

PART 4

11. RESOURCES FOR THE PROTECTION OF REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL RIGHTS

RESOURCES FOR THE PROTECTION OF REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL RIGHTS

The Application of Human Rights to Reproductive and Sexual Health: A Compilation of the Work of International Human Rights Treaty Bodies, produced by the International Programme on Reproductive and Sexual Health Law, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto and Action Canada for Population and Development, 2001, 440 pp. (compilers: Julie Stanchieri, Isfahan Merali and Rebecca J. Cook; the 3rd edition is prepared by Action Canada for Population and Development (2005))

This report is designed to assist government departments and agencies as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in monitoring compliance with, and violations of, reproductive and sexual health rights. It is also designed to assist in the development of advocacy manuals, training programmes, and research. The report reviews six international human rights treaties relevant to the protection of reproductive and sexual health rights. Within the review of each treaty and convention, the report contains the full text of the instrument, general recommendations and comments by the treaty monitoring body, and relevant concluding observations by the monitoring committees. Information on concluding observations is organized in accordance with the specific country reports.

This is a compilation of the Concluding Observations and General Comments or General Recommendations relating to reproductive and sexual health that have been developed by the international human rights treaty bodies. Materials included in the second edition of the compilation are updated selections from the full text documents of: the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women; the Committee on the Rights of the Child; the Human Rights Committee; and the Committee against Torture. The latest edition of this compilation is available on the ACPD website at: <http://www.acpd.ca/compilation/> and can be obtained on CD-ROM or in print form directly from ACPD.

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The Application of Human Rights to Reproductive and Sexual Health: A Compilation of the Work of the European Human Rights System, produced by the International Programme on Reproductive and Sexual Health Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, the Federation for Women and Family Planning, Poland in collaboration with ASTRA - Central and

Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and the Danish Centre for Human Rights, March 2002 561 pp (compilers: Julie Stanchieri, Nell Rasmussen, Dina Bogecho, Isfahan Merali and Rebecca J. Cook).

This compilation includes the texts relating to reproductive and sexual health, such as the European Convention and protocols, and decisions of the European Court of Human Rights and former Commission. It contains the basic texts of relevant protocols and the revised Social Charter, Conclusions of the Committee for relevant supervision cycles XIII-XV, Recommendations, etc. of the Committee of Ministers. It includes relevant Social Charter monographs, the Torture Convention, the Biomedical Convention and European Union directives and European of Court of Justice decisions. It is available at:

http://www.astra.org.pl/tor/index_1.html

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El Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos: Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos en Acción (The Inter-American Human Rights System: Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Action), produced by the International Programme on Reproductive and Sexual Health Law, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto and Profamilia Legal Services for Women, Bogotá, Colombia, 2001, Vol. I-IV. (compilers: María Christina Calderón, María Isabel Plata, Julie Lemaitre, Julie Stanchieri, Isfahan Merali and Rebecca J. Cook).

Materials provided in this compilation include: Concluding Observations of the Inter-American Commission, Resolutions of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, and Communications submitted to the Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. Profamilia has published the manual in CD-ROM and print format (Vols. I-IV).

Vol. 1: El Sistema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos en Accion, 166 pp

Vol. 2: Informes Anuales Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos 1991-2000, 183 pp.

Vol. 3: Informes Especiales de la Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos, 227 pp.

Vol. 4: Casos Individuales ante el Systema Interamericano de Derechos Humanos, 258 pp.

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Bringing Rights to Bear: Analysis of the Work of UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies on Reproductive and Sexual Rights, produced by the International Programme on Reproductive and Sexual Health Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto and the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), New York, 2003, 291 pp. (Julia Zajkowski).

The report analyzes how the six major international treaty bodies have addressed various reproductive and sexual health issues by reviewing their relevant Concluding Observations and General Comments or General Recommendations. It extracts the most significant pronouncements made by the treaty bodies and shows how they have contributed to the development of reproductive and sexual rights. The report discusses ways to build on the advances made by the treaty monitoring bodies in the field of reproductive and sexual health and rights and offers suggestions for furthering the effectiveness of the treaty bodies' recommendations to states parties. An advocate's guide, issued as a companion to the report, highlights strategies for promoting reproductive rights through the UN committees' recommendations. The full report is available at:

http://www.reproductiverights.org/pub_bo_tmb.html, and the advocates' guide is at: http://www.reproductiverights.org/pub_art_tmb.html. The report is also available in Spanish and French.

Legal Grounds: Reproductive and Sexual Rights in African Commonwealth Courts, produced by the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR), New York, 2005.

Reproductive and sexual rights, which are guaranteed in international and regional human rights treaties, mean nothing if they are not recognized and enforced by national-level courts. *Legal Grounds: Sexual and Reproductive Rights in African Commonwealth Courts* is an attempt to provide much-needed information about decisions and gender-relevant jurisprudence of national courts throughout African Commonwealth countries. It offers a crucial starting point for women's rights advocates who are seeking to further develop their litigation and grassroots strategies. The document is available at http://www.reproductiverights.org/pub_bo_legalgrounds.html.

Contact person at CRR: Elisa Slattery, Legal Fellow for Africa, Center for Reproductive Rights, 120 Wall St., 14th fl., New York, NY 10005, U.S.A., Tel: 917-637-3685. Fax: 917-637-3666. E-mail: ESlattery@reprorights.org , info@reprorights.org . Website: http://www.reproductiverights.org
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12. OTHER RESOURCES: PRINT AND WEBSITE SOURCES

Annotated Bibliography of Other Print and Website Sources

The recent decades have been marked with a heightened awareness of human rights around the world. Authors, activists, and organizations around the world have devoted tremendous efforts in understanding, researching and improving the plight of women in developing countries. Chapter 11 provides an extensive listing of annotated citations of print sources and websites relating to topics of women’s rights and human rights. It includes relevant books, reports, journal articles and website listings and hence it is a helpful starting point for readers whether they wish to simply probe deeper into such issues, expand their networking initiatives or utilize these sources in their advocacy.

It is important to note that Chapter 11 does not contain an exhaustive list of resources relating to women’s rights and human rights, although the compilers of this chapter have attempted to cover the issues as comprehensively as possible. The chapter is presented in five sections: 1) Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights in Africa, 2) International Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights, 3) Women’s Rights in Africa, 4) Human Rights in Africa, and 5) International Human Rights and International Law. Each section contains annotated citations that are further divided into Print Sources and Websites. Print sources consist of books, articles, reports and documents that are available in the library or on the Internet for those readers who wish to study specific issues and topics in depth. Web citations consist mostly of relevant organizations’ websites, which readers may find helpful in their work and advocacy efforts.

Books, journal articles, manuals, other relevant print publications as well as Internet websites form part of the valuable resources available on reproductive and sexual health rights. These resources can assist you with advocacy or to learn about the different aspects of reproductive and sexual health issues, women's rights, international human rights and the African regional human rights system. These resources are listed under the following categories:

Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights: Africa	316
Print Sources	316
Website Sources	325
Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights: International	329
Print Sources	329
Website Sources	342
Women’s Rights in Africa	349
Print Sources	349
Website Sources	357

Human Rights in Africa	360
Print Sources	360
Website Sources	367
International Human Rights and International Law	373
Print Sources	373
Website Sources	380

1. Reproductive and Sexual Health: Africa

Print Resources

Aggleton, Peter & Kim Rivers. *Adolescent Sexuality, Gender and the HIV Epidemic* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 1999).

Stressing the importance of education and communication on HIV/AIDS for young people in developing countries, this paper discusses the patterned vulnerability faced by youth in such countries inflicted by the epidemic. It features a list of principles that will help ensure future successes in efforts to prevent the spread of the epidemic. A full text of this paper is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/hiv/publications/gender/adolesce.htm.

Ashford, Lori and Carolyn Makinson. *Reproductive Health in Policy and Practice* (1999).

To assess the implementation of the Programme of Action agreed upon at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), country case studies were conducted by senior researchers in Brazil, India, Morocco, and Uganda. This report includes these case studies and analyses how resources have been raised and allocated to support reproductive health programmes. Individual reports for Brazil, India, Morocco, and Uganda are also available. The full text report covering the four countries may be accessed on the Internet at www.prb.org.

Ayieko. *From Single Parents to Child-Headed Households: The Case of Children Orphaned by AIDS in Kisumu and Siaya Districts* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 1998).

One significant socio-economic consequence of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in developing nations is the increase of child-headed households. This paper is a detailed account of the research conducted on this phenomenon, by way of interviews and case studies in Kisumu and Siaya districts. A full text of the paper is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/hiv/publications/study/english/sp7e.htm.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Association of Women Jurists of Benin. *Reproductive Rights of Young Girls and Adolescents in Benin: A Shadow Report* (1999).

This is a shadow report submitted to the Committee on the Rights of the Child as a supplement to the government report of Benin. It reviews topics including the rights of adolescents regarding reproductive health, the right to education, the marriage of adolescents, and sexual and physical violence against young girls and adolescents. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Association of Women Jurists of Cameroon. *Women's Reproductive Rights in Cameroon: A Shadow Report* (1999).

Prepared for the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural rights, this report reviews topics on women's reproductive health, family protection and assistance, sexual and physical violence against women, the right to education, and the right to equitable and favourable working conditions. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Association of Jurists of Mali. *Reproductive Rights of Young Girls and Adolescents in Mali: A Shadow Report (1999).*

This is a shadow report submitted to the Committee on the Rights of the Child as a supplement to the government report of Mali. It reviews topics including the rights of adolescents regarding reproductive health, the right to education, the marriage of adolescents, and sexual and physical violence against young girls and adolescents. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy and Groupe de Recherché Femmes et Lois au Sénégal. *Women of the World: Laws and Policies Affecting Their Reproductive Lives: Francophone Africa (New York: Center for Reproductive Law and Policy 1999).*

Originally published in French, this report details the content of national laws and policies in key areas of reproductive health and women's empowerment in seven Francophone African nations – Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Sénégal. It discusses laws enacted by legislatures and legal principles developed by courts as it examines relevant policies issued by government ministries, administrative agencies, and official councils or commissions. Statistics are included for each country. The report concludes by analyzing regional trends affecting reproductive health and rights, women's legal status and the rights of female minors and adolescents.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy and International Federation of Women Lawyers, Kenya Chapter. *Women of the World: Laws and Policies Affecting Their Reproductive Lives: Anglophone Africa (New York: Center for Reproductive Law and Policy 1997).*

Encompassing Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe, this article details the content of national laws and policies in key areas of reproductive health and women's empowerment in Anglophone African nations. It discusses laws enacted by legislatures and legal principles developed by courts as it examines relevant policies issued by government ministries, administrative agencies and official councils or commissions. The report concludes by analyzing the laws affecting reproductive health, reproductive rights and women's empowerment by assessing regional trends and describing regional models of laws and policies that promote reproductive rights.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Women's Centre for Peace and Development. *Women's Reproductive Rights in Nigeria: A Shadow Report (1998).*

Prepared for the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, this report reviews the state of women's reproductive rights in Nigeria. Topics covered include the right to health care, family relations, sexual violence against women, education and adolescents and employment rights. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Women's Health Project. *Women's Reproductive Rights in South Africa: A Shadow Report (1998).*

Prepared for the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, this report reviews the state of women's reproductive rights in South Africa. Topics covered include the right to health care, family relations, sexual violence against

women, education and adolescents and, employment rights. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Women in Law and Development in Africa, Zimbabwe. *Women's Reproductive Rights in Zimbabwe: A Shadow Report (1997)*.

Prepared for the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, this report reviews the state of women's reproductive rights in Zimbabwe. Topics covered include the right to health care, family relations, sexual violence against women, education and adolescents and employment rights. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Law and Policy & Women's Legal Aid Center, Tanzania. *Women's Reproductive Rights in Tanzania: A Shadow Report (1998)*.

Prepared for the Human Rights Committee, this shadow report is compiled on the occasion of the Committee's consideration of the state report of Tanzania. It links various fundamental reproductive rights issues to the relevant provisions of the ICCPR. Issues addressed include: the right to reproductive health care and family planning including access to safe and legal abortion; sexual violence against women; family relations including the equality of spouses in marriage; and the right to education and women's economic and social rights. A full text version of this report is available on the Internet at www.crlp.org/pub_shadow.html.

Center for Reproductive Rights & International Programme on Reproductive and Sexual Health Law at the University of Toronto. *Legal Grounds, Reproductive and Sexual Rights in African Commonwealth Courts (2005)*.

This publication provides a crucial starting point for women's rights advocates and jurists who need access to information about courts across the African Commonwealth, which refers to sub-Saharan African countries that were colonized by the British and share a legal system based on English common law. This report should serve as a wake-up call that we must not dismiss the role of the courts and judiciary in furthering women's rights. Women's rights activists should feel comfortable borrowing legal strategies from distant jurisdictions to press courts in their area to interpret national and international standards for the benefit of women. In turn, courts will become sensitized and increasingly responsive to these rights as more cases are filed. A full text version is available at www.reproductiverights.org.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *The Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa: An Instrument for Advancing Reproductive and Sexual Rights (New York: Centre for Reproductive Rights, 2005)*.

The Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa supplements the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and entered into force in 2005 and provides broad protection for women's human rights, including their sexual and reproductive rights. This briefing paper offers provides detailed information that can help African women use the protocol to exercise their reproductive rights, and suggests ways that governments can implement the protocol's landmark provisions. The paper can also be useful to advocates outside Africa who are seeking to establish similar guarantees. A full text version is available at www.reproductiverights.org.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Claiming Our Rights: Surviving Pregnancy and Childbirth in Mali (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2003)*.

Pregnancy and childbirth take the lives of thousands of women every year in Mali. Contributing to these deaths are everyday denials of the rights to health care, non-

discrimination, and reproductive self-determination. Approaching maternal mortality as a deprivation of basic human rights, this report considers the manner in which laws, policies and pervasive social norms contribute to maternal mortality in Mali and calls for concerted, urgent action on the part of the government and international community

Center for Reproductive Rights. *State of Denial: Adolescents' Reproductive Rights in Zimbabwe* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2002).

This publication documents the human rights violations that occur in Zimbabwe when legal, policy and social barriers inhibit adolescents' ability to protect themselves against unwanted pregnancy and STIs, including HIV/AIDS. Based on over 800 interviews with adolescents, parents, government officials, non-governmental organizations and UN agencies, the report concludes that young people have a human right to access reproductive health information and services.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Progress Report 2001: Women of the World: Laws and Policies Affecting Their Reproductive Lives – Anglophone Africa* (New York: Centre for Reproductive Rights, 2001).

Covering Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, this report evaluates the surveillance of laws and policies with respect to reproductive rights. It is the product of a series of collaborative reports between the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy and national-level NGOs around the world. The topics analyze the intersection of laws and policies with regard to contraception, abortion, sterilization, GFM, HIV/AIDS, women's rights, reproductive health and rights of adolescents. A full electronic version can be accessed on-line at www.crlp.org.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Women of the World: Laws and Policies Affecting Their Reproductive Lives, Anglophone Africa* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2001).

This report provides information about the current state of national level formal laws and policies affecting reproductive rights. The Center for Reproductive Rights and NGOs in Africa has surveyed laws and policies in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. It is supplemented by a 2001 progress report.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Women's Reproductive Rights in Senegal: A Shadow Report* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2001).

As a supplement to the periodic report of the government of Senegal to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, this report links fundamental reproductive rights issues to the pertinent clauses of the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*. The report examines issues including women's reproductive health rights, family protection and assistance, sexual and physical violence against women (particularly minors), the right to education, and the right to equitable and favourable work situations. A full text version is available at www.crlp.org.

Cohen, Desmond & Sheila Smith. *Gender, Development and the HIV Epidemic* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 2000).

Examining the need to take a gender-based approach on development processes, this paper addresses the broad issue of how the HIV epidemic may undermine human development. Specifically, it analyzes the differential impacts of the epidemic on men, women, society and the economy, probes into policy-oriented population issues regarding global and national responses to the epidemic, and discusses methods to combat all the above issues. A full text of this paper is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/hiv/publications/gender/gendere.htm.

Guttmacher, Sally, Farzana Kapadia, et al. "Special report: Abortion Reform in South Africa: A Case Study of the 1996 Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act" 24 *International Family Planning Perspectives* 191-94 (1998).

This article looks at the *Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1996*, which replaced the 1975 law that curtailed access to abortion services. The authors hail this 1996 law as a crucial advance for women, as it represents the recognition of reproductive rights by South Africa's first democratically elected parliament. The article examines the policies that have regulated accessibility of abortion and assesses their impact on reproductive health. It also describes the new legislation, and examines difficulties that need to be addressed in order to ensure that women derive full benefit from the law.

Gupta, Geeta Rao. "Approaches for Empowering Women in the HIV/AIDS Pandemic: A Gender perspective" UN Doc. EGM/HIV-AIDS /2000/EP 4 for the Expert Group Mtg. on "The HIV/AIDS Pandemic and its Gender Implications" (Windhoek, Namibia, November 2000).

Addressing the issue of women's vulnerability to infection, this paper focuses on gender-sensitive ways to empower women in order to protect them from HIV/AIDS. It highlights the effect of power imbalances on services and treatments for HIV/AIDS, gender-sensitive approaches to meet the different needs of women and men, transformative approaches to create more gender-equitable relationships, and approaches that empower women. The full text of this paper is available on the Internet at www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/hivaids/Gupta.html.

Haroz, Audrey E. "South Africa's 1996 Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act: Expanding choice and international human rights to black South African women" 30 *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law* 863-903 (1997).

In contemplating a constitutional challenge to the *1996 Abortion Act*, the author provides an analytical framework within which the Constitutional Court could uphold the *Act's* constitutionality. She examines the evolving social position of black women in South African society in regards to reproductive rights. The article discusses the traditional position of black South African women under apartheid and customary law that limited reproductive choices for black women, the guarantees provided under the 1996 Constitution, previous restrictive abortion legislation and the *1996 Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act*.

Hellum, Anne. *Women's Human Rights and Legal Pluralism in Africa: Mixed Norms and Identities in Infertility Management in Zimbabwe* (1999).

In creating a framework for analyzing women's human rights, the author balances the multiple identities and allegiances that are a part of African women's everyday life. She examines the concept of gender equality in relation to how childless Zimbabwean women manage their procreative problems in daily life. As well, the paper analyses the UN Women's Convention as a tool for women's development in the African context. Issues addressed include: equality and local laws; the interplay between international, national, and local norms; marriage and divorce laws; the interaction between Western and customary laws; and reconciling women's rights with local customs and practices.

International Planned Parenthood Federation. *Legal And Policy Barriers Affecting Sexual And Reproductive Health Services*, 2nd ed. (1996).

This publication is a synthesis of a special study focusing on legal and policy barriers affecting reproductive and sexual health services in Burkina Faso, Senegal, Swaziland, and

Zambia. Available from IPPF Africa Region, Nairobi, this text is also printed in French as: *Obstacles juridiques et politiques affectant les services de santé sexuelle et reproductive.*

Ipas. “Abortion and Human Rights in Sub-Saharan Africa” 3: 2 *Initiatives in Reproductive Health Policy* (July 2000).

The human rights framework in which South African abortion law was created is increasingly permitting South African women to choose safe abortion. However, the implementation process for legal abortion is slow. This article suggests, therefore, that it is essential that the health sector ensure that women know their rights, have access to services, and receive satisfaction and support from their health care. Full text of this article is available online at

http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/initiatives_in_reproductive_health_policy/P6_E00_en.pdf

Ipas. “Midwives Deliver Postabortion Care Services in Ghana” 1: 1 *Dialogue* (June 1997).

Early findings in Ghana suggest that midwives may be able to provide emergency services, including post-abortion care, in close proximity to the rural women needing them. This article argues that the concentration of health care providers in urban areas is an obstacle to the provision of reproductive health care and contributes to unnecessary ill-health. Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/dialogue/Dialogue1_E97_en.pdf

Ipas, “Lives Worth Saving: Abortion Care in Sub-Saharan Africa since ICPD” (2004)

Since the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in 1994, there have been many signs of progress in Africa related to abortion care. At the same time, other persistent issues in Africa slow or threaten progress toward universal access to important reproductive-health services. This review of post-ICPD developments in sub-Saharan Africa offers examples of progress in the region in abortion-related care. Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/ICPD_04/ICPDAfricabooksm_en.pdf.

Ipas. “Nigerian Network Develops Strategy to Address Unsafe Abortion” 2: 3 *Dialogue* (June 1998).

Using initiatives in Nigeria as a case study, this article shows how a comprehensive, well-planned, and sustainable approach to unsafe abortion by health care professionals and others is essential. It argues that the loose structure of a network provides the flexibility needed to address the multi-faceted problem. Available online at

http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/dialogue/Dialogue5_E98_en.pdf

Ipas. “Postabortion Family Planning Training Launched in Zimbabwe” 3: 1 *Dialogue* (August 1999).

Using the post-abortion family planning training course in Zimbabwe as a case study, this article stresses the importance of linking abortion care and family planning and the challenges and special needs of women receiving post-abortion family planning counselling. Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/dialogue/Dialogue4_E98_en.pdf

Ipas. “Reproductive Health in Crisis Situations – Lessons From the Field” 5: 1 *Dialogue* (March 2001).

Women and girls in crisis situations face increased risk of sexual violence, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortions. Highlighting projects in Nicaragua, Kenya and Albania, this issue of *Dialogue* demonstrates the urgent need for comprehensive reproductive health care for refugees and internally displaced

populations. Available online at
http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/dialogue/Dialogue4_E98_en.pdf

Ipas. “Setting Quality Standards for Postabortion Care in Sub-Saharan Africa” 2: 2 *Dialogue* (May 1998).

This article argues that development of workable quality standards for post-abortion care can help to close gaps in women’s health care. Standards should not be static: health care professionals must be vigilant in measuring progress, identifying gaps and revising the standards to meet new challenges. Hard copies may be ordered online at
<http://www.ipas.org/english/publications>

Klugman, Barbara and Debbie Budlender, eds. *Advocating for Abortion Access: Eleven Country Studies* (Johannesburg: Women’s Health Project, School of Public Health, University of Witwatersrand, 2001).

Phase one of a project entitled “Capacity Building for Advocacy on Expanding Abortion Policy and Access: Sharing of national experiences between countries from diverse regions”, this compilation demonstrates the enormous diversity of advocacy strategies for promoting abortion access throughout the world including South Africa and Kenya. The comparative analysis introducing the eleven country studies highlights the contexts in which advocates are working within and examines how they choose goals, frame their message, capitalize on opportunities for change and choose their strategies.

Ministry of Health. *The Safe Motherhood Needs Assessment Report of 1996* (Zambia).

The information in this report shows that the status of safe motherhood in Zambia has always been linked to the availability of qualified staff, decent referral services, adequate drugs and medical equipment supplies.

Ngwena, Charles. “AIDS in Africa: Access to health care as a human right” 15:1 *South African Public Law* 1-25 (2000).

Notwithstanding its inherent limits, the right to treatment for AIDS is not only conceivable but also feasible and necessary. In this article, the author considers the duty of sub-Saharan governments to provide treatment for AIDS or AIDS-related illnesses based on the ideas of a positive right to health care from a human rights perspective. While mainly drawing from international law, he also focuses on the importance of the recognition of the right to health care in domestic law. The article reviews the main obstacles to realizing a meaningful expression of the right of access to health care.

Ngwena, Charles. “Substantive Equality in South African Health Care: The Limits of the law” 4 *Medical Law International* 111-131 (2000).

This article considers the scope and limits of law as an instrument for facilitating equitable access to health care in South Africa. It explores the extent to which the notion of substantive equality in access to health care services that is implicitly guaranteed by the Constitution and supported by current health care reforms, is realizable for patients seeking treatment. The author highlights the gap between the idea of substantive equality in the Constitution and the resources at the disposal of the health care sector and the country as a whole. He submits that though formal equality in access to health care services has been realised, substantive equality is currently unattainable, if it is attainable at all, on account of entrenched structural inequality, general poverty and a high burden of disease.

Ngwena, Charles. “The History and Transformation of Abortion Law in South Africa” 30:3 *Acta Academica* 32-68 (1998).

The *Choice on Termination of Pregnancy Act of 1996* revolutionized abortion law by removing most of the impediments of the past and complementing the new liberal constitutional dispensation. Under the *Abortion and Sterilization Act of 1975*, access to abortion was severely restricted making illegal and septic abortion the main alternative to reluctant parenthood for many women. For the first time in South Africa's history, women are given the right to choose whether to have an abortion especially in early pregnancy. The new *Act* also removes the class and racial barriers to abortion that were apparent in the application of the *1975 Act*.

Nyirenda, Catherine. *The Impact of HIV on Families and Children*, Issue Paper no. 22 (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 1996).

This is a narrative written by a 24-year-old single mother of two boys. Testing HIV positive, this paper outlines the problems she face in dealing with the disease and the impact HIV has had on her family and community in Zambia. Nyirenda points out that the main problem is the lack of attention given to HIV by governments, NGOs, communities and church programmes.

PDF Available at: www.undp.org/hiv/publications/issues/english/issue22e.htm

Petchesky, Rosalind P. and Karen Judd. *Negotiating Reproductive Rights: Women's Perspectives Across Countries and Cultures* (London: Zed Books, 1998).

Evaluating a range of reproductive rights issues, this article looks at the experiences of seven countries including Egypt and Nigeria. It pays particular attention to the local contexts and ways of thinking in which women negotiate reproductive health and sexual matters. The country studies illuminate women's strategies for achieving reproductive and sexual dignity, if not authority, in very distinct and diverse contexts of culture, nation, region, religion and life cycle.

Sarkin, Jeremy. "Patriarchy and Discrimination in Apartheid South Africa's Abortion Law" 4 *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review* 141-184 (1998).

The high number of back-street abortions crystallizes the failure of South Africa's *1975 Abortion and Sterilization Act*. The article notes that since the *Act* was intended to reduce the number of abortions occurring in the white population group, the salient feature of the law in South Africa up to the 1990's has remained to be race and gender discrimination. Wealth has played a dynamic role in determining which group has access to abortion services. More recent South African legislation signal a recognition of a woman's right to make decisions about reproduction and to control her own body.

Siringi, S. "East Africa to Tackle High Rates of Child Prostitution" 359 *The Lancet* 1756 (18 May 2002).

Following the May 2002 UN General Assembly Special Session on Children, this article discusses the developments and rising concern around increasing child prostitution in East Africa. It comments on efforts by organized international bodies such as the International Labour Organization to address child prostitution including action taken by governments.

Teklehaimanot, Kibrom, ed. *Annotated Decisions of African Commonwealth Courts Relating to Reproductive and Sexual Health and Women's Status (International Program on Reproductive and Sexual Health Law, Faculty of Law, University of Toronto, Toronto, 2003).*

This compilation consists of annotated cases of African Commonwealth courts related to reproductive and sexual health rights and gender discrimination. The cases touch a broad

range of issues, including abortion law, discriminatory customary law, sexual orientation, HIV/AIDS, sexual assaults, and rights to education, immigration and citizenship. The compilation is forthcoming on www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/diana/mainpage.htm.

The Population Council. Studies in Family Planning.

Concerned with all aspects of reproductive health, fertility regulation and family planning programs, the publication is a peer-reviewed international quarterly looking at issues in both developing and developed countries. Each issue contains original research articles, reports, a commentary, book reviews and a data section with findings for individual countries from the Demographic and Health Surveys. Article abstracts are available at www.popcouncil.org/sfp/default.asp.

UNDP. *The Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa / Second Symposium: Special Session on HIV/AIDS Report - Namibia* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 2000).

The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa is a high priority issue demanding immediate relief and resolution. In this report, the Alliance develops locally led multisectoral actions to combat the phenomenon, which shifts decision-making to communities, local governments and civil society partners. A full text of the report is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/hiv/mayors/nambia/Table_of_Contents.htm

UNDP. *The Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa: Xth International Conference on HIV/AIDS and STDs in Africa, Abidjan* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 1998).

This first international symposium brings together different players around the world to discuss the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa, and encourages empowerment of local enforcement authorities to take initiative, in order to ensure effective and sustainable results. A full text of the report is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/hiv/mayors/abie.htm.

UNDP. *Botswana Human Development Report 2000* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 2000).

This document gives a prediction of the worst epidemic in southern Africa in recent memory, with 300,000 of Botswana's 1.6 million people already living with HIV and AIDS. Given the epidemic's impact on human development, the report envisions a long-term goal of attaining an AIDS-free generation in Botswana. A full text of this document is available on the Internet at http://hdr.undp.org/docs/reports/national/BOT_Botswana/botswana_2000_en.pdf.

UNDP. *UNDP Statistical Fact Sheet HIV/AIDS* (United Nations Development Programme, 2002).

Including facts relating to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, impact on human development, business responses, access to HIV/AIDS drugs, and detailed regional statistics, this document gives an updated account of the current situation in Africa.

UNFPA. *"Strategic Options for HIV/AIDS Advocacy in Africa - Report of the Joint UNFPA-UNAIDS HIV/AIDS Advocacy"* (2001).

This report documents advocacy efforts in the fight against HIV/AIDS, identifies major issues that still need to be tackled, and describes what partnerships at various levels can do to improve African responses to HIV/AIDS. The report is based on the fact-finding mission to six African countries sponsored by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

UNHCR. *How To Guide 7: Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Programme in Guinea* (New York: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2001).

This guide provides an overview of the sexual and gender-based violence programs for refugee camps in the Republic of Guinea. The purpose of this guide is to assist previous programs that were temporarily suspended due to instability in the country.

Web Sites

African Journal of Reproductive Health

www.hsph.harvard.edu/ajrh/index.html

Co-founded by the Women's Health and Action Research Centre in Nigeria and the Department of Population and International Health at Harvard, the *Journal* is a multidisciplinary and international journal that publishes original research, comprehensive review articles, short reports and commentaries on reproductive health in Africa. It is published twice annually and aims to promote the study of reproductive health in Africa, to provide a forum for African authors and others working in Africa, and to provide a scientific understanding of the reproductive health needs in the region. The website contains information about the journal, the articles on the current issue and subscription details.

African Population and Health Resource Centre

www.aphrc.org/

With empirical evidence demonstrating that fertility had started declining in a few countries in Africa, including Kenya, interest in understanding factors that influenced this unexpected reproductive change in Africa heightened during the early 1990s. The key focus of the Center's research agenda is to explain the onset and sustainability of sub-Saharan Africa's fertility transition. Its mission is to promote the well-being of Africans through policy-relevant research on population and health. The Center is committed to high-quality research that is relevant and responsive to policy and programming needs in sub-Saharan Africa. Resources accessible online include the Center's newsletter, staff publication and working papers.

The AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition (AVAC)

www.avac.org

The AVAC is a community and consumer based organization founded in December 1995 to accelerate the ethical development and global delivery of vaccines against HIV/AIDS. The organization provides independent analysis, policy advocacy, public education and mobilization to enhance AIDS vaccine research and development. The website features downloadable resources including AIDSVAX efficacy trial documents, the HIV Vaccine Handbook and International AIDS Vaccine Initiative documents.

AMANITARE

www.amanitare.org

A ten-year pan-African initiative of RAINBO, AMANITARE aims to bring together the voices and expertise of individuals and organizations across Africa that address issues related to women's Sexual And Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). Launched in 1999, the Partnership's mandate is derived from the outcomes of the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, 1993), The International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994) and The Fifth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995). Its aim is to facilitate the translation of the principles embodied in these agreements into the daily realities of African

women and girls' lives. The Partnership aims to create both a space and an opportunity for dialogue and consensus-building by facilitating the exchange of skills, strategies and information, and by identifying and adding new partners. Links featured in the website include resources on topics including health and rights including HIV/AIDS as well as female circumcision /female genital cutting.

The Gender Project: University of the Western Cape, Community Law Centre

www.communitylawcentre.org.za/gender/index.php

To ensure the progressive realization of the right to reproductive health care, the *Gender Project* aims to conduct research into whether sufficient resources are being allocated to provide adequate access to health services for women. The website's Documentation Centre provides assistance by compiling information on reproductive rights materials and producing numerous publications on reproductive rights. The *Project* focuses on advancing the achievement of substantive gender equality and realization of women's human rights in South Africa. It aims to translate constitutional rights into progressive legislation and policies; develop training and monitoring programmes to support the implementation of these laws and policies; and ensure that women and men know what their legal and Constitutional rights are, and how to exercise these rights.

Global Equity Gauge Alliance (GEGA)

www.gega.org.za/index.php

With membership spanning 11 countries in the Americas, Africa and Asia, GEGA participates in and supports an active approach to monitoring health inequalities and promoting equity within and between societies. It is committed to supporting a Global Equity Agenda by creating a voice for the global advocacy arm of the alliance. Three primary activities are envisioned to contribute to this goal: creation of a Global Gauge, a Global Network and Development of a Capacity Development Tool. The website features documents on the topic of *Monitoring Equity in Health* and *Health Care in Developing Countries*.

Health Systems Trust (HST)

www.hst.org.za/

Established in 1992 to support the transformation of the South African health system, HST is primarily a developmental organization committed to helping improve the functioning of the health system. It is also an advocacy organization, aiming to promote evidence-based health systems development, improve the scientific literacy of the public, media and parliamentarians and campaign for greater equity and social justice. The HST actively supports the current and future development of a comprehensive health care system through strategies designed to promote equity and efficiency in health and health care delivery. Online resources include documents on health legislation and policy guide, drug policy and information as well as HIV/AIDS materials.

The Initiative for Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Health Reforms

www.wits.ac.za/whp/rightsandreforms/index.htm

An initiative of the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, the ISRRHR aims to strengthen understanding amongst activists and decision-makers as to the role of health sector reform in facilitating or undermining efforts to achieve sexual and reproductive rights and health policies and programmes. The *Initiative* works to identify and advocate for strategies to maximize positive outcomes with regard to sexual and reproductive health and services. The website introduces the organization along with its aim, methodology and references.

International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP): African Journals Online

www.inasp.org.uk/ajol/index.html

Established in 1992 by the International Council for Science, INASP is a cooperative network of partners whose mission is to enhance the flow of information within and between countries, especially those with less developed systems of publication and dissemination. INASP-Health, in particular, aims to strengthen the overall effectiveness of international health information activities through co-operation, analysis and advocacy as well as acts as a facilitator and focal point for organizations working together to improve access to reliable, relevant information for health professionals in developing and transitional countries. The African Journals Online section of its website offers tables of contents and abstracts of articles from journals published in Africa. The website also hosts the INASP Health Links which is an Internet gateway to selected sites that are of special interest to health professionals, medical library communities, publishers, and NGOs in developing and transitional countries. Its subject index includes Maternal and Reproductive Health as well as HIV/AIDS.

Network on Equity in Health in Southern Africa (Equinet)

www.equinet africa.org

In its aim to develop and widen the conceptual understanding of equity in health, the Equinet identifies critical areas of work and policy issues and makes visible existing unfair and avoidable inequalities in health. Its main objective is to build alliances leading to positive policies on health at both local and regional levels. The organization is presently undertaking work on: World Trade Organization, GATS, TRIPS and health; governance, equity and health; health rights as a driving force for equity; poverty, equity and health; strengthening equitable resource allocation in the health sector; equity in the distribution of health personnel; and equity in health sector responses to HIV/AIDS. Equinet publishes *The Equinet Policy Series* as well as regularly updates and make available the most comprehensive annotated bibliography on equity in health in southern Africa. The website offers downloadable documents on health, participation and governance, as well as resource allocation.

Reproductive Rights Alliance (RRA)

www.hst.org.za/rra

The RRA is an alliance of organizations and structures committed to creating and promoting reproductive rights, specifically, the right of women to have freedom of choice in reproduction. Through its member organizations, the *RRA* plays a supportive catalytic role in providing information; mobilizing people and resources; lobbying government; and monitoring the legislation on reproductive rights. It supports access to integrated reproductive health care services forming a legal and policy framework that provides for access to safe abortion. While it works with both women and men, it deals largely with women who have been disempowered by racism, poverty and location to ensure that all South Africans enjoy, have knowledge of and control over their reproductive lives. Resources accessible online include policy documents and links relating to Abortion and Reproductive Health.

Research, Action and Information Network for the Bodily Integrity of Women (RAINBO)

www.rainbo.org

RAINBO is an international not-for-profit organization working on issues within the intersection of health and human rights of women. The organization provides technical assistance to international and donor agencies and works in partnership with local

organizations to develop programmes and policies. Its work is focused on Africa and African immigrant and refugee communities. Programs include the Africa Partnership Initiative for Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights and the Africa Adolescent Pilot Project in Mali and Senegal to empower youth and promote their reproductive and sexual health rights. The website offers information on the organization, programs, publications and related links.

Training and Research Support Centre (TARSC)

www.tarsc.org/index.html

In the interest of developing social capacities, networking and action, TARSC engages in providing training, research and support services for non-state, non-profit, civic organizations. It builds on the capacity within civil society institutions to engage in areas of social and economic policy and to enhance democratic development. Particularly in Zimbabwe, the *Centre* has directed its resources and skills towards supporting the informed, active and organized participation in policy and practice on these issues by citizens and their civic organizations, particularly of the rural and urban low-income majority. Through its website, TARSC maintains an information resource centre widely used by its co-operating partners and other organizations. The information resource centre includes Publications on major areas of social and economic policy and TARSC publications within its major areas of activity.

World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa (WHO/AFRO)

www.whoafr.org/

The African Region, with 46 Member States, represents the second largest of WHO's six Regions after the European Region. The web site is a WHO/AFRO initiative to improve access to information on the activities and programmes of the Organization in the African Region. Health information generated by WHO/AFRO will be identified, organized and disseminated via the website to trigger more effective action to improve health and decrease inequalities in health outcomes. The website currently includes news from the regional director, information on technical and support programmes, information on education programmes, library services, country profiles, publications, new product information, and upcoming conferences and regional meetings. Information is provided on numerous health topics including HIV/AIDS, adolescent health and development, reproductive health research, social aspects of family and reproductive health, and women's health and gender.

Women in Law and Development Africa (WiLDAF)

www.wildaf.org.zw

WiLDAF is a pan-African women's rights network dedicated to promoting and strengthening strategies that link law and development in order to increase women's participation and influence at the community, national and international levels. The website provides information on current news and initiatives, programmes (networking and communication, capacity building, and advocacy), twenty-six country focal points, reports and other resources. It also features a link to WiLDAF's Emergency Response System where one can network by calling on others to join a letter writing campaign highlighting a particular women's rights case, advising others on how to promote women's rights, promoting useful articles and resources, requesting information and advice and coordinating action strategies.

2. Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights: International

Print Resources

The Alan Guttmacher Institute. *International Family Planning Perspectives*.

Focusing on health aspects as well as social and legal issues, the publication features peer-reviewed articles on a variety of family planning topics particularly relating to developing countries. *International Family Planning Perspectives* is available free to qualified individuals in developing countries. Send requests to *International Family Planning Perspectives*, 120 Wall Street, New York, N.Y. 10005, U.S.A. Archived volumes are available on the Internet at www.agi-usa.org/journals/ifpp_archive.html.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Making Abortion Safe, Legal and Accessible: A Toolkit for Action*.

Despite wide international legal support for a woman's right to access safe and legal abortion, the procedure still remains unsafe and out of reach for many women around the globe. The Center's publication *Making Abortion Safe, Legal and Accessible: A Toolkit for Action* is a valuable resource for abortion rights advocates and policymakers who are working to reform abortion laws in restrictive settings. The toolkit packages together the most compelling arguments for liberalizing laws regulating abortion. It consists of eight briefing papers on abortion, which cover human rights, public health, global laws, adolescents, and religious perspectives. Toolbook materials are available at www.reproductiverights.org.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *World's Abortion Laws 2005 Poster (2005)*.

This full color 25 x 22 inch (65 x 55cm) world map detailing the legality of abortion by nation features information on over 190 countries around the globe.. The poster can be ordered through www.reproductiverights.org .

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Bringing Rights to Bear: An Analysis of the Work of U.N. Treaty Monitoring Bodies on Reproductive and Sexual Rights* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, November 2002).

This relatively recent report offers an invaluable resource to women's rights advocates by documenting the work of UN treaty monitoring bodies--which monitor governmental compliance with six key international human rights treaties--as they break new ground in translating human rights standards into government responsibility on a broad spectrum of reproductive rights issues. The book is accompanied by two booklets.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Displaced and Disregarded: Refugees and Their Reproductive Rights* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2001).

Constituting 80% of the world's refugees, this report examines women and children, the most vulnerable refugee populations. Refugee women are particularly vulnerable to sexual coercion and gender violence; they experience violations of these and other human rights during and after flight. Rates of maternal mortality and morbidity, STDs, including HIV/AIDS, unsafe abortions and unwanted pregnancies are high among refugee women. Governments and the international community should honor legal obligations by ensuring the reproductive rights of women, adolescents and girls, providing refugee women with comprehensive reproductive health care and investigating and prosecuting violations of reproductive rights.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Emergency Contraception: Contraception, Not Abortion – An Analysis of Laws and Policies Around the World* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 1999).

Promoting access to emergency contraception (EC) advances women's health and reproductive self-determination. Attempts to deny access to EC equate it with abortion. This view is out of step with the view of the mainstream medical community, including the World Health Organization. Limiting the availability of EC deprives women of a safe, effective method of preventing pregnancy and needlessly jeopardizes physical and mental health. Where EC is unavailable, women are forced to turn to unsafe abortion procedures. Withholding EC in refugee situations further endangers the personal security and health of women, many of whom have been raped during armed conflict, by causing them to experience unwanted pregnancies.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Female genital cutting: A Guide to Laws and Policies Worldwide* (Center for Reproductive Rights, 2000).

This is the most extensive report currently available on the use of law and policy to address the practice of female circumcision/female genital cutting (FC/FGC). The result of a major research report in 41 countries, both North and South, covers not only the prevalence of FC/FGC but also other laws and measures in place to prevent it. The second part of the book examines the dilemma of weighing the right to bodily integrity against the cultural beliefs of individuals or minority groups. The authors suggest an answer through the actual implementation of human rights treaties. They look at how FC/FGC violates these rights for women: specifically freedom from gender discrimination and violence, the right to health and the rights of children.

Centre for Reproductive Rights. *Female genital cutting: A Matter of Human Rights* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2000).

Developed from the Centre for Reproductive Rights extensive report on female genital cutting, *Female genital cutting: A Guide to Laws and Policies Worldwide*, this paper argues that FGC must be understood as a violation of the human rights of women and girls. It cannot be separated from deep-seated and pervasive discrimination against women. A practical guide, it assists advocates in their endeavors to engage governments in the struggle to stop the practice of FGC.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *HIV/AIDS: Reproductive Rights on the Line* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2002).

In the two decades since the clinical identification of HIV/AIDS, the reproductive and sexual rights of women and girls continue to be ignored. The Center for Reproductive Rights looks at key areas of concern for HIV positive women and girls, including the focus on mother-to-child transmission, the fact that HIV disproportionately affects women, the rights to pregnancy, marriage and abortion of HIV-positive women, and national policies that discriminate against HIV-positive women.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Implementing Adolescent Human Rights Through the Convention on the Rights of the Child* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 1999).

There remains a significant gap between the provisions contained in the Children's Convention and the reality of adolescents' reproductive health and lives. This briefing paper examines the major reproductive health and rights issues affecting adolescents in light of governments' obligations contained in the Children's Convention. Specifically, it focuses on certain issues that are universal to all adolescent girls - such as education, contraception, sexual violence, HIV/AIDS, abortion, and access to reproductive health care - and those that

are of particular regional significance, such as early marriage and female circumcision/female genital cutting.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Reproductive Rights and Women with Disabilities: A Human Rights Framework* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2000).

The intersection comprising the right of disabled women to reproductive freedom must be given full attention. This briefing paper proposes a human rights framework for considering the reproductive rights of women with disabilities, taking into consideration international human rights laws and instruments and global consensus documents. Laws and policies affecting women's reproductive rights and services, when not blatantly discriminatory, are often silent where women with disabilities are concerned. This paper raises awareness of the special concerns of women with disabilities.

Center for Reproductive Rights. *Rethinking Population Policies: A Reproductive Rights Framework* (New York: Center for Reproductive Rights, 2003).

Policy debates about rising population growth rates have focused on reducing fertility rates but often with inadequate consideration of the impact on women's reproductive rights, which are disproportionately-and often negatively-affected as a result. This briefing paper examines the elements of a rights-based approach to population policies. The recent focus on fertility rates in governmental policy has the effect of limiting women's reproductive freedom.

Cook, Rebecca J. “Advancing Safe Motherhood through Human Rights” in Isfahan Merali and Valerie Oosterveld, eds. *Giving Meaning to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001) 109-123.

Evidence continues to rise supporting the observation that preventable rates of maternal morality and morbidity are symptomatic of a larger social injustice of violation of women's human rights. This article reviews how specific human rights found in national constitutions as well as regional and international human rights conventions have been and could be used to foster the conditions necessary for safe motherhood. Using these human rights, it is possible to hold governments legally accountable and compel them to allocate resources to address the preventable causes of maternal mortality.

Cook, Rebecca J. “Compliance with Reproductive Rights” in Kirsten Hastrup and George Ulrich, eds. *Discrimination and Toleration: New Perspectives* (The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 2002) 229-256.

Various types of human rights operate differently in the context of sexual and reproductive health. This article looks at the progress and improvements that will be made possible if these different rights are properly monitored and enforced to foster compliance. It details three useful steps for which to devise various national, regional and international strategies to promote compliance with reproductive rights.

Cook, Rebecca J. “Human Rights Law and Safe Motherhood” 5 *European Journal Of Health Law* 357-373 (1998).

The preventable rate of maternal mortality is but a symptom of a larger social injustice of discrimination against women and violation of women's human rights that societies are unwilling to prevent, remedy and punish. The reduction of avoidable maternal death is not only a matter of effective health interventions but also a matter of social justice. This article discusses human rights relevant to safe motherhood, obligations to observe human rights and the perspective necessary to advance safe motherhood.

Cook, Rebecca J. and B. M. Dickens. *Considerations for Formulating Reproductive Health Laws*, 2nd ed. (Geneva: World Health Organization, 2000)

In considering how laws can be developed in order to improve protection of reproductive and sexual health, this discussion paper examines how they can be applied to facilitate rather than obstruct the availability of reproductive and sexual health services. It addresses legal principles governing relations between providers of health services in general and of reproductive and sexual health services in particular as well as the intended recipients of those services. The legal principles examined include those governing free and informed decision making, privacy and confidentiality, the competent delivery of services and the use of conscientious objection. Copies are available by e-mailing rhrpublications@who.int.

Cook, Rebecca J. and B.M. Dickens. “Ethics, Justice and Women’s Health” 64 *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* 81-85 (1999).

