



# Defenders in Focus

The Bi-Annual e-Newsletter for members and partners of the  
East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network

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## ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES

In its effort to raise awareness of the situation of HRDs in the sub region, EHAHRDP, through its Advocacy Programme, continues to support HRDs and network members to access the regional and international human rights mechanisms in a bid to promote and protect fundamental human rights and freedoms.

### Highlighting the situation in Sudan at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the NGO Forum.

EHAHRDP staff and Network members from Kenya, Uganda and Sudan took part in the 52<sup>nd</sup> ordinary session of the ACHPR held in Yamoussoukro, Cote D'Ivoire from 9<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 and the preceding NGO Forum, 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> October 2012. To read the report on

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the human rights situation of countries in the sub region, please see <http://www.defenddefenders.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/EHAHRDP-report-to-ACHPR-52nd-session-May-October-2012.pdf>

During the session, EHAHRDP expressed concern about the situation of human rights defenders in our region, including through making an oral statement on the situation of human rights defenders in Africa, See <http://www.defenddefenders.org/2012/10/oral-intervention-on-the-report-of-special-rapporteur-on-human-rights-defenders-in-africa/> for more details, which focused on our concerns about the restrictions on civil society space in Ethiopia and Sudan. While highlighting the situations in these two countries, we continue to be concerned about the shrinking space for civil society to work in all countries in the sub-region and attacks on individuals. EHAHRDP expressed our concern for continuing reports of intimidation and reprisals against individuals and organizations cooperating with the Commission and its special mechanisms and reiterated the recommendation to establish a reporting mechanism on cases of reprisals against human rights defenders at the ACHPR.

To further highlight the situation in Sudan, EHAHRDP in cooperation with SIHA Network and the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies co-organized a side event on the human rights situation in Sudan, particularly the situation in the conflict zones of Blue Nile, Darfur and South Kordofan.

### Advocating against Reprisals at the Human Rights Council

During the 21<sup>st</sup> session of the UN Human Rights Council, EHAHRDP focused on the issue of reprisals. Mr. Hassan Shire took part in the Panel discussion on "the issue of intimidation or reprisal against individuals and groups who cooperate or have cooperated

with the UN, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights." Please see [http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session22/AHRC2234\\_English.pdf](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session22/AHRC2234_English.pdf) for further details. EHAHRDP was honored to be part of this panel at the first time that the space was dedicated to the issue on the plenary agenda. EHAHRDP has engaged with this issue and the Secretary General's report on reprisals for a number of years. Our interventions included providing practical recommendations for improved follow up of cases and better coordination between different protection stakeholders.

At this session, the mandate of the Independent Expert (IE) on Sudan was due for renewal. EHAHRDP worked in close coordination with a number of international and regional partners to advocate for a stronger mandate. Although the adopted resolution noted with concern violations, in particular in Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan, it still failed to clearly reflect the situation on the ground, strongly condemn the human rights violations taking place or emphasise the State's responsibility. Nonetheless, with our partners and members, EHAHRDP will continue to push for a stronger and more appropriate mandate on Sudan at the Human Rights Council.



Panel discussion on reprisals at the UN Human Rights Council in Sept 2012 with Mr. Hassan Shire (extreme right)

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**Celebrating EHAHRDP's Consultative Status at the United Nations**

Having officially received our ECOSOC in July 2012, the September 2012 session of the UN Human Rights Council was the first time that EHAHRDP could take part in UN meetings under its own accreditation. To celebrate and to thank our partners in Geneva for all their support over the years, EHAHRDP held a small reception on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012 jointly with UPR-Info and CELS, who were granted their status at the same time as EHAHRDP.



Mr. Hassan Shire (2nd right) and colleagues from UPR Info and CELS show off their ECOSOC badges in September 2012

**Raising Awareness on Women Human Rights Defenders in Africa**

At the October session of the ACHPR, the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa was tasked to prepare a report on the situation of women human rights defenders. EHAHRDP's advocacy officer, along with other WHRDs, is taking part in an advisory group supporting the process and helping to gather information from WHRDs from different regions of Africa.

