

# **HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY IN DEVELOPMENT**

## **Goretti Mudzongo**

### **OVERALL AIM**

The course is aimed at individuals working in development who wish to broaden their knowledge and develop their skills in human rights. The course will cover the substantive and institutional aspects of the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional and international levels. It will further explore the human rights dimension of development and conflict resolution and examine how human rights can be used as an advocacy tool for development and conflict resolution.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- ❖ Define and understand human rights
- ❖ Understand the broad concept development as a human right
- ❖ Understand the right to development and the rights based approach to development
- ❖ Understand the interface of human rights and conflict resolution
- ❖ Identify the main instruments of human rights
- ❖ Understand the international and regional systems for the promotion, protection, monitoring and enforcement mechanisms of human rights
- ❖ Explore how human rights can be used as an advocacy tool for development and conflict resolution.

### **COURSE CONTENT**

The course content includes:

- Introduction to the Concept of human rights
- Main human rights instruments
- Human rights protection under the United Nations, European, Inter-American and African systems
- Right to Development and the human rights based approach to development
- Conflict and human rights (*how human rights violations can both be a cause and consequence of conflict*)
- Human rights advocacy in development and conflict resolution (*Strategies for Promoting human rights observance in development and conflict areas*).

### **WORKING AND PRESENTATION METHODOLOGIES**

participatory working and presentation methodologies will be used during the course depending on the subject; these methodologies will include lectures, role plays, panel discussions, working groups and informal sessions for sharing participant's human rights experiences.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **READING LIST**

1. Phillip Alston & Mary Robinson, *Human Rights and Development: Towards Mutual Reinforcement*, Oxford University Press, 2004
2. Steiner, H.J & Alston P, *International Human Rights in Context, Law Politics Morals*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Oxford University Press, 2000
3. Brownlie I. *Basic Documents in International Law*, Fourth Edition, Oxford, 1995
4. Malanczuk, P. *Akehurst's Modern Introduction to International Law*, 7<sup>th</sup> Revised Ed, Routledge, 1997.
5. Donnelly J. *Universal human rights theory and practice*, Cornell University Press 1989
6. *Human Rights In International Law: Basic texts*, Council of Europe, COE Press Strasbourg 1992
7. Robertson A.H and Merrills J.G, *Human rights in the world*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed Manchester University Press 1989
8. Asbjorn Eide et al, *Economic, Social & Cultural Rights A Textbook* 2<sup>nd</sup> Revised Ed. Martinus Nihoff Publishers
9. A handbook on issues of transition from the Commission on Human Rights to the Human Rights Council avail at :<http://www.ishr.ch/handbook/Handbook.pdf>

### **NB: REFERENCES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND CONFLICT TO FOLLOW**

#### **Human Rights Instruments**

1. Universal Declaration of Human Rights
2. International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
3. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
4. convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against women
5. convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
6. convention on the Rights of the Child
7. convention Against Torture, Cruel, Inhuman AND Degrading Treatment or Punishment
8. Migrant Workers Convention
9. Declaration on the right to Development

#### **Regional Human Rights Treaties**

African Charter on Human AND People's Rights

European Convention on Human Rights

Inter American Convention on Human Rights

**Human Rights WebSites**

United Nations: [www.un.org](http://www.un.org)

United Nations High Commission for Human Rights [www.unhcr.ch](http://www.unhcr.ch)

**United Nations Development Fund**