

The Role of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (African Commission) in Developing Norms and Standards on HIV and Human Rights

Speaker: Ebenezer Durojaye (Associate Professor of Law, University of the Western Cape)

Discussant: Trudo Lemmens (Professor, Scholl Chair in Health Law, U of T)

Chair: Lisa Forman (Canada Research Chair in Human Rights and Global Equity, CPHS Director)

Wednesday, March 23, 2016

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

108N, Munk School of Global Affairs (1 Devonshire Place)

Register online at:

<http://munkschool.utoronto.ca/event/20049/>

The African Commission on Human and People's Rights (African Commission) in the foremost human rights body responsible for monitoring the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Protocol to the African Charter on the Rights of Women (Maputo Protocol). This lecture will discuss the role of the African Commission in establishing norms and standards that will assist African governments in addressing human rights challenges raised by the HIV/AIDS epidemic as well as meeting their obligations under the Charter and the Protocol. It is also hoped that these standards and norms will go a long way in combating the spread of the epidemic in Africa. The lecture will demonstrate that through its promotional and protective mandate, an opportunity exists for the Commission to develop important norms and standards to guide African states in developing policies and programmes on HIV/AIDS. This will not only mitigate the impact of the epidemic on those infected and affected but will go a long way in creating an enabling environment where individual's human rights are respected and protected in the context of HIV/AIDS.

Ebenezer Durojaye is an Associate Professor of Law and Head of the Socio-economic Rights Project of the Dullah Omar Institute at the University of the Western Cape and currently an O'Brien scholar in residence at the Centre for Human Rights and Legal Pluralism McGill University, Montreal Canada. His areas of expertise include human rights issues raised by access to HIV/AIDS treatment, the intersection between gender (in)equality and HIV/AIDS responses, women's health and adolescents sexual and reproductive rights in Africa. He is one of the Independent Experts of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights for the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of People Living with HIV and those at Risk, Vulnerable to and Affected by HIV. From 2012-2014 he provided technical support to the former UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights (Ms. Magdalena Sepulveda Carmona).