

# SIYA SEER HLONGWA

## INFORMATION REGULATOR OF SOUTH AFRICA

Human Rights • Information Rights • Privacy & Data Governance • Regulatory Oversight • Constitutional Governance  
• Public Accountability • Digital Rights



## PERSONAL & STATUTORY PARTICULARS

|              |                                                                                                       |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Full name    | Seer Siya Hlongwa                                                                                     |
| Citizenship  | South African                                                                                         |
| Province     | Gauteng, South Africa                                                                                 |
| Gender       | Gender Nonconforming / Female                                                                         |
| Mobile       |                                                                                                       |
| Email        | officialsiya@protonmail.com                                                                           |
| LinkedIn     | <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/ms-siya-hlongwa">https://www.linkedin.com/in/ms-siya-hlongwa</a> |
| Availability | Full-time                                                                                             |

## EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Strategic human rights advocate, media practitioner, civic engagement leader and development-planning professional with experience in governance participation, gender equality advocacy, constitutional awareness, public education, stakeholder engagement, policy advocacy and social-impact initiatives. Demonstrated commitment to constitutional rights, democratic accountability, equality, social justice and the protection and promotion of human rights.

For Information Regulator board service, Ms Siya Seer Hlongwa brings an interdisciplinary rights-based perspective relevant to information rights, privacy, access to information, responsible information governance, digital rights, public accountability, ethical leadership, stakeholder engagement and evidence-informed policy. Experience spans civil society leadership, media and digital communication, research and policy commentary, community mobilisation and engagement with public institutions and diverse stakeholders.

## BOARD SUITABILITY & STATUTORY ALIGNMENT

- South African citizen with a demonstrated public-interest and human-rights orientation.
- Human rights promotion and protection, constitutional awareness, equality and social justice advocacy.
- Governance participation, democratic accountability, public participation and civic education.
- Policy advocacy, research and policy commentary, stakeholder engagement and institutional governance awareness.
- Public education and communication experience relevant to awareness of rights, responsibilities and access to information.
- Digital media strategy and public-interest communication experience relevant to digital rights and responsible information use.
- Civil society leadership and community empowerment experience relevant to inclusive regulatory engagement.
- Development-planning academic background supporting interdisciplinary analysis of institutions, society and public policy.
- Experience engaging diverse audiences and institutions across civil society, media and community leadership spaces.
- Commitment to integrity, accountability, transparency, ethical leadership and rights-based public service.

## CORE COMPETENCY MATRIX

|                                                |                                               |                            |                            |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) | Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA) | Information Regulator      | information governance     |
| data protection                                | privacy protection                            | personal information       | privacy rights             |
| access to information                          | information rights                            | constitutional rights      | human rights               |
| regulatory compliance                          | regulatory oversight                          | statutory mandate          | legislative compliance     |
| legislative interpretation                     | public-interest regulation                    | corporate governance       | public-sector governance   |
| institutional governance                       | board governance                              | board oversight            | accountability             |
| transparency                                   | ethical leadership                            | integrity                  | fit and proper             |
| risk governance                                | compliance oversight                          | performance oversight      | strategic oversight        |
| governance frameworks                          | policy oversight                              | institutional independence | stakeholder accountability |
| public accountability                          | data governance                               | data privacy               | data security              |
| data ethics                                    | responsible data use                          | information security       | digital governance         |
| digital rights                                 | digital transformation                        | emerging technologies      | artificial intelligence    |
| AI governance                                  | algorithmic accountability                    | cybersecurity awareness    | digital inclusion          |
| technology governance                          | information management                        | records management         | knowledge management       |
| right to privacy                               | right of access to information                | freedom of expression      | freedom of information     |
| constitutional democracy                       | social justice                                | equality                   | non-discrimination         |
| vulnerable groups                              | marginalised communities                      | public participation       | citizen rights             |
| rights-based approach                          | human-rights-based approach                   | access to justice          | accountability mechanisms  |
| Remedies                                       | complaints mechanisms                         | public education           | human-rights education     |
| policy development                             | policy analysis                               | legislative policy         | regulatory policy          |
| evidence-based policy                          | research                                      | applied research           | qualitative research       |
| quantitative research                          | monitoring and evaluation                     | impact assessment          | stakeholder consultation   |
| policy advocacy                                | strategic planning                            | programme management       | institutional development  |
| capacity building                              | knowledge translation                         | research governance        | interdisciplinary research |
| social impact                                  | data governance frameworks                    | privacy governance         | regulatory reporting       |

