

**ACHPR/Res.381 (LXI) 2017: Resolution on the Appointment of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and Focal Point on Reprisals in Africa**

*The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Commission), meeting at its 61<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session held from 1 to 15 November 2017, in Banjul, The Gambia:*

**Recalling** its mandate to promote and protect human and peoples' rights in Africa under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Charter);

**Recalling** its Resolution ACHPR/Res.69 (XXXV) 04 on the protection of human rights defenders in Africa adopted at its 35<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held from 21 May to 4 June 2004 in Banjul, The Gambia;

**Further recalling** its Resolutions ACHPR/Res.56 (XXIX) 01, ACHPR/Res.104 (XXXXI) 07, ACHPR/Res.119 (XXXXII) 07, ACHPR/Res.196 (L) 11, ACHPR/Res.345 (LVIII) 16 and ACHPR/Res.376 (LX) 17 on the situation of human rights defenders in Africa;

**Bearing in mind** its Resolutions ACHPR/Res.83 (XXXVIII) 05, ACHPR/Res.149 (XLVI) 09, ACHPR/Res.171 (XLVII) 10, and ACHPR/Res.202 (L) 11 on the appointment of the various Special Rapporteurs on Human Rights Defenders in Africa;

**Recalling** its Resolutions ACHPR/Res.248 (LIV) 2013 and ACHPR/Res.315 (LVII) 15 on the Renewal of the Mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa;

**Bearing in mind also** that in the Grand Bay Declaration and Plan of Action (Mauritius), the Organisation of African Unity (African Union) called on Member States "to take appropriate measures to implement the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Defenders";

**Recalling** its Resolution ACHPR/Res.273 (LV) 14 on the expansion of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders in Africa to include reprisals, adopted at the 55<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held from 28 April to 12 May 2014 in Luanda, Angola;

**Considering** the new responsibilities of the Special Rapporteur as the focal person for cases of reprisals against human rights defenders in Africa;

**Considering** the end-of-term report of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and Focal Point on Reprisals in Africa;

**Noting** with appreciation the work undertaken by Commissioner Reine Alapini Gansou as the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and Focal Point on Reprisals in Africa;

**Noting** the importance of the work of the Special Rapporteur regarding the search for solutions to problems relating to the protection of human rights defenders;

**Considering** the need for the mechanism of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and Focal Point on Reprisals in Africa to continue to carry out its mandate;

**Decides** to appoint **Commissioner Prof. Rémy Ngoy Lumbu** as the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders and Focal Point on Reprisals in Africa for a period of two (2) years, with effect from 15 November 2017.

**Done in Banjul, The Gambia, 15 November 2017**