA

KUTANA NA LAYLA, MWANAMKE KIJANA MWENYE VALBINO

Anakuomba WEWE USAINI OMBI linaloitaka W.H.O kurejesha mafuta kinga ya jua kwenye orodha ya Dawa Muhimu.



↓ ↓ ↓

Nenda: africaalbinismnetwork.org/petition/

Africa Albinism Network

SIGNEZ LA PÉTITION !

Exhortons les États membres de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) à protéger les personnes atteintes d'albinisme du cancer de la peau en réajoutant la crème solaire à la liste des médicaments essentiels.

 africaalbinismnetwork.org/petition/



**ONE YEAR LATER...
WE SHARE THE IMPACT
OF YOUR SUPPORT.**

ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

Between June 11-13, 2024, to commemorate International Albinism Awareness Day 2024, we launched a petition in four languages (English, French, Portuguese, and Swahili) calling on the World Health Organization (WHO) to re-add sunscreen to the Essential Medicines List.

The petition was promoted on social media by renowned human rights defenders with albinism such as Diandra Forrest and Xueli Abbing. In October 2024, we partnered with CBM Global to launch the petition worldwide.

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ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

The petition complemented the application by the UN Independent Expert on Albinism to the WHO to add SPF50+ broad-spectrum sunscreen to the WHO Model Essential Medicines List (EML) and Model List of Essential Medicines for children For Persons with Albinism. To read the supporting letters, click [here](#)

By including sunscreen (meaning sunblockers that meet a particularly technical criterion for sun protection) on the WHO's list of Essential Medicines, we can ensure that it becomes more widely available and/or affordable.

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95,279

Our campaign message reached 95,279 people across our Facebook, Instagram, X, LinkedIn, and YouTube channels.



English



Français



Português

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10,282

We developed campaign resources to support the petition. They were viewed 10,282 times. Check out a few below!

25

25 Impactful posts were created and cross-posted for AAN's Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube Platforms targeting digital audiences to sign the petition.

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**Without
sunscreen,
we are not safe.**

4282

The petition letter was signed by 4282 people in 99 countries across 6 WHO regions.

75

Albinism organizations worldwide signed the petition.



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Notable signatories



**The UN
Independent Expert
on Albinism**



Xueli Abbing

**Human
Rights
Watch**



CBM Global



Diandra Forrest

#AlbinismDay

Key Events

The petition was shared in person at the following international events:

- NOAH Con 2024
- Africa Climate and Health Week 2024
- COP29 Baku
- Global Disability Summit 2025



Update

The UNIE's application was reviewed by the 25th WHO Expert Committee on the Selection and Use of Essential Medicines from 5–9 May 2025 in Geneva, Switzerland. A decision has yet to be officially communicated.



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Resources

You can now access, download, and share all the campaign resources below:

Read three stories of resilience in the face of climate change



Nnene's Story

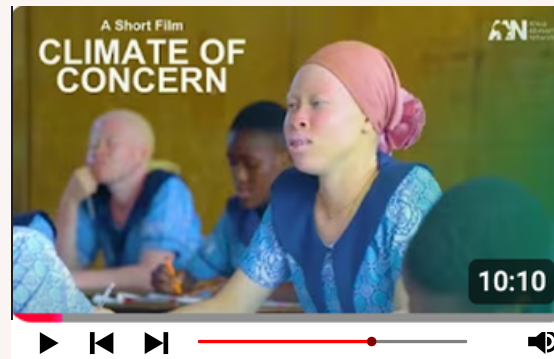


Joselito's Story



Simon's Story

Watch: Short film titled "Climate of Concern"



Watch with:

- French subtitles
- Portuguese subtitles

Resources

You can now access, download, and share all the campaign resources below:

Meet Layla : A Call to Action



Watch in English with:

- English subtitles
- French subtitles
- Portuguese subtitles

Radio Program with the West Africa Democracy Radio on Climate Change and Albinism



- Listen to Part 1 in English and French
- Listen to Part 2 in English and French

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Resources

You can now access, download, and share all the campaign resources below:

Webinar: For advocates on Climate Justice for Persons with disabilities: A case study of Persons with Albinism



Watch our Journey at COP29 Baku



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Petition letter

To: Member States of the World Health Organization (WHO)

From: Signatories

We, persons with albinism who are a constituent of persons with disabilities and our allies;

Urge you to re-add sunblockers (or sunscreen) to the official WHO's Essential Medicines List and contribute to long-lasting change for the Albinism community worldwide.

Why? Because skin cancer is the number one killer of people with albinism in many parts of the world, particularly in Africa.

According to one estimate, close to 90 percent of people with albinism contract or die from skin cancer by their 40th birthday.

The situation is more dire with climate change. Rising ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun is increasing the rates of skin cancer globally, and people with albinism are especially vulnerable. People with albinism in many parts of Africa do not have adequate access to sunscreen because sunscreens are unavailable and/or unaffordable. For people with albinism, sunscreen is not a cosmetic but an essential, life-saving drug.

Sincerely,

4282 people who signed online in 99 countries across all 6 WHO regions



The campaign was supported by:



#AlbinismDay

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