

AFRICAN UNION		UNION AFRICAINE
الاتحاد الأفريقي African Commission on Human & Peoples' Rights		UNIÃO AFRICANA Commission Africaine des Droits de l'Homme & des Peuples
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**ADDENDUM TO THE 40<sup>TH</sup> ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

**Submitted in Accordance with  
Article 54 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights**

## ADDENDUM

1. This Addendum to the 40<sup>th</sup> Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the ACHPR) is presented in accordance with Article 54 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Charter).
2. During its 20<sup>th</sup> Extra-Ordinary Session, held in Banjul, Islamic Republic of The Gambia, from 09 to 18 June 2016, the ACHPR considered **Executive Council Decision Ex.CL/938(XXVIII)**, which requested the ACHPR *“to review the criteria for granting observer status to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) as well as representation before the ACHPR by non-African individuals and groups and to report, through the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), to the next ordinary Session scheduled for July 2016.”*
3. The present criteria for granting observer status provides as follows:
  - “[2] All organizations applying for observer status with the African Commission shall consequently:
    - a) Have objectives and activities in consonance with the fundamental principles and objectives enunciated in the OAU Charter and in the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
    - b) Be organizations working in the field of human rights;
    - c) Declare their financial resources.”
4. The ACHPR is of the view that the exercise of reviewing the current criteria gives it the opportunity to clarify the concept of “values of African civilisation”, “traditional values”, “African cultural values”, and “morality” as enunciated under the African Charter. In this regard, research on these concepts has been commissioned.
5. The ACHPR will keep the Executive Council informed of its progress on the matter.