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Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Tele: +251-115 517 700 Fax: +251-11-5 517844  
Website: [www.au.int](http://www.au.int)

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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**  
**Thirty-Nine Ordinary Session**  
**27 September – 01 October 2021**  
**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**EX.CL/1291(XXXIX)**  
Original: English

**DRAFT REPORT ON THE ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT  
OF FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

**DRAFT REPORT ON THE ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF FOUR (4)  
MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES'  
RIGHTS**

1. The elections of the Members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) are based on the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Charter) as well as the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council.
2. The ACHPR is established by Article 31(1) of the Charter which provides that the ACHPR *"shall consist of eleven members chosen from among African personalities of the highest reputation, known for their high morality, integrity, impartiality and competence in matters of human and peoples' rights; particular consideration being given to persons having legal experience."*
3. The members of the ACHPR serve in their personal capacity, in accordance with Article 31(2) of the Charter.
4. Further, Article 36 of the Charter provides that members shall be appointed for a six (6) year period and shall be eligible for re-election.
5. The Commission would like to inform the Executive Council that the terms of office of the following two (2) members of the ACHPR who were elected in June 2015 for a term of six (6) years, shall expire in June 2021:
  - a. Mr. Solomon Ayele DERSSO (Ethiopia)
  - b. Mrs. L. King JAMESINA ESSIE (Sierra Leone)
6. The outgoing Members are eligible for re-election.
7. The third vacancy arose due to the resignation of Mrs. Sylvie KAYITESI ZAINABO (Rwanda) on 11 December 2020. She was elected in June 2015.
8. The fourth vacancy arose due to the untimely passing of Mr. Ndiamé GAYE (Senegal), in March 2021. He was elected in February 2020.

**Modalities for Election**

9. Paragraph 2 of Decision **EX.CL/907 (XXVII)** on the Modalities on the Implementation of the Criteria on Equitable Geographical and Gender Representation in AU Organs and Institutions, adopted by the Executive Council in January 2016, reads as follows:
  - i) The regional representation, where applicable, shall be East (2), Central (2), North (2), South (2) and West (2), except in cases in which a region which has been duly informed has not presented candidates;

- ii) Where applicable, one (1) seat shall be a floating seat and will rotate among the five (5) regions;
- iii) At least one (1) member from each region should be a woman;
- iv) The modalities shall become effective immediately.

10. With the four (4) vacancies, the regional and gender representation of the ACHPR will be as follows:

REGION	MEMBERS	GENDER	
		FEMALE	MALE
Central	2	1	1
East	1 Occupying the floating seat <sup>1</sup>	1	0
North	2	1	1
South	2	1	1
West	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>

11. Therefore, during these elections, in accordance with the Modalities on Implementation of Criteria for Equitable Geographical Representation in the African Union Organs, the following members shall be elected:

- a) **Eastern Region-** two(2) candidates : one (1) female and one (1) male candidate); and
- b) **Western Region-** two (2) candidates: one (1) female and one (1) male candidate.

### **Submission of Candidates**

12. The Commission, through its Note Verbal reference number BC/OLC/66.5./10462.21 dated 13 March, 2021, invited States Parties to the Charter to submit candidatures on or before the deadline on 30 April, 2021. 2020.

13. The Commission extended the deadline to 06 May 2021 through its Note Verbale reference number BC/OLC/66/10604/21 dated 08 April 2021.

14. The Commission would like to inform the Executive Council that the candidatures received from States Parties to the Charter are as follows:

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<sup>1</sup> The Floating seat is currently occupied by Ms. Alexia AMESBURY (female from Seychelles), elected for a 6-year term in February 2020.

NO	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1.	Tonia M'bawa <b>BARNETT</b>	F	Sierra Leone	Western
2.	Solomon Ayele <b>DERSSO *</b>	M	Ethiopia	Eastern
3.	Renee Aku Sitsofe <b>MORHE</b>	F	Ghana	Western
4.	Illa Maikassoua <b>RACHIDATOU</b>	F	Niger	Western
5.	Janet Ramatoulie <b>SALLAH-NJIE</b>	F	The Gambia	Western
6.	Idrissa <b>SOW</b>	M	Senegal	Western
7.	Fabien <b>TOMBOHAVANA</b>	M	Madagascar	Eastern
8.	Ourveena Geereesha <b>TOPSY-SONOO</b>	F	Mauritius	Eastern

\*Candidate 1 is eligible for re-election

15. It will be recalled that the Assembly, vide Decision **Assembly/AU/Dec.760 (XXXIII)** adopted in February 2020 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia delegated its authority of appointment of members of AU Organs and institutions, to the Executive Council.

16. In this regard the elected members shall automatically be appointed by the Council.

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

**The Executive Council,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election and Appointment of Four(4) Members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;
2. **ELECTS AND APPOINTS** the following members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights for a term of **six (6) years**:

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1				
2				
3				
4				

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2021-09-27

# Draft Report on the Election and Appointment of Four (4) Members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

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