***ACHPR /Res.83(XXXVIII)05* : RESOLUTION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN**

**AFRICA**

*The African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights meeting at its 38th Ordinary Session held from 21st November to 5th December 2005 in Banjul, The Gambia;*

***Recalling*** its mandate to promote human and peoples’ rights and ensure their protection in Africa under the *African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights*;

***Mindful*** that in the *Grand Bay (Mauritius) Declaration and Plan of Action*, the Organisation of African Unity (African Union) called on Member States “to take appropriate steps to implement the UN *Declaration on Human Rights Defenders* in Africa”;

***Reaffirming*** the importance of the observance of the purposes and principles of the *African Charter* for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

***Reaffirming*** the commitment of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights in the promotion and protection of the rights of human rights defenders;

***Recognising*** the crucial contribution of the work of human rights defenders in promoting human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Africa;

***Recalling*** the Resolution adopted at the 35th Ordinary Session held from 21 May to 4 June 2004 in Banjul, The Gambia by which the African Commission appointed the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa;

***Considering*** that the term of Mrs. Jainaba Johm as a Member of the African Commission came to an end along with her mandate as Special Rapporteur on the 21 November 2005;

***Appreciating*** the work that Mrs. Jainaba Johm has done as Special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defenders;

***Emphasizing*** the importance of the work of the Special Rapporteur as regards the search for solutions to the problems arising from the protection of human rights defenders;

***Decides*** to appoint Commissioner Reine Alapini-Gansou as the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa for a period of two years effective 5th December 2005.