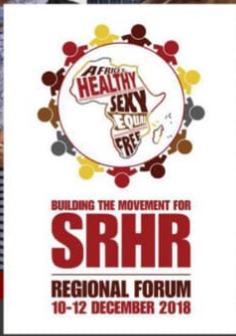


## MEDIA ALERT - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Making Africa 'Healthy, Sexy, Equal and Free'

Johannesburg 10-12 December 2018

#### Regional Forum to build the movement for sexual and reproductive health rights



**BUILDING THE MOVEMENT FOR  
SRHR  
REGIONAL FORUM  
10-12 DECEMBER 2018**

# 01 DAY TO GO

**#SRHRMovementBuilder**  
**#ExpectRespect**



[www.sexrightsafrica.net](http://www.sexrightsafrica.net)

Activists and advocates for sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) from 22 countries around Africa will meet in Johannesburg from 10-12 December to build knowledge, skills and solidarity.

Delegates to the Regional Forum include youth working in community organisations from Kenya to Comoros, Nigeria to Namibia, and champions of SRHR from the African Union Commission, the East African Legislative Assembly, the Southern African Development Cooperation Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF) and the International Youth Parliament.

The programme starts on 10 December, Human Rights Day, which marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the International Declaration of Human Rights. The UN theme for this year is Greening the Blue, promoting action to protect our habitat. The Forum will see the launch of the [petition](#) for free, environmentally responsible sanitary wear in Africa and a

competition for school children to design the packaging for a new brand of compostable pads.

The Forum is a unique opportunity to bring together members of the [Sex Rights Africa Network](#), hosted by the AIDS Foundation of South Africa, to address critical issues for the continent including menstrual health rights, unsafe abortion, child marriage, disability rights, sexual orientation and gender identity.

The Sex Rights Africa Network is made up of more than 1500 organisations and individuals working on these issues from the grassroots to international parliamentary level. The Forum theme 'Building the Movement for Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights' has a special focus on youth and inter-generational dialogue and joint advocacy. The programme features workshops, round tables, a tech hub, the launch of a global SRHR online training platform, quizzes and debates.

Confirmed guests include Honorable Dr Jessie Kabwila (MP, Malawi, SADC VP nominee for Malawi), Senior Chief Theresa Kachindamoto, champion of the campaign to end child marriage in Malawi, Honourable Motlatsi Magelepo (SADC Parliamentary Forum), Princess Sekhothali Seesio, of the Lesotho royal house (a UN Women Ambassador), Mr Ian Gabriel Kaliwo (African Union Commission), Hon Susan Nakawuki (East African Legislative Assembly), Honourable Promise Anurika Nwadigos (President of The International Youth Parliament), Mr Jimmy Wilford (Director of Students And Youth Working on reproductive Health Action Team - SAYWHAT), and Dr Shakira Choonara (African Union's Youth Advisory Council). They will participate in discussions with youth delegates and join other SRHR champions from regional NGOs and agencies for a reception to advance a shared platform for realising SRHR and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The topics of the Forum are:

- Realising the Sustainable Development Goals
- Integrating disability rights
- Demanding menstrual health rights
- Ending child marriage
- Ending unsafe abortion
- Ending sexual and gender-based violence
- Celebrating diversity
- Working for an HIV-free world
- Supporting youth leadership

To find out more or to request interviews, please contact Abbey Hudson on [abbeyjudson@gmail.com](mailto:abbeyjudson@gmail.com) or +27 76 545 5129 (WhatsApp) or Thabisani Ncube [thabisanincube@gmail.com](mailto:thabisanincube@gmail.com) or +27 78 827 7002

#ExpectRespect  
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