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ENSURING RIGHTS MAKE REAL CHANGE



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ESR Review

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Features



Are the Sustainable Development Goals human rights-based?

Exploring the link between fundamental, elementary, primary and basic education

Interview



Professor Sandra Liebenberg

Updates



General Comments by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

UN Human Rights Committee to review South Africa's record on civil and political rights

From the editor:

The African Union declared 2016 the 'Year of Human Rights with a Special Focus on the Rights of Women' in recognition of the fact that it marks a critical juncture in the continent's human rights agenda. 2016 is the 35th anniversary of the adoption of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Charter) in 1981; the 30th anniversary of the entry into force of the African Charter in 1986; the 29th anniversary of the operationalisation of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in 1987; and the 10th anniversary of the operationalisation of the African Court.

This second issue of the ESR Review in 2016 includes two feature articles. The first, written by Yuri Ramkissoon, revisits the discourse on the critical imperative of ensuring that the UN Sustainable Development Goals are human rights-based. In the second feature, Chiedza Simbo explores the link between fundamental, elementary, primary and basic education.

These articles are followed by an interview with Professor Sandra Liebenberg (H.F. Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights Law, University of

Stellenbosch, Co-Director of the Faculty's Socio-Economic Rights and Administrative Justice Research Project), who was recently elected as a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) (2017-2020).

We also provide updates on General Comments 22 and 23 (2016), which relate to the right to sexual and reproductive health and the right to just and favourable conditions of work, respectively. These General Comments are of critical importance to the realisation of the rights of women in Africa.

The issue includes the Concluding Observations of the latest report by South Africa to the United Nations Committee on Civil and Political Rights.

We thank the contributors to this issue of the ESR Review and invite comments and suggestions on innovative ideas on celebrating the rights of women in Africa in 2016 and beyond. The Editorial Board also congratulates Prof. Liebenberg on her election to the CESCR.

Gladys Mirugi-Mukundi

