



---

**THEMATIC RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT THE NGOs FORUM  
PRECEDING THE 81<sup>ST</sup> ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

**TREC/001/10/24 RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF JUDICIARY  
IN AFRICA**

We, the participants at the Forum on the Participation of NGOs in the 79th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights held in Banjul, The Gambia 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024:

**Recognizing** the shrinking of civic space across the continent and the close knitted relationship between lawyers and human rights defenders working together to advocate for the upholding of human rights standard in Africa.

**Noting** several instances of reprisals extended to lawyers who work as and with human rights defenders in Africa, as well as engineered efforts by the State in select jurisdictions to limit the independence of bar associations.

**Referring** to existing efforts to address this challenge including Resolution 570 (LXXVII) appointing the Focal Point on Judicial Independence in Africa, following our recommendation for the establishment of a "Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers", during the 77<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session.

We make the following recommendations to the African Commission:

- **Develop** an implementation framework of Resolution 570 (LXXVII) of 2023 which establishes the office of the Focal Point for Judicial Independence in Africa
- **Facilitate** dialogue with international, regional and national authorities, NHRIs and its CSO partners for the development of solutions to state engineered reprisals against lawyers and human rights defenders in Africa.
- **Establish** a working group for communication between CSO partners and the Focal Point for Judicial Independence, to enable direct reporting and advocacy on current situations in Africa.

**TREC/002/10/24: RECOMMENDATION TO THE ACHPR ON SUDAN**

We, the participants at the Forum on the Participation of NGOs in the 81<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights held in Banjul, The Gambia 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024:

**Urge** the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) to

- **immediately activate** the Joint Fact-finding Mission in collaboration with the African Union's Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security to investigate the human rights situation in Sudan.
- **give due consideration** to the findings of the United Nations Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for Sudan, which outlines extensive human rights violations and international crimes.

In line with the Addis Ababa roadmap, we

- **further recommend** ensuring synergy and complementarity between these processes to enhance coordination and efficiency in addressing the ongoing crisis.

Done in Banjul, The Gambia 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024