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Founder & Director** | Resilience Rising Initiative (RRI) | South Africa | 2025 to Date

Civic and social development initiative focused on human rights awareness, gender equality advocacy, leadership development and community empowerment.

- Developed and led initiatives promoting human rights education, constitutional values and social justice awareness.
- Facilitated public discussions and digital advocacy campaigns addressing gender-based violence, social inequality and civic participation.
- Built partnerships with leaders and organisations supporting human rights, women's leadership and democratic accountability.
- Promoted public awareness of constitutional rights and responsibilities through media and digital platforms.
- Applied stakeholder engagement, public education, community mobilisation and advocacy approaches to social-impact initiatives.

- Supported inclusive participation of communities and marginalised groups in public-interest initiatives.

**Media Strategist, Content Creator & Public Engagement Practitioner** | Independent Media Platforms | South Africa & International | 2015 to Date

Developed and managed public-engagement platforms focused on social commentary, human rights awareness, leadership discourse and public-interest issues.

- Produced digital content promoting human rights literacy, civic participation and social accountability.
- Engaged international and local audiences in discussions relating to democratic governance, gender equality and social justice.
- Utilised digital media platforms to advance public dialogue on constitutional rights and societal challenges.
- Collaborated with public institutions, organisations and stakeholders on communication strategies related to social-impact initiatives.
- Translated complex public-interest and rights issues into accessible public education and communication content.
- Applied digital media strategy, stakeholder communication and public engagement to rights-based advocacy.

## NATIONAL GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC INSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

**Candidate — National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (NCGBVF)** | Parliamentary selection process | South Africa | 2026

Shortlisted national candidate for appointment to the National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide.

- Selected among national candidates in a parliamentary process recognising leadership and expertise in gender justice advocacy and policy engagement.
- Prepared for participation in parliamentary oversight structures, policy engagement and national human-rights frameworks.
- Demonstrated experience relevant to gender equality, human rights, public accountability, stakeholder engagement and social justice.
- Positioned within a national governance process involving institutional oversight and public-interest policy.

**Candidate — South African Human Rights Commission (SAHRC)** | Parliamentary selection process | South Africa | 2026

Candidate in the parliamentary process for appointment to the South African Human Rights Commission.

- Publicly identified as a candidate for a national constitutional human-rights institution.
- Presented a professional record centred on human rights promotion and protection, constitutional governance, equality, social justice and public accountability.
- Relevant experience includes human-rights monitoring and reporting, public education, stakeholder engagement, civic participation and policy advocacy.

## HUMAN RIGHTS, INFORMATION RIGHTS & PUBLIC-INTEREST FOCUS

- Human rights promotion and protection
- Constitutional literacy and public education
- Gender equality, non-discrimination and social justice
- Gender-based violence prevention and rights-based advocacy
- Democratic accountability and public participation
- Access to justice and accountability mechanisms
- Information rights and public-interest communication
- Digital rights, digital inclusion and responsible information use
- Stakeholder engagement and institutional dialogue
- Research and policy commentary

## EDUCATION (Most Relevant)

**Master of Science in Development Planning** | University of the Witwatersrand | South Africa | Graduated 2021

- Academic foundation in development planning relevant to interdisciplinary analysis of institutions, communities, governance and public policy.

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING / PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Human Rights Awareness

- Media Communication Strategy
- Public Engagement and Civic Education
- Leadership and Social Impact Advocacy

## GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP CAPABILITIES

- Strategic leadership and institutