

## Side event at the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: lessons learned for supporting a human rights-based approach to the SDGs

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 14.30 – 16.00**

**Toubkal Room, Palais des Congrès de la Palmeraie de Marrakech, Morocco**

### Objective

**The objective of the side event is to highlight key lessons and experiences of how human rights can be integrated in practice in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.**

In particular, the event will focus on the following aspects of human rights-SDG implementation:

- How can the recommendations of international and regional human rights bodies be used to guide SDG implementation? ***Cross-cutting, leave no-one behind, all goals under examination.***
- What are the barriers to equality and inclusive development faced in the SDG and Agenda 2063 context and how can a human rights-based approach support efforts towards inclusive development? ***Cross-cutting, leave no-one behind, Goals 4, 8 and 10.***
- How are fundamental rights and freedoms and strong institutions integral to SDG implementation as a whole? How can the SDGs enable civic space and access to justice? ***Goal 16, cross-cutting.***
- How can a human rights-based approach to data support SDG implementation and what experiences can be built on in this regard? ***Cross-cutting, leave no one behind, Goal 10.***

The event will bring together representatives of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, states, national human rights institutions and civil society to **share concrete experiences, lessons learned and solutions** in relation to the above objectives and **share practical tools and methods** to be used in furthering a human rights-based approach at the national level.

### Format of the event

The event will be interactive. It will begin with an interactive quiz to reveal the audience's level of knowledge of a human rights-based approach. This will be followed by presentations from a panel of experts, and a facilitated discussion with the audience. Finally, a presentation of DIHR and OHCHR tools for integrating SDGs and human rights will be made.

### Speakers

Moderator:

Commissioner Joseph Whittal, Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, Ghana; Chair, NANHRI Working Group on SDGs and Agenda 2063 and Human Rights

- Mr. Adam Abdelmoula, Director, Human Rights Council and Treaty Mechanisms Division, OHCHR.
- Mr. Vincent Operemo, Senior Planner for Strategic Planning, National Planning Authority, Uganda
- Ms. Francesca Thornberry, Strategic Adviser on Human Rights and Sustainable Development, Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Ms Hellen Apila, Femnet and Representative of Women's Major Group.
- Mr. Koome Miriti, SDG Focal Point, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR)