



International and Regional Human Rights Frameworks

Suki Beavers, UNDP May 30-31, 2017 Kingston, Jamaica

International Human Rights Framework

- Human Rights frameworks place legal obligations on states
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights (adopted in 1948)





International treaties and monitoring bodies

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (entered into force in 1976) *Treaty Body: Human Rights Committee*
- International Covenant of Economic and Social Rights (entered into force in 1976) *Treaty Body: Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*



International treaties and monitoring bodies

- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965) Monitoring Body: CERD
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) Monitoring Body: CEDAW
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1984) Monitoring Body: CAT
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) Monitoring Body: CRC
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006) Monitoring Body: CPRD

UN Human Rights Bodies

- Human Rights Council
- Universal Periodic Review
- Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council
- Human Rights Council Complaint Procedure



HIV/AIDS in the International Framework

- "A lack of respect for human rights fuels the spread and exacerbates the impact of the disease" (OHCHR)
- People with HIV/AIDS are protected by ICCPR rights to equality, privacy and dignity.
- People with HIV/AIDS are protected by Article 12 of ICESCR the right to health which includes "access to "facilities, goods, services and conditions necessary for the realization of the highest attainable standard of health."
- UNGA Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS (2011) (A/RES/65/277)
- Special Rapporteur for Health has addressed HIV/AIDS and human rights in reports and country visits (for example A/HRC/14/20)

GLOBAL COMMISSION ON HIV and the AW

- **1.** Epidemic of **bad laws** is fueling the **spread** of **HIV**, resulting in human rights violations and **costing lives**.
- 2. Epidemic of **bad laws** is wasting money & **limiting** effectiveness and efficiency of HIV and health **investments**.
- **3. Good laws** and practices that protect human rights and build on public health evidence already exist they strengthen the global AIDS response, and they must be replicated.
- 4. Scientific tools alone are not sufficient to halt and reverse AIDS. Enabling legal environments are essential to a successful AIDS responses

LGBT Rights in the International Framework

- General Assembly resolution Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions (adopted 30 January 2015) -A/RES/69/182
- Human Rights Council resolution Human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity (adopted 17 June 2011) A/HRC/RES/17/19
- Protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (adopted 30 June 2016) A/HRC/RES/32/2
- Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (2016)
- Yogyakarta Principles (developed in 2006)

Regional Human Rights Frameworks

Africa

- Regional Organisation: African Union
- Commission: African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights
- Human Rights Treaty: African Charter on Human and People's Rights
- Court: African Court of Justice and Human Rights
- Committee on the Protection of the Rights of People Living with HIV
- Resolution 275 of ACHPR (2014)

Regional Human Rights Frameworks

Americas

- Regional Organisation: Organsiation of American States
- Commission: Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
- Human Rights Instuments: American Declaration of Human Rights/ American Convention on Human Rights
- Court: Inter-American Court of Human Rights
- Adopted Strategic Plan for LGBT people (2011-2012)
- Atala v Chile (2012)
- Established Rapporteurship on LGBT Rights (2013)
- Documented violence against LGBTI persons in Americas in report (2015)

Regional Human Rights Frameworks

Europe

- Regional Organisation: Council of Europe
- Human Rights Convention: European Convention on Human Rights
- Court: European Court of Human Rights
- European Union: Discrimination based on SOGI prohibited by Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union