

AAN/AS/2026/010

22 May 2026

Joint Statement by the Africa Albinism Network, Albinos Madagascar and CBM Global Disability Inclusion Condemning the Brutal Killing of a Child with Albinism in Madagascar

The Africa Albinism Network (AAN), Albinos Madagascar, and CBM Global Disability Inclusion express deep alarm and outrage at the brutal attack and killing of D.N.J.R., a 14-year-old boy with albinism, in Marosakoa Commune, Marovoay District, Antanamivony neighbourhood, Madagascar, on 17 May 2026.

According to verified information from Albinos Madagascar and local media, four individuals entered the family home at night, threatened the parents, and targeted two children with albinism as they slept. One child escaped, while D.N.J.R. was captured, beheaded, and his head taken by the perpetrators. **This heinous act underscores the ongoing and grave risks faced by persons with albinism in Madagascar.**

We extend our deepest condolences to his family, Albinos Madagascar, and the wider community of persons with albinism across Madagascar and Africa. No child should ever be hunted, abducted, mutilated, or killed because they have albinism. This killing constitutes a grave violation of the fundamental rights to life, dignity, equality, security, and protection in childhood, and freedom from cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment, as set out in international human rights standards.

This latest killing is not an isolated incident. It reflects a persistent and deeply concerning pattern of violence against persons with albinism in Madagascar.

A Persistent Pattern of Violence

According to [Under The Same Sun's records](#), documented cases over recent years demonstrate that attacks, including abductions, killings, and disappearances, continue to occur. Over the past five years, the recorded incidents in Madagascar are as follows:

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- **2022:** 6 recorded cases (2 abductions, 4 missing persons)
- **2023:** 8 recorded cases (6 abductions, 2 missing persons)
- **2024:** 3 recorded cases (2 murders, 1 missing person)
- **2025:** 1 recorded case (1 murder)
- **2026 (to date):** 2 recorded cases (2 murders)

While the number of reported cases has fluctuated, the **continued occurrence of killings and abductions, often targeting children, demonstrates that the threat remains real, persistent, and unresolved.** These figures likely represent only a portion of actual incidents, due to persistent underreporting and reliance on informal reporting channels.

The recurrence of such attacks underscores **systemic gaps in prevention, protection, reporting, and access to justice.** Without consistent investigation and prosecution, and long-term preventive measures, **impunity persists and increases the risk of further violence.**

Immediate Calls to Action

We call on the Government of Madagascar to:

1. Ensure justice and accountability, without delay

- Immediately arrest, investigate, and prosecute all perpetrators, accomplices, intermediaries, sponsors, and buyers connected to this crime.
- Guarantee that cases are properly recorded, investigated, and pursued through the formal justice system to conclusion.

2. Protect the affected family and community

- Provide urgent psychosocial support to the family.
- Ensure the safety and security of surviving family members and the surrounding community.

3. Strengthen protection and access to justice

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- Improve coordination among law enforcement, the judiciary, and community-level actors.
- Address underreporting and ensure access to justice for all persons with albinism, including adults.

4. Adopt and implement a National Action Plan on Albinism

- Urgently develop, resource, and implement a **National Action Plan on Albinism** aligned with the [African Union Plan of Action to End Attacks and Other Human Rights Violations Targeting Persons with Albinism in Africa \(2021–2031\)](#).
- Ensure the Plan includes: Prevention and community awareness; Protection and early warning systems; Access to justice and legal aid; Psychosocial support; Inclusive education and health care, Robust data collection and monitoring systems.
- Develop and implement this plan, guaranteeing meaningful participation of persons with albinism and their representative organisations, including Albinos Madagascar.

5. Strengthen child protection and reporting systems

- Utilize the [ACERWC Guiding Note on Reporting on the Rights and Welfare of Children with Albinism in Africa](#) to strengthen reporting, investigations, protection measures, and policy reform.

Legal and Human Rights Obligations

This attack violates Madagascar’s Constitution, which guarantees equality before the law, protection of fundamental rights, access to justice, protection of children, and the right to life, including protection from arbitrary deprivation of life.

It also contravenes Madagascar’s obligations under:

- The **African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights**, which guarantees the rights to life, dignity, liberty, security, and access to justice.

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- The **Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)**, which requires non-discrimination, equal protection under the law, protection of children with disabilities, and freedom from violence, exploitation, and abuse.

We further recall the findings of the [2022 report of the UN Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism](#), which documented persistent attacks in Madagascar, particularly against children, and emphasized the urgent need for stronger protection systems, accountability, data collection, and national-level action.

Conclusion

This killing is not an isolated incident; it is part of continuing pattern of violence that demands urgent and sustained action.

Madagascar must act decisively: to end impunity, strengthen protection systems, and ensure that no child or person with albinism lives in fear.

Justice must be swift.

Protection must be guaranteed.

Impunity must end.

Attacks against persons with albinism must end – permanently.

Issued by:

Africa Albinism Network

Albinos Madagascar

CBM Global Disability Inclusion