

**62ND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES'
RIGHTS**

NOUACKHOTT, MAURITANIA

24th April to 3rd May 2018

**STATEMENT BY THE KENYAN SECTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF
JURISTS**

To the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa

[Thank you]

The Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Kenya) welcomes the opportunity to address the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Women in Africa with respect to the human rights situation in Kenya. We wish to bring to your attention the following issues:

1. Madam Chairperson, ICJ Kenya recognizes that despite notable achievements, and whereas global and regional instruments as well as domestic laws and policies are important for the advancement of women's rights, their enforcement and implementation has been fraught with challenges. There are still obstacles which hinder full realization of women's rights in Kenya, including lack of access to decision making platforms in appointive and elective positions. There is also still a huge gap between commitments pursuant to the ratification of the texts and the reality of women's lives.
2. The Government of Kenya does not consider as binding upon itself the provisions of Article 10(3) and Article 14 (2) (c) of the Maputo Protocol. Moreover, by virtue of Article 26 of the Maputo Protocol, States are requested to report on the measures taken (both administrative and legislative) to implement their obligations under the Protocol, which Kenya has failed to do so.

We call upon the Commission to urge the Government of Kenya to ensure the use of the Guidelines for State Reporting under the Maputo Protocol adopted during the 46th Ordinary Session of the Commission held from 11 to 25 November 2009 in Banjul, The Gambia.

We call upon the Commission to urge the Government to lift reservations made during ratification of the Maputo Protocol to ensure effective implementation of the same.

Thank you Madam Chairperson



Signature

Samwel Mohochi
Executive Director