National governments are under a legal duty to safeguard the right to life of women against what is shown to be the greatest preventable cause of their premature death - maternal mortality or cervical and breast cancer. The authors argue that the right to life requires not only that states take measure to prevent intentional killing (e.g. crime or warfare) but also to prevent unintentional loss of life due to maternal mortality or disease. Physicians have a duty to gain the attention of governments and to collaborate with them in effective preventative and remedial strategies. Physicians can also make their voices heard internationally through national medical associations and through collaboration with NGO’s.

Cook, Rebecca J. and B.M. Dickens. “Human Rights Dynamics of Abortion Law Reform” 25 *Human Rights Quarterly* 1-59 (2003).

This article examines how the legal approach towards abortion has evolved from criminal prohibition into accommodation as a life-preserving and health-preserving option. The authors suggest that the movement towards liberalization requires an understanding that access to safe and dignified health care is an important human right. Where family planning services have failed, been inaccessible or been denied by rape, abortion is legitimized in part through respect for women’s reproductive self-determination. Legal recognition of women’s equality with men require that their reproductive choices be respected, not criminalized. A full text can be accessed at http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/human_rights_quarterly/v025/25.1cook.html.

Cook, Rebecca J. and B.M. Dickens. “International Developments in Abortion Law from 1988 – 1998” 89 *American Journal of Public Health* 579-586 (1999).

Legal accommodation of abortion began to grow in many countries in the two decades following 1967. This article examines whether the liberalizing trend has continued since 1987 by conducting a worldwide review of legislation and judicial rulings affecting abortion and measuring the legal reforms against governmental commitments made under human rights treaties and UN conferences. The study finds that progressive liberalization has moved abortion laws from a focus on punishment towards concern with women’s health, welfare and human rights. However, widespread maternal mortality and morbidity show that reform must be accompanied by accessible abortion services and improved contraceptive care and information.

Cook, Rebecca J., B.M. Dickens and M.F. Fathalla. “Female Genital Cutting (Mutilation/ Circumcision): Ethical and Legal Dimensions” 79 *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics* 281-87 (2002).

This article examines the cultural, medical and legal issues surrounding female genital cutting also known as female genital mutilation or circumcision. There are many variations on the procedures, some more invasive than others, but all raise health-related concerns and increasingly prohibited by law. The authors explore the argument that the practice directed to social control of women's sexuality in association with preservation of virginity and family honour rather than based on a requirement of religious observance. The authors argue that in compromising women's health and negating their sexuality, female genital cutting is a human rights abuse that physicians should seek to eliminate through education of patients and communities.

Cook, Rebecca J., B.M. Dickens and Mahmoud F. Fathalla. *Reproductive Health and Human Rights: Integrating medicine, ethics and law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003).

Examining the concept of reproductive health as a tool for improving health care and legal protection for women around the world, this book looks at 15 cases from different countries and cultures, and explores possibilities for resolution. It provide an introduction to the issues surrounding reproductive health and offers tools to fashion solutions to particular health care circumstances in a way that is compatible with ethical, legal and human rights principles.

Cook, Rebecca J., B.M. Dickens, O. Andrew F. Wilson and Susan E. Scarrow. *Advancing Safe Motherhood Through Human Rights* (Geneva: World Health Organization, 2001).

This document explores how human rights, long established in national constitutional laws and other national laws, as well as international human rights treaties can be applied to advance safe motherhood. The intention is to contribute to national initiatives in order to promote compliance with human rights principles along with national and international dialogues on how a human rights approach to advance safe motherhood might be developed and applied. Copies are available by e-mailing: rhrpublications@who.int.

Cook, Rebecca J., Isfahan Merali and Julie Stanchieri. *The Application of Human Rights to Reproductive and Sexual Health: A Compilation of the Work of International Human Rights Treaty Bodies, 2nd ed.* (Ottawa: Action Canada for Population and Development, 2002).

This manual examines various international conventions and their over-seeing bodies which address reproductive, women's and human rights. The compilation aims to assist in the preparation of reports on compliance with rights to reproductive and sexual health by governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations. The compilation includes the text, general comments of the treaty monitoring body and concluding observations that have been issued by the treaty monitoring body for the following conventions: the Torture Convention, the Women's Convention, the Children's Convention, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Race Convention.

Rebecca J. Cook and Isfahan Merali. "The Interpretation and Application of Human Rights by Commonwealth Courts to Reproductive and Sexual Health" *25 Commonwealth Law Bulletin* 109-117 (Spring 1999).

Over time Commonwealth courts have shifted from the use of criminal law to control morality towards administrative, regulatory and human rights laws to promote safer and effective services that ensure the fair and dignified treatment of individuals with reproductive and sexual health needs. This article examines the trends in how Commonwealth courts address reproductive and sexual health issues by examining specific issues on adolescent

reproductive health needs, pregnancy-related death, freedom from sexual violence, HIV/AIDS and the commitment to non-discrimination.

Cook, Rebecca J. and Mahmoud F. Fathalla. “Duties to Implement Reproductive Rights” *67 Nordic Journal Of International Law* 1-16 (1998).

This paper explores the nature of states' duties to respect, protect and fulfill reproductive rights. It outlines the means to hold states accountable at the international level in order to implement reproductive rights and also analyses how data can be used to assess compliance with obligations to implement reproductive rights and the effectiveness of remedies. The authors conclude with a call for greater collaboration among reproductive health professionals and human rights activists to ensure further protection and promotion of human rights.

Cook, Rebecca J. and R. Pretorius. “Duties to Implement Reproductive Rights: The case of adolescents” in L. Dennerstein, ed. *Women’s Rights and Bioethics* (Paris: UNESCO Publishing, 2001) 175-189.

From a human rights perspective, this article examines the sexual exploitation of adolescents and society’s responsibility in addressing the issue. These societal duties include: to respect and protect the rights of the adolescent, to make governments accountable, to list violations committed by States or permitted by discretionary practices, and to find remedies to guarantee the reproductive rights of adolescents.

Crehan, Kate & Peter Gordon. Dying of Sadness: Gender, Sexual Violence and the HIV Epidemic (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 1999).

Detailing its determinants, consequences, and manifestations, the paper gives an overview of sexual and gender-based violence. It describes short-term and long-term strategies in combating this phenomenon, focusing on the need to take a multi-sectoral approach that involves the community. A full text of this paper is available on the Internet at <http://www.undp.org/hiv/publications/gender/violencee.htm>

Dutt, Mallika, Nancy Flowers and Julie Mertus. *Local Action, Global Change: Learning About the Human Rights of Women and Girls* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 1999).

The manual combines development of rights awareness with issue-oriented actions and includes substantive information about the human rights of women in areas including health, reproduction and sexuality. It further provides interactive methodologies for women and men to examine critically the framework of human rights.

Forman, Shepard and Romita Ghosh, eds. *Promoting Reproductive Health: Investing in Health for Development* (New York: Center on International Cooperation Studies in Multiculturalism, 2000).

A determination on how countries understand and are acting on the Program of Action endorsed by the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development involves the consideration of how efforts to implement the program can be assessed and what is needed to move forward. The case studies help to answer broader questions regarding assistance for health and sustainable development from the perspective of both developing and donor countries. Each case study, while concentrating on the public sector, addresses the critical roles of NGOs and corporate actors. Countries studied include Egypt, South Africa and Tanzania.

Freedman, L. P. “Human Rights and Women’s Health” in M. Goldman and M. Hatch, eds. *Women and Health* (San Diego: Academic Press, 2000) 428–438.

This article examines how creating a powerful set of theoretical, practical and organizational tools that merges public health and human rights discussions may address issues dealing with women’s health. The author examines the controversies and range of initiatives and perspectives in this field. She concludes that women’s health and human rights movements have assumed a dynamic yet unbounded position.

Ipas. “Abortion Laws Into Action: Implementing Legal Reform” 2: 1 *Initiatives in Reproductive Health Policy* (January 1997).

This issue focuses on two aspects of legal abortion: how health systems can prepare to implement new legislation permitting elective abortion (based on recent experiences in South Africa); and how countries with restrictive abortion laws can establish abortion services for legal indications (based on experience in Brazil). Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/initiatives_in_reproductive_health_policy/P3_E97_en.pdf

Ipas. “A Global Review of Progress” 5 *Issues in Abortion Care* (1999).

As described in paragraph 8.25 of the *Programme of Action from the International Conference on Population and Development*, this monograph reviews the progress achieved in the area of addressing unsafe abortion. Key areas needing attention in the future are suggested.

Ipas. “Deciding Women's Lives Are Worth Saving: Expanding the role of midlevel Providers in safe abortion care” 7 *Issues in Abortion Care* (2002).

Published in Ipas's *Issues in Abortion Care* series, this article makes a compelling case for empowering, training and supporting midlevel providers such as nurses, physician assistants and midwives to deliver critically needed safe abortion and related services. Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/issues_in_abortion_care/I7_E02_en.pdf

Ipas. “Ensuring Sustainability of Postabortion Care Programs: The Framework for sustainability in action” 6: 1 *Advances in Abortion Care* (1997).

Within the context of reproductive health care, this issue of *Advances in Abortion Care* describes the design and practical applications of a framework for sustainability to provide post-abortion care. Positive outcomes of separate applications from the substantially different countries of Ethiopia and Nicaragua are discussed. Available online at: http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/advances_in_abortion_care/A10_E97_en.pdf

Ipas, “Human Rights, Unwanted Pregnancy & Abortion-Related Care.” (September 2002).

Most human-rights organizations' work on behalf of women focuses on combating violence against women. This monograph suggests ways such groups can expand their efforts by applying international human-rights standards to other violations of women's sexual and reproductive rights, including those related to unwanted pregnancy and abortion. Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/HRIGHTS_E02_en.pdf

Ipas. “Identifying the Intersection: Adolescent unwanted pregnancy, HIV/AIDS and unsafe abortion” 4 *Issues in Abortion Care* (1997).

Treating adolescent sexuality, HIV/ AIDS and abortion, this monograph explores the intersection of three factors that have a significant impact on women's reproductive health. The authors call for policy-level discussions focusing on these controversial issues to identify

interventions that can break the cycle of vulnerability, risk and negative, potentially fatal health outcomes.

Ipas. “Prioritizing Reproductive Health For Refugees” 3: 1 *Initiatives in Reproductive Health Policy* (September 1999).

Reviewing the international efforts to change policy and practice related to refugee reproductive health, this issue explores reproductive health risks in adolescents and addresses the ethical guidelines on abortion from the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO). Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/initiatives_in_reproductive_health_policy/P5_E99_en.pdf

Ipas. “The Safe Motherhood Initiative and Abortion Care: Compatible or not?” 2:2 *Initiatives in Reproductive Health Policy* (November 1997).

This issue reviews how well the global Safe Motherhood Initiative has integrated abortion-related care into its interventions, and includes country examples in the areas of training and service delivery, policy, research, educational and reference materials, medical supplies and equipment, and community education and advocacy. Available online at http://www.ipas.org/publications/en/initiatives_in_reproductive_health_policy/P4_E97_en.pdf

Lyons, Miriam. *The Impact of HIV/AIDS on Children, Families and Communities: Risk and Realities of Childhood During the HIV Epidemic*, Issue Paper no. 30 (New York: UNDP, 1998.)

This paper looks at the social and economic circumstances that contribute to the vulnerability of HIV infection and intensify its impact. It focuses on the impact of HIV on children in developing countries, and offers solutions that address reality, such as protecting children’s well-being, aiding and protecting sustainable development, building on existing strength and human assets, developing community support groups and services and assistance, offering training and peer education, and continuing efforts to remove and protect children and adolescents from high risk situations.

PDF Available at: www.undp.org/hiv/publications/issues/english/issue30e.html

Merali, Isfahan. “Advancing Women’s Reproductive and Sexual Health Rights: Effectively Using the International Human Rights System” 10 *Development in Practice* 609-624 (November 2000).

This article discusses how the International Human Rights (IHR) system can be used more effectively for the protection and promotion of reproductive rights. In particular, it focuses how IHR treaties can play an important role in fostering state compliance with rights relating to reproductive and sexual health. It ends with a discussion on how NGO advocacy work can better collaborate with the treaty body monitoring process in order to advance women’s reproductive rights.

Merali, Isfahan. “Advancing Women’s Reproductive and Sexual Health Through Empowerment and Human Rights” 23 *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* 696-699 (August 2000).

The improvement of reproductive health is not only a matter of effective health interventions but also a matter of social justice and human rights. Many reproductive and sexual health rights can be found within international and regional human rights instruments, which oblige states to take action to remedy poor reproductive and sexual health. This article argues that involved actors, particularly health professionals such as

obstetricians and gynaecologists, midwives, nurses and reproductive health care providers, have a responsibility to utilize all effective strategies to address this situation of women's health rights.

Merali, Isfahan. “Improving Reproductive and Sexual Health: Integrating Women’s Empowerment and Reproductive Rights” (Manual) prepared for *The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada* (2001).

This manual is designed to provide information on the importance of integrating women’s empowerment and reproductive rights principles into the work of health professionals. It provides a brief background on the underlying causes of poor reproductive and sexual health and discusses how reproductive rights right into the human rights framework. It concludes by discussing ways in which health professionals can apply these principles in their own work to improve reproductive and sexual health.

Miller, Alice M., Ann Janette Rosga and Meg Satterthwaite. “Health, Human Rights and Lesbian Existence” in Jonathan M. Mann et al., eds. *Health and Human Rights* (New York and London: Routledge, 1999) 264-80.

While reproductive health and HIV/AIDS issues are relevant for lesbians around the world, an explicit focus on lesbians requires the interrogation of the ways in which existing frameworks may preclude the ability to name strategies more conducive to a full range of protections for lesbian health. This article examines the intersection of health and human rights with two other critical human rights movements: women’s human rights and homosexuals’ human rights.

Mundigo, Axel I. and Cynthia Indriso, eds. *Abortion in the Developing World* (New Delhi: Vistaar Publications and the World Health Organization, 1999).

By focusing on the first-hand experiences of women who turned to abortion when confronted with an unwanted pregnancy, this volume explores the fundamental question of why women opt for abortion to regulate fertility even in contexts where family planning is widely available. It includes 22 case studies from developing countries as well as presents views of women and providers of induced abortion. They explore the motivations, decisions processes and social-economic circumstances that cause women to opt for abortion. Major themes include the relationship between abortion and contraception; the quality of pre- and post-abortion care; adolescent sexuality, sex education and abortion and attitudes towards abortion

Nath, Madhu Bala. *Gender, HIV and Human Rights: A Training Manual* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2000).

This manual aims to provide a gender-specific response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic by illustrating the gender dimensions of HIV/AIDS. This allows trainers to undertake appropriate responses to the challenges arising from the epidemic, and effectively influence a critical mass of change makers. A full text of the manual is available on the Internet at <http://www.undp.org/unifem/resources/hivtraining/index.html>

Pillai, Vigayan K and Guang-zhen Wang. *Women’s Reproductive Rights in Developing Countries* (Aldershot, Hants, England; Brookfield, Vt.: Ashgate, 1999).

With data from over 101 developing countries, this book examines the socio-structural influences on the levels of women’s reproductive rights. The authors propose an empirical model which encompasses analysis of population growth, gender equality, and women's education. The study finds that the effect of culture is more than ever pervasive and that

socioeconomic developments, women's education, family planning programs and gender equality continue to have a significant impact on women's reproductive rights. The authors conclude by offering several policy directives, which provide direction for further empirical research in the area of reproductive rights.

Rahman, Anika and Nahid Toubia, eds. *Female genital cutting: A Guide to Laws and Policies Worldwide* (London: Zed Press, 2000).

In exploring the use of law and policy to address the practice of FGC, this book analyses the effectiveness of a human rights framework in combating FGC and provides a series of recommendations for the improved use of law to combat FGC. It provides information on 41 countries in the northern and southern hemispheres including national prevalence rates according to the severity of the practice, legal measures and commitments made by governments under human rights treaties to eradicate FGC.

Spectar, J. M. "The Hydra Hath But One Head: The Socio-cultural dimension of the AIDS epidemic and Women's Rights to Health" 22 *Boston College Third World Law Journal* 1-34 (2001).

This article examines the effect of AIDS on women and children in developing countries. It finds that social and cultural forces collude to increase women's vulnerability to AIDS, a vulnerability exacerbated by governmental policies. The author argues for a holistic approach to women's health in order to reflect structural and contextual determinants in accessing health care.

Toebes, Brigit. "Towards an Improved Understanding of the International Human Right to Health" 21:3 *Human Rights Quarterly* 661 (1999).

The rights entitled to individuals under the international right to health along with the resulting government obligations have never been entirely clear. This article addresses the issue by seeking to clarify the scope and implications of this specific right. It discusses some definitional problems with the right to health as well as its international codification and current implementation practice. The author also outlines the scope of the right to health and the ensuing state obligations.

UNFPA. "A Practical Approach to Gender-Based Violence: A Programme guide for health care providers and managers" (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2001).

This publication contains practical steps needed to integrate measures on gender-based violence into reproductive health facilities. It is also meant to help a wider range of readers to understand the connections between reproductive and sexual health and violence. While the Programme Guide is targeting primarily health service providers, it can also be used as a reference guide for advocacy purposes or to undertake other activities in this area.

UNFPA. "An Evaluation of UNFPA Support for Preventing the Spread of HIV/AIDS: Evaluation Report number 19" (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2002).

As a follow-up to the 1999 report on UNFPA support to HIV/AIDS related interventions (Evaluation Report No. 16), this report attempts to address three key questions: Is UNFPA doing the right things? Is it doing them right? And is it making a difference? It makes recommendations on how UNFPA can improve the performance in its support of HIV/AIDS prevention. The assessment is based on the analysis of case studies of UNFPA support in Albania, Bangladesh, Ghana, Honduras and Malawi as well as literature and desk reviews of relevant documents.

UNFPA. “Communication for Development Roundtable Report: Focus on HIV/AIDS Communication and Evaluation” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2003).

This new publication summarizes discussions from the Eighth Roundtable on Communication for Development Roundtable (Managua, 2001) on strategies to meet the urgent challenge of HIV/AIDS. Highlights include discussions of the needs of young people, use of community media, and community mobilization to tackle gender- based violence and discrimination. A CD-ROM companion features all presentations and related documentation.

UNFPA. “Future Generations Ready for the World” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2003).

True to its commitment to young people, this new publication documents UNFPA's contribution to the goals of the World Summit for Children. This commitment, anchored in the ICPD Programme of Action, includes support in four major areas: girls' education, adolescent reproductive and sexual health, HIV/AIDS prevention, and maternal mortality. Examples of UNFPA-funded projects in each of these areas are presented, as are strategies for moving forward.

UNFPA. “Health, Sexuality and Reproductive Rights of Young People” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 1999).

Millions of teenagers lack the information and services to help them prevent unwanted pregnancy, abortion and sexually transmitted disease. This booklet looks at issues related to adolescent sexual and reproductive health, including the need to empower girls to delay pregnancy until physically and emotionally mature, to teach boys to act responsibly, to encourage adults to listen to young people, and to provide young people with information and services that will allow them to protect themselves.

UNFPA. “HIV/AIDS Prevention Guidance for Reproductive Health Professionals in Developing-Country Settings” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2000).

Designed to provide an overview of the issues of HIV/AIDS, challenges and opportunities around integrating a broad range of HIV/AIDS interventions into existing reproductive and sexual health programs and services, this document provides practical examples and models of interventions that have been successful.

UNFPA. “Partnering: A New Approach to Sexual and Reproductive Health” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2000).

“Partnering” shows how a global consensus is emerging on how to scale up successful programmes without diverting scarce resources from women’s health. In fact, men are more and more taking ownership of mobilization and advocacy for the emergence of a more gender equitable young man.

UNFPA. “Preventing HIV Infection, Promoting Reproductive Health: UNFPA Response” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2002).

Previously known as AIDS Update, this is the 11th annual publication to provide information about action taken by UNFPA to prevent HIV infection. In many countries, AIDS is creeping through the population, preparing to strike full-force. Prevention is about striking first. Reproductive health information, services and supplies enable people to avoid HIV infection and to protect themselves, their partners and their unborn children from this deadly virus.

UNFPA. “Promoting Reproductive Health - Saving Women's Lives: Facts Sheets” (New York; United Nations Population Fund, 2002).

These fact sheets provide relevant factual information on the following topics: addressing obstetric fistulas; responding to emergency situations; preventing HIV/AIDS; providing reproductive health essentials; linking environment, women and population.

UNFPA. “Reproductive Health and Employment: Implications for Young People” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2002).

Almost all United Nations global conferences in the last decade have recognized that youth unemployment is a growing problem that needs to be addressed, and that placing youth at the centre of the development agenda is a key to sustainable development. This publication provides an overview of how youth unemployment, especially among girls, is linked to problems of poverty, ill health, and illiteracy.

UNFPA. “Reproductive Health for Communities in Crisis: UNFPA Emergency Response” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2001).

Wars or natural disasters deprive people of life-saving reproductive health information and services. This advocacy booklet details UNFPA's work with global partners to respond to the reproductive health needs of refugees and internally displaced persons in crisis situations around the world: providing services to address complications of pregnancy and delivery, the transmission of sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS, adolescent health, violence against women, and access to condoms and other contraceptives.

UNFPA. *State of World Population Reports, 1996 through 2002.*

These annual reports examine a broad range of evidence from around the world relating to poverty and gender, health and education. They elucidate the link between poverty, ill health, rapid population growth and systemic discrimination against women and girls. A review of international human rights agreements that define and protect these rights is also undertaken.

UNFPA. “Violence Against Girls and Women: A Public health priority” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 1999).

While considerable progress has been achieved in establishing gender-based violence as a human rights concern, much less headway has been made in addressing violence against girls and women as a public health issue. Changes in reproductive health policy-making will be critical to recognizing and addressing the consequences of violence for women's health. This booklet outlines the important issue involved and looks to the policy reform process as a way forward.

UNFPA. “Women’s Empowerment and Reproductive Health: Links throughout the life cycle” (New York: United Nations Population Fund, 2000).

An international consensus about the need to empower women in order to end gender inequality was reached in Beijing. This report examines key issues related to the empowerment of women in their reproductive lives. Topics covered include: early life chances; the relationship between reproductive health and education; adolescence; marriage and the family; labour force participation and employment; reproductive health and violence; and issues affecting the health of older women.

UNHCR. *How To Guide 1: Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations: A Community-based response On sexual violence against women* (New York: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 1997).

This guide describes how a refugee-run Crisis Intervention Team assisted in the planning, implementation and evaluation of sexual and gender-based violence prevention in refugee

camps in Ngara, Tanzania. It gives an evaluation of the programs, outlines difficulties encountered during the run, and offers recommendations for improvement.

UNHCR. *How To Guide 6: Monitoring and Evaluation of Sexual and Gender Violence Programming* (New York: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2000).

Laying a foundation for developing practical tools to set up programme monitoring and evaluation systems, this guide assists in developing future multi-sectoral sexual and gender-based violence programs in any country.

UNHCR. *Reproductive Health in Refugee Situations: An Inter-Agency Field Manual* (New York: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 1999).

Advocating for a multi-sectoral approach to provide quality reproductive health services that match refugees' needs, this manual urges co-ordination among all partners in the community in every phase of the development of such services. The manual is meant to be interpreted according to specific refugee situations as they arise and evolve.

UNHCR. *UNDP HIV/AIDS Results* (New York: United Nations Development Programme, 2002).

