

**The 3rd African Intersex Movement statement
2nd February, 2023, Nairobi, Kenya
Theme: Reconnecting and Shaping our Narrative**



Between the 30th January and 2nd February of 2023, 35 Intersex activists representing several African countries got together for the 3rd regional Intersex activist meeting in Nairobi, Kenya to share information and experiences with one another and collectively explore strategic direction towards organizing post COVID under the theme; Reconnecting and Shaping our Narrative

In recalling the [2017 Statement](#) and [2019 Statement](#) as our guide, We the African Intersex activists wish to announce that we have come together to share information and experiences with one another and collectively explore strategic direction towards organizing post COVID.

We exist to amplify the voices of African Intersex people at the regional level. We offer ourselves the African Intersex Movement as a reference of intelligence for stakeholders and allies who are interested in strengthening the ongoing liberation work for intersex people's rights and autonomy.

We affirm that intersex people are real, and we exist in all countries of Africa. As intersex people in Africa, we live in a society that perpetuates violence and killings of intersex people by cultural, religious, traditional and medical beliefs and practices.

We aim:

- To put an end to infanticide and killings of intersex people led by traditional and religious beliefs.
- To put an end to mutilating and 'normalising' practices such as genital surgeries, psychological and other medical treatments through legislative and other means (such as education, policy and treatment protocol change). Intersex people must be empowered to make their own decisions affecting their own bodily integrity, physical autonomy and self-determination.
- To include intersex education in antenatal counselling and support.
- To put an end to non-consensual sterilisation of intersex people.
- To depathologise variations in sex characteristics in medical practices, guidelines, protocols and classifications, such as the World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases.
- To ensure that sex or gender classifications are amendable through an easy administrative procedure at the request of the individuals concerned. All adults and capable minors should be able to choose between female (F), male (M), intersex or multiple options. In the future, sex or gender should not be a category on birth certificates or identification documents for anybody.
- To raise awareness around intersex issues and the rights of intersex people in communities and society at large.
- To create and facilitate supportive, safe and celebratory environments for intersex people, their families and surroundings.
- To ensure that intersex people have the right to full information and access to their own medical records and history.
- To ensure that all professionals and healthcare providers that have a specific role to play in intersex people's well-being are adequately trained to provide quality services.
- To acknowledge the suffering and injustice caused to intersex people, and ensure reparation.
- To build intersex anti-discrimination legislation in addition to other grounds, and to ensure protection against intersectional discrimination.
- To ensure the provision of all human rights and citizenship rights to intersex people, including the right to marry and form a family.
- To ensure that intersex people are able to participate in competitive sport, at all levels, in accordance with their legal sex. Intersex athletes who have been humiliated or stripped of their titles should receive reparation and reinstatement.

- To recognise that medicalization and stigmatisation of intersex people result in significant trauma and mental health concerns.
- In view of ensuring the bodily integrity and well-being of intersex people, autonomous non-pathologising psycho-social and peer support be available to intersex people throughout their life (as self-required), as well as to parents and/or care providers.

We call to action:

- Community leaders and stakeholders to engage in intersex education to dispel misconceptions and stigma around intersex people.
- Human rights organisations to contribute to build bridges with intersex organisations and build a basis for mutual support and meaningful engagement. This should be done in a spirit of collaboration and no-one should instrumentalise intersex issues as a means for other ends.
- Funders to engage with intersex organisations and support them in the struggle for visibility, increase their capacity, the building of knowledge and the affirmation of their human rights.