

# **NATIONAL FDHRE**

Forum for democracy Human Rights education

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To strive towards the institutionalisation of democracy and human rights education in South Africa at all levels of the formal education system and through non-formal education channels.

## **OBJECTIVES**

- To provide a national platform for all NGO's, statutory institutions, government departments, providers and other structures involved in democracy and human rights education, for the purpose of collective advocacy and the sharing of information, experience and educational material.
- To encourage and support the establishment of provincial forums for democracy and human rights education.
- To promote and support the inclusion of democracy and human rights education in the new schools curriculum.
- To participate in and monitor the development of unit standards for democracy and human rights education in accordance with the requirements of SAQA.
- To promote and support democratic management in institutions of learning and the creation of safe, non-discriminatory learning environments.
- To promote and support democracy and human rights education amongst adults and out-of-school youth through a range of non-formal educational channels, including community-based and workplace-based initiatives.
- To monitor and contribute to ongoing policy developments that have an impact on democracy and human rights education.
- To identify specific areas of interest or need and, where appropriate, to undertake joint projects of provincial, national and regional nature.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

The following organisations and statutory institutions have been active in the Forum at a national level:

- South African Human Rights Commission
- Independent Electoral Commission
- Commission on Gender Equality
- Centre for Citizenship Education and Conflict Resolution
- Streetlaw/Democracy for All
- Electoral Institute of South Africa
- Human Rights Trust
- Institute for Democracy in South Africa
- Community Law and Rural Development Centre

- National Paralegal Institute
- National Community Based Paralegal Association
- SA Democratic Teachers Union
- Lawyers for Human Rights

There is currently no membership fee, and member organizations carry the costs of their involvement in the National Forum.

## **MEETINGS**

The National Forum meets quarterly, and meetings rotate from one province to another, in order to provide an opportunity for Provincial Forums to make direct contact with members from other parts of the country.

## **BACKGROUND**

The National Forum for Democracy and Human Rights Education was established in 1996 following a consultative conference organised by Streetlaw (based at the Centre of Socio-legal Studies at University of Natal, Durban) and the South African Human Rights Commission. At the outset, the main aim of the Forum was to lobby the department of Education to ensure the inclusion of democracy and human rights education in the new schools curriculum and provide support to the process where possible. In 1999 the mission statement at the Forum was redrafted, to reflect a broader scope of interests and activities in the field of democracy and human rights education.

## **PROVINCIAL FORUM**

Since many NGOs and educational institutes operate on and regional basis, the existence of Provincial Forums for Democracy and Human Rights education is important. This allows for more meaningful interaction with the provincial departments of education (through which the new curriculum is being implemented, and for the co- ordination of project activities. Provincial Forum exist in Kwa Zulu-Natal, Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Free State and Gauteng. Forums are being established in the Northern and North West Provinces.

## **NATIONAL CONVENORS**

### **Andre Keet**

South African Human Rights Commission  
Tel : (011) 484 – 8300 Fax (011) 643 6472  
Email : [akeet@jhb.sahrc.org.za](mailto:akeet@jhb.sahrc.org.za)

### **Marie Strom**

Tel: (012) 320 – 3820 Fax ( 012 )320 – 2414  
Email: [marie@idasa.org.za](mailto:marie@idasa.org.za)

## **PROVINCIAL CONVENORS**

### **Bheki Gumede**

Democracy for All - Kwa Zulu Natal  
Tel: (031) 260 – 1291 Fax (031) 260 – 1540  
Email: [gumedeb3@mtb.und.co.za](mailto:gumedeb3@mtb.und.co.za)

### **Vincent Weise**

Democracy for All - Western Cape  
Tel: (021) 959 – 3437 Fax: (021) 959 – 3289  
Email : [slow@iafrica.com](mailto:slow@iafrica.com)

### **Sherri Le Mottee**

Electoral Institute of South Africa  
Gauteng  
Tel: (011) 482 - 5495 Fax: (011) 482 – 6163  
Email : [sherri@eisa.org.za](mailto:sherri@eisa.org.za)

### **Khosana Tladi**

Centre for Citizenship Education and Conflict – Free State  
Tel: (051) 448 – 8200 Fax: (051) 448 –3517

### **Xoliswa Kani**

Human Rights Trust –Eastern Cape  
Tel: (041) 585 – 5997 Fax (041) 586 – 4337  
Email: [hrtplz@iafrica.com](mailto:hrtplz@iafrica.com)

## **SERVICES**

Members of the National and Provincial forums offer the following:

- Skills Training in Democracy, Human Rights, Legal and Electoral Education
- Curriculum and Training Programme development and design
- Access to teacher and learner resources
- Materials development and communication networks
- Workshops for trainers, teachers, University Students, school learners, community and youth groups
- Paralegal and legal advice centres
- Advocacy and lobbying

*For further information*

*Website: <http://www.eisa.org.z/aeds/forum>*