This document gives an overview of UNDP's current involvement in dealing with the HIV/AIDS epidemic. It accounts for results achieved in supporting countries in their quest to effectively respond to the complex challenge of reversing the spread of the epidemic. A full text of this document is available on the Internet at [http://www.undp.org/hiv/docs/alldocs/UNDP%20HIV-AIDS%20Results%20\(2003\).pdf](http://www.undp.org/hiv/docs/alldocs/UNDP%20HIV-AIDS%20Results%20(2003).pdf).

United Nations, Division for the Advancement of Women. *Women and Health: Mainstreaming the Gender Perspective into the Health Sector* (New York: United Nations, 1999).

Emerging from an expert group meeting held in Tunis in 1998, this report recollects practical recommendations and proposals directed towards issues of women's sexual and reproductive health, mental health, occupational health or infectious diseases. The report develops a framework for designing national health policies with an integrated gender perspective.

Waldorf, Lee. *Turning the Tide: CEDAW and the Gender Dimensions of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2001).

Examining gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, access to health services, gender inequality and safer sex, and issues of care and care-giving, this publication discusses the different affecting the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Also included are key government responses, guiding articles of the CEDAW, and statements of the CEDAW Committee relating to HIV/AIDS. A full text of the publication is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/unifem/resources/turningtide/index.html.

WHO. *Female genital cutting* (Switzerland: World Health Organization, 1998).

Reviewing what is currently known about the practice of female genital cutting, this book looks at the its prevalence, its short- and long-term consequences for physical and mental health, and the social factors that encourage its perpetuation. Past and present policies aimed at ending the practice are also reviewed in detail. By drawing together a large body of medical and scientific facts, the book aims to provide a firm foundation for action within a climate of strong global consensus that female genital cutting must end.

WHO. *Giving Adolescents a Voice: Conducting a Rapid Assessment of Adolescent Health Needs* (Switzerland: World Health Organization, 2001).

This manual provides a staged approach to develop and conduct a rapid assessment of adolescent health needs at the national level. Illustrations of planning tools and descriptions of specific strategies to assist field implementation based on cases from experience in the field are also included. This manual is designed as a flexible guide for use not only by those undertaking a national-level rapid assessment of adolescent health needs, but also by those who will conduct regional or local-level assessments with some adaptations.

WHO. *Reproductive Health Research at WHO: A New Beginning* (Switzerland: World Health Organization, 2000).

This report reviews the many research and other activities undertaken by the UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction during 1998-1999. Issued at a time of rapid reform at the WHO, it reflects the Programme's new organizational structure and expanded research agenda in line with a broader concept of sexual and reproductive health.

WHO. *Research on Reproductive Health at WHO* (Switzerland: World Health Organization, 2002).

Describing studies coordinated by WHO, this report looks at the research carried out by groups belonging to the network. The work covers a wide range of reproductive health issues: the safety and effectiveness of existing, and the promise of new, family planning methods; how to make pregnancy and childbirth less life-threatening; preventing reproductive tract infections, including HIV infection; doing away with unsafe abortion; and, as the threat of HIV/AIDS looms ever-larger over the planet, how to make adolescent sexual behavior less hazardous.

Yamin, Alicia Ely and Deborah P. Maine. "Maternal Mortality as a Human Rights Issue: Measuring compliance with international treaty obligations" 21:3 *Human Rights Quarterly* 563 (1999).

From a public health perspective, this article discusses the detection, treatment and measurement of maternal morbidity. It explains how the United Nations Guidelines can be translated into law as binding standards to measure state-parties compliance with international human rights treaties relating to women's healthcare.

Web Sites

Action Canada for Population and Development (ACPD)

www.acpd.ca

ACPD is a non-partisan organization that focuses on the inter-relationships between population growth and structure, the environment, over-consumption, poverty, sexual and reproductive health, gender equity and equality, human rights, migration, economics, and other development issues. Playing an active role in international meetings and forums aimed at advancing the ACPD agenda, it mobilizes public support for international population and development issues. ACPD works with non-governmental organizations throughout the world that share its goals and principles to promote public policy discussion on population and development issues. The resource section of its website houses documents published or written by ACPD on topics including sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as human rights.

The Alan Guttmacher Institute (AGI)

www.agi-usa.org

AGI is a nonprofit organization focused on sexual and reproductive health research, policy analysis and public education. It publishes *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health* and *International Family Planning Perspectives*, *The Guttmacher Report on Public Policy* and special reports on topics pertaining to sexual and reproductive health and rights. The Institute's mission is to protect the reproductive choices of all women and men in the United States and throughout the world. It aims to support their ability to obtain the information and services needed to achieve their full human rights, safeguard their health and exercise their individual responsibilities. The website features downloadable materials including a periodical on *Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health*, fact sheets, policy analysis and presentation tools.

Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)

www.cedpa.org

Founded in 1975, CEDPA is an internationally focused New York-based, non-profit organization providing services to millions of women through partnerships with 138 organizations in 40 countries. It aims to ensure the individual's access to high quality reproductive health and voluntary family planning; to sustain the services need and provide life-enriching skills and to strengthen community organizations that provide these choices and other vital support. Leaders of these groups, now more than 5,000 strong, form a global CEDPA network that advocates at national and global levels to bring about lasting change for women. CEDPA's agenda includes family planning, reproductive health, empowering women and HIV/AIDS prevention. The website provides several accessible publications on gender, reproductive health and advocacy including a youth publication entitled *Choose a Future*.

Center for Reproductive Rights

www.crlp.org

The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy promotes women's equality worldwide by promoting the protection of reproductive rights as human rights. The website provides information on various priority issues and current topics, as well as newsletters, publications, a wide range of international information, and American legal and political issues. Priority issues include human rights, world laws, abortion, adolescents and FGC. Each issue has several sub-headings that provide further detailed information.

Engender Health

www.engenderhealth.org/about/announcement.html

EngenderHealth works worldwide to improve the lives of individuals by making reproductive health services safe, available and sustainable. It believes that individuals have the right to make informed decisions about their reproductive health and receive care that meets their needs. To make this right a reality, the organization works in partnership with governments, institutions and health care professionals as well as global policy-setting agencies like the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Resources accessible online include a counseling tool kit on family planning as well as outlines of its country by country activities.

Global Action Network (GAN)

www.globalactionnetwork.org

The rationale for developing the GAN is to address several significant gaps in the field of global population and reproductive health. Answers were needed to questions like: Where

are my peers around the world and what programs are they working on? How can I find a mentor and learn from their experiences? What opportunities are there for young people to access trainings, fellowships, and attend conferences? GAN seeks to develop a program that would infuse young leaders around the world with the passion, commitment and resources to solidify their interest in the field of global population and reproductive health. As a virtual gathering place and resource centre, the Network's website connects users to "e-mentoring", resources and partners to share ideas and strategies with. "E-mentoring" pairs seasoned professionals in the global population and reproductive health field with young leaders for 6 months of guided mentoring and exchange via e-mail. Various discussions are hosted by young leaders in the language of their choice regarding concerns and important issues in the field.

Global Reproductive Health Forum (GRHF)

www.hsph.harvard.edu/Organizations/healthnet/

In its aim to encourage the proliferation of critical discussions about reproductive health, rights and gender on the Internet, the GRHF website's aim is to connect people to research and discussions on various topics related to reproductive health. The interactive forums include the West Africa Project which addresses topics on reproductive health and rights, gender, HIV/AIDS, population issues, the use of information technology in health systems in West Africa and, the intersection of "race" and gender via the "Women of Colour Web".

International Centre for Research on Women (ICRW)

www.icrw.org

ICRW is a Washington DC-based, non-profit organization that aims to improve the lives of women in poverty, advance women's equality and human rights, and contribute to their broader economic and social well-being women. Its work encompasses three dimensions: research, technical support for capacity building, and advocacy. The organization works towards ensuring women's control of economic resources; guaranteeing reproductive rights, health and nutrition; strengthening capabilities and increasing political power; fostering equity and respect for human rights and dignity of all; shaping policy and programs based on sound research and data; as well as building collaborative, mutually rewarding partnerships and networks to share skills and build capacity. Resources accessible online include papers and briefs on topics like gender, HIV/AIDS, human rights, reproductive health and violence against women.

International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (IGLHRC)

www.iglhrc.org/site/iglhrc/

The mission of the IGLHRC is to secure the full enjoyment of the human rights of all people and communities subject to discrimination or abuse on the basis of sexual orientation or expression, gender identity or expression and/or HIV status. A US-based non-profit non-governmental organization, IGLHRC effects this mission through advocacy, documentation, coalition building, public education and technical assistance. Resources available on the website include links to lesbian gay bisexual transgender/ queer news, search engines and directories along with information on the organization's current country by country campaigns.

International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)

www.ippf.org

IPPF and its member Associations are committed to promoting the right of women and men to decide freely the number and spacing of their children and the right to the highest possible

level of sexual and reproductive health. It believes that the balance between the world's population and its natural resources and productivity is a necessary condition for improving the quality of life on the planet. The website features downloadable documents and reports including an advocacy guide for sexual and reproductive health and rights as well as an online video series, *Lifeline*, consisting of 12 human rights video clips in support of reproductive rights worldwide.

International Women's Health Coalition (IWHC)

www.iwhc.org

Global well-being, in addition to social and economic justice, can only be achieved by ensuring women's human rights, health and equality. The IWHC website offers information on various programmes pursuing the goal and provides documents on reproductive rights including "Girl Power: Asserting Sexual Rights in Nigeria". The "critical issues" page links to fact sheets on relevant international agreements and other documents. Information is also provided about HERA (Health, Empowerment, Rights and Accountability) which is an international group of women's health activists working together to ensure implementation of the international reproductive rights and women's rights agreements.

International Women's Tribune Center (IWTC)

www.iwtc.org

Underlying IWTC's work is the belief that access to relevant and usable information is essential to participatory and sustainable development and is at the heart of the growing global women's movement. An international, non-governmental organization, it supports the initiatives of women in the Global South (i.e. Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America/Caribbean, Middle East, Eastern Europe and Central Asia) who are working to promote the more equitable and active participation of women in the development plans and policies of their countries. The Centre is an information clearinghouse, innovator in communication strategies, a training and capacity-building organization, and a catalyst for the creation of new networks and coalitions. Online resources include training manuals and community action guides as well as advocacy briefs.

Ipas

www.ipas.org

Ipas works globally to improve women's lives through a focus on reproductive health and concentrates on preventing unsafe abortion, improving treatment of its complications and reducing its consequences. The website contains links to current news and information on their various areas of work: rights and policy, elective abortion, post abortion care, reproductive health technology and manual vacuum aspiration. The site also has Information on Ipas publications, including online publications such as *Initiatives in Reproductive Health Policy*, *Resources for Women's Health*, *Advances in Abortion Care*, and *Workshop on Gender, Adolescents and Reproductive Health*.

Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

www.unaids.org

The goal of UNAIDS is to catalyze, strengthen and orchestrate the unique expertise, resources, and networks of influence that the UN and its cosponsors offer. Working together through UNAIDS, the endeavour expanded through strategic alliances with other United Nations agencies, national governments, corporations, media, religious organizations, community-based groups, regional and country networks of people living with HIV/AIDS, and other nongovernmental organizations. The website covers current issues, upcoming

events and press releases as well as contains links to reports and publications on numerous subjects including children and youth, care and prevention, human rights and gender and economics and development. HIV/AIDS information is listed by country and by subject. The site also has details on the International Partnership Against AIDS in Africa which includes a weekly bulletin, newsletters, background documents and information on conferences and workshops.

The Lancet Publishing Group

www.thelancet.com

The Lancet is an international general medical journal that publishes advancements in medical science or practice, or articles that educate its readers. The website provides free registration, access to selected full-text articles, access to electronic research archives, full-text global news and subscription options.

Pathfinder International

www.pathfind.org

Pathfinder works to halt the spread of HIV/AIDS, to provide care to women suffering from the complications of unsafe abortion, and to advocate for sound reproductive health policies in the U.S., Africa, Asia/Near East and Latin America/Caribbean. The organization's agenda is based on the principle that reproductive health is a basic human right and that when parents can choose the timing of pregnancies and the size of their families, women's lives are improved and children grow up healthier. The organization provides women, men and adolescents throughout the developing world with access to quality family planning as well as reproductive health information and services. Website resources include organizational and training publications as well as current project information on African Youth Alliance and the Yellow Card.

Population Action International (PAI)

www.populationaction.org

PAI is an independent policy advocacy group working to strengthen public awareness and political and financial support worldwide for population programs grounded in individual rights. Founded in 1965, the organization is a private, non-profit group that does not receive government funds. It fosters the development of U.S. and international policy on urgent population and reproductive health issues through an integrated program of research, advocacy and communications. PAI seeks to make clear the linkages between population, reproductive health, the environment and development. Serving as a bridge between the academic and policymaking communities, it shares its findings through the dissemination of strategic, action-oriented publications; participation in and sponsoring of conferences, meetings and seminars; and engaging in other efforts to educate and inform policymakers and the general public. The website features a publication library covering family planning and reproductive health as well as policy and international advocacy.

Population Council

www.popcouncil.org

In an effort to change the way people think about problems related to reproductive health and population growth, the Population Council conducts research on three fronts: biomedical, social science, and public health. This Council aims to make a difference in people's lives through engaging in research on demographic studies, operations, technical assistance, reproductive physiology, and the development of new contraceptives. The website provides information on its work in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East

and the United States. For each region, the site provides a description of the Council's research areas and provides links to recent publications and country reports including 17 African countries. This site also provides news releases, and information on their three main areas of research: biomedical research and products, population and social policy as well as reproductive health and family planning. African projects include "Frontiers in Reproductive Health" and "Horizons: Global Operations Research on HIV/AIDS/STI Prevention and Care".

Reproductive Health Outlook (RHO)

www.rho.org

Designed for reproductive health program managers and decision-makers working in developing countries and low-resource settings, RHO is a reproductive health website produced by Program for Appropriate Technology in Health. An important objective of RHO is to help users link with quality online resources and collaborate with colleagues around the world. This website provides up-to-date summaries of research findings, program experience and clinical guidelines related to key reproductive health topics as well as analyses of policy and program implications. It provides extensive information on 13 reproductive health issues including adolescent reproductive health, harmful health practices, and gender and sexual health.

Rising Daughters Aware (RDA)

www.FGC.org

RDA provides free online practical information for Female genital cutting (FGC) -affected women, their physicians, other health care providers, social workers, counsellors and attorneys. The service stems from its philosophy that information vital to the health, dignity, safety and support of women and girls should be available free, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The group is dedicated to culturally sensitive support and qualified medical and advocacy assistance for women who are seeking to avoid, or have already been subjected to Female genital cutting (FGC) for non-medical reasons. It is important to address significant factors that affect and influence the issue of FGC including women's rights, social status, economics, education and lack of complete political representation.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

www.unicef.org

Working with national governments, non-governmental organizations, other United Nations agencies and private-sector partners, UNICEF protects children and their rights by providing services and supplies and by helping shape policy agendas and budgets in the best interests of children. The website contains current news, programme highlights and various information resources (publications and statistics). It focuses on the issue of child rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Reproductive and sexual health topics include priorities and programmes for combating HIV/AIDS including improving access to HIV/AIDS drugs.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

www.undp.org

The UNDP's substantive focus is helping countries build and share solutions to the challenges on democratic governance, poverty reduction, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and environment, information and communication technology, and HIV/AIDS. This website contains reports, regional information and details on strategic partnerships to help achieve the goal. Resources on HIV/AIDS includes reports, facts about HIV/AIDS and

information on UNDP work in Africa. Other relevant topics are the protection of human rights and the empowerment of women and gender and development.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

www.unfpa.org

With the support of the international community, UNFPA works with governments and non-governmental organizations in over 140 countries upon their request. It supports programs that help women, men and young people plan their families and avoid unwanted pregnancies, undergo pregnancy and childbirth safely, avoid sexually transmitted diseases (STIs) including HIV/AIDS, and combat violence against women. The website provides the mission statement, annual report and other facts about the UNFPA, in addition to current issues, publication information, a population issues briefing kit, the State of the World's Population report, news and press releases. Also featured are details of UNFPA global research in various regions, the UNFPA response to HIV/AIDS with a focus on prevention and the Global Initiative on Reproductive Health Commodity Security to assist countries in implementing the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action.

Women's Human Rights Net (WHRNET)

www.whrnet.org

Founded in 1997, WHRnet aims to provide reliable, comprehensive, and timely information and analyses on women's human rights in English, Spanish and French. It updates readers on women's human rights issues and policy developments globally and provides information and analyses that support advocacy actions. The website includes resources for advocacy strategies, understanding the UN and regional human rights systems, capacity building as well as links to forums, events and current news.

Women's Human Rights Resources

www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/diana/mainpage.htm

The purpose of the Women's Human Rights Resources Web Site is to provide reliable and diverse information on international women's human rights via the Internet. It provides a bibliography of international women's human rights law resources involving 26 different subject areas, some with their own further subheadings. Topics include human rights conventions, domestic implementation, education, health and well being, labour and employment, property and housing rights, race and gender issues, reproductive rights, social and economic welfare, and violence against women. Each topic area provides annotated lists of articles, documents and Internet links. Other resources include fact sheets, publications and research guides.

Women's Rights Division – Human Rights Watch

www.hrw.org/women/index.php

Human Rights Watch is an independent, nongovernmental organization, supported by contributions from private individuals and foundations worldwide. It accepts no government funds, directly or indirectly. The Women's Rights Division works with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, to uphold political freedom, to protect people from inhumane conduct in wartime, and to bring offenders to justice. It investigates and exposes human rights violations and holds abusers accountable. It challenges governments and those who hold power to end abusive practices and respect international human rights law. The website

features accessible resources including such publications as *Human rights watch reports on women's rights* and *Latest News on women's rights*.

Women for Women's Human Rights – New Ways (WWHR)

www.wwhr.org

WWHR, a non-governmental organization based in Turkey, engages in advocacy and lobbying at national, regional and international levels for women's human rights. Founded in 1993, it works for recognition and implementation of women's human rights in all spheres of life both private and public as well as active participation of women in society and processes of social change as free individuals and equal citizens. The main items on the current agenda are The Women's Human Rights Training Program, Reform of the Turkish Penal Code, the creation of a regional solidarity network focused on the issue of women, sexuality and social change in Muslim societies, and supporting women's grassroots organizations and networks. The website provides information on laws impacting women's sexuality in Turkey and the Muslim world, and those under the UN and international law.

World Health Organization (WHO)

www.who.int/home-page/

As the United Nations specialized agency for health, the WHO aims for the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. This objective means undertaking projects consistent to its constitution's definition of health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The WHO website holds vast amount of information including current news, upcoming and recent events, current emergencies, publications, bulletins, the World Health Report, a weekly epidemiological record, an international digest of health legislation and the WHO Statistical Information System, which allows the site user to search the site by keyword. Reproductive health pages provide information on adolescent sexual and reproductive health, ageing and reproductive health, family planning, cancers, female genital cutting, infertility, maternal and newborn health, and sexual and reproductive rights.

Youth Coalition

www.youthcoalition.org

Youth Coalition is an international coalition of young people (ages 15-29 years) committed to promoting adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive rights at the national, regional and international levels. It is comprised of students, researchers, volunteers, educators, non-governmental organization, workers and activists. The coalition's work is conducted with the conviction that sexual and reproductive rights are human rights and therefore apply equally to young people. It was formed during a meeting on the 5-year review of the United Nations International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD+5). The Youth Coalition undertakes training and youth outreach initiatives and publishes *The Watchdog* an online newsletter. The website hosts accessible publication and links on human rights, sexual identity and expression as well as youth participation.

3. Women's Rights in Africa

Print Resources

Armstrong, Alice et al. "Uncovering Reality: Excavating Women's Rights in African Family Law" *7 International Journal of Law & Family* 314-69 (1993).

Within the framework of Articles 15 and 16 of the CEDAW, this article attempts to identify the specific issues affecting African women in the sphere of marriage and family relations. It first elaborates and puts in context concepts such as family, marriage, rights equality and justice, and then provides an overview of the plurality of laws which emanates mainly from colonialism. The authors highlight issues specifically relevant to women in the context of customary law and analyze them in terms of the Convention, a general standard of women's interests, and the concept of justice.

Benedek, Wolfgang, Esther M. Kisaakye and Gerd Oberleitner, eds. *The Human Rights of Women: International Instruments and African Experiences* (London; New York: Zed Books; Austria: in association with World University Service, 2002).

This book examines the international instruments that deal with the human rights of women and, in addition, the specifically African experience in trying to implement them. Beginning with an analysis of human rights and gender issues generally, standards of equality, and the work of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, the discussion moves on to a comparison between the European human rights system with other regional instruments. The book also focuses on the legal and administrative systems in African countries through which standards are implemented nationally and monitored internationally. Topics addressed include female genital cutting, human rights of women in armed conflict, refugee women, women and Islam, and the roles that NGOs and women's movements are playing today in the promotion of human rights in Africa.

Beyani, Chaloka. "Toward a More Effective Guarantee of Women's Rights in the African Human Rights System" in Rebecca J. Cook (ed.), *Human Rights Of Women: National and International Perspectives* (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Press, 1994), 285-306.

This chapter seeks to unravel the contents of the standards of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* that directly bear on the status of women. In particular, the chapter addresses certain aspects of the Charter that reflect conceptions of human rights standards that are purportedly unique to Africa. The author examines how the Charter raises the delicate issue of relative diversity versus universality in the protection of human rights of women. She argues that the provisions in the Charter concerning traditional values may bear adverse consequences for the status and protection of women if they are applied on a prima facie basis.

Butegwa, Florence. "Using the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights to Secure Women's Access to Land in Africa" in Rebecca J. Cook (ed.), *Human Rights of Women: National and International Perspectives* (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Press, 1994), 495-514.

In many African countries, there is both de jure and de facto discrimination against women in opportunities to acquire, hold and deal in land. Such discrimination violates international human rights law if it is unable to pass the international standards of "objective and reasonable justification" or of reasonable relationship of proportionality between the means and the aim sought. This chapter explores possibilities and difficulties of using the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* to secure women's access to land. It is divided into four sections: an overview of the situation regarding women's access to land in Africa; the international principle of non-discrimination and its relevance to women's access to land; the African Charter, possibilities and constraints; and some strategies for the future.

Butegwa, Florence. "Women's Human Rights: A Challenge to the international human rights community" 143 *International Commission of Jurists Review* 71-80 (1993).

The failure of the international human rights community to promote respect for women's human rights has negatively impacted the domestic front while the pervasive and systemic

discrimination against women in many countries has impeded international efforts to address the situation in a concerted manner. The article examines the continuing gaps in the human rights movement, which has resulted in many of the violations that women suffer as women. It takes a brief look at women's human rights and feminists' efforts to increase the responsiveness of the international community to violations of women's human rights through a discussion of issues including the right to be free from discrimination, the indivisibility of human rights, violence against women, economic structural adjustment policies, and women's human rights in situations of armed conflict. The author then relates some of these issues to situations in African nations.

Butegwa, Florence. "Women's Legal Right of Access to Agricultural Resources in Africa: A preliminary inquiry women's access to land in Africa" 8 *Third World Legal Studies* 45-57 (1991).

In examining the difference between international law and domestic practice in women's right of access to land, the article begins with a discussion of the various means for women to access land such as acquisition on first registration, acquisition through inheritance and acquisition through direct purchase. It emphasizes the importance of a right of access to agricultural credit and discusses various options for women to access land including credit through cooperatives and special financial institutions. The author explores this issue through a look at the rural farmers credit scheme in Uganda and concludes with a discussion on the prospects for change in law reform, rights awareness programs, progressive judiciary and community-level support groups.

