

AFRICAN UNION

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*African Commission on Human &
Peoples' Rights*

*Commission Africaine des Droits de 'Homme &
des Peuples*

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**PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES
COMMEMORATING THE 20th ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND
PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

APRIL 2007

I. PROJECT SUMMARY

1.1 **Applicant Agency:**

Name: African Commission on
Human and Peoples' Rights
Address: 48 Kairaba Avenue,
P.O. Box 673,
Banjul, The Gambia

Contact:
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1.2.1.1 **Title:** Supporting the Activities Marking the 20th Anniversary of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

1.3 **Location of Project:** Banjul, The Gambia

1.4 **Aim of Project:**

- Create awareness throughout the continent of the existence and the work of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights;
- Increase the visibility of the African Commission within the African continent and beyond.

1.5 **Duration of Project:** Eight months (May – December 2007)

1.6 **Sources of Funding:** The bulk of the funding for all these activities would be obtained through fundraising. A number of Event / Public Relations firms have expressed interest in partnering the African Commission. Due to time constraints, the African Commission would, however, be requesting some seed money from the AU to start implementing some of these activities. The funding sources would thus be:

- African Union (AU)
- Other Related International Agencies
- Financial Institutions
- Business Organisations

II PROJECT NARRATIVE

2.1 Project Background

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights establishes an African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) to operate within the Organisation of African Unity (now the African Union). The African Commission was established by virtue of Article 30 of the African Charter to promote human and peoples' rights and ensure their protection in Africa. As at December 1998, all 53 members of the O/AU had ratified the African Charter.

The African Commission was established in 1987 and is headquartered in Banjul, The Gambia. Despite two decades of its existence, the African Commission is largely unknown to the majority of the people on the continent. Even some member states are unaware of the existence, importance and mandate of the Commission, and the extent to which they can work with the latter.

As the Commission marks its 20th anniversary, a series of international events will be organised across the continent to sensitise the general public of the existence of the Commission, and in particular of its mandates, the activities undertaken, relationship with the African Union, relationship with Member States of the AU and relationship with civil society, including Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs), National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), the academia, UN bodies and other partners interested in the promotion and protection of human rights on the continent. Every member state of the African Union will be expected to take part in these activities.

2.2 Aims and Objectives:

- **What are the Overall aims of the Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the ACHPR?**
 - To promote the African Commission to become a leading and effective human and peoples' rights institution in Africa;
 - To recognise the effort made by individuals and groups of individuals in propagating human and peoples rights' in Africa;
 - To engage youths especially senior school and university students in discussing the issues of human and people's rights in the continent;
 - Organise activities that would attract not only the African continent but other continents as well;
 - Encourage journalists, human right defenders, and individuals to strive for human and peoples' rights in the continent;
 - Recognise the selflessness of individuals over the years in their contributions and struggles to attain effective human and peoples' rights in the continent.

2.3 What are the specific project objectives?

- Carry out activities to raise public awareness of the rights enshrined in the African Charter, the functions and activities of the African Commission, and states' obligations under the Charter;
- Bring together people of all walks of life: intellectuals, students, musicians, sportsmen and the press; and to recognise and propagate the role played by the African Commission within the African Union.

III. Project Activities and Outputs

3.1 Planned key activities to achieve each objective

3.1.1 Media Award for Excellence in Human Rights Journalism

- Organise an award ceremony in which individuals and very distinguished personalities would be invited to either give or receive awards for excellence and contributions to human rights journalism;
- Draw up a list of individuals and watch groups to monitor the roles of individuals and groups of individuals that have made remarkable contributions to human rights journalism, and nominate such individuals for possible awards;
- Prepare a budget and make the necessary arrangements for both recipients and invited personalities for the event;
- Organise the purchase, design and transportation of awards;
- Contact organisations, business houses and individuals to sponsor the awards;
- Determine a date, time, and place for the event;
- Draw up and design the day's programme.

3.1.2 Award for Human Rights Defenders

Organise an award ceremony in which individuals and very distinguished personalities / organisations would be invited to either give or receive awards for contributions to the defence of human rights.

3.1.3 Award for Young African Impressionist for the Year

- Organise an award ceremony in which young persons would be invited to receive awards for Young Impressionists of the Year;
- Advertise regionally for young African Impressionists to submit to the African Commission paintings of a distinctive human rights theme;
- The age range of the Young African Impressionist(s) Award would be 10 – 17 years.

