



## Statement of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions on alleged racial discrimination and violence against Africans in China

**Nairobi, April 22, 2020**

The Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI)<sup>1</sup> has followed with great concern the recent reports on alleged racial discrimination and violence against the African nationals in particular in the Chinese cities of Wuhan and Guangzhou.

NANHRI is deeply concerned with reports on alleged eviction of African nationals from their rented apartments and that they have been subject to discrimination, mistreatment in public, and they have been barred from accessing to essential services like medication and purchase of critical items.

NANHRI recalls that the People's Republic of China is a close partner of development in many African countries. It has emerged as the biggest trade partner of Africa. While an estimated 200,000 Africans are living in it, more than one million Chinese are in various parts of Africa.

While acknowledging the right of all countries to take protective measures to encounter the spread of the pandemic of the virus Covid-19, NANHRI reiterates that such measures should be taken without any discrimination, and without infringing the fundamental human rights and in full dignity.

For these and more other reasons, **WE**, the NHRIs members of NANHRI call on the African States and the Government of the People's Republic of China to:

1. Investigate and establish the veracity of these claims and bring the culpable to justice.
2. Provide humanitarian assistance in form of food and shelter to those who have been evicted, especially expectant mothers and students.

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<sup>1</sup>The Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) is an African regional organisation comprising 46 National Human Rights Institutions in Africa (NHRIs) which has been established in 2007 and has its headquarters in Nairobi. NANHRI supports the establishment and strengthening of NHRIs in Africa to effectively discharge their human rights mandate of promoting and protecting human rights as per the Paris Principles. NANHRI is one of the four regional networks of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)".

3. Ensure that all African nationals have equal access to medication and purchase of critical items in China.
4. Provide assistance and reporting in case of renewed acts of discrimination.
5. Raise awareness among all nationals on the Chinese territory of the importance of unity in fighting Covid-19 and the need for peaceful coexistence.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Moh Fayek", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mohamed Fayek  
NANHRI Chairperson