Centre for Women's Global Leadership. *Gender Violence and Women's Human Rights in Africa* (New Brunswick, NJ: The Centre for Women's Global Leadership, 1994).

This publication is a compilation of papers from a symposium held in 1993 with a panel consisting lawyers and activists from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Sudan and South Africa. Topics covered include women's reproductive and sexual rights, strategies to tackle rape and violence against women in South Africa, tools of suppression and culture as a human rights concern.

Chesoni, Atsango. *Bado Mapambano – Kenyan Women Demand Their Rights: The 1997 FIDA(K) Annual Report on the Legal Status of Kenyan Women* (Nairobi: Women's Right's Monitoring and Report Writing Project, Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya, 1998).

Covering the period between March 1997 and July 1998, this report examines numerous issues in detail including women's political participation, constitutional reform, property rights, affirmative action, as well as legislation and violence against women. Several interviews highlight the challenges women face. The report concludes with recommendations for action.

Cipriani, Linda. "Gender and Persecution: Protecting Women Under International Refugee Law" 7 *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal* 11-48 (1993).

This article argues that the definition of refugee should be expanded to protect women with a well-founded fear of gender persecution. The author examines how refugee status could be applied to situations in which governments carry out, sanction or ignore oppression of or violence against women because they are women. She surveys customs and laws regarding women in India, Africa and Latin America that can be considered to be a form of persecution. The author looks at current international agreements that protect refugees and the growing call for an expansion of the definition of refugee to include women fleeing persecution because of their sex. She argues that the types of oppression and violence faced by women should be part of the definition of persecution in international refugee law and further, that

including gender persecution as a basis for refugee status would not result in an influx of claimants or overwhelm the overburdened UNHCR.

Ilumoka, Adetoun O. "African Women's Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - Toward a Relevant Theory and Practice" in Rebecca J. Cook ed., *Human Rights Of Women: National And International Perspectives* (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Press, 1994), 285-306.

Focusing on the significance of human rights discourse to African women, this chapter looks at the problems of promoting and enforcing existing internationally recognized economic, social and cultural rights. It briefly examines the nature of these rights and state practice in relation African women, using Nigeria as an example. As well, it addresses the relevance of international human rights and the tasks before the international human rights movement.

Johnson, Paula C. and L. Ameda Obiera. "How Does the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Protect African Women?" 26 *Syracuse Journal of International Law* 195-214 (1999).

This article discusses issues pertaining to the potential for external protocols in international documents to improve the lives of African women. The experience of the women in Zimbabwe is used to illustrate the way in which women's status in a particular African society can signal the need for an external protocol such as the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the protocol in CEDAW. The authors argue that rather than conceptualizing the systems of law and custom as mutually exclusive and then focusing on the conflicts between the normative systems without concurrently emphasizing the reciprocities that they share, the gender equity project may be less encumbered if an alternative legitimacy can be ascertained for it in the indigenous African value systems.

Kois, L. "Article 18 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: A progressive approach to women's human rights" 3 *East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights* 92-114 (1997).

Following a general discussion on the human rights of women, the author examines article 18 of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* (Banjul Charter) and analyses the scope of protection afforded to women by each of its provisions. She reviews issues affecting the human rights of women in Africa, notably gender inequalities in the political and economic domain, gender-based violence, and the impact of African family law on women. The article considers state reporting on violence against women in light of the fact that the Banjul Charter refers to international instruments in general, while the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights relies on the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women specifically. The author concludes by suggesting strategies for the effective utilization of article 18 of the Banjul Charter in enhancing mechanisms of protection of the rights of all women.

Kuenyehia, Akua. "50 Years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and The Rights of Women in Africa" July-September *Africa Legal Aid Quarterly* 7-10 (1998).

This article asks how the Universal Declaration of Human Rights has affected the rights of women, especially women in Africa, in the 50 years of its existence. It argues that the contributions of women to the economic lives of their communities are still not given the recognition deserved. The writer notes the cluster of treaties that have been adopted since the Universal Declaration but points out that it was not until the United Nations Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993 that a resolution recognizing women's rights as human rights was adopted. She concludes that this recognition came about only as a result of a massive campaign by the women's rights movement worldwide.

Langley, Winston. "The Rights of Women, the African Charter and the Economic Development of Africa" 7 *Boston College Third World Law Journal* 215-21 (1987).

This article examines the Banjul Charter on Human Rights and Peoples' Rights and evaluates the extent to which the Charter accords recognition to the human rights of women. It emphasizes the relationship between the recognition of the rights of women and the prospect for the socio-economic development of Africa. The author reviews currently recognized women's rights and appraises these rights in light of the objectives they seek. He then provides an analysis of the commitment that African states have to women's rights and the effect that current recognition of these rights will have on the socio-economic development of Africa.

Mikell, Gwendolyn. "African Structural Adjustment: Women and legal challenges" 69 *St. John's Law Review* 7-26 (1995).

This article examines the effect of international monetary agencies and women's development groups in their enshrinement of the rights of women in Africa. It addresses how structural adjustment policies of the IMF and other aid agencies have affected the socio-economic status of women in Africa. Other ameliorating factors of these programs however have raised the issue of the relationship between women's legal rights and women's economic access and power. The author concludes that it is too optimistic to assume that the legal right to own property and economic resources will give women the power to participate as individuals in receiving resources and developing the national economy and that, arguably, none of the changes that have surrounded structural adjustment have addressed the severe structural problems that women face. Women must have improved land rights, adequate access to credit, productive input and extension training so that to relieve the heavy burdens placed on them in order to meet the productive and reproductive needs of their households.

Murungi, Betty "Prosecuting Gender Crimes at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda" *Africa Legal Aid Quarterly* (April-June 2001).

In order to promote awareness on the work of the Tribunal as well as stimulate discussion on international criminal law and Africa's contribution to this rapidly developing field of law, this edition incorporates articles from scholars and human rights practitioners on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). Established for the prosecution of persons responsible for genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law in 1994, the articles appraise the landmark decisions of the ICTR addressing the impact of the Tribunal's judgments on the rights of women.

Nnaemeka-Agu, P. "Discrimination and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights" 19 *Commonwealth Law Bulletin* 1670-1681 (1993).

This paper examines Article 3 of the *African Charter*, which provides for equality before the law and equal protection of the law. The author reviews the concept of discrimination and highlights various sections of the *African Charter* while using examples of discrimination against women and children. He emphasizes that the African Charter should be interpreted with reference to experiences in England, America and elsewhere as well as to other international human rights instruments.

Nsibirwa, Martin Semalulu. "A Brief Analysis of the Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women," 1 *African Human Rights Law Journal* 40-63 (2001).

This article traces the history of the *Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Draft Women's Protocol)*, which is aimed at protecting the rights of women, and analyses some of its pertinent provisions. It

focuses on the definitional section, the emphasis on State parties to act, the protection of dignity and physical security, exploitation and violence, marriage and related issues, women and decision-making, and the question of interpretation. It also outlines some problematic aspects of the *Draft Women's Protocol*, such as possible duplications with the *African Charter*, inconsistencies, and controversial provisions.

Nyabera, Anne Muragu. *Institutional Gains, Private Losses: The 1998 FIDA(K) Annual Report on the Legal Status of Kenyan Women (Nairobi: Women's Right's Monitoring and Report Writing Project, Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya, 1999)*.

Covering the period from August 1998 to July 1999, this report examines the legal status of Kenyan women. The areas reviewed include violence against women, trafficking of women and children, women's political representation and participation, international human rights instruments and women and the law of succession. The report includes discussion of case law, comparisons with law in other jurisdictions, interviews and recommendations.

Nyamu, Celestine Itumbi. "The International Human Rights Regime and Rural Women in Kenya" 6:1 *East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights* 1 (2000).

While the human rights regime as embodied in the CEDAW adopts an "equality" or "non-discrimination" framework, the existing structural differences in power and control of resources nonetheless imply that the concept of equality does not sufficiently protect rural women in Kenya. This article explores the question of whether the international human rights discourse serves a purpose in the effort to advance the cause of rural women in Kenya and elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa. It also examines the mechanisms which the international human rights system, particularly the CEDAW and the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*, offer for the realization of the rights guaranteed to women. The author concludes with a projection of the gains that would accrue to rural women from incorporating a human rights approach in their struggle.

Oloka-Onyango, J. "Forced Displacement and the Situation of Refugee and Internally Displaced Women in Africa" 5:1 *East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights* 1-31 (1999).

The main international instruments governing the situation of refugees do not refer to women or to gender. This study focuses on refugee women and internally displaced women in Africa, in particular their role or rather, absence in international and African refugee law. It discusses gender in the international refugee law instruments, the *Organization of African Unity Charter* and the *1969 Organization of African Unity Refugee Convention*; the condition of internally displaced women; a framework of action for physical protection against gender violence; and the place and role of institutional actors, specifically UN agencies, NGO's and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. The author argues that at a programmatic level, it is essential that the issue of gender parity in such institutions be addressed.

Oloka-Onyango, J. "The Plight of the Larger Half: Human Rights, Gender Violence and the Legal Status of Refugee and Internally Displaced Women in Africa" 24 *Denver Journal of International Law and Policy* 349-94 (1996).

Gender violence, marginalization and exploitation that the female refugee population experience remain in a precarious programmatic and legal position. This article argues that international law has so far failed to establish an adequate framework for addressing the unique circumstances of internally displaced and refugee women in Africa. It explores why international law may be unresponsive to the overall situation of women and the place of gender in mainstream refugee instruments. The author links this analysis to human rights law

and the operations of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as well as considers African human rights and refugee instruments.

Oloka-Onyango, J. and Sylvia Tamale. “The Personal is Political”, or Why Women's Rights are Indeed Human Rights: An African perspective on international feminism” 17 *Human Rights Quarterly* 690-731 (1995).

The title to this essay is composed of two slogans well-known in the women's human rights movement - one drawn from the domestic arena and the other from the international arena. The essay examines the arrival of domestic feminism on the international scene; whether Western feminism emerged as dominant on the international scene; which sphere is paramount, domestic or global; and how women's rights are indeed human rights. These questions are examined in the context of reviewing three women's human rights publications. The authors seek to generate ideas that are crucial for an African perspective and to the evolution of a truly progressive and accommodating international women's human rights movement.

Romany, Celina. “Black Women and Gender Equality in a New South Africa: Human rights law and the intersection of race and gender” 21 *Brooklyn Journal Of International Law* 857-98 (1996).

In hopes of encouraging a broader feminist methodological approach to a critique of international human rights laws in general, this essay outlines a feminist methodology stemming from an integrated race and gender perspective. The constitutionalization of post-apartheid South Africa serves as a model for the application of a human rights approach informed by intersectionality – how the multiple experiences of women intersect with each other in forming their identities.

Sandusky, Stacy R. “Women's Political Participation in Developing and Democratizing Countries: Focus on Zimbabwe” 5 *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review* 253-81 (1999).

By drawing upon the experiences and insights of successful movements in Africa and Latin America, this article looks at the historical struggle of women to attain formal and substantive political rights in order to suggest practical means of increasing women's political participation in Zimbabwe. It begins by noting that Zimbabwe is in the process of democratic reform of its constitution and arguing that the legitimacy of the new constitution requires the inclusion of women's perspectives. It next addresses the salience and suitability of Western feminist theory and Western liberal human rights norms to Third World countries and non-Western cultures. The author then examines women's political rights in international instruments and looks at factors affecting women's political participation including traditional thinking and customary law, poverty, fear of the political activity, education and racial and economic factors. Through outlining examples of mobilization efforts in developing countries such as Nicaragua, Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Namibia and South Africa, she concludes that coordinated efforts on legal as well as social and economic fronts are required to effectively tackle women's inequality.

Savell, Kristin Louise. “Wrestling with Contradictions: Human Rights and Traditional Practices Affecting Women” 41 *McGill Law Journal* 781-820 (1996).

Human-rights norms can play a critical role in the discussion and inform both internal and external criticisms of female genital operations. This article examines the role of international human rights norms as a means of criticizing traditional cultural practices particularly that of female genital operations. As the process evolved, commentators adopted the language of rights to articulate their criticism of the practice. The author suggests that the typical culture-based arguments advanced to defend, and the gender-based arguments put

forth to condemn female genital operations are ultimately lacking. She then explores the ways in which gender *and* culture may influence the debate in order to demonstrate the complexity of the issue.

Southern African Development Community. “Monitoring Implementation of the Beijing Commitments by SADC Member States” *SADC Gender Monitor 1* (1999).

Published annually by the SADC and the Southern African Research and Documentation Centre, the *Gender Monitor* aims to track and highlight progress on the implementation of pledges made at the Beijing women’s conference and the Blantyre SADC Summit. This issue reviews the performance of SADC countries on a range of topics including the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, women’s political representation, gender budgets, women’s human and legal rights, gender violence, education and health care.

Tripp, Aili Mari. “The Politics of Women’s Rights and Cultural Diversity in Uganda,” in Maxine Molyneux and Shahra Razavi (eds.), *Gender Justice, Development, and Rights*, (Oxford: UNRISD, 2002), 413-440.

The chapter examines the potential incompatibility of multiculturalism and women’s rights. Drawing on examples from the women’s movement in Uganda, the author argues that those who defend practices harmful to women in the name of preserving religious, cultural, ethnic identity are often trying to protect certain economic or political interests tied to those practices. The author argues that changing such practices should be addressed as political issues. The author also discusses the interaction for Northern and Southern feminist movements in addressing practices that are harmful to women.

Wanyeki, Lynne Muthoni. *Women and Land in Africa: Culture, Religion and Realizing Women’s Rights* (London: Zed Books, 2003).

This volume of essays reports on ongoing original research into the changing situations of the rural African women’s experience. After examining women’s land rights in theory and practice in Nigeria, Cameroon, Senegal, Ethiopia and Uganda, the contributors highlight key land rights issues and make recommendations for each country. One chapter highlights Ethiopia where an explicit attempt has been made not only to make the research findings available beyond the academic community but to deploy this information in a rolling program of advocacy around women’s land rights. Other topics include the dualism between customary and religious (notably Islamic) land law and statute law; the gap that exists between the rights that women have in theory, and their inability to assert and enforce them; and the superior rights and power of men generally to control land, decision-making, and household income.

Welch Jr., Claude E. “Human Rights and African Women: A Comparison of protection under two major treaties” *15 Human Rights Quarterly* 549-575 (1993).

The author addresses the effectiveness of international human rights agreements and reporting procedures in improving the generally inferior status of women in Africa. In particular, the paper asks: have the establishment and functioning of the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights and the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women significantly ameliorated the obstacles that African women confront? The answer this paper suggests is "not yet." However, the weaknesses of these international regimes should not lead us to overlook the potential significance for them to act as one of the many means of diminishing sexual inequalities.

Women in Law and Development in Africa. *Legal Rights Organising for Women in Africa: A Trainer's Manual, Rev. ed. (Zimbabwe: WILAF, 2000).*

This manual provides basic skills and techniques for trainers in order to improve the levels of accountability, efficiency and sustainability of women's organizations. It assists trainers working with groups in planning legal rights programs and introduces the concept of legal programming as a tool for the promotion women's rights.

Web Sites

African Gender Institute (AGI), University of Cape Town, South Africa

www.uct.ac.za/org/agi/

The expansion of gender studies in Africa reflects the growing realisation that the struggle for gender justice is central to the social and political transformation of the region. The goal of AGI is to strengthen African-based researchers, writers and scholars' understanding of gender analysis and its importance to social transformation on the continent. With the exception of the pan-African *Visiting Associates Programme* that targets women from anywhere in Africa, the AGI's project activities focuses on South and Southern Africa for the benefit of both men and women. Resources accessible online include the e-journal and links to gender and women study units in Africa.

The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET)

www.femnet.or.ke/

Through communication and information dissemination, FEMNET promotes networking and enhances women's empowerment through campaigns, training and advocacy, and sharing of information, experiences, ideas and strategies. Its activities include organizing workshops to identify pressing and emerging issues affecting African women; developing skills for gender-responsive planning and programming; and lobbying for the inclusion of gender issues in national, regional, and international development agendas. Publications and reports available online include such titles as *Globalisation and Poverty: Initial Position Paper*, *African Women and HIV AIDS*, *African Women's Participation in Politics* and *Decision-Making in A Globalising World*.

The African Women Lawyer's Association (AWLA)

www2.h-net.msu.edu/~chineryh/awla/index.html

As a non-governmental organization working to enhance the status of women and children in Africa, AWLA broadly seeks to promote networking among African Women lawyers and to enhance the status of African women and children. It works to strengthen networking between African women lawyers; to share information and to lobby for gender equality in Africa through legislative reform, public education and advocacy; to promote the principles of the United Nations, the *Organization of African Unity* (OAU) and the African Commission on Human and People's Rights; and to enhance the legal status of women in Africa. *The site is a comprehensive look at AWLA, its projects and its members. At the time of the publication of this manual, it does not feature accessible publications/resources.*

AGENDA

www.agenda.org.za/

As a feminist media project in Africa, Agenda is committed to giving women a forum, a voice and the skills to articulate their needs and interests towards transforming unequal gender relations in South Africa. It aims to question and challenge understandings and

practices of gender relations and contribute to the development of new knowledge about how gender relations can be transformed. Its website features articles from its quarterly journal and regular fact sheets (with resources, events, updates).

Development Alternatives With Women for a New Era (DAWN)

www.dawn.org.fj/regional/health.html

DAWN was formed through a number of workshops at the NGO Forum in Nairobi held by a group of feminists from the South with similar visions. Since then it has continued to offer holistic analyses from a South feminist perspective that is both grounded in women's experience and inspired by women's collective strategies and visions. The DAWN network today covers Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Research themes include political economy and globalization, sexual and reproductive health and rights, political restructuring and social transformation and sustainable livelihoods. Website information includes the organization's research themes and global advocacy activities.

The East African Media Women's Association (EAMWA)

www.eamwa.org/

This is a website for women in the media by women in the media. EAMWA was created as part of a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) workshop on new information and communication technologies (NICT) for East African women in the media. The association's vision is for African women to have equal access to NICT and to be empowered to use these technologies in ways that benefit their lives and their communities. The website includes information on the issues tackled in its countries of coverage as well as links to related organizations.

Economic Commission for Africa: African Centre for Women

www.un.org/Depts/eca/divis/acw/index.htm

Established in 1975, ACW is the regional Women in Development (WID) structure of the United Nations system in Africa. The *Centre* services national, regional and sub-regional structures involved in the advancement of women. Within its strategy is a new and greater emphasis on gender issues as a cross-cutting concern in the priority areas of focus which include: economic and social policy analysis, development management, food security and sustainable development, information for development, and regional cooperation and integration. While the resource page is still under construction, the website features a number of links to related organizations.

Feminist Africa

www.feministafrica.org/

This journal seeks to challenge the technocratic fragmentation resulting from donor-driven and narrowly developmentalist work on gender in Africa. *Feminist Africa* provides a forum for progressive, cutting-edge gender research and feminist dialogue focused on the continent. It also encourages innovation in terms of style and subject-matter as well as design and layout. It promotes dialogue by stimulating experimentation as well as new ways of engaging with text for readers. The website allows access to featured articles, book reviews as well as materials from its gender research/ teaching forum.

Horn of Africa Regional Women's Knowledge Network (HAWKNet)

www.acwict.or.ke/Hawknet/hawknet.htm

HAWKNet aims to act as a one-stop virtual center where women can discuss national and regional issues; exchange information on available opportunities, such as trade, health, female genital cutting, and other news and events; and participate in global debates,

particularly those pertaining to the marginalization of women and the African continent in the information age, to national policies on information and communication technologies, and to human resource development. It also aims to act as a much needed virtual databank. Online resources span accessible news and event links as well as downloadable publications, reports and documents.

Isis-Women's International Cross-Cultural Exchange (ISIS-WICCE)

www.isis.or.ug

An action-oriented women's resource centre started in Geneva, ISIS-WICCE relocated to Kampala, Uganda to try and tap information concerning African women and to make it more accessible to women worldwide. It is founded in response to the increasing information needs of women from various regions of the world to communicate ideas, create solidarity networks and share information to overcome gender related inequalities. The website offers abstracts on publications featuring information generated under the Exchange Programme and the Information and Documentation Programme, as well as information received from the networks.

United Nations Integrated Regional Information News Network (IRIN)

www.irinnews.org

Today, in sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia the need for an accurate picture of events on the ground is being met by the IRIN, part of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Born out of the 1994 crisis in the Great Lakes region of central Africa, its reporting focuses on strengthening universal access to timely, strategic and non-partisan information so as to enhance the capacity of the humanitarian community to understand, respond to and avert emergencies. IRIN further supports efforts at conflict resolution and reconciliation by countering misinformation and propaganda. Its website contains news and features that aim to provide an accurate picture of issues and events relevant to people's human rights and welfare as well as gender conflict.

Women and Gender Page of Afrol.com

www.afrol.com/Categories/Women/msindex.htm

This comprehensive African portal was launched by *afrol.com* in response to a growing number of African Internet users. The service aims at helping Africans and everybody else interested in Africa cope with the Internet and find reliable information about the continent. Though only in its beginning, it will soon be concentrating on a library service in response to a need to make as much information from and about Africa accessible, free of cost and copyright-label. The Women and Gender Page contains news on women and gender from all over Africa, and has links to women and gender news from other parts of the world.

Women and Human Rights

www.womensnet.org.za/humanrights

The objective of the Women and Human Rights project is to empower women's human rights NGOs in South Africa to use information and communication technologies in order to increase awareness and recognition of women's human rights. This web site was designed to provide an accessible online resource about women and human rights across sectors. It is a place where human rights organizations can find information on relevant people, resources, events and government initiative.

4. Human Rights in Africa

Print Resources

Agbakwa, Shedrack C. "Reclaiming Humanity, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as the Cornerstone of African Human Rights" 5 *Yale Human Rights and Development Law Journal* 177-219 (2002).

The African governments' failure to enact enforceable socio-economic rights compromises the civil and political rights of Africans. Selective enforcement of human rights in the context of worsening social, economic and political conditions is an affront to human dignity. This article argues that economic, social and cultural rights are key to effectively realizing human rights in Africa. It examines factors inhibiting the full realization of human rights and highlights the consequences of ignoring socio-economic rights. The author advocates a rejection of the Western model of rights enforcement and recommends other approaches to realization of rights.

Ahmed An-Na'im, Abdullahi and Francis M. Deng, eds. *Human Rights in Africa: Cross-Cultural Perspectives* (Washington D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1990).

The multi-disciplinary contributions to this book present African human rights in the context of various conceptions of international human rights including traditional "western" perspectives, Christian and Muslim perspectives, several African cultural perspectives and cross-cultural perspectives. The 14 essays challenge the idea that international human rights reflect western ethnocentrism. Ideas addressed in the essays include the connection between traditional cultures and human rights, how African interests are reflected in contemporary human rights law and how to achieve global legitimacy for the idea of human rights.

Ankumah, Evelyn A. *The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights: Practices and Procedures* (The Hague: Martinus Nyhoff, 1996).

The book provides a comprehensive study of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* and the African Commission in the quest to implement the promotion and protection of human rights on the African Continent. The author describes and analyzes the work of the African Commission, so that one might obtain a practical (rather than theoretical) approach to learning about this body. A number of actual case studies are presented. Topics discussed include the Structure and Mandate of the African Commission, Procedures for Examining Individual and NGO Complaints, the State Reporting Procedure, and the Substantive Provisions (civil and political rights, etc.). The appendices include a bibliography, the text of the *African Charter*, the rules of procedure for NGOs, and forms on filing a complaint with the African Commission.

