

Centre for Citizen's Participation in the AU (CCP-AU) releases communiqué references RtoP

CCP-AU

20-21 January 2009

The CCP-AU was established in 2007 to coordinate and facilitating the activities of civil society organizations in their engagement with the AU, held a two -day consultation on the AU Year of Peace and Security in Addis Ababa on 20 – 21 January 2010. The consultation came in response to the AU Assembly's call to African civil society groups to make concrete proposals and recommendations to the AU on peace and security issues that AU leaders will deliberate upon in the upcoming 14th Ordinary African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government (31 January-02 February 2010). Also, the consultations aimed at familiarizing African NGOs with the Plan of Action of the AU General Assembly as well as the Tripoli Declaration, both of which were adopted by AU Heads of State at the Special Session on the Consideration and Resolution of Conflicts in Africa in August 2009. (See more info

here

)□□□□

In these discussions, participants (including ICRtoP and Coalition members Oxfam and International Refugees Rights Initiative) expressed strong support for RtoP. More specifically, the final Communiqué of the Consultations, signed by twenty-five NGOs, included the following RtoP references.□

(...) Encouraged by the positive contributions of African governments during the July 2009 United Nations General Assembly Debate on the

Responsibility to Protect,

in particular the reference by many member states to Article 4(h) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and its transition from the principle of non interference to the principle of non indifference; (...)

We

therefore make the following recommendations to the Heads of State and Government of Africa on Peace and Security issues in Africa:

(...)

The Responsibility to Protect

1.

Urge AU Member States to prioritize efforts to prevent and halt genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing, and crimes against humanity by taking timely and appropriate action in specific situations where these crimes and violations are imminent.

2.

Urge AU Member States to strengthen their collaboration with the UN and regional bodies in the provision of assistance required for states to fulfil their

responsibility to protect

. (...)

3.

Recalling the adoption in 2005 of World Summit Outcome Document where UN Member States Nations expressed in Paragraph 138 and 139, their commitment to the protect civilians from genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and ethnic cleansing; and the subsequent Security Council Resolution 1674 on the protection of civilians;

4.

Welcome the report of the United Nations Secretary General on ‘

Implementing the Responsibility to Protect

’ (A/63/677) especially the formulation of the ‘three pillar approach’;

5.

C

commend the African Governments who spoke favourably in support of strengthening the

Responsibility to Protect

at the July 2009 General Assembly debate on the Responsibility to Protect. (...)

Read all recommendations to the AU in the full [Communiqué](#)

—
—
_ *Also read General Report on the [CSO's Consultation on the Year of Peace and Security in Africa](#)*