**Position title:** Human rights monitoring and reporting, individual consultant  
**Type:** Local consultant (individual)  
**Department:** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Regional Office for Southern Africa  
**Location:** Home based  
**Duration:** Starting as soon as possible and ending 30 April 2021

**Background**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) provides technical assistance on the promotion and protection of human rights to 14 countries in Southern Africa. The office covers Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe. OHCHR has staff working at the national level in Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe and staff in the regional office cover South Africa and the region from Pretoria, with a focus on protecting civic space, early warning and prevention, human rights risk analysis, human rights in humanitarian action, tackling gender-based violence and discrimination, integrating human rights in development, strengthening national protection systems and human rights reporting and follow up to recommendations by Human Rights Mechanisms.

**Duties and responsibilities**

The consultant will report to the Human Rights Officer in charge of the Emergency Response Team of OHCHR ROSA. The consultant will support research, information gathering and in-depth analysis on developing issues within the region, as well as monitoring and reporting as part of Regional Office, focusing on:

- Monitoring, research and collection of information pertaining to the impact on human rights of the COVID-19 pandemic and other human rights concerns in the Southern Africa Region, including their gender dimensions from a variety of data sources (e.g. communications, publications, the press) and through remote monitoring of open source media to keep abreast of issues and trends and provide up-to-date information;
- Risk analysis of the changing political, civil, social and economic developments within countries in Southern Africa, and its impact on the human rights environment;
- Assist in preparing regular updates and standard formats for regular outputs such as infographics and situation reports, including on the impact on human rights of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Assist in setting up and maintaining an information management system on select countries using multiple information sources (UN, open source, NGOs, official data, regional indexes, etc.) to enable regular and up to date human rights and protection analysis that can feed into UN decision-making processes at various levels and contexts;
• Conduct research and data collection on civic space, participation and hate speech in Southern Africa in relation to early warning, prevention and early action measures;
• Regular monitoring and reporting of the legal, policy and operational threats and attacks against civil society actors and human rights defenders in the sub-region and contribute to the formulation of concrete strategies and interventions to create a safe and enabling environment for civic space (online and offline);
• Participate in meetings, webinars and consultations as required; prepare summaries accordingly.
• Integrate feedback received on drafts.
• Any other related responsibilities requested by OHCHR.

Deliverables and outputs
• Monthly situation reports produced, including on the impact on human rights of COVID-19 in Southern Africa;
• Produce infographics based on human rights trends identified in monthly situation reports;
• Produce weekly civic space reports highlighting main concerns in relation to fundamental freedoms in Southern Africa based on media and other monitoring.

Qualifications

**Education**: Postgraduate university degree in political science, international relations, human rights or related field. A first-level university degree in combination with qualifying experience may be accepted in lieu of the advanced university degree.

**Working experience**: Minimum of five years of professional experience in human rights, political affairs, international relations or related area is required. Experience in remote human rights monitoring and reporting is required. Experience in information management, data analysis or equivalent is required. Experience in producing infographics is desirable. Excellent writing and secondary analysis skills. Knowledge of the Southern Africa region is desirable.

**Language**: Fluency in English (both oral and written) is required. Knowledge of French and Portuguese is an asset. Knowledge of any other language spoken in Southern Africa is an asset.

**Application closing date**: 11 September 2020

**Application procedure**: Applications should include an updated CV, proposal, relevant examples of previous work, monthly rate (full time) in USD and an estimate and breakdown of any other estimated fees to be sent to sklaas@ohchr.org and ipinillos@ohchr.org. The subject should read: “OHCHR early warning and civic space consultancy”.
This consultancy is open to individual consultants only and will be processed through UNDP South Africa in line with their regulations and procedures. For home-based consultancies, there are no specific nationality or residency requirements.