Anyangwe, Carlson. "Obligations of States Parties to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights" 10 *African Journal of International and Comparative Law/RADIC* 625-59 (1998).

This article examines obligations of African states that exist with respect to certain specific rights, such as social, cultural and collective rights in the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*. It examines state obligations to provide health care, to promote and protect community morals and values, to assist the family and to eliminate gender discrimination, to eliminate all forms of foreign economic exploitation, to ensure the exercise of the right to development, to prevent subversive or terrorist activities from their territories, and to assist peoples in their liberation struggle. The author addresses factors adversely affect effective implementation and monitoring of States' obligations under the African Charter, and

examines the failure by States to submit periodic reports to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

Benedek ,Wolfgang. "The African Charter and Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights: How to make it more effective" 1 *Netherlands Quarterly Human Rights* 25-40 (1993).

This article examines the role of the African Commission with regard to the move towards democracy and human rights in Africa, the relationship between the Commission and the Organization of African Unity as well as the improvements in the communications procedure. It asserts that there is potential for improvement in the African system of human and peoples' rights on the basis of both the practices of the African Commission and of a revision of the *African Charter* in light of the regional human rights conventions and bodies. The author concludes with a proposal for the strengthening of the *African Charter* and the African Commission.

Beyani, Chaloka. "Toward a More Effective Guarantee of Women's Rights in the African Human Rights System" in Rebecca J. Cook, ed. *Human Rights Of Women: National And International Perspectives* (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Press, 1994) 285-306.

Examining the aspects of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* that reflect conceptions of human rights standards that are purportedly unique to Africa, this chapter seeks to unravel the content of *African Charter* standards which directly bear on the status of women. Such standards supposedly underpin what is seen as cultural diversity in the conception of human rights. So far as such standards are relevant to the status of women in Africa, the Charter raises the delicate issue of relative diversity versus universality in the protection of human rights of women. Thus, provisions in the Charter concerning traditional values bear adverse consequences for the status and protection of women if they are applied on a *prima facie* basis.

Busia, Nana and Bibiane G. Mbaye. "Filing Communications on Economic and Social Rights under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Banjul Charter)" 3 *East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights* 188-199 (1997).

Civil and political rights are better protected where economic and social rights are given equal importance within the African human rights system. Mindful of some of the objections made against the immediate implementation of economic and social rights, the authors develop a framework for the filing of communications (complaints) relating to the violation of economic and social rights in Africa based on a minimal threshold approach to assess States' obligations. According to this approach, a violation of economic and social rights would mean the willful failure of a State to meet the minimum requirement of a right that is within its power, resources and capacity to meet. Where an allegation of a violation is made, it must be shown by the complainant that the State is in a position to make the right in question exercisable. The authors see the furnishing of proof as a task for human rights NGOs.

Butegwa, Florence. "Using the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights to Secure Women's Access to Land in Africa" in Rebecca J. Cook, ed. *Human Rights of Women* (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Press, 1994) 495.

Sex-based discrimination with regards to access to land violates international human rights law if it is unable to pass the international standards of "objective and reasonable justification" or of reasonable relationship of proportionality between the means and the aim sought. In many African countries, there is both direct and indirect discrimination against women in opportunities to acquire, hold and deal in land. This chapter explores the

possibilities and difficulties of using the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* to secure women's access to land.

Gye-Wado, Onje. "The Rule of Admissibility Under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights" 3 *African Journal of International and Comparative Law/RADIC* 742-55 (1991).

This article deals with the development of the rule of admissibility under the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*. The rule of admissibility is used to limit frivolous or vexatious communications sent to the African Commission. When the Commission comes to a preliminary decision to admit, the merits of the communication will be considered and appropriate recommendations made. The final decision rests with the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The article argues that the development of the rule of admissibility under the *African Charter* has been affected by institutional limitations. The author contends that the extent of confidentiality attached to the reports of the Commission makes it virtually impossible to determine the manner in which the Commission carries out its function.

Hamalengwa, M., C. Flinterman and E.V.O. Dankwa, eds. *International Law of Human Rights in Africa* (Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 1988).

With its sizable bibliography, this reference book is a collection of human rights documents of African origin and concern. Part 1 contains African international instruments including treaties such as the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* (1981) and other such instruments. Part 2 reviews instruments on Southern African while Part 3 covers global instruments like the UN Charter Pertaining to Human Rights and the International Bill of Rights.

Hatchard, John. "Reporting Under International Human Rights Instruments by African Countries" 38 *Journal of African Law* 61-65 (1994).

In a discussion on state reporting of measures adopted, this article looks at the progress made under international human rights instruments. It examines the submission of state reports from African nations under article 44 of the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. The article also examines the reporting obligations of African parties to the *International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights* and the *International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*. For each of these instruments, the author takes note of which African countries have and have not met their reporting obligations. He concludes that most African parties are failing to meet these obligations and proposes potential methods to remedy reporting failures.

Heyns, Christof, ed. *Human Rights Law In Africa* (The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 1996).

This book is a compilation of the primary legal instruments relevant to the protection of human rights in Africa as of January 1, 1996. It is divided into three sections. Part I provides a chart that indicates which countries have signed, ratified or acceded to the 25 most important international instruments. Part II consists of a reprint of the *African Charter* and its status of acceptance by various African countries, while part III contains the human rights provisions of the national constitutions of fifty-three African states.

International Commission of Jurists. *How to Address a Communication to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights* (Geneva: International Commission of Jurists, 1992).

Beginning with a simple introduction to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, this document provides step-by-step instructions for effectively communicating matters with the Commission. An annex contains lists of states that have ratified the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* in addition to a list of the members of the Commission and rights guaranteed in the Charter.

Matua, Makau wa. "The African Human Rights Court: A Two-legged stool?" 21 *Human Rights Quarterly* 342-363 (1999).

The mere addition of a court, although a significant development, is unlikely by itself to address sufficiently the normative and structural weaknesses that have plagued the African human rights system. The article examines the role of the African Human Rights Court in the development of the law of the *African Charter* and other relevant human rights instruments, addresses ways in which the Court can fill the gaps left by the African Commission and alleviate some of its weaknesses, as well as discusses ways in which the Court can penetrate the legal and political cultures of African states to inspire, encourage and ensure the internalization of human rights.

Murray, Rachel. *The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and International Law* (Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2000).

This detailed book provides theoretical, historical and practical information on the African Commission. Beginning with a look at theoretical issues, the author then reviews the evolution of the *African Charter* and the status of ratification, including detailed information on the functioning of the African Commission. The author examines the notion of the state, the issue of personality, the role of NGOs, "peoples" in the African system, the dichotomy of law applicable in times of war and peace and the amicable/judicial dichotomy in the procedure of the Commission. Useful appendices include the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*, the *Commission's Rules of Procedure*, reservations to the Charter, and lists of members of the Commission, Commission sessions and Commission documents.

Nnaemeka-Agu, P. "Discrimination and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights" 19:3-4 *Commonwealth Law Bulletin* 1670-1677 (1993).

Providing for equality before the law and equal protection of the law, this article is an examination of Article 3 of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*. The author reviews the concept of discrimination and highlights various sections of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* while using examples of discrimination against women and children. He emphasizes that the *African Charter* should be interpreted with reference to experiences in England, America and elsewhere and with reference to other international human rights instruments.

Odinkalu, Chidi Anselm. "Analysis of Paralysis or Paralysis by Analysis? Implementing Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights" 23:2 *Human Rights Quarterly* 327-69 (2001).

With a view of analyzing the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights under the *African Charter of Human and Peoples' Rights*, this article examines the rights guaranteed in the *African Charter*, the powers of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, state reporting procedures and the casework of the Commission which includes interpretation of various economic, social and cultural rights and interpretation of the procedural requirement of exhausting local remedies. This article seeks to demonstrate that the *African Charter* represents and significantly new and challenging normative framework for the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights. This places the

implementing institutions of the Charter and human rights advocates in Africa in a position to pioneer imaginative approaches to the realization of these rights.

Odinkalu, Chidi Anselm. “The Individual Complaints Procedure of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights: A Preliminary assessment” 8 *Transnational Law and Contemporary Problems* 359-405 (1998).

This article examines the legal basis for individual communications to the African Commission. It examines the use and objective of individual complaints procedure as compared to group or state-to-state complaints employed in other human rights systems; admissibility requirements, fact-finding and representation at the Commission; and the relationship with non-governmental organizations. Finally, the author examines the interpretation of rights and problems encountered by the Commission.

Odinkalu, Chidi Anselm and Camilla Christensen. “The African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights: The Development of its Non-State Communication Procedures” 20 *Human Rights Quarterly* 235-80 (1998).

In the specific context of the procedure under the *African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights* for examining communications initiated by non-state entities (non-state or individual communications), this article critically looks at the law and the practice developed by the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights. It focuses chiefly on how the Commission interpreted and operated those provisions of the Charter and of its own *Rules of Procedure*. Some references are made to the practices of other international or regional human rights institutions for comparative purposes. The authors also offer some critique of the decisions discussed and possible recommendations as to how the Commission’s work in the consideration of individuals’ complaints can be improved. The article is based on information available at the beginning of 1997.

Oloka-Onyango, Joe. “Beyond the Rhetoric: Reinvigorating the Struggle for Economic and Social Rights in Africa” originally printed in 1:26 *California Western International Law Journal*1 (Fall 1995). Also available at www.umn.edu/humanrts/africa/Oloka-Onyango.html

This article offers a preliminary analysis of economic and social human rights in specific relation to the African continent. The article considers the African response to international institutional mechanisms established to promote both economic and social, and civil and political rights, examines the African context with an overview of the general human rights situation in Africa and the role of the Organization of African Unity and the *African Charter*, and considers the domestic context to offer tentative suggestions for concrete action to revitalize economic and social rights activism.

Österdahl, Inger. *Implementing Human Rights in Africa: The African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights and Individual Communications* (Förlafattaren och Iustus Förlag AB, Uppsala: 2002).

This book gives a detailed account on how individual communications are handled by the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights under the *African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights*. It makes observations on decisions of the Commission with regard to individual communications. While the author provides some criticisms on the procedure followed by the Commission, he makes the conclusion that it is nevertheless an invaluable resource on the individual communications mechanism of the Commission.

Packer, Corinne A. and Donald Rukare. “The New African Union and its Constitutive Act” 96 *American Journal of International Law* 365-79 (2002).

Since its formation in May 2001, the African Union (AU) and its *Constitutive Act* (CA) is assisting in the foundation of a new political, judicial and economic organization for Africa. This article examines the movement with attention to the PanAfrican Parliament, the Court of Justice and the Central Bank. It explains why the *Act's* predecessor, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and its Charter were rendered inadequate for the region and outlines the contents, omissions, inclusions, strengths and weaknesses of the CA. The authors conclude with an examination of the potentialities and pitfalls of the new union and the principle tasks to be undertaken in order to bring the Union to full realization.

Peter, Chris Maina. *Human Rights in Africa: A Comparative Study of the African Human and Peoples' Rights Charter and the New Tanzanian Bill of Rights* (New York: Greenwood Press, 1990).

This publication provides a brief historical background and an extensive comparison of the *Tanzanian Bill of Rights* and the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*. The documents are compared based on rights and freedoms, individual obligations and enforcement mechanisms. In addition to the aforementioned documents, the appendices contain compositions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, a summary of rights, freedoms, duties and obligations under the *Tanzanian Bill of Rights* and a table of relevant cases and statutes.

Shivji, Issa G. *The Concept of Human Rights in Africa* (London: Codesria Book Series, 1989).

The dominant human rights discourse is objectively a part of the ideologies of domination. The book reconceptualises human rights ideology from the standpoint of the working people of Africa. The author first reviews the main debates of the dominant discourse and then attempts to lay bare the fundamental premises and the outlook that inform and direct that discourse. Human rights ideology is then reconstructed to legitimize and mobilize people's struggles. The *African Charter* and the *Algiers Declaration of the Rights of Peoples* are compared and critiqued in light of the proposed reconceptualization.

Udombana, Nsongurua J. "Can the Leopard Change Its Spots? The African Union Treaty and Human Rights" *17 American University International Law Review* 1177-1261 (2002).

This article examines the Constitutive Act of African Union and its implications on the protection of human rights in Africa. It explores whether the adoption of the *African Union Treaty* and the change in nomenclature from earlier OAU documents will bring about greater respect for human rights in Africa. The author argues that little progress in the protection of human rights has been made under the auspices of the OAU. This article also considers the possible effects of the AU Treaty on existing and future African regional human rights institutions, such as the African Commission on Human and People's Rights and the proposed African Human Rights Court.

Umozurike, U. Oji. *The African Charter of Human and Peoples' Rights* (The Hague: Martinus Nyhoff, 1997).

National or ethnic units, as well as territorial units, are the proper subjects of self-determination. Self-determination can be realized in different ways including various forms of self-government, local autonomy and other forms of participation. Encouraging these forms promote stability as it may be possible for self-determination to be realized without secession. Conflicts between nations sharing land with states are not, therefore, properly understood as domestic conflicts. Such conflicts are within the jurisdiction of the UN. The author's conception of self-determination provides avenues for indigenous peoples' claims.

Viljoen, Frans. "Application of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights by domestic Courts in Africa" 43 *Journal of African Law* 1-17 (1999).

This article examines the application of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*. It reports on a survey of the application of the Charter by domestic courts in sixteen African countries, extending across sub-regional divides and including the major legal systems of the continent. The author argues that the survey indicates that there are very few cases in which the *African Charter* was mentioned in domestic courts. Further, he notes that when the Charter could not be invoked as an enforceable right, it was sometimes used as an interpretative guide. However, in many cases, this was not done.

Welch, Jr., Claude E. *Protecting Human Rights in Africa: Roles and Strategies of Non-Governmental Organizations* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1995).

Human rights will never be respected in African societies unless NGOs are actively engaged in the struggle for democracy and development. This book examines the role of nongovernmental organizations in human rights protection in Africa. Focusing on Nigeria, Namibia, Ethiopia and Senegal, the book includes an overview of human rights abuses in Africa, and the progress which has been made in this area by African civil society. It highlights various NGO strategies to promote and protect human rights in Africa including efforts of the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices, the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People, the Oromo Liberation Front, the Mouvement Démocratique des Forces Casamançais and the Legal Assistance Center. The author examines six strategies he asserts are commonly used by African NGOs to promote human rights' goals: education, empowerment, enforcement, documentation, democratization and development. As well, the author examines four sources of NGO weakness: problems with funding, popular backing, societal diversity and political space.

Wiseberg, Laurie and Laura Reiner (eds.) *Africa, Human Rights Directory and Bibliography* (Cambridge: Human Rights Internet, 1989).

With the exception of South Africa, this directory features contact information for regional and country-based human rights organizations along with an annotated bibliography of reports, articles and books on various African countries and issues (refugee rights, female genital cutting, education, etc).

Yemi Akinseye-George. "New Trends in African Human Rights Law: Prospects of an African Court of Human Rights" 10 *University of Miami International & Comparative Law Review* 159-175 (2002).

This article argues that the *African Charter* and the African Commission, though not without their defects, have had positive effects on the domestic law and practice relating to human and peoples' rights in several African countries. Following the adoption of the *African Charter* and the growing prospects for an African Court of Human Rights, this article considers the new features of the African human rights system. African countries tend to regard the *African Charter* as their own, and hence prefer it to United Nations human rights mechanisms. The new constitutions and bills of human rights differ from previous versions in that they are justiciable and reflect on-going democratic struggles.

Web Sites

Africa Action: American Committee on Africa, The African Fund and The Africa Policy Information Centre

www.africapolicy.org/index.shtml

Africa Action is a national organization that works for political, economic and social justice in the continent. Through the provision of accessible information and analysis combined with the mobilization of public pressure, it works to change the policies and policy-making processes of U.S. and multinational institutions toward Africa. The website is aimed at an American audience in order to widen the policy debate in the United States around African issues and the American role in Africa. It provides accessible policy-relevant information and analysis usable by a wide range of groups and individuals. *Africa Action* currently has a campaign for Africa's right to health.

Africa Legal Aid (Quarterly)

www.afla.unimaas.nl/en/pubs/quarterly/

Africa Legal Aid counsels individuals and groups on human rights matters, promotes human rights awareness, researches human rights conditions in African countries, publicizes human rights violations, pressurizes States to comply with their human rights obligations, analyses human rights legislation and treaties, and contributes towards the development of a human rights jurisprudence for Africa. As its official journal, the *Quarterly* reports on the organization's activities, educates the public on human rights issues and serves as a forum for discussion and debate on human rights matters. This website allows access to summaries of the articles that have been published beginning with the first edition in 1996.

African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies

www.acdhhs.org

Soon after the establishment of the African Commission, the Gambian government set up the African Centre for Democracy and Human Rights Studies in 1989. With an exclusive mandate to promote human rights, it is a regional organization intended to co-operate with other African and international institutions on human rights issues. The African Centre has various inter-related programmes such as: 1) developing human rights procedures that increase awareness in Africa of the international human rights procedures, in order to increase the flow of information between African human rights groups and the international machinery; 2) researching and publishing on human rights in Africa; 3) setting up a documentation programme to build a human rights library for African human rights; 4) organizing a networking and institution building programme to co-ordinate and promote the activities of African human rights NGOs in order to make their work more effective; and 5) providing publication, training and education programmes. Resources accessible online include a list of its publications as well as links to official documents.

African Human Rights Resource Center

www1.umn.edu/humanrts/africa/

The principal focus of the University of Minnesota Human Rights Center is to help train effective human rights professionals and volunteers. The Center assists human rights advocates, monitors, students and educators through different programs. The website contains international human rights instruments relevant to Africa. Some of the instruments include: the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*, the *Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights* as well as the *Charter of the Organization of African Unity*. There are also links to other Africa-related web sites.

African Rights

www.unimondo.org/AfricanRights/

African Rights is an organization dedicated to working on issues of grave human rights abuses, conflict, famine and civil reconstruction in Africa. African Rights presents Africa's problems as seen from an African perspective. The organization is acutely aware of the limitations upon existing human rights, humanitarian and conflict resolution approaches to Africa's most pressing problems. The site provides information on African Rights programmes on war, women and family life; women and access to education; obstacles to justice; human rights and freedom from famine and specific projects on Rwanda, Somalia and Sudan.

Afronet Online – The Inter-African Network for Human Rights and Development

www.afro.net.org.za/afro.net.htm

In seeking to facilitate cooperation among nongovernmental organizations in Africa, Afronet's objective is to facilitate the generation, dissemination and sharing of information relevant to the enhancement of human rights, government accountability and African development. It also undertakes programmes to facilitate the implementation by African states of the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights and other regional treaties and instruments, to promote awareness of other international human rights procedures and standards, and to initiate collaboration with intergovernmental and international NGOs working in Africa or running programs relevant to Africa. The website provides news, reports, a human rights resource directory of NGOs and other downloadable resources. Afronet Links (www.afro.net.org.za/links.htm) features Internet links from the Inter-African Network for Human Rights and Development. Link topics include: human rights nongovernmental organizations, intergovernmental organizations, research and education, virtual libraries, and African and International human rights instruments and reports. Some parts of this site are still in development.

Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies (CIHRS)

www.cihrs.org

Established in 1994, the CIHRS is a regional research centre specializing in the field of human rights. It benefits from a special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council as well as an observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. The *Institute* dedicates many of its activities and publications to human rights policies at both international and regional levels. Its main task is to analyze and explain difficulties faced by the process of implementing human rights law in the Arab world. CIHRS strives to promote human rights in Arab countries through the development of intellectually vigorous and novel approaches conducive to surmounting implementation problems. It hopes to contribute to the development of the human rights movement strictly through scientific research and will not engage in political activities. Research programs include: civil and political rights; social and economic rights; and women's rights. There are no accessible links and resources on the website; however, the organization's publications and projects are listed.

Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of Witwatersrand

www.law.wits.ac.za/cals

The Centre For Applied Legal Studies is engaged in research, public interest litigation, training and law reform work. Members of the South African-based Centre play a key role in the formulation of the new constitution and important legislative measures implemented

since 1994 particularly in the fields of administrative law, discrimination law, labour law and land law. The Centre runs the following projects: Aids Law Project; Constitutional Law Project; Documentation Centre; Gender Research Project; Labour Law Project; Land Rights Research Project; and publishes the *South African Journal of Human Rights* (SAJHR). The Documentation Centre featured in the website includes information on human rights and other materials related to the Centre's projects.

Centre for Dialogue on Humanitarian, Peace and Development Issues in the Horn of Africa- Inter Africa Group (IAG)

www.interafrica.org

IAG is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan international organization founded in 1989 based in Ethiopia. It's mission is to advance peace, justice and respect for humanitarian law in the 'Greater Horn' of Africa. The Centre's programs combine networking, civic education, advocacy, dialogue and research as carried out in its three thematic areas: humanitarianism and peace-building; economic reform; governance and democratic development. It cooperates and dialogues with a range of NGOs, governmental and inter-governmental organizations as well as bi-lateral and multi-lateral institutions in the region and around the world. Its aims include: serving as a forum for debate; promoting dialogue among conflicting parties; promoting public awareness of human rights; assisting civic institutions in the region and enhancing their capacity; promoting standards of accountability among humanitarian agencies; studying the problems of the region; assisting the development of local contributions to international debates; and disseminating information. Resources accessible online include information on gender and networking as well as a number of related links.

The Centre for Socio-Legal Studies – University of Natal, Durban

www.csls.org.za/main.html

In its initiative to meet community needs for education and training and to make the legal system more accessible, the Law Faculty at the University of Natal, Durban set up the Centre in 1987. It concentrates on the expansion of public legal and democracy education, human rights initiatives, and the development of educational materials, which promote a non-discriminatory and democratic legal system in South Africa. The *Centre* seeks to promote democratic practice through various educational and training projects such as the "Democracy for All" and "Street Law" programmes and issues a number of human rights publications including the *South African Human Rights Yearbook* and *Democracy Watch*. It aims to promote human rights and democratic values through education, training, research and the publication of suitable materials. Accessible resources online include recent issues of *Democracy Watch* and the *South African Human Rights Yearbook*.

Constitutional Rights Project (CRP)

www.crp.org.ng/ [under construction]

Since its inception in 1990, CRP works for the promotion of human rights and rule of law in Nigeria in the capacity of a non-governmental organization. It monitors and reports on the human rights situation in Nigeria, provides legal assistance to victims of human rights abuse, and engages in human rights education. The Project's activities include seminars, workshops and a test class action litigation program on unjust laws and policies. It works in close cooperation with other human rights organizations in Nigeria and internationally to achieve greater freedom, awareness and consciousness in Nigerian society. The website features a summary of the organization's publications, case summaries and helpful links.

Fahamu South Africa

www.fahamu.org

As a not-for-profit organization, Fahamu is committed to supporting progressive social change in the South through using information and communication technologies. It believes that civil society organizations have a critical role in defending human rights and information and communication technologies can and should be harnessed for this cause. The organization specializes in making electronic information available to this community through electronic newsletters, producing distance learning materials for human rights and humanitarian organizations, training workshops, managing websites for partners, making web-based resources available to off-line users, and conducting social policy research on Africa. Its Adilisha Project, in partnership with the University of Oxford, is a distance learning programme designed for human rights and advocacy organizations in Africa. The courses use CD-ROM-based interactive materials facilitated by email, combined with regional face-to-face workshops. The courses currently being offered include “Human Rights Fact-finding and Investigation”, “Fundraising and Resource Mobilization”, “Campaigning and Advocacy”, “Monitoring and Reporting”, and “Using the Internet for Research and Advocacy. Resources accessible online include a link to the social justice newsletters that the organization publishes as well as relevant articles on development.

