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The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) is a quasi-judicial body tasked with promoting and protecting human rights and collective (peoples') rights throughout the African continent as well as interpreting the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and considering individual complaints of violations of the Charter. Article 45 of the Charter sets out the mandate of the Commission which are:

1. Ensure the protection of human and peoples’ rights under conditions laid down by the present Charter.
2. Interpret all the provisions of the present Charter at the request of a State Party, an institution of the OAU or an African Organization recognized by the OAU.
3. Perform any other tasks which may be entrusted to it by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Court) is a continental court established by African countries to ensure the protection of human and peoples' rights in Africa. It is also a judicial body that delivers binding judgments on compliance with the African Charter. Established in 2004 and located in Arusha, Tanzania, the court hears cases from the 26 African Union (AU) member states that have ratified the Protocol establishing the Court.

The Court has jurisdiction over all cases and disputes submitted to it concerning the interpretation and application of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, (the Charter), the Protocol and any other relevant human rights instrument ratified by the States concerned.

The Court may receive cases filed by the African Commission of Human and Peoples’ Rights, State parties to the Protocol or African Intergovernmental Organizations. Non-Governmental Organizations with observer status before the African Commission and individuals can also institute cases directly before the Court as long as the state against which they are complaining has deposited the Article 34(6) declaration recognizing the jurisdiction of the Court to accept cases from individuals and NGOs.

The ECOWAS Court of Justice is the judicial organ of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and is charged with resolving disputes related to the Community’s treaty, protocols and conventions. The ECOWAS Community Court of Justice has competence to hear individual complaints of alleged human rights violations. The ECOWAS Court of Justice was created pursuant to the provisions of Articles 6 and 15 Revised Treaty of the Economic Community of West African States of 1993, and is headquartered in Abuja, Nigeria.

The weakness or strength of any human rights institution revolves around its normative and procedural scope, its implementation machinery and above all the practice of all the relevant actors. This assertion means that the blame of the failure or otherwise of the commission is multi-faceted including in particular As a result of these challenges, the commission so far has not been able to live up to expectations.

1. The inability of these institutions to rise above ethnicity and primordial ties.

This has impeded development and contributed to an environment in which human rights have tended to be violated as well. The exclusion from positions of authority of individuals outside the leaders own ethnic group or region has closed off a significant pool of trained manpower in situations where there are already too few who are adequately trained.

1. Lack of communication

According to article 55 of the ACHPR the Commission may consider communications from persons other than state parties, only if a simple majority of its members accept such communication. In addition to these article 56 states provides that such communications may be accepted if they were made after the exhaustion of local remedies, unless it is obvious to the Commission that the local procedure is unduly prolonged. This is a problem because most violations require immediate attention and if this process is followed losses might be suffered in most cases.

1. Financial constraints.

Inadequate staffing levels at the Secretariat of the Commission often delaying the adoption and publication of Concluding Observations on State Reports, as well as the handling of correspondences/Communications.

 4. Limited use of the coordination/collaborative role of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions to enhance the interaction and flow of information between human rights institutions and the Commission.

**Remedies**

1. Ensure effective follow up with the AU regarding the recruitment of Legal Officers in order to address the problem of understaffing which leads to inefficiency in the delivery of its services
2. Collaborate with all stakeholders in disseminating recommendations and decisions of the Commission with a view to ensure maximum visibility for necessary action.
3. Also, Organize additional implementation seminars to ensure continued dialogue with and between States Parties and human rights institutions.
4. Proactively engage States and raise awareness on the decisions of the Commission with the different ministries and members of parliament