3.1.4 An Essay Writing Competition for Secondary Schools and Universities

- The topic of the essay will focus on a topical human rights issue to be determined by the African Commission;
- Notify Member States and encourage them to take part in the competition;

- Advertise for contributions through international magazines, local newspapers and television;
- Contact international examination bodies to assess essays and come up with winners;
- The writers of the four best essays will be transported to the afore-mentioned award competition where they will present their essays and accept their winning awards in person;
- Contact international educational institutions, business houses, embassies and individual to sponsor the awards;
- Prepare a budget and make the necessary arrangements for both recipients and invited personalities for the event.

3.1.5 Award for Young African Short Story Writer for the Year

- Organise an award ceremony in which young persons would be invited to receive awards for Young Writer of the Year;
- Advertise regionally for young African writers to submit to the African Commission a short story with a distinctive human rights theme and focus, of no more than 10,000 words;
- The age range of the Young Writer of the Year Award would be 10 – 17 years.

As with the above activities, the African Commission would organise for the marking of entries, and transportation of awardees to the awards ceremony.

3.1.6 A Musical Extravaganza

- Organise a one day musical extravaganza in which a host of reputable musicians in the continent and if possible some in the diaspora will converge and perform to mark the anniversary;
- Advertise in national and local media for individuals or groups of individuals to come up with a theme song for the celebrations;
- Contact various reputed artists in time and get their approval;
- Contact international television stations that would be able to broadcast the musical event live;
- Prepare venue, accommodation and travel plans for artists;
- Advertise the programme in international and local media (magazines, newspapers, and reputable television houses);
- Contact business houses and institutions to advertise during the event;
- Contact hotels and airlines to transport and host artists.

3.1.7 Documentary on the Work of the African Commission

- Identifying subjects contributing to the advancement of the Commission's work;
- Compiling a television documentary about the role of the Commission over the years and its future plans;
- Contact a reputable media house to film, edit and produce the documentary;
- Identify Commissioners, staff and other stakeholders who will be able and willing to participate in the documentary;

- Complete documentary to be publicly viewed during one of the anniversary activities preferably during the award ceremony;
- Identify reputable organisations who would advertise in between the documentary.

3.1.8 An International Soccer Gala

- Identifying countries within the Commission whose national teams will be able and willing to take part in the competition;
- Contact individual football associations to make concrete arrangements;
- Liaise with the host country's football association to do most of the groundwork;
- Contact hotels and airlines for transportation and accommodation for players and officials;
- Identifying international television stations that will be able and willing to buy the rights of broadcasting the matches live, throughout the continent and beyond;
- Identify reputable organisations and institutions that would advertise during the competition--with billboards, banners, and the like--when matches are being played.

3.1.9 Simulated Court for Law Students

- Organise a simulated court that will involve law students. This court session will be shown during the anniversary festivities, preferably during the award ceremony;
- Identify law schools from which students would be drawn;
- Arrange for the court script to be written and distributed to selected students before the event;
- Make travelling and accommodation arrangements for participants.

3.1.10 Other Activities in Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary

(a) Award for Young African Impressionist of the Year

(b) Award for Young African Short Story Writer of the Year

The Secretariat of the African Commission is also setting up two yearly awards:

1. Award for Young African Impressionist for the Year

The African Commission would organise an award ceremony in which young persons would be invited to receive awards for Young Impressionists of the Year. The African Commission would advertise regionally and indeed internationally for Young African Impressionists to submit to the African Commission paintings of a distinctive human rights theme. The age range of the Young African Impressionist(s) Award would be 10 – 17 years.

2. Award for Young African Short Story Writer for the Year

The African Commission would organise an award ceremony in which young persons would be invited to receive awards for young African writers of the Year. The African Commission would advertise regionally and indeed internationally for young African writers to submit to the African Commission a short story with a distinctive human rights theme and focus of no more than 10,000 words. The age range of the Young Writer of the Year Award would be 10 – 17 years.

Aims

1. The future of Africa is in the hands of our youths. By bestowing these awards yearly, the AU and the African Commission aims at building and encouraging a culture of human rights amongst our African school going youths. These awards and the attendant publicity thereof would result not only in the African Commission reclaiming its rightful place in promoting and protecting human rights in Africa, as it would lead to an increased awareness of the activities of the African Commission, but also to recognise the vital role of the African youth in the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa.