Human Rights and Documentation Centre, University of Namibia

www.unam.na/centres/hrdc/index.htm

Created by the University of Namibia in consultation with the Ministry of Justice, the Centre is a semiautonomous component of the Faculty of Law and serves the central mission of creating and cultivating human rights and democracy in Namibia. It is engaged in a number of human rights activities including: research and policy involvement in the drafting of a new *Child Care and Protection Act*; research and presentation of a paper to the Law Reform and Development Commission on violence against women and children; developing curricula and teaching materials for human rights courses in the public schools; developing a documentation centre for human rights materials; and organizing workshops and conferences on human rights education. The Centre aims to collect process and disseminate human rights information in Namibia and Southern Africa at large. The Documentation Centre featured in the website contains materials collected so far, including more than 2000 documents such as monographs, reports, newspaper clippings, periodicals and several videos and CD-ROMs.

Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC) – Makerere University

www.huripec.ac.ug

Established in 1993, HURIPEC is the first research and academic-based institution in the East African region. It is devoted to teaching, researching and compiling local/regional materials relating to human rights. The Centre publishes the *East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights*, an interdisciplinary semi-annual scholarly publication. It also publishes an annual bibliography of materials on human rights in Uganda. HURIPEC is involved in the popularization of human rights activities and maintains an active liaison with activist organizations in the region. The site does not offer accessible resources or links, except for information on the Interdisciplinary Teaching of Human Rights, Peace and Ethics Project.

Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa)

www.idasa.org.za

Idasa is a national non-governmental organization committed to promoting sustainable democracy in South Africa through building democratic institutions, educating citizens and advocating social justice. Its current focus is on building the capacity for democracy in civil

society and government. The organization's work is structured around national programmes with objective-oriented projects and associated bodies. The current national programmes include the Budget Information Service, Political Information and Monitoring Service, Local Government Centre, Public Opinion Service, Southern African Migration Project, All Media Group, and the Governance and AIDS Project. The Idasa Resource Centre, which is open to the public, contains information about democracy, government, human rights and elections. Idasa was active in the democratization movement and encouraged the formation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Institute for Human Rights and Criminal Justice Studies

www.crimeinstitute.ac.za

Focusing on specific research in the field of human rights and criminal justice, the Institute aims to be competitive in the area of research and to establish a public profile based on professionalism, quality research and focused dedication. It seeks to add value to research results by way of usable recommendations, guidelines and problem solving strategies/techniques and by maintaining a high level of subject knowledge and professionalism in the various research projects of the Institute. The Institute pursues these objectives through active productive research (productivity), the dissemination of research results by way of publications, published articles, workshops, seminars and public lectures, as well as the presentation of papers at relevant conferences both nationally and internationally. The website features accessible papers from the 2nd World Conference on Modern Criminal Investigation, Organized Crime and Human Rights as well offers an index of research projects with related links.

Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa

www.africaninstitute.org/index.html

Dedicated to making the human rights treaties of the African Union as effective as possible, the Institute is a non-profit, non-governmental pan-African organization committed to contributing to the development of the African human rights system. It works to strengthen the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights with whom it has observer status. Projects currently include: the provision of training and capacity building; the litigation of cases against state parties before the African Commission by serving as counsel for individuals and NGOs; the gathering of expertise and documentation to make these available through its publications; and the researching of emerging areas of human rights law to develop African human rights jurisprudence. In its work, the Institute cooperates with many NGO partners and provides institutional support to other organizations. Resources available online include a list of publications for sale and downloadable press releases.

Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law

www.ihrhl.kabissa.org

Active in structural human rights education, research, documentation and public interest advocacy, the IHRHL believes that human rights and access to legal systems are integral to the foundation required for a stable democratic and tolerant society. The website features links to relevant databases and libraries but does not offer access to IHRHL publications.

International Society for Human Rights (ISHR-Gambia)

www.ishr.org

Although formally affiliated to and partially funded by its German counterpart, ISHR-Gambia's program activities are independently determined within its education and advocacy mandate. Its objectives include assisting isolated individuals or groups who are striving for the realization of human rights and those who are persecuted for exercising those

rights (including refugees and prisoners); publicly disclosing or protesting against all human rights violations; making progressive suggestions to politicians and state institutions while co-operating with international organizations; keeping members of the general public informed about and actively involved in democratic, social and international matters; and promote and defend the rights of women and children. ISHR-Gambia's activities include conducting seminars and workshops, investigating human rights abuses and filing communications with the African Commission on Human and People's Rights. The website features ISHR organizational information, project outlines and various links.

Justice Africa

www.justiceafrica.org/index.html

With a focus on the Greater Horn region of Africa, Justice Africa initiates and supports civil society activities for human rights, democracy and peace in the region. It works with a network of organizations based in different countries in the continent and builds civil society partnerships with the African Union, the African Commission on Human and People's Rights and sub-regional organizations. Justice Africa also implements its own human rights projects. Among its objectives are: to build coalitions of institutions, interest groups and individuals with the common aim of seeking solutions to Africa's most pressing problems; to promote peaceful civic action as a response to the threats of war and human rights abuses; to enhance democracy at local, national and international levels; to support the creation and development of robust and principled civil society groups across Africa; to promote access to books and other educational resources in Africa; and to act as a hub of multiple coalitions. The website offers downloadable papers as well as outlines to its current projects.

Kenya Human Rights Commission

www.khrc.or.ke

Through various programmatic approaches and activities, the Commission monitors human rights violations, researches human rights issues, undertakes advocacy interventions, and carries out human rights education activities. It works in partnership with individuals and communities in different parts of the country to establish the building blocks of an active, community based human rights movement. The website offers a list of relevant links but does not feature downloadable resources.

Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR)

<http://lhr.org.za/>

Coming out of the history of struggle against oppression and the abuse of human rights in South Africa, the LHR is a non-governmental organization that strives to promote, uphold and strengthen human rights. Although it has always been interested in developing links regionally, within the continent and further afield, in recent years the organization has responded more actively to human rights developments within the southern-African sub-region and sub-Saharan Africa. Wherever possible, LHR seeks to develop a regional focus to all its projects. The website features outlines of current campaigns and projects. Links featured in the website include those on penal reform, refugee rights and the peoples' family law centre.

Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC)

www.humanrightstz.org

Based in Dar Es Salaam, the LHRC is a non-governmental human rights organization. It's objective is to empower the public to promote, reinforce and safeguard human rights and good governance in Tanzania. It has four programs: Legal Aid and Human Rights monitoring; Outreach and Advocacy; Research, Publications and Documentation; and

Institutional Capacity Building. To accomplish its objectives, the Centre engages in participatory and conventional legal research, and legal and human rights education and training. In addition it seeks to create and join networks and alliances of like-minded institutions in order to lobby and advocate for the needs of its target groups. Resources accessible online include links to database as well as court and government materials.

Nigerian Centre for Human Rights and Democracy

www.wecaretoo.com/Organizations/NIG/nchrd.html

The NCHRD is a registered charity established in 1995 to provide leadership in the protection and enforcement of human rights and social justice. It aims to support and sustain the democratization process in Nigeria and Africa. The Centre is active in the areas of advocacy, investigation, promotion and education in the areas of human rights and democracy. In addition, the NCHRD focuses on assisting victims of human rights violations and seeking redress through domestic courts, African Court of Human and People's Rights and the UN supervision organs. The website features an index of related links.

Organization of African Unity (AU)

www.africa-union.org

The advent of the AU can be described as an event of great magnitude in the institutional evolution of the continent. In 1999, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity issued a Declaration (the *Sirte Declaration*) calling for the establishment of an African Union. The AU was established with a view of accelerating the process of integration in the continent to enable Africa to play a role in the global economy, while addressing multifaceted social, economic and political problems compounded by certain negative aspects of globalization. Accessible online documents include speeches and statements, decisions and declarations as well as treaties, conventions and protocols.

University of Pretoria Centre for Human Rights

www.up.ac.za/chr/index.html

Since its establishment in 1986, Centre members have been involved in the writing of the South African Constitution and Bill of Rights, and have contributed to legal education in respect of human rights on the continent through its academic programmes and research outputs. The website's African human rights database provides information on the status of ratification of the *African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights*, status of state reports to the African Commission, lists of the Commissioners and their addresses, annual Commission activity reports, Commission decisions from 1986 to 1996, Commission resolutions, and various documents from the Organization of African States. The Centre's gender unit page links to publications, information on seminars and conferences, and details on the unit's gender awareness and training programme. Research papers and documents relating to social and economic rights, as well as selected volumes of the *Economic and Social Rights Review (ESR Review)* are also on this website.

5. International Human Rights and International Law

Print Resources

Bayefsky, Anne F. *How to Complain to the UN Human Rights Treaty System* (Ardlsley: Transnational Publishers, 2002).

With the intent to inform the general public about how to use the U.N. Human Rights Treaty System to complain about human rights violations by states, the author provides a straightforward approach to seeking application for relief to a U.N. treaty body. The book also provides a clear explanation of the complexities of the U.N. human rights treaty system and sets out the methodology for using its procedures to take a claim through its proper course.

Bayefsky, Anne F. “The Principle of Equality or Non-Discrimination in International Law”
1 *Human Rights Law Journal* 24-33 (1990).

This article deals with affirmative action programs and positive state action. Affirmative action can be consistent with equality or non-discrimination provided that such measure is: applied with the consent of the members of the group; undertaken with the sole purpose of achieving equality; temporary; discontinued when the goal is achieved; and not a result in the maintenance of unequal or separate standards. The article holds that positive state action is sometimes required by the state in order to fulfill its duty to respect equality.

Bhagwati, P.N. “Creating a Judicial Culture to Promote Enforcement of Women’s Human Rights” in Andrew Byrnes, Jane Connors and Lum Byk, eds. *Advancing the Human Rights of Women: Using International Human Rights Standards in Domestic Litigation* (London: Commonwealth, 1997), 20-26.

International human rights law’s continuing neglect of women’s human rights reinforces judges’ obligation to overcome the regime’s biases by incorporating a gender perspective into human rights adjudication. This article examines violations of women’s human rights that are rarely effectively addressed by states including: domestic violence, female circumcision, trafficking in women, violence against refugees and asylum seekers, violence associated with pornography and prostitution, violence and sexual harassment in the workplace, and dowry deaths.

Butegwa, Florence. “Women's Human Rights: A Challenge to the international human rights community” 143:50 *International Commission Of Jurists: The Review* 71-80 (1993).

The gaps in the human rights movement that result in many of the violations unique to women are continuing to be ignored. The paper takes a brief look at women's human rights and feminists' efforts to increase the responsiveness of the international community to violations of women's human rights. It draws upon the World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna, June 1993) in its discussion of issues such as the right to be free of discrimination, indivisibility of human rights, violence against women, economic structural adjustment policies and women's human rights in situations of armed conflict.

Charlesworth, Hilary. “What are “Women’s International Human Rights?” in Rebecca Cook, ed. *Human Rights of Women: National and International Perspectives* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1994), 58 – 84.

The development of international human rights law has privileged a masculine world view mainly because women have no real power in either the public or private worlds and that international human rights law, like most economic, social, cultural and legal constructs, reinforces this powerlessness. This paper is a response to the idea that human rights implies universal application and that the term “women’s human rights” is a distracting redundancy.

Centre for Reproductive Rights. *Bringing Rights to Bear: Analysis of the Work of UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies on Reproductive and Sexual Rights* (New York, Centre for Reproductive Rights, 2002).

This publication documents how UN treaty monitoring bodies translate human rights standards into state responsibility, and how governmental compliance is monitored via six key international human rights treaties. The report discusses methods to further the effectiveness of the treaty bodies' recommendations to state parties. An advocate's guide is issued as a companion to the report, and it highlights strategies for promoting reproductive rights through the UN committees' recommendations. The full text of the report is available on the Internet at www.reproductiverights.org/pub_bo_tmb.html, and the advocate's guide is at www.reproductiverights.org/pub_art_tmb.html.

Concilium Foundation, ed. *The Rights of Women* (London: SCM Press, 2002).

The first group of writings in this collection of essays looks at women's rights as human rights in a global context and discusses violations of women's rights, gender inequalities in the new global economy, feminist struggles, Catholicism and women's rights as human rights, as well as feminist problems with universal conceptualizations of human rights. The second part of the collection explores the relationship between religious and theological structures and women's rights, including women's roles in the church, and theological approaches to women's sexuality.

Cook, Rebecca J., Simone Cusack and Marylin Raisch. *Advocating for Women's Rights: A Manual on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (Toronto: University of Toronto and Centre for Reproductive Rights, 2004).

This manual is an introduction to the *Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*. It gives an overview of the required procedure in submitting a communication to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, as well as the inquiry process. The manual is forthcoming on www.law-lib.utoronto.ca/diana/mainpage.htm.

Cook, Rebecca J. "State Responsibility for Violations of Women's Human Rights" 7 *Harvard Human Rights Journal* 125-176 (1994).

Recent developments in the international law of state responsibility for violations of human rights are serving to enhance the potential for enforcement of international obligations to enforce women's human rights. This article discusses these developments in the context of the means by which states limit legal responsibility for violations of women's human rights. Often women's human rights violations are justified as an essential part of religion or culture where national laws, policies and practices not only tolerate such violations of but also often support them. This article explores ways in which human rights law may recognize that practices that subordinate women are violations of human rights, enforce legal recognition of such violations and provide remedies. Specific attention is given to the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* and the *General Recommendations* made by its Committee.

Cook, Rebecca. "Women's International Human Rights Law: The Way forward" in Rebecca Cook, ed. *Human Rights of Women: National and International Perspectives* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1994) 58-84.

A consultation of lawyers from Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australia and Europe in 1992 is the basis for the report on this chapter. The participants discuss the relationship between international human rights and women's rights with the purpose of developing legal strategies to promote and protect women's international human rights. Consultation themes include: reviewing the progress of women's rights, re-characterizing internationally

protected human rights to accommodate women's experiences, guaranteeing women's human rights, and making international human rights law more effective for women.

Donnelly, Jack. *Universal human rights in theory and practice*, 2nd ed. (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2003).

Understanding human rights as universal moral rights is compatible with recognizing their contingency and particularity. In this book, the author specifically deals with two principal challenges to the notion of the universality of human rights: the argument that some non-Western societies are not subject to Western norms, and the claim that economic development may require the sacrifice of some human rights. This particular edition addresses new issues such as post-Cold War humanitarian intervention, group rights and discrimination against sexual minorities.

Elson, Diane, ed. *Targets and Indicators: Selections from Progress of the World's Women* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2000).

This booklet is a preview of the biennial report *Progress of the World's Women* and highlights the importance of targets and indicators for holding governments accountable for the fulfillment of commitments made to women in the Beijing Platform for Action. A full text of the booklet is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/unifem/resources/progressbl.pdf.

Elson, Diane. *Progress of the World's Women 2000* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2000).

Investigating women's status in the globe, this report reviews key indicators of their progress. Only eight nations have successfully met global agreements to achieve both gender equality in secondary education enrolment and at least a 30 per cent share of women's seats in parliament. The report also identifies opportunities for strengthening accountability.

Elson, Diane and Hande Keklik. *Progress of the World's Women*, vol. 2 (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2002).

This report reviews the basis upon which the commitment to gender equality was made, and tracks progress for real improvement in women's rights. It presents an international cross-country assessment of women's situation at the millennium, focusing on Goal 3 of the Millennium Development Goals – “promote gender equality and empower women”. A full text of this report is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/unifem/resources/progressv2/index.html.

Fraser, Arvonne. “Becoming Human: The Origins and development of women's human rights” 21 *Human Rights Quarterly* 853-906 (1999).

In an attempt to stimulate historical research into women's rights, this article traces the evolution of thought and activism over the centuries aimed at defining women's human rights. It focuses on the tradition and custom which institutionalize discrimination against women, and suggests that the prerequisites for development and implementation of women's human rights are education, the means and ability to make a living beyond child bearing and homemaking, freedom of movement, and respect as individual human beings.

Freeman, Michael. *Human rights: An Interdisciplinary Approach* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2002).

This is an introductory text that looks at the ways in which experiences of the victims of human rights violations are related to legal, philosophical and social-scientific approaches to human rights. It looks at the fundamental tension between the philosophy of human rights

and the way it is understood in the social sciences. Some of the controversial questions discussed are: Is the idea of the universality of human rights consistent with respect for cultural difference? Are there collective human rights? Should feminists embrace, revise or reject the idea of human rights?

Hannum, Hurst. *Guide to international human rights practice*, 3rd ed. (Ardsey: Transnational Publishers, 1999).

Organized and edited from a legal perspective, this book is a compilation of essays collected predominantly from lawyers. It is meant to be a practice guide to international human rights practice discussing the most recent development in human rights law such as increasing focus on women's and children's rights, new norms related to the protection of minorities, and the new procedures of the European Court of Human Rights. Other U.N. and regional institutions are also evaluated with practical advice on how they may be used most effectively.

Heyns, Christof H. *The Impact of the United Nations Human Rights Treaties on the Domestic Level* (The Hague: Kluwer Law International, 2002).

The findings of a study conducted in the 20 United Nations Member States constitutes the subject of the book. The coverage includes the impact of the following treaties at the domestic level: the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination*, the *Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights*, the *Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*, the *Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women*, the *Convention Against Torture*, and the *Convention on the Rights of the Child*. The treaties are examined with respect of its influence on the continuation, legislation, court cases, policies and practices, and the impact of the treaty system in civil society.

Joseph, Sarah, Jenny Schultz and Melissa Castan, eds. "Chapter 23 - Rights of Non-Discrimination" in *The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000).

This book is the first comprehensive collation and analysis of the jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee, the monitoring body established under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Chapter 23 examines Articles 2(1), 3 and 26 of the Covenant, which address the definition of discrimination, the scope of the Covenant's provisions, prohibited grounds of discrimination, indirect discrimination, permissible differentiation, affirmative action, reverse discrimination, private sector discrimination, and systemic inequality.

Knop, Karen and Chris Chinkin. "Remembering Chrystal MacMillan: Women's equality and nationality in international law" 22 *Michigan Journal of International Law* 523-585 (2001).

The story of Chrystal MacMillan who appeared before the International Law Association (ILA) in 1923 and urged the Association to endorse women's right to choose their nationality set the course of the article. Part I looks at a sample of gender-related developments in nationality laws worldwide while Part II surveys the current thinking on nationality. Part III discusses gender discrimination in nationality law and Part IV evaluates the historical development of international law as it concerns women's nationality. The article concludes with a discussion of the ILA's recommendations.

Merali, Isfahan et al, eds. *Passport to Dignity* (New York: Peoples' Movement for Human Rights Education, 2002).

This guide uses the comprehensive framework of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) to demonstrate the holistic nature of human rights as a powerful tool for action in the achievement of full equality, well being, and participation in the decisions that determine women's lives. The book recounts particular examples of women's initiatives throughout the world along the lines of the BPFA. It provides exercises for personal and group reflection, and preparation for action enabling women to use human rights as a tool for systemic analysis and for social and economic transformation.

Merali, Isfahan and Valerie Oosterveld eds. *Reaching Beyond Words: Giving Meaning to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2001).

For most of the fifty years since the adoption of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, the focus of the international community has been on civil and political rights – at the expense of economic, social, and cultural rights. This focus has slowly shifted over the past two decades. Recent international human rights treaties grant equal importance to protecting and advancing non-political rights. This collection of essays calls for the reintegration of economic, social, and cultural rights into the human rights agenda.

Newman, Frank, David Weissbrodt and Joan Fitzpatrick. *International Human Rights: Law, Policy, and Process*, 3rd ed. (Cincinnati, Ohio: Anderson Pub., 2001).

The author looks at human rights treaties with an emphasis on the procedures for monitoring compliance and adjudicative remedies, as well as a discussion of refugee and international labour law. This particular edition reflects significant developments including the U.N. tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, involvement of the U.N. Security Council in human rights issues, the increase in acceptance of human rights treaties, and the increase in non-governmental human rights organizations.

Orend, Brian. *Human rights: Concept and Context* (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2002).

Focusing on the philosophy and history of human rights, the book begins by examining conceptual issues in the human rights field. A detailed account of the evolution of human rights from their origins to their present position in daily life, in political struggles, and in both national and international law are dealt with in the second section. The author also includes a treatment on Marxist, 'Third World', feminist and communitarian criticisms of the principle of human rights.

Rehn, Elisabeth & Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. *Women, War and Peace* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2000).

This report features an independent experts' assessment on the impact of armed conflict on women and women's role in peace-building. It includes discussions on gender dimensions of violence and displacement during conflict, and the need for women to be a part of peace negotiations and reconstruction. Key recommendations focus on finding ways to protect and empower women. A full text of this report is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/unifem/resources/assessment/index.html

Schuler, Margaret A., ed. *Claiming Our Place: Working the Human Rights System to Women's Advantage* (Washington D.C.: Institute for Women, Law and Development, 1994).

This publication is a report from a workshop on gender and human rights held in Vienna during the UN Human Rights Conference (June 1993). Topics discussed include: limitations of the human rights framework, violence against women, women's economic rights, state accountability under CEDAW, strategies for using international human rights law, the European human rights system, the African human rights system, the Asian

situation, NGO strategies, human rights bodies of the UN and international procedures for addressing human rights violations.

Shachar, Ayelet. *Multicultural Jurisdictions: Cultural Differences and Women's Rights* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001).

State respect for cultural differences while protecting women's rights is both theoretically needed and institutionally feasible. The author argues for enhancing minorities' autonomy while providing viable legal-institutional solutions to intra-group rights violation, which will reduce injustice between minority groups and society while enhancing justice within them.

Sisk, Jennifer and Arnold Pronto. "International Human Rights Norms in South Africa: The Jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee" 11 *South African Journal On Human Rights* 438 (1995).

Contrary to the previous experience, international human rights norms are applicable under the South African constitution. In this article, the authors review the jurisprudence of the Human Rights Committee, the monitoring body under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which is now applicable in domestic law under the new constitution. Norms covered include the right to self-determination, minority rights, non-discrimination, the right to life, freedom from torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment, the position of aliens, the right to liberty and the right to privacy.

Suneja, K. "The Empowerment of Women Through International Law" in Datta, Rekha and Judith Kornberg, eds. *Women in Developing Countries: Assessing strategies for empowerment* (Boulder: Rienner, 2002).

Providing a critical assessment of women's empowerment, this book analyzes the roles played by international institutions, social structures and state policies in illustrating the complexity and richness of women's own experiences and participation in society. It seeks to comprehend empowerment through embracing the unique experiences of women in developing countries.

UNIFEM. *With an End in Sight: Strategies from the UNIFEM Trust Fund to Eliminate Violence Against Women* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 2000).

Highlighting initiatives in seven different countries, this publication highlights demonstrates how collective action can bring an end to gender-based violence against women. It focuses on combined efforts from women's organizations, judicial and law enforcement systems, community and youth groups, policy-makers and international organizations.

UNIFEM. *Women at Work to End Violence: Voices in Cyberspace* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 1999).

This publication is a compilation of excerpts taken from the "end-violence" online Working Group, where thousands of members shared their ideas, best practices and lessons learned to eradicate the gender-based violence. A full text of the publication is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/unifem/resources/w@work/index.htm.

United Nations, Division for the Advancement of Women. *Bringing International Human Rights Law Home: Judicial Colloquium on the Domestic Application of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child* (New York: United Nations, 2000).

This is a collection of papers that discusses the use of two international human rights treaties – the Division for the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination*

against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child – in domestic court cases to promote gender equality. The publication focuses on three themes: nationality, marriage and family relations; violence against women; and women’s and girls’ work related rights.

United Nations, Division for the Advancement of Women. *Women Go Global: the United Nations and the international women's movement, 1945-2000* CD-ROM (New York: United Nations, 2000).

This interactive, multimedia CD-ROM offers extensive coverage of global events that have helped shaped the international agenda for women’s equality, and includes documents from the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. It includes a discussion of the role that the UN Commission plays on the status of women.

United Nations, Secretary-General. *Women, Peace and Security: Study Submitted by the Secretary-General Pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000)* (New York: United Nations, 2002).

Drawing from 15 years of UN experience, this study indicates that violence and discrimination against women and girls during peace times worsen during conflict periods. Armed conflict impedes on women’s ability to participate in peace processes in order to attain lasting peace. Recommendations include systematic integration of gender perspectives in all peace accords and mandates, representation of women at all levels of peace operations, and improved compliance with existing international legal norms.

Waldord, Lee. *Bringing Equality Home - Implementing the Convention on All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* (New York: United Nations Development Fund for Women, 1998).

The booklet includes case studies to show how the CEDAW has been used to define norms for constitutional guarantees of women's human rights, to interpret laws, to mandate proactive, pro-women policies, and to dismantle discrimination. A full text of the booklet is available on the Internet at www.undp.org/unifem/resources/cedaw/index.html.

Women, Law and Development International and Human Rights Watch Women’s Rights Project. *Women’s Human Rights Step by Step* (Washington DC: Women, Law & Development, International and Human Rights Watch, 1997).

As a guide to women's human rights in practice, this paper describes in simple language and practical manner the concept and content of human rights law, its application to women and the rights issues of concern to them. As an educational tool, it is designed to provide information on how to use the human rights system, explain the importance of documenting violations, outline key advocacy strategies and demonstrate how advocates are using the human rights system to enforce their rights. The African section introduces the African regional system and provides information on using the system to advance women’s rights.

Web Sites

Amnesty International

www.amnesty.org

With over one million members and supporters in 140 countries and territories, AI is an international campaigning movement working to promote internationally recognized human rights while independent of any government, political persuasion or religious creed. It works independently and impartially to promote respect for the human rights set out in the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The organization's historical focus on prisoners of conscience, political prisoners, torture and extra judicial executions has expanded over the years with the mandate now encompassing human rights abuses committed by non-state actors as well. It concentrates on ending the violation of rights to physical and mental integrity, freedom of conscience and expression, and freedom from discrimination. The website features links to human resources and AI-affiliated sites, the latest AI news and campaigns as well as a downloadable campaigning manual.

Center for Economic and Social Rights

www.cesr.org

Established in 1993, the Center for Economic and Social Rights is one of the first organizations to challenge economic injustice as a violation of international human rights law. Through its projects abroad and in the United States, CESR has developed an effective strategy that combines research, advocacy, collaboration, and education. CESR believes that economic and social rights -- legally binding on all nations -- can provide a universally accepted framework for strengthening social justice activism. CESR informs economic and social rights practitioners, and provides addresses for affiliated NGOs in Asia and Australia, Europe, Latin America, and North America. The website offers vast amounts of downloadable reports and papers on such topics as the human right to water and human rights challenge to global poverty.

Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI)

www.humanrightsinitiative.org/default.htm

The CHRI is a non-partisan independent international NGO working for the practical realization of human rights in the Commonwealth. It is established on the awareness that although Commonwealth countries share similar legal principles and values, insufficient work is done to set human rights standards or promote a culture of human rights within the association. The Initiative aims to raise awareness of and adherence to internationally recognized human rights instruments and declarations made by Commonwealth Heads of Governments. Human Rights education and advocacy are at the core of all CHRI activities, and at the aims and ends of its reports and investigations. The programs include right to information, police reform, prison reform, constitutionalism, human rights advocacy, and human rights commissions. Resources accessible online include downloadable user guides to relevant Information Acts and the quarterly newsletter.

Danish Centre for Human Rights

www.humanrights.dk/frontpage/

Established via a parliamentary decision in 1987, the Centre aims to gather and develop knowledge about human rights nationally, regionally and internationally. Its work encompasses research, information, education and documentation relating to Danish, European and international human rights conditions. The Centre co-operates with organizations and public authorities in Denmark, with human rights centres and humanitarian organizations in other countries, as well as with other regional and international bodies such as the EU and UN. Its research department provides for an enhanced understanding and analysis of human rights on the global, regional and national level by means of an interdisciplinary research effort. Through the development of sustainable and transparent processes and mechanisms based on the rule of law, the Centre's Partnership Programmes provide the tools and means necessary to contribute to the enjoyment of human rights for all. This website does not have downloadable resources available.

European Court of Human Rights

www.echr.coe.int/Eng/Judgments.htm

Taking the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights as their starting point, the framers of the *Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms* sought to pursue the aims of the Council of Europe through the maintenance and further realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Convention was to represent the first steps for the collective enforcement of certain of the rights set out in the *Universal Declaration*. In addition to laying down a catalogue of civil and political rights and freedoms, the Convention set up a mechanism for the enforcement of the obligations entered into by Contracting States. Together with the European Commission of Human Rights (set up in 1954) and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, the European Court of Human Rights (set up in 1959) became a part of the institution entrusted with this responsibility. The Court's website hosts resources on the Court's judgments. It provides a list of recent judgments, information on the effects of judgments, press releases and a searchable database of judgments.

Foreign and International Law Sources on the Internet, Cornell University Law School

www.lawschool.cornell.edu/library/International_Resources/foreign.htm

Foreign and International Law Sources on the Internet: Annotated is a selective guide to web sites providing links to texts of laws and court decisions, research guides and commentary on laws, international documents, directories, trade information, and/or statistics. Initially a training handout for law students in Cornell Law School, this guide has developed into a dynamic tool for faculty and law students, legal practitioners and business professionals. Brief annotations describe the arrangement of information at the site and highlight noteworthy links.

François-Xavier Bagnoud Centre for Health and Human Rights

www.hsph.harvard.edu/xfbcenter

As the first academic centre to focus exclusively on health and human rights, the Centre combines the academic strengths of research and teaching with a strong commitment to service and policy development. Its faculty works at international and national levels through collaboration and partnerships with health and human rights practitioners, governmental and nongovernmental organizations, academic institutions, and international agencies to develop domestic and international policy focusing on the relationship between health and human rights in a global perspective and to engage scholars, public health and human rights practitioners, public officials, donors, and activists in the health and human rights movement. The Centre's website provides information on its activities, publications, conferences, educational programs, Human Rights Program, AIDS Program, and features full-text excerpts of its international journal.

Global Rights

www.globalrights.org

Working to develop and strengthen international human rights norms and the institutions that enforce them worldwide, Global Rights plays a leading role in the international movement to place women's rights at the forefront of the human rights struggle. It is a non-profit organization whose mission is to empower local advocates to expand the scope of human rights protections and to promote broad participation in building human rights standards and procedures at the national, regional and international levels. The Group's Women's Rights Advocacy Program works with a broad coalition of human rights organizations and women's groups, providing training and technical assistance, and facilitating the strategic collaboration of women's groups throughout the world in combating violence against women committed

during armed conflict or in the name of religion or custom. The website offers accessible information on country programs, thematic programs as well as the group's current initiative.

Health Rights Connection

www.phrusa.org/healthrights/index.html

The provision of care, in the most basic and fundamental sense, includes a commitment to and advocacy for the patient's right to health. The HealthRights Connection is a service of Physicians for Human Rights (PHR), providing information and reports from members of the International Federation of Health and Human Rights Organizations and other colleagues of PHR. The purpose the HealthRights Connection is to provide web space for organizations that lack web sites of their own, as well as to serve as a resource for all manner of health and human rights information. Health and human rights resources accessible online include organizational links and relevant documents.

Hieros Gamos (HG)

www.hg.org/internat.html

HG is an online legal research centre covering international laws under the United Nations, NAFTA, European Union systems and other international organizations. It is a facility of HGExperts which is an Internet directory of experts, consultants, certified attorneys, expert witnesses, mediators, arbitrators, and medical and legal specialists. In its international law section, the web site features international documents, treaties and governmental agencies as well as a search by category feature for topics on trade, commercial, human rights, war and peace, intellectual property, and litigation.

Human Rights Internet (HRI)

www.hri.ca

HRI networks with more than 5,000 organizations and individuals around the world working for the advancement of human rights. HRI is dedicated to the empowerment of human rights activists and organizations, and to the education of governmental and intergovernmental agencies and officials and other actors in the public and private sphere on human rights issues and the role of civil society. Some of its objectives are: facilitating the application of new technologies toward the furtherance of human rights through transferring knowledge and expertise particularly to Southern non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other civil society organizations; carrying out human rights research and disseminating the results to concerned institutions and activists; and producing human rights resources including the *Human Rights Tribune*, annual publications and directories in digital, hard copy and microfiche formats. HRI makes these resources available to NGOs and international institutions. Resources accessible online include the E-Doc Centre featuring documents on Human rights and technology as well as international law and human rights protections. A human rights education directory is also available to search for information on human rights education courses around the world, on human rights course outlines and syllabi, as well as on textbooks and recent releases relevant to human rights education.

Human Rights Law Service (HURILAWS)

www.hurilaws.org

An independent and non-profit specialist provider of human rights and public interest law services in Nigeria, HURILAWS aims to facilitate collaboration with national and international NGOs to promote good governance through law in Africa. It advances human rights in Nigeria through litigation in the national courts, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the United Nations International human rights treaty-based mechanisms; and providing legislative advocacy, legal aid/assistance as well as research and publications.

Via the Regional and International Programmes, it utilizes regional and international human rights mechanisms and works to secure Nigeria's ratification of and incorporation into Nigerian law the international instruments establishing the African Court on Human and People's Rights and the International Criminal Court. Resources accessible online include project outlines, published articles as well as annual reports.

Human Rights Research and Education Centre, University of Ottawa

www.cdp-hrc.uottawa.ca/index_e.html

The Human Rights Research and Education Centre has been delivering an active and extensive program out of the University of Ottawa since May 1981. It is the oldest national university-based human rights institute in Canada. The mandate of the Human Rights Research and Education Centre includes: furthering the discussion of the linkages between human rights, governance, legal reform and development; supporting national human rights institutions in Canada and abroad; evaluating and working to improve domestic social justice institutions and programs; and engaging in multi-disciplinary research and education in the above areas. The website features *The Human Rights Online Catalogue* (HRB) and a Documentation Centre with searchable list of full-text links containing approximately 20,000 bilingual notices on human rights related issues, both Canadian and international in scope.

Human Rights Watch (HRW)

www.hrw.org

With offices in New York, Brussels, Bujumbura, Freetown (Sierra Leone), Kigali, Geneva, London, Los Angeles, Moscow, San Francisco, Santiago de Chile, Tashkent, Tbilisi, and Washington, the HRW is an independent NGO financially supported by private individuals and foundations. HRW's activities include investigating and exposing human rights violations and holding abusers accountable; challenging governments and those in power to end human rights abuses and respect international human rights law; and enlisting the public and international community to support the cause of human rights for all. In addition to the country-by-country reporting of human rights situations in Africa, HRW has also produced *Overview of Government Human Rights Commissions in Africa*, which examines the ways in which the various human rights commissions set up by African governments are contributing towards the protection and promotion of human rights in their countries. The website features downloadable publications organized according to countries involved, current campaigns as well as links to recent news releases.

Institute for Human Rights, Åbo Akademi University

www.abo.fi/instut/imr

Founded in 1985 as an integrated unit of the Åbo Akademi University and its Department of Law, the Institute aims to promote research, provide education and disseminate information relating to the protection of human rights. It assists various outside institutions, including other universities, government authorities and mass media in human rights research, policy-making and dissemination of human rights information. The Institute's main areas of research are the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples, economic and social rights, non-discrimination, fundamental standards of humanity, participation and democracy, and human rights in domestic legal systems. In the last 2 years the it has been participating in two projects funded by the Academy of Finland: 1) Law and Ethnic Relations - Rethinking Legal Strategies in a Changing Political, Ideological and Social Environment (ReStra); and 2) Legislation, Justice and Morality research project (LARM). The Institute's library holds a large collection of human rights literature available online. Other resources accessible online

include a reference database of literature on human rights and a database of Finnish case law pertaining to human rights.

Inter-American Court of Human Rights

<http://heiwwww.unige.ch/humanrts/iachr/iachr.html>

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights originates from The Ninth International Conference of American States (Bogotá, Colombia, 1948) Resolution XXXI entitled "Inter-American Court to Protect the Rights of Man," where it is considered that the protection of human rights in the Americas "should be guaranteed by a juridical organ, inasmuch as no right is genuinely assured unless it is safeguarded by a competent court". Today, the Court's website provides basic documents and case law including advisory opinions, contentious cases, provisional measures and resolutions regarding procedure. Press releases and relevant links are also available.

International Centre for Transitional Justice

www.ictj.org

ICTJ assists countries pursuing accountability for mass atrocity or human rights abuse. It works in societies emerging from repressive rule or armed conflict, as well as in established democracies where historical injustices or systemic abuse remain unresolved. The Centre provides comparative information, legal and policy analysis, documentation, and strategic research to governments, NGO's and others. Its work focuses on five key elements of transitional justice: developing strategies to prosecute perpetrators; documenting violations through non-judicial means such as truth commissions; reforming abusive institutions; providing reparations to victims; and promoting reconciliation. In Ghana and Sierra Leone, the ICTJ is advising truth commissions that are in the process of being established. In Sierra Leone, the ICTJ is also involved with the Sierra Leone Special Court, which was established to try those who bear the greatest responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity during the 10-year war. The Centre's newsletter, *Transitional Justice in the News*, is accessible in the website.

International Commission of Jurists

www.icj.org

The ICJ is dedicated to the primacy, coherence and implementation of international law and principles that advance human rights by approaching the protection and promotion of human rights through the rule of law. They provide legal expertise at both the international and national levels to ensure that developments in international law adhere to human rights principles, and that international human rights standards are implemented at the national level. The Commission's projects include providing technical legal assistance to governments and submissions to national courts and international human rights bodies; training of judges and lawyers; fact-finding missions; trial observations; and research and publications. Online resources include the latest legal briefs and commentary, studies, online publications, country reports, oral and written submissions to the United Nations, and ICJ reports from fact-finding mission and trial observations.

International Court of Justice (ICJ)

www.icj-cij.org

Sitting at the Peace Palace in The Hague (Netherlands), the ICT is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations. Similar to that of its predecessor, the Permanent Court of International Justice, it operates as an integral part of the Charter of the United Nations. The Court has a dual role: to settle in accordance with international law the legal disputes submitted to it by States, and to give advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by duly authorized

international organs and agencies. The website includes the following accessible information: Statute of the Court, Rules of the Court, Practice Directions, and a guide to Jurisdiction of Contentious Cases.

International Criminal Court (ICC)

www.icc-cpi.int

The ICC is the first permanent treaty-based, international criminal court established to promote the rule of law and ensure that the gravest international crimes do not go unpunished. The ICC was established under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in 1998 when 120 States participating in the "United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court" adopted the Statute. Entering into force on 1 July 2002, anyone committing any of the crimes under the Statute is now liable for prosecution by the Court. Based in The Hague, the Court has jurisdiction to prosecute individuals for crimes such as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. This jurisdiction is complementary to national courts, which means that it will only act when countries are unable or unwilling to investigate or prosecute. The website includes the following accessible information: the *Rome Statute, Rules of Procedure and Evidence* as well as Official Records of the Assembly of the State parties.

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR)

www.icttr.org

Established by the UN Security Council, the ICTR exists to contribute to the national reconciliation process in Rwanda and the maintenance of the peace in the region. Particularly, it aims to prosecute persons responsible for genocide and other serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in the territory of Rwanda during 1994. The Tribunal consists of three organs: the Chambers and the Appeals Chamber; the Office of the Prosecutor, which handles investigations and prosecutions; and the Registry, which is responsible for providing overall judicial and administrative support to the Chambers, and the Prosecutor. The website contains decisions in completed cases and synopsis of cases in progress as well as a searchable web-based database of all public judicial records of the Tribunal in electronic format.

International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

www.idli.org

By promoting the rule of law and good governance, IDLO is actively helping the world's developing countries to establish legal frameworks that enable them to overcome poverty, provide social justice and improve their chances to live in peace. It provides continuing legal education to over 12,000 professionals in 163 countries along with active IDLO alumni associations in 31 countries. IDLO provides technical assistance to many governments in the process of reforming their legal systems, including providing help to countries struggling to rebuild their societies after armed conflict. IDLO's work has been widely recognized for its programs on the reform and retraining of the judiciary. The website features an on-line library of multilingual catalogue of documents and publications as well as links to private sector partners, development finance agencies and legal research materials.

International Law Association (ILA)

www.ila-hq.org

Since its formation in 1873, the ILA continues its work in the "study, elucidation and advancement of international law, public and private, the study of comparative law, the making of proposals for the solution of conflicts of law and for the unification of law, and the furthering of international understanding and goodwill". It holds consultative status with a

number of the United Nations specialized agencies. The Association publishes a Newsletter for its members twice a year as well as a report after each conference containing the International Committees' reports, a record of the discussions at the Conference working sessions, and a details on adopted Resolutions. Resources accessible online include the newsletter as well as links to its international branches.

International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net)

www.escr-net.org

As a new collaborative initiative between groups from around the world working to secure economic and social justice, ESCR seeks to promote the recognition of all rights but with a specific focus on economic, social and cultural rights. The Escr-net website is designed to serve as an information-sharing resource for groups and individuals around the world active in advocating for and the promotion of economic, social and cultural rights. It has four interactive, searchable databases of organizations and individuals, projects and activities, case law, and events relevant to economic social and cultural rights.

International Poverty and Health Network (IPHN)

www.iphn.org

The IPHN is a world-wide network of people and organizations from health, business, NGOs, government and society-in-general who exchange experiences and share information on the most effective approaches and solutions for health in poverty eradication policies, strategies and actions. It seeks to bring together individuals and organizations working on issues relating to poverty and health and desiring to influence policy and action to protect and improve the plight of the poorest in all countries. Website contains links to their bulletin, lists of organizations and electronic discussion groups.

International Society for Health and Human Rights

www.ishhr.org

International Society for Health and Human Rights (ISHHR) is a membership organization for health workers engaged in work with survivors of human rights violations. Our aim is to gather knowledge about the effects of human rights violations on health, to exchange experiences and information about treatment methods, medical and psychological care, and to contribute to the development of psychosocial interventions both on individual and community level. The website presents links to partner organizations as well as downloadable reports and newsletters.

Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM), Utrecht University

www.law.uu.nl/english/sim/

Supply of information, distribution of documentation and provision of specific expertise in the field of human rights are key elements of SIM's activities. Major points of concentration in its research undertaking are: human rights situation in developing countries; human rights and foreign policy; and economic, social and cultural rights. An on-going project is a system of collection, analysis and posting of case law from regional and international organs readily accessible via online searchable databases. A recent addition to the databases has been the case law of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. The Rwanda database is paving the way for the creation of a similar database for decisions of the ICTY and subsequently the Sierra Leone Special Court as well as other emerging tribunals for the prosecution of international crimes.

Nordic Human Rights Institute

www.nai.uu.se/indexeng.html

Serving as a research, documentation and information centre on modern Africa for the Nordic countries, the Institute encourages research and studies on Africa and co-operation between African and Nordic researchers. It has a multi-disciplinary focus, emphasizing social science research on contemporary issues. Its research aims to stimulate both academic and public debate. The Institute runs three interdisciplinary research programmes: Cities, Governance and Civil Society in Africa; Post-Conflict Transition, the State and Civil Society in Africa; and Sexuality, Gender and Society in Africa. The website offers the following accessible information: A Guide to Africa on the Internet (links), Africanists in the Nordic Countries (research database) as well as relevant electronic publications. The Institute is also referred to as the *Nordic Africa Institute*.

Norwegian Institute of Human Rights, University of Oslo

www.humanrights.uio.no/english/

As Norway's national institution for human rights since 2001, the Institute runs a range of externally funded projects whose main components are research and training, and education and training activities. These include NORDEM (Norwegian Resource Bank for Democracy and Human Rights), the China Programme, the South Africa Programme and the Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief. Current research programmes include: 1) Accommodating Difference - Human Rights, Citizenship and Identity in Diverse Societies; 2) Human Rights in Norway; 3) Human Rights and Normative Traditions; 4) International Project on the Right to Food in Development. Resources accessible online include 2002-2003 research notes, 1997 – 2002 working papers, Human Rights in Development Yearbook as well as Accommodating Difference Working Papers.

University of Minnesota Human Rights Center

www.umn.edu/humanrts

As its principal focus, the Human Rights Center aims to help train human rights professionals and volunteers through providing research, developing educational tools, publicizing training opportunities, maintaining an online human rights library, and building partnerships. To assist human rights advocates, monitors, students and educators, the Library contains the African Human Rights Resource Center which provides information on international human rights instruments in Africa, Africa related links, information on the African Union (AU)/Organization of African Unity (OAU), the African Commission, Human Rights Committee and International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Resources accessible online include a vast collection of human rights documents and materials and human rights search engine links

United Nations (UN)

www.un.org

The United Nations provide the means to help resolve international conflicts and formulate policies on matters affecting all of us. According to the Charter, the UN has four purposes: to maintain international peace and security; to develop friendly relations among nations; to cooperate in solving international problems and in promoting respect for human rights; and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations. The UN website has country specific information as well as international human rights law in general. The human rights section includes the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, *Universal Declaration on*

Human Rights, Treaties texts, as well as a UN document research guide and a portal to all UN related documents and information.

United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women

www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/

Grounded in the vision of equality of the *United Nations Charter*, the Division advocates the improvement of the status of women of the world and the achievement of their equality with men. It aims to ensure the participation of women as equal partners with men in all aspects of human endeavour. The Division promotes women as equal participants and beneficiaries of sustainable development, peace and security, and governance and human rights. Its website provides information on the *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women* and the Committee on the Status of Women in addition to current news, publications, meeting reports and documents, and on-line discussions. Particular focus is on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995 and Beijing +5 initiatives, as well as other special sessions and United Nations meetings on women's rights.

United Nations Treaty Body Database

www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights promotes universal enjoyment of all human rights by giving practical effect to the will and resolve of the world community as expressed by the United Nations. It plays the leading role on human rights issues and emphasizes the importance of human rights at the international and national levels. The Office also promotes international cooperation for human rights by stimulating and coordinating action for human rights throughout the United Nations system. Its website provides the full text of all UN human rights instruments with links to comments by treaty monitoring bodies. Searching documents by treaty provides a list of state party reports under that treaty, as well as concluding observations and general comments by the treaty monitoring body and other information, such as submissions from NGO sources. Information is also available on the status of ratification under UN human rights treaties, on state reporting status and on Charter-based bodies including the Committee on the Status of Women and the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

World Bank – Health Initiatives

www.worldbank.org/html/prmge/resources...

As one of the world's largest sources of development assistance, the World Bank's primary focus is on helping the poorest people and the poorest countries. The website provides an overview of how the Bank uses its financial resources, its staff, and its expertise to help developing countries onto paths of stable, sustainable and equitable growth. It also provides links to the health initiatives of the World Bank's Human Development Department, including Early Child Development (ECD), HIV/AIDS, health care financing, and women's health.

