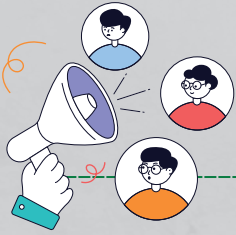


HRC60 Takeaways for Africa



STAKES

The international context

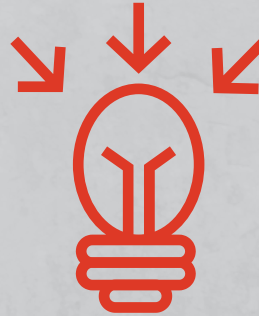
- Attacks against multilateralism, including by the new US administration
- Grave liquidity [crisis](#) for the UN (states are not paying their dues) – the Secretary-General is responding with a “UN80” initiative
- Ongoing armed conflicts and increasing polarisation within societies & in global fora

Stakes for the Human Rights Council

- [HRC60](#) (8 September-8 October 2025) – a heavy session with many country-specific resolutions
- Renovation works at UN Geneva have forced the HRC to migrate to another building (“Assembly Hall”)
- Resolutions were expected on, among others: Afghanistan, Russia, Sri Lanka, the death penalty, drug policies, racism, etc.

Stakes for Africa

- Many African situations on the agenda
- Resolutions presented by African states or the African Group include texts on racism, Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Libya, & Somalia
- Resolutions on Burundi & Sudan were presented by other states



ADVOCACY INITIATIVES



Sudan

- Strong civil society [push](#) to extend the Fact-Finding Mission's (FFM) mandate (107 signatories) and in-person advocacy with Sudanese HRDs (Nimat Ahmadi & Mohamed Ali Mossaad)
- [Side event](#) with the FFM's Chair, Mohamed Chande Othman, & HRDs (view [photos](#))

Burundi & other engagements

- NGO [call](#) to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur (SR) on [Burundi](#) (40+ signatories)
- [Side event](#) & advocacy with Burundian HRDs, including [Marie Louise Baricako](#)
- Advocacy on Somalia (to maintain UN scrutiny)
- [Addis Ababa](#) Roadmap activities: DefendDefenders, ACHPR, UN special procedures
- [Oral statements](#) by DefendDefenders at HRC60

Analysis of the session

- Press releases on the adoption of resolutions on [Sudan](#), [Burundi](#), & [Somalia](#)
- Read Hassan Shire's [reflections](#) on HRC60

OUTCOMES: RESOLUTIONS & MORE

HRC60 resolutions

- Resolution on Sudan: vital step to extend investigations as fighting rages
- Resolution on Burundi: maintains scrutiny as risk factors multiply in relation to elections
- Resolution on Somalia: sound OHCHR monitoring & reporting will be vital
- Libya: weak resolution; CAR: resolution extending the Independent Expert's mandate
- 2 resolutions adopted at the initiative of the DRC, in a tense context (see [“Reflections”](#))

Other outcomes

- [Joint statement](#) on Ethiopia (led by the EU, endorsed by 42 states): paving the way for more
- Country resolutions adopted on Afghanistan (new mechanism established), Cambodia, Georgia, Russia, Sri Lanka, Yemen
- Thematic resolutions adopted on the death penalty and drug policies (both controversial – many amendments presented), and on reprisals

• [ALL RESOLUTIONS AVAILABLE HERE](#)

The way forward

- We kept a strong focus on Sudan & pushed to keep accountability at the heart of any long-term solution to the crisis
- We maintained a decent level of attention to Burundi & Somalia
- The next session, HRC61, will take place in February-April 2026 (focus on South Sudan)
- Before that, DefendDefenders will engage at [ACHPR85](#) & celebrate its 20th anniversary