3.2 Immediate Activities to Consolidate these events

- Determine venue of the activities to be held;
- Visit venue and delegate organisational aspects to individuals and institutions;
- Inspect facilities and make sure they are suitable for the implementation of the activities;
- Institute a managerial team that will liaise and work with international groups or individuals for the implementation of the planned activities;
- Draw up a budget for individual activities as well as for the administrative team;
- Visit or contact member countries and individuals that have been earmarked to participate in the planned events.

3.2.1 Expected outputs of these activities

- Increased awareness of the African Charter and the activities of the African Commission and indeed the African human rights system;
- Improvement of the human rights situation within Africa;
- Increased involvement of states, civil society and individuals in the work of promoting and protecting human rights.

3.3.1 Anticipated Impact on the Wider Community in the Long Term:

- Increased knowledge and better application of the provisions of the African Charter within Member States;
- Recognition of the anniversary of the Commission;
- Dissemination of the role of the African Commission throughout the continent and beyond;
- Encourage civil society, journalists and individuals to continue to strive for the attainment of human and peoples' rights in the continent.
- Increased knowledge of the African human rights system and the tools available to protect human rights.

3.3.2 Are Financial Resources Required in the Long Term? If so, Are they Available?

- Financial resources are not available but it is hoped that the event management team that would be contracted will be able to raise the bulk of the resources needed to implement all of the activities.

IV. Risks and Alternative Strategies

4.1 Possible Risks to Implementation of the Project:

- Lack of willingness on the part of governments and other parties to co-operate in the proposed activities;
- Unreliability of the contacts;
- Clash in the timetable with other internationally held events;
- Difficulties in obtaining adequate funds to implement the project.

4.2 Measures Taken When Designing Activities to Minimise Potential Risks:

- Efforts to seek funds from other donor partners to implement the activities should be made in case the fundraising does not go according to plan;
- Encourage Member States and other parties and/or institutions to participate in the activities of the Commission.

4.3 Alternative Strategies to Achieve Project Objectives in the Event of Risks Becoming a Reality:

- The Commission will continue carrying out the activities that can be sustained with the available resources, for example, the African Commission can advertise on its website and the AU website nominations for the awards;
- Continuously remind the AU and other partners about the importance of funding the Commission.

V. Timeline

Overall time frame of the project: Eight months

Starting date for project implementation: May 2007

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation

6.1 Monitoring

6.1.1 How will the project be monitored? By who? How often?

- The Secretary of the African Commission will monitor the project and report to the Commission;
- The Secretary will also report to the AU Commission;
- The Secretary to the Commission will also make a monthly report to the Commission during the planning phase;

- The African Commission will report to the AU Assembly of Head of States and Governments.

6.1.2 How Will the Monitoring System Help to Ensure that the Projects Can Adapt to Changing Circumstances?

- Through regular consultations with the stakeholders like the Commissioners, staff and funders;
- To ensure success, implementation of the project will be continuously assessed by the Secretary and the necessary adjustments made whenever necessary;
- A flexible schedule of operation will be built within the project.

6.1.3 How Will Project Management, Administration, and Financial Disbursement be Evaluated?

Even though Event managers would be used to implement some of the activities, this is a Commission project. It is wholly owned by the African Commission. There shall be an evaluation committee on the 20th anniversary consisting of a Commissioner, the Secretariat, and other stakeholders.

ONE-HOUR DOCUMENTARY ON THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES RIGHTS

Executive Summary

The African human rights system is regulated by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (hereinafter the Charter), which was adopted in June 1981 and entered into force on 21 October 1986. All the 53 AU Member States are parties to the Charter. Article 30 of the African Charter establishes the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Commission) under the auspices of the African Union (AU). Article 45 of the Charter mandates the African Commission to promote and protect human and peoples' rights in Africa.

The African Commission consists of 11 members (Commissioners) serving in their personal and independent capacity. The Commissioners are elected by the AU Summit (formerly the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU).