**Advocacy around Burundi's Universal Periodic Review**

The human rights situation in Burundi was reviewed on 24th January 2012 under the Universal Periodic Review mechanism. During the review, which takes place at the United Nations in Geneva, a delegation from the Government of Burundi presented their national report and UN member states asked questions and made recommendations for

the improvement of the human rights situation in the country. To contribute to this process, the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project, Protection International and Front Line submitted a [report](#) on the situation for human rights defenders between 2008 and 2012. Our key recommendations included the establishment of a national protection mechanism for human rights defenders, as well as measures to strengthen the judicial system to end the impunity for attacks on human rights defenders.

In preparation for the review, EHAHRDP sponsored two Burundian HRDs to attend a pre-session briefing and to carry out advocacy activities in Geneva ahead of the UPR. EHAHRDP's advocacy officer also met with key diplomatic stakeholders in Burundi a month in early December 2012 to promote our recommendations.

**RESEARCH ACTIVITIES****Report on HRDs engaging with resource extraction industries launched**

The resource extraction industry is growing exponentially across East Africa. The enormous economic opportunity presented by these natural resource endowments has raised proportionally large concerns for sustainable environmental governance, revenue management, public health, community compensation, and intergenerational justice.

Human rights defenders have organized around these sectors to fulfill a crucial advocacy and monitoring role. In that regard HRDs in East Africa seek to influence both the regulatory frameworks governing the extractive sector as well as the public discourse which itself further influences policy-making, while raising the alarm when actors diverge from their responsibilities or when abuses go unaddressed.

Despite their critical role, HRDs have found the extractive sector to be resistant to monitoring and hostile to criticism, and HRDs who consistently engage this sector have found themselves under attack by both State and non-State actors.

In 2012 EHAHRDP conducted several research missions in Uganda and Tanzania to further investigate and report on the situation of human rights defenders engaging with this critical sector. *'Only the Brave Talk About Oil': Human Rights Defenders and the Resource Extraction Industries in Uganda and Tanzania*, launched in Dar es Salaam in December 2012, is the resulting report based on interviews with nearly 40 HRDs in the two East African countries.

The report is available online at [www.defenddefenders.org/only-the-brave-talk-about-oil/](http://www.defenddefenders.org/only-the-brave-talk-about-oil/).



EHAHRDP staff at the launch of the report "Only the brave talk about oil", Dar es Salaam December 2012

**PROTECTION ACTIVITIES**

The Protection Programme was set up to respond to emergency requests for support from human rights defenders at risk. Support has over the years been extended to defenders working in areas of conflict, women human rights defenders, journalists as well as the LGBTI.

From July to December 2012, we extended both financial and technical support to 45 human rights defenders. The highest number was from Sudan and Somalia where the situation is volatile.

In this half of the year EHAHRDP's Protection Programme highlights the story of one of its beneficiaries, Ahmed Omar Hashi:

**Mr. Ahmed Omar Hashi is a renowned journalist from Somalia who was injured on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2009 in an attack during which the Radio Shabelle director, Mukhtar Mohamed Hirabe, was killed. While in Somalia, Mr. Hashi worked as a jour-**

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nalist with Shabelle Media Network and was involved in reporting about the ongoing human rights violations by the different warring factions. As a result, he received threats which culminated in the attack during which he was injured.

Due to insufficient medical services and the continuing threats that he was receiving, Mr. Hashi left Somalia and arrived in Uganda where he was granted refugee status. He received support under our protection programme. In May 2012, his family came under attack from individuals who threatened to kill his wife and sister under unclear circumstances. The matter was reported to the police and investigations into the matter are still being carried out. Ahmed's wife unfortunately passed away on 12th November 2012.



Protection Officer, Stella Murungi with Mr. Ahmed Hashi.

The Protection Programme continues to respond to the needs of human rights defenders on a case by case basis. It offers technical and financial support as well as referring cases to different partners at the national and international level. English classes are an integral part of our support given that most of the defenders supported under the programme do not have English as their first language. For defenders in need of psychosocial support, two clinical psychologists are on standby.

Security is a key component of what we do given the harsh conditions under which most of our defenders work. HRDs are trained in personal security management as well how to secure their information (digital security) in light of the sensitivity on their work.

### PROTECTION DESK UGANDA/ KENYA

During the second half of 2012, Protection Desk Uganda/Kenya has continued to work closely with human rights defenders, with special attention being given to Burundi, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Somalia.

In Kenya, work with a national network of organisations working on natural resources brought to the fore the severe challenges faced by this group of defenders working on these issues very similar to the observations in EHAHRDP's new report "Only the Brave Talk About Oil". PD-K's work with the group is ongoing to ensure a mainstreaming of security management not only across the activities of the network but within the individual member organisations themselves.

In Burundi, work with civil society continues to further strengthen the already commendable work undertaken by civil society around security management and the success in bringing key stakeholders on board for the protection of HRDs.

Ongoing work with LGBTI defenders in Tanzania has contributed to a more security-conscious mode of working among individuals and organisations. Recognising the protection that networks can offer, PD-U has encouraged LGBTI defenders in making contacts with "mainstream" HRDs and building relationships with key stakeholders for their support and protection.

Looking back at a fruitful partnership since 2008, PI and EHAHRDP have jointly decided that EHAHRDP is fully capacitated to manage the security management work with HRDs in Uganda, the region and even Africa-wide under the Pan-African HRD Network. PI in turn sets up a regional office in Nairobi from where it will continue to work on selected countries on the continent. PI and EHAHRDP will maintain a close level of cooperation tailored to the needs and opportunities in given country contexts.

### EU SOMALIA PROTECTION PROGRAMME

EHAHRDP's new 3-year Somalia Protection programme is dedicated to building national capacity within Somalia to protect human rights defenders (HRDs). The project which will be launched in Mogadishu in March 2013 is being implemented in close collaboration between EHAHRDP, Protection International (PI), Peace and Human Rights Network (PHRN) in conjunction with the Somali Human Rights Defenders Network (SOHRIDEN) and is supported by the European Union as part of their commitment to democracy and human rights in Somalia. The project aims to strengthen monitoring and documentation on violations against HRDs and journalists, advocacy to national and international authorities to protect, and to enhance the capacity of Somali HRDs in security management and risk assessment while responding to emergencies as they arise.



EHAHRDP staff and partners at the planning meeting for Somalia EU Protection Program

### CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

The second half of 2012 was a busy period for the Capacity Building Programme, and prides itself on having conducted six successful events within a period of two months. With the assistance from the whole EHAHRDP team, we were able to conduct six major meetings in Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda and Tanzania.

#### Financial Management Training in Burundi and Rwanda

After interaction with EHAHRD-Net members and other HRDs throughout the region,



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it was discovered that many HRDs in the region do not have the basic fundraising skills necessary to ensure regular funding for their work. Lack of finances affects both HRDs' capacity to effectively carry out their work but can also have a negative impact on their personal security and the security of their organization. Members were equipped with basic fundraising skills.

The objectives of this training were to:

- Equip the target organizations with financial skills to improve financial management, reporting and enhance resource mobilization skills;
- Equip defenders with skills on investigating reporting and documenting human rights violations; and

Undertake training on risk management, fundraising and communication strategies for a better protection of human rights defenders and increased efficiency in their work.

### Journalists' Sub-regional Conference

EHAHRDP organized a 5-day conference in Kampala from 12<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> November 2012 that brought together 30 journalists and HRDs from the sub-region to discuss and get sensitization on the issues of human rights work and the opportunities of intensified synergetic linkages between the media and HRDs.

Journalists as HRDs are a vital link in the efficiency of HRDs' work. However, currently there is a need for enhancing the mutual understanding of the relevance of each others' work as well as intensifying contacts to reach a continuous and viable mode of information exchange. For that purpose, journalists and other HRDs were invited from countries in the sub-region and they were briefed about the realities of HRDs' work, existing international standards on the protection of HRDs and current political and legal obstacles. Together a strategy for closer cooperation of journalists and HRDs was devised taking into account the extensive linkages that can be created during such an event.

Special attention was given to the following

topics:

- Existing instruments and mechanisms for the protection of HRDs;
- Specific country briefings regarding working conditions of journalists and HRDs, in particular current legal, political and psycho-social pressure faced by them;
- Women HRDs and their special needs;
- Sexual minority HRDs;
- More effective information exchange between HRDs and media workers;
- Risk assessment and security management;
- Digital security
- Trauma counseling.

During the conference a Resolution of Sub-regional Journalist Conference 2012 and HRDs for the East and Horn of Africa was adopted expressing deep concern at the continued harassment and killing of journalists and HRDs in the sub region, and made calls on the governments of the respective countries to bring about change in the situation on their countries. For details on the Resolution, please see <http://www.defenddefenders.org/2012/11/resolution-of-sub-regional-journalists-conference-2012-and-human-rights-defenders-for-the-east-and-horn-of-africa/>



Participants at the Journalists Sub -Regional Conference in Mukono, 2012.

### Staff Retreat 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012

Following the recommendations from the External Evaluation report conducted in 2011, EHAHRDP staff had an opportunity to have a strategic planning retreat of its own on internal institutionalization and capacity building. The retreat was held at Jinja Nile Resort from 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012. Emphasis was put on reflection and planning work strategically so as to prioritize and work more effectively within EHAHRDP's mandate. All departments met and laid plans for the year 2013 and they were shared with the rest of the team that also gave their contributions.



EHAHRDP Staff at the Retreat in Jinja.

### Claiming Spaces: Tactical Tools for Human Rights Defenders - Forum on tools, mechanisms and instruments for Tanzanian Human Rights Defenders

EHAHRDP with the support of Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency hosted a 5 day forum to promote the skills of human rights defenders in Tanzania. The purpose of the workshop was to equip HRDs with new tools to claim their working space. The workshop also aimed at strengthening the capacity of civil society to promote their own rights provided for in the UN Declaration on HRDs and to ensure respect for the rights to which they are entitled under this instrument. Objectives included but were not limited to:

- Improved knowledge and understanding of regional and international human

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rights protection mechanisms and strengthened capacity to engage with them;

- Enhanced skills on security management for human rights defenders
- Improved networking and joint efforts to increase collaboration and strengthen the voice of civil society in Tanzania;
- Developed tools and strategies to respond to threats facing civil society organizations.
- Over the course of the training forum, participants were able to choose four out of a possible five full-day workshops offered on the following subjects:
- Security management
- Advocacy with international and regional mechanisms
- Digital security
- Trauma counseling
- Social media for human rights work

### Organizational Management and Administration, 11<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at the Grand Villa Hotel, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Following the Claiming Spaces workshop in December, EHAHRDP conducted a capacity building exercise for members of the Tanzanian Coalition to assist them in implementing their strategic plan.

As most of the member organization representatives had expressed the need to build their capacity particularly to address a lack of institutional systems, the training was tailored to meet these needs. The training therefore focused on building up leadership skills, administrative and personnel management, reporting and communication channels among others. The training targeted 20 participants of the Coalition and it took place in Tanzania, Dar es Salaam over a period of 2 days, from 11<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

### PAN AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS NETWORK

The Steering Committee of the Pan-African Human Rights Defenders Network (PAHRDN) held its regular session from 24<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August 2012 in Kampala, Uganda. The meeting discussed the upcoming three years activities of Network's protection programme. The Steering Committee raised the issue of unevenness of capacity across the Sub-Regional Networks and called for harmonization across department groups (including Protection, Advocacy, Research, Capacity Building, Fundraising, and Security Management) through mentorship and training.

From 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2012, the PAHRD-Net Coordinator represented the Chairperson of PAHRDN at the *Pre-session Conference on Regional Access to Justice* in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Johannesburg, South Africa. The meeting discussed the protection of human rights defenders in the SADC region and Open Society Institute for Southern Africa's (OSISA) future role in supporting the work of human rights defenders and SADC NGOs at the regional level. OSISA expressed their willingness to hand over the Southern African HRD trust to a local organization.

A PAHRDN representative urged all NGO representatives from different countries of SADC to launch the Southern Africa Network to strengthen their capacity for the protection of the most-at-risk HRDs in the sub-region. Some of the best practices in having a sub-regional network on the protection of HRD were mentioned. Arnold Tsunga, the Executive Director of the International Commission of Jurists-Africa Programme presented a proposed structure of SADC Network of Human Rights Defenders and Zimbabwe Chimbga, Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights Programme presented sharing best practice in running human rights defenders project. After deliberation, the meeting agreed to launch the Southern African HRD Network and nominated the Steering Committee. The meeting tasked the ICJ and Southern African Litigation Center to organize the first meeting to elect the chair, the

vice chair and the secretary, and decide on the host organization for the secretariat of the Network.

PAHRD-Net in cooperation with the Women Lawyers Association of Cote d'Ivoire and the National Coalition of HRDs of Cote d'Ivoire, organized a workshop on 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012, in Yamoussoukro, Cote D'Ivoire on capacity building for HRDs in conflict or post-conflict areas in Africa and HRDs working in isolated island states of Africa and facilitated for the first time their participation to the NGO Forum and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights session.



HRDs from African island countries at ACHPR, Cote d'Ivoire

### EAST AFRICA HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME

In August 2012, a call for applications was put out to human rights defenders in NGOs and CBOs in East Africa, South Sudan and Somalia for the annual East Africa Human Rights Project. The major aim of the EAHRP is to train and build the capacity of HRDs. Participants have been selected and are ready to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> EAHRP which will take place from 9<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2013 in Arusha, Tanzania.

After the 2<sup>nd</sup> EAHRP annual training in March 2012, all participants were required to develop individual work plans based on the training out of which five of the Kenyans' workplans were supported by OSIEA through EHAHRDP in an effort to transfer human rights learning in Isiolo, Turkana, West Pokot, Marsabit and Mandera. The overall objective of the Transferring Human Rights Learning Project is to enhance the transfer of learning by five 2012 alumni from marginalized communities in Kenya, put

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knowledge and skills gained from 2<sup>nd</sup> EAHRP into practice in the local context at the grass-roots level in Northern Kenya with an aim of increasing the ability of alumni and their organizations to use human rights as a tool for social change and strengthen networking at the community level. The five participants took part in a planning meeting in Nairobi from 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2012 which provided mentorship for the implementation of their work plans. MOUs were signed with the five organizations which included Foundation for Pastoralist Women (FPW), Pokot Educational and Development Programme (PEDP), Haki na Sheria Initiative in Garrisa (HIS), the Horn of Africa Development Initiative (HODI), Turkana Youth Agenda (TUYA) and implementation of the planned activities is ongoing.

FPW is focusing on training and amplifying voices of women human rights defenders for effective lobbying and advocacy at all levels. PEDP is focusing on reduction of human rights violations regarding military disarmament and its repercussions in West Pokot County, and HSI is focusing on increased human rights violations and reports of torture by the security apparatus in Counter terrorism efforts in Dujis Constituency- Garrisa. HODI is focusing on gender-based violence affecting women and girls among the communities living in Marsabit, and finally TUYA is focusing on land rights aspects of wider human rights in Lokichar, Lokori and Nakukulas areas of large Turkana County.

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

EHAHRDP's IT Assistant facilitated various trainings between July and December. In Nairobi, at a meeting hosted by Freedom House on digital security. She trained HRDs on digital security and ICT tools for human rights work. Most of the participants were HRDs from Kenya. The digital security training was held from 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

She also carried out two digital security trainings in Uganda – one with LGBTI activists and the other as part of the Journalists Sub-regional Conference hosted by EHAHRDP on 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> November 2012, at Colline Hotel in Mukono. In Malawi she was

hosted by Benetech for a meeting on human rights documentation in the LGBTI communities and carried out a digital security training on 19 – 20<sup>th</sup> October.

The final event of the year was the Claiming Spaces Conference in Dar es Salaam, which took place on 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> December 2012. The overall topic was Tactical Tools for Human Rights Defenders and she discussed digital security tools.

### RESOURCE CENTRE

The Resource Centre at the EHAHRDP office remains open for business as usual from Monday to Friday, apart from public holidays. Defenders have been utilizing the services all year round, with a maximum of eight per day to use the internet facilities and for other secretarial services. The HRDs also able to borrow materials from the library in the centre.

### EHAHRDP Website & Social Media

EHAHRDP continues to strive to bring timely and accurate information about human rights defenders into the public domain, both to inform current debates and advocacy activities, as well as to create a historical record. Through our website at [www.defenddefenders.org](http://www.defenddefenders.org) we are able to achieve both objectives. We currently host 220 pieces of content produced by EHAHRDP over the past five years.

In order to make this historical archive accessible we have categorized and tagged every piece of content according to document type, country, and thematic category. In order to access this archive you have three options:

- Browse by country by clicking the desired country on the map at the top of the website.
- Browse by document type or thematic category through the 'Browse Archives' menu on the right side of the website.
- Search for content through the search box.

Also on our website we have updated our library of publications at <http://www.defenddefenders.org/our-publications/>

[www.defenddefenders.org/our-publications/](http://www.defenddefenders.org/our-publications/), compiled a resource list for human rights defenders at <http://www.defenddefenders.org/key-resources/> which will be updated regularly, and have made the second edition of our Resource Book for human rights defenders available in English, Swahili and French at <http://www.defenddefenders.org/resource-book/>. The Resource Book will soon be available online in Arabic, Amharic, and Somali. Please share with us suggestions for additions to our resource list.

In addition to our website we have maintained an active and growing presence on social media through our Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/humanrightsdefendersproject>) and Twitter (<http://www.twitter.com/EHAHRDP>).

Through these online communities we are able to provide official updates from EHAHRDP as well as engage stakeholders and the general public in an interactive dialogue.



## WHAT'S NEW

As our programs keep expanding, EHAHRDP is pleased to welcome new staff members to strengthen our team. In addition, some of the existing staff members have moved on to new positions.

Long time Protection Officer at EHAHRDP, Ms. Tabitha Netuwa has been appointed Senior Legal and Protection Officer, and will be heading the reinforced Protection Programme, and be in charge of protection activities of the Pan-African Human Rights Defenders Network. Ms. Stella Murungi (formerly Protection Assistant with EHAHRDP) and Rosette Arinaitwe (formerly Coordinator for African Human Rights Education Project with EHAHRDP) have taken up positions as Protection Officers. Mr. Janvier Hakizimana, who has been interning at EHAHRDP for some time, is serving now as a full time Protection Associate.

With a new stage in partnership with Protection International having been launched, EHAHRDP has also recruited two new Security Management Officers: Ms. Loïse Mercier and Mr. Majid Maali who will take on their positions in February 2013. EHAHRDP is

pleased to see the maturing and strengthening of its Protection Program, which does central work to serve HRDs across the region.

With the start of the three year protection programme of the Pan-African Human Rights Defenders Network, the Secretariat of the network has also gained reinforcements. Mr. Neil Blazevic, who has been working as Researcher at EHAHRDP, will serve as Research and Information Management Officer for PAHRD-Net activities, while still retaining some of his previous duties for East and Horn of Africa sub-region. EHAHRDP is currently recruiting a new Research Associate to take on Neil's previous responsibilities. In addition, Ms. Sagal Jibril has taken on the position of Special Programs Officer, working for EHAHRDP's Somalia programme and for PAHRD-Net.

Also the Capacity Building team has gained new strength: since October, Ms. Anne Nakiyingi is serving as Capacity Building Assistant. The Finance department has taken on Ms. Jane Ngabirano as Finance Assistant, giving much needed extra capacity as the

work of the organisation expands. As Ms. Irene Maina returned to Kenya and took on new challenges at Akiba Uhaki Foundation, Ms. Irene Nakasolya was recruited to take on the responsibilities of Regional Coordinator for East Africa Human Rights Programme. Ms. Zainah Nakato, formerly serving as an intern at EHAHRDP, has now taken on the position of full-time Administrative Assistant.

Finally, EHAHRDP is glad to welcome two new interns to the team: Ms. Irunn Vilhelmsen Haug to work with Capacity Building and Mr. John Blow to work with Advocacy, both serving until end of May 2013.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

▪ **The 22<sup>nd</sup> Session of UN Human Rights Council**, 25<sup>th</sup> February- 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 in Geneva

▪ **The 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights**, 9<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013, in Banjul, Gambia ([www.achpr.org](http://www.achpr.org)) and the preceding NGO Forum. Please check back on ACDHRS website ([www.acdhhs.org](http://www.acdhhs.org)) for more details

▪ **The Universal Periodic Review of Djibouti**: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

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