

Pan Africa ILGA

Bi-monthly *News bulletin*

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Thematic News

Pan Africa ILGA Regional Conference

Congratulations to Pan Africa ILGA for successfully hosting the 3rd Regional Conference themed African Bodies: Breaking Ground, Building Bridges’.

180 participants from 34 countries met in Johannesburg to engage on a diverse range of issues: find common regional strategies to achieve change in laws and policies discriminating against people on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity; exchange good practices and celebrate successes; develop strategies for effective advocacy in Africa; as well as receiving advocacy training on relevant regional and international bodies including the ACHPR and UPR (African Commission on People's and Human Rights and the UN).

http://panafricailga.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/PAI2016-statement_Regional-Conference-2016.pdf

PAI Supports Resolution to Create an Independent Expert on SOGIE

The Latin American States leading on a SOGI resolution –

Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia and Brazil – have just announced their intention to present a resolution at the upcoming June session of the Human Rights Council to create a UN Independent Expert to bring greater attention to human rights violations based on sexual orientation and gender identity. PAI is part of a cross-regional coalition of NGOs is working to support this historic initiative.

<http://panafricailga.org/sogi-resolution-2016-update-and-action-alert-2/> [English]
<http://panafricailga.org/resolution-osig-2016-mise-a-jour-et-appel-a-laction/> [French]
<http://panafricailga.org/قرارات-حقوق-الإنسان-والنوع-الاجتماعي/> [Arabic]

Regional News

SMUG Challenges Denial and Freedom of Association - Uganda.

The right to associate freely through the formation of association is guaranteed under most national laws and international human rights standards. Uganda's Constitution provides for not only the freedoms of association and expression, but the right to equality and non-discrimination. SMUG, an NGO working on human rights of lesbian, gays, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons was denied the right to register by the Uganda Registration Service Bureau in 2012.

<http://panafricailga.org/sexual-minorities-uganda-files-case-challenging-the-refusal-to-register-their-organisation/>

Seychelles Decriminalizes Homosexuality

32 countries in Africa criminalize same-sex conduct (usually referred to as sodomy or homosexuality). South Africa became the first country to decriminalize in 1996, followed by Lesotho in 2010, More recently Mozambique in 2015 and now Seychelles in May 2016.

Same-sex conduct no longer illegal in the Republic of Seychelles, the 115-island country off the East African coast, making it one of the few African countries to decriminalize the acts. Fourteen lawmakers voted Wednesday (DATE) in favor of the proposal to amend Section 151 of the country's Penal Code that named sodomy a felony, punishable with up to 14 years in prison. Fourteen others abstained; four were absent.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/05/lgbt-rights-seychelles/483503/>

Swaziland Accepts UPR Recommendations

14 countries were reviewed during UPR25 including Swaziland. Swaziland received 4 recommendations with sexual orientation content and they accepted one which was made by Portugal as follows:

Ensure and guarantee non-discriminatory access to health services, education, justice and employment for all persons, irrespective of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

The UPR outcome for each State reviewed during UPR25 will be adopted at the 33rd session of the HRC from 13-30 September 2016. The outcome report indicates

which recommendations the State agrees to implement, and its responses to other recommendations. PAI in joint collaboration with Rock of Hope, Irani-org and Gender Dynamix, submitted a [shadow report](#) to the UN UPR.

Mombasa HighCourt Declares Anal Tests For Homosexuals Legal

The June 16th ruling by Kenya High Court in Mombasa declaring the [anal testing](#) on two men suspected of engaging in homosexual sex is unacceptable and a gross violation of international human rights.

[The High Court in Mombasa has dismissed a petition by two suspected homosexuals](#) challenging the constitutionality of undergoing an anal examination as proof of being gay. High court judge Justice Anyara Emukule dismissed the petition on grounds that it had no merit since the petitioners had consented to the test.

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/06/16/kenya-court-upholds-forced-anal-exams>

Upcoming Events

Trans Pre-conference at International AIDS 2016 Conference

The IRGT, a Global Network of Transgender Women and HIV, in partnership with other transgender regional organizations and networks are organizing the first ever Trans Pre-Conference Event at the 2016 International AIDS Conference focused solely on transgender people.

The Trans Pre Conference event will bring together advocates, researchers, policy makers, multilateral organizations, and donors to discuss and develop shared strategies to address the most pressing issues of the day for transgender people at risk for or living with HIV. Learn the latest about transgender HIV prevention and care at No More Lip Service, Trans Access, Equity and Rights, Now!

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