Each year, the African Commission holds two ordinary sessions of 15 days each. During its ordinary sessions, the African Commission considers state reports, applications for observer and affiliate status from NGOs and African National Human Rights Institutions, and it considers discussions of human rights situations in Africa. The African Commission also meets privately to consider allegations of human rights violations and adopts resolutions on human rights issues. During the inter-session period, the members of the African Commission undertake fact-finding missions and various promotional activities.

Within its promotional mandate, the African Commission has appointed Special Rapporteurs, Working Groups, and Focal Points to deal with specific thematic issues - namely:

- Special Rapporteur on Prisons and Conditions of Detention in Africa
- Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa
- Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa
- Special Rapporteur on Refugees, Asylum Seekers, Migrants and the Internally Displaced
- Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression in Africa

The Working Groups are: Working Group on Indigenous Populations / Communities in Africa; Working Group on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Africa; Working Group on the Death Penalty in Africa; and Working Group on the Implementation of the Robben Island Guidelines.

These special mechanisms play a very significant role by researching, gathering and documenting information on these areas of human rights.

We thus want the documentary to capture all those various aspects of the work of the African Commission.

Objectives

The long-term objective of this project is to inform the general public, the academic community, press and media, states, and human rights organisations about the work of the Commission. A documentary about the Commission would represent a major public relations success story from the Commission, as it would forever be a major archival material to be used and quoted by media houses all over the world. It would also serve as a sensitisation tool to Member States to recognise the various rights and freedoms enshrined in the African Charter for the protection of human rights defenders and to promote a culture of human rights in the continent by:

- Providing training to human rights activists;
- Developing strategies to strengthen networks of activists.

Logistics (organisational)

- The Commission will identify subjects to be discussed in the documentary.
- Identify individuals and/or decision makers within and outside the Commission that have made a mark in the Commission's development over the years. Arrangements should be made to interview staff, Commissioners, and individuals who have had a positive impact on the work of the Commission
- The documentary should also reflect the Commission at work, that is, staff at the Banjul HQ, and when the Commission sits as a body. A good opportunity for this would be the 41st Session, in Accra, Ghana. If time and money permits, it would be a good idea to see the Commission at work in the field. That is, when a Commissioner is undertaking a mission.
- Make arrangements for the viewing of the documentary preferably during the award ceremony.
- Distribution of the documentary to major media houses around the African sub-region and the world.

Logistics (financial)

Contact a reputable film and media house for a budgetary proposal.

(1) ACHPR Award for Human Rights Defenders in Africa

(Proposal - The Kofi Annan Award)

And an

(2) ACHPR Award for Excellence in Human Rights Journalism

(Proposal - The Alpha Konare Award)

Introduction

1. In November 2007, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Commission)¹ will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its inauguration as the sole treaty monitoring body established under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Charter).²

2. To mark this important year, the Secretariat of the Commission is organising a series of events and/or activities. One such event is the introduction of two human rights awards to be accorded on individuals and/or organisations who have contributed immensely to the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights in Africa. As such, the awards will have the form of (monetary/certificate...???) and would form a constant feature in the activities of the Commission every year.

There would be two types of awards:

1. ACHPR Award for Human Rights Defenders in Africa
2. ACHPR Award for Excellence in Human Rights Journalism

Aim

1. By bestowing these awards yearly, the AU and the Commission aim at encouraging and recognising the exemplary effort of human rights activists/defenders/journalists, etc, in enhancing the region-wide effort to promote and protect human rights in the continent.

2. These awards and the attendant publicity thereof can result in:

- a. Increased knowledge and better application of the provisions of the African Charter within member states;
- b. Increased awareness of the activities of the African Commission in Africa and beyond;
- c. Improvement of the human rights situation within Africa;
- d. Encouragement of Africans and/or organisations to continue to strive for the attainment of human and peoples rights in the continent; and
- e. Recognition of the anniversary of the commission.

The awards consist of 5,000 dollars, to be used for further work in the field of human rights.

1 The Commission was inaugurated on 2nd November 1987.

2 The Charter entered into force on 21st October 1986.

Award Categories

- i. There will be six categories of awards:
 1. Male human rights activist/defender of the Year
 2. Female human rights activist/defender of the Year
 3. African non-governmental advocacy human rights organisation
 4. Advocate for the rights of women in Africa
 5. African media organisation that has made a notable contribution toward the protection and promotion of human rights in Africa
 6. African journalist that has made a notable contribution toward the protection and promotion of human rights in Africa

Eligibility

- a. Candidates for each category of the award must be African citizens and/or NGOs in any Member State of the African Union;
- b. Awardees must demonstrate real contribution in promoting, protecting and/or advocating for human and peoples' rights in any part of Africa;
- c. Candidates can be nominated and self-nominations are accepted, and in both cases, nominations should be accompanied by a one-page motivation on why the nominee should be considered for the particular award;
- d. Nominations are accepted in the four working languages of the African Union: English, French, Arabic, and Portuguese;
- e. The award request will be opened on a date to be determined, and such will be widely publicised in major African newspapers, radio and TV stations, and regional and international media;
- f. Nominations must be received at on/or before of each year;
- g. The African Commission (or such other individual/organization entrusted by it) shall draw up a list of five candidates under each category.

Selection for the Award

- a. A panel of judges shall screen the nominations and draw up a shortlist of names of three candidates for each category.
- b. The panel of judges shall comprise:
 - o The Chairperson of the African Commission;
 - o The Vice-Chairperson of the African Commission;
 - o Prominent personalities within the AU;
 - o African personalities of highest reputation known for their morality, integrity, impartiality and competence in matters of human and peoples rights within Africa.

They will screen the short listed candidates under each category and draw up a list of winners thereof, which list shall be kept confidential and forwarded to the Chairperson of the African Commission.

Ceremony

- a. The award ceremony will be held during the ordinary session of the African Commission in November/December each year, unless the Commission fails to hold such a session, in which case the ceremony nonetheless shall be held independently;
- b. The ceremony will be attended by invited individuals and very distinguished African and/or international personalities;
- c. The award shall be bestowed upon the winners by the Chairperson of the African Commission.

Caretaker

- a. The African Commission shall be the sole caretaker of this award.
- b. The African Commission, however, may entrust all or part of the organisation of this award to any individual/organisation of its choice.
- c. The Secretariat of the African Commission, or the individual/organisation chosen as above, shall prepare a budget and make the necessary arrangements for both recipients and invited personalities for the event.
- d. The African Commission shall, or through the person/organization mandated by it--

- ii. Purchase and design and transport the award (depending on the form the award will take--which decision shall reside in the African Commission);
- iii. Contact organisations, business houses and individuals to sponsor the awards;
- iv. Determine appropriate date, time, and place for the event (taking into account the above information);
- v. Determine and book the venue;
- vi. Draw up and design the day's programme;
- vii. Determine which prominent individuals especially those that are known for their positive stance in human rights should present the awards to winners (taking into account preceding paragraphs);
- viii. Organise an entertainment intersperse, preferably cultural, during the ceremony;
- ix. Cater for the
 - i. Accommodation of awardees,
 - ii. Accommodation of presenters,
 - iii. Air transportation of awardees,
 - iv. Air transportation of presenters,
 - v. Internal transportation of awardees, and
 - vi. International transportation of presenters;
- x. The Secretariat of the African Commission and/or any other person mandated by the African Commission shall be in charge of raising the funds necessary for this event.

Budget

An estimated budget is attached herewith.

Annex- A sample of the nomination form

Annex- A

The *Alpha Konare* Award in Human Rights Journalism and The *Kofi Annan* Award for Human Rights Defenders (2007)

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Commission) presents the Alpha Konare (ACHPR) Award for Excellence in Human Rights Journalism and the Kofi Annan (ACHPR) Award for Human Rights Defenders in Africa. These awards are to be presented to an African human rights defender / journalist / organisation for exceptional contribution in the reporting of human rights issues and/or work on human rights issues in Africa respectively. The awards consists of a grant of \$5,000, and a speaking tour of African cities to help increase awareness of the recipients' human rights work and the contribution of the African Commission. It is named in honour of two distinguished Africans: the Chairperson of the African Commission, Alpha Konare, and the former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, for their dynamism and leadership in human rights issues.

How to Submit a Nomination

The African Commission invites you to submit a nomination by mail, fax or e-mail by 30 July 2007 with the following documents:

- A letter describing the nominee, his or her work, and why he or she merits this Award;
- A curriculum vitae or organisation profile;
- Supporting documentation, such as articles written by or about the nominee-- e.g., press clippings;
- At least three references (with addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses), who have in-depth knowledge of the candidate's work, and who may be contacted by members of the jury for more detailed information.

