

HRC55 TAKEAWAYS FOR



THE STAKES

THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

- Geopolitical divisions, diplomatic tensions, wars in Ukraine & Gaza
- Attacks on multilateralism, human rights standards & HRDs
- Liquidity crisis affecting the UN, including its human rights pillar



read more [here](#) or [here](#)

ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

SOUTHSUDAN

- Strong civil society **push** for the extension of the mandate of the investigative mechanism, the CHRSS (91 signatories)
- Advocacy in Geneva with South Sudanese HRDs James Bidal & Zabib Musa Loro (4-8 Mar. 2024) – meetings with states & UN experts
- **Side event** with HRDs & CHRSS member Barney Afako



OUTCOMES /RESOLUTIONS & MORE

HRC55 RESOLUTIONS

- Resolution on South Sudan (item 2): extension of the CHRSS's mandate (scrutiny is extended to Mar. 2025; it will cover the Dec. 2024 elections & the end of the transitional period (Feb. 2025))
- Second resolution on South Sudan (focusing on "technical assistance" under item 10), adopted at the initiative of the government itself (weak & insufficient to address the country's challenges) [South Sudan / **African Group initiative**]
- Resolution on Mali (extension of the mandate of the Independent Expert (IE)) [**African Group initiative**]



STAKES FOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

- HRC55: the longest session in the HRC's history with 6 weeks (26 Feb.-5 Apr. 2024) – this year will mark a record length for the HRC with 15 weeks in total.



What response to the world's human rights crises (2 years after Russia's aggression against Ukraine, 1 year after the outbreak of war in Sudan, & 6 months after the start of the Israel/Gaza war)?



OTHER ADVOCACY ENGAGEMENTS

- High-level advocacy with DefendDefenders' Executive Director Hassan Shire during the HRC's "High-Level Segment" (26 Feb.-1 Mar. 2024)
- **Item 4** general debate statement (the most serious situations): Eswatini, Egypt, the Sahel
- UPR statements on **Cameroon** & **Djibouti**



Read all of DefendDefenders' oral statements delivered during the session

OTHER OUTCOMES

- Country-specific resolutions adopted on Belarus, Iran, Myanmar, the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Syria, Ukraine...
- Thematic resolutions adopted on the rights of persons with albinism [**African Group initiative**], the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, the right to privacy, the negative impact of disinformation on human rights...



No African Group collective statement on Sudan, Eritrea, or South Sudan



ALL RESOLUTIONS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

STAKES FOR AFRICA

- Ahead of the session, resolutions were expected on South Sudan & Mali
- The African Group was expected to present a resolution on persons with albinism



What level of attention for debates on Eritrea, Sudan, CAR, or the DRC?



ANALYSIS OF THE SESSION

- Press release on the adoption of a resolution on **South Sudan** – a positive outcome that follows weeks of advocacy by civil society

Read Hassan Shire's "Reflections" on HRC55



PAVING THE WAY FOR FURTHER ADVOCACY

- We contributed to maintaining a high level of attention to **Sudan** and emphasised the need for steadfast action to improve **Eritrea's** situation

NEXT SESSION 18 June-12 July 2024.
Resolution on Eritrea, and debates on Sudan & Burundi, are expected