Eligibility

The nominee must be an African;

The nominee must be committed to peace and non-violence.

Preference is given to those who have demonstrated an exceptional record of combating human rights violations by courageous and innovative means.

For the human rights defenders Award preference is given to human rights defenders who are at risk. The award thus aims at encouraging human rights defenders who are in need of immediate **PROTECTION**.

Preference will also be given to journalists and human rights defenders who are involved in the priority issues of Rights & Democracy: for example, democratic development, women's rights, and rights of indigenous people.

Selection for the Award

- a. A panel of judges shall screen the nominations and draw up a shortlist of names of three candidates for each category.
- b. The panel of judges shall comprise:
 - o The Chairperson of the African Commission;
 - o The Vice-Chairperson of the African Commission;
 - o Prominent personalities within the AU;
 - o African personalities of highest reputation known for their morality, integrity, impartiality and competence in matters of human and peoples rights within Africa.

They will screen the short listed candidates under each category and draw up a list of winners thereof, which list shall be kept confidential and forwarded to the Chairperson of the African Commission.

Please include the following information with your nomination:

I am nominating:

Name:

Title and organization (if applicable).....

.....

Address:.....

.....

Telephone:.....Fax:.....

E-mail:.....

The nominee has been informed that he / she is nominated for the Prizes. Yes () No ()

References:

1. Name:.....

Title and organization (if applicable)

.....

Address:

.....

Telephone: Fax:

E-mail:

2. Name:.....

Title and organisation (if applicable)

.....

Address:
.....
Telephone: Fax:
E-mail:

3. Name:.....
Title and organisation (if applicable)
.....
Address:
.....
Telephone: Fax:
E-mail:

Deadline: 30 July 2007
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CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE 1ST SIMULATED LITIGATION BEFORE THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS COMPETITION

BACKGROUND:

The 1st Simulated Litigation before the ACHPR Competition is being organised in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the premier African human rights body. It is however hoped that the competition will endure beyond the 20th anniversary celebration to become a permanent feature of the Commission's session activities.

Students will argue a hypothetical human rights case under the African Charter before benches of law lecturers and human rights experts. Separate preliminary rounds would be held in English and French. The best two teams from each language group would then advance to the final round. Simultaneous translation would be provided.

The aim of the simulation is to sensitise potential lawyers in law schools all over Africa about the African Charter and the mandate and proceedings of the African Commission- as an implementing body. This is with the ultimate view of facilitating an early exposure of these future legal practitioners to African human rights issues, being the present and future custodians of the rights of the African people.

The competition will also stimulate teamwork, and create a rich network of future African human rights lawyers through the interaction it will generate. Hopefully, the Moot Court will also host a conference on human rights, where experts will present papers on contemporary human rights issues.

RELATED ISSUES

1. Venue:

The competition will hold at the venue of the 42nd Session of the ACHPR, and the proposed venue of the 20th anniversary celebrations of the ACHPR.

2. Possible Themes:

- The theme of the competition could revolve around peoples' rights as articulated in Articles 19 – 24 of the African Charter, .
- Under admissibility, it is advised that we include preliminary issues of *locus standi*, legal interest, etc., as this is the recent trend of litigation before the Commission.

3. Procedure:

- Scenario/Case study/Facts
- Memorials
 - Time limit for the submission of memorials
 - Judges/markers of memorials
 - Length of Pleadings/ Word Count
 - Formatting
 - Timing for *Oral Argument*
- Oral argument

- Admissibility argument – break – decision – break - argument on the merits – decision.

4. **Participants:** Selected law schools across the continent to converge in the country hosting the 42nd Session.
5. The criteria for choosing the law schools will include inter alia: proximity to venue of 42nd Session + language

Logistics

- Seminar rooms with panel seating arrangement
- **Possible Judges – there will be about five judges to be selected based on agreed criteria.**
- Criteria for awarding marks (for Memorials and oral rounds)
 - See attached Jessup precedents
- Choosing parties (respondent state/complainants *via closed ballot*) etc.

6. Categories of winners:

- 1st – 3rd Place
- 1st – 3rd Best oralists

7. **Prizes:** Scholarships? Trophies? Cash Prizes? (Plus something offered by the Commission, like a future paid internship?)

8. Possible sponsors:

- OSJI/OSIWA
- CHR, Pretoria
- See the list of Jessup sponsors attached

**CONCEPT PAPER FOR THE 1ST REGIONAL ESSAY WRITING
COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON
HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

BACKGROUND

International Essay Competition

The 1st Regional Essay Writing Competition is being organised in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Africa's premier human rights body. It is hoped that the competition will remain beyond the 20th anniversary celebration to become a permanent feature of the African Commission's annual activities.

There is international consensus that human rights education makes a fundamental contribution to the realisation of human rights. Human rights education aims at developing a common understanding of the responsibility to make human rights a reality in every community and society at large.

With this competition the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Commission) will engage students with current human rights issues and themes with the broad objective of informing and educating our African youths about the African Charter and other relevant regional and international human rights provisions. The competition will also stimulate team working and hopefully contribute in creating amongst our youths a culture of respecting the human rights of others.

Eligibility

Entries for the essay competition will be open to all secondary and university students in the continent.

An examination body, like the West African Examination Board, would be contacted to arbitrate and select the winners of the competition.

Logistics (organisational)

- Adverts in the media (international magazines and newspapers);
- Printing of certificates and/or trophies;
- Transportation of winners to the venue where the 42nd Session would be held;
- Accommodation, feeding and internal transportation for winners.

There will be three winners for each category, and they would be required to travel to the venue of the 42nd Session, where they would receive their prizes.

The idea is that every state in the region will forward ten (10) winning entries to the African Commission. This means that the local examining board in a state, say the West African Examination Board, would mark and grade essays submitted from students by that state. The first ten winning essays in that evaluation will determine the first, second, and third positions.

Logistics (financial)

Contact prominent international educational organisations and institutions to sponsor and/or donate prizes to the winners of the competition.

For advert purposes and distribution of the essay topic(s)

International Magazines and newspapers

<u>Media</u>	<u>Cost (to be determined with the media organisation)</u>
1. CNN-	
2. BBC	
3. Voice of America	
<u>Local and regional Magazines, newspapers and Media houses</u>	
<u>E.g.</u>	
1. GRTS	
2. FM Radio Station	
3. West coast Radio FM	
4. Kids with Talent FM	
5. Daily Observer newspaper	
6. This Day Newspaper	
Total	

Estimated Cost of certificates, prizes and trophies.

University

Certificates-	Cost (\$)
1. Certificate for 1 st prize winner	100
2. Certificate for 2 nd prize winner	100
3. Certificate for 3 rd prize winner	100
Prizes to Students	
1st Prize -Tuition fees for the rest of university	5000
2 nd Prize- Cost prize for the next year of school	1500
3 rd Prize- Cash prize	1000
Trophies and Prizes for the Winning Colleges and Universities	
1st prize trophy and prizes	500
2 nd prize trophy and prizes	500
3 rd prize trophy and prizes	300
Total	9,100

Secondary schools

Certificates	Cost (\$)
1. Certificate for 1 st prize winner	100
2. Certificate for 2 nd prize winner	100
3. Certificate for 3 rd prize winner	100
Prizes to Students	
1. 1 st prize- Tuition for the rest of the secondary school	2000
2. 2 nd prize for books	500
3. Cash prize	300
Trophies and Prizes for Winning Schools	
1. 1 st prize trophy	200
2. 2 nd prize trophy	200
3. 3 rd prize trophy	200
Total	3,700

Air Travel and accommodation for 1st, 2nd 3rd winners including at least one person accompanying them e.g. teacher

Travel

Winners (university)	Cost (\$)
1. 1 st prize winner and teacher	4000
2. 2 nd Prize winner	4000
3. 3 rd prize winner	4000
Winners (secondary school)	
1. 1 st prize winner and teacher	4000
2. 2 nd prize winner	4000
3. 3 rd prize winner	4000
Total	24,000

Accommodation, feeding and internal transportation for winners

Winners (University)	Cost (\$)
1. 1 st prize winner and teacher	500
2. 2 nd prize winner and teacher	500
3. 3 rd prize winner and teacher	500
Winners (secondary school)	
1. 1 st prize winner and teacher	500

2. 2 nd prize winner and teacher	500
3. 3 rd prize winner and teacher	500
Total	3,000

Grand total **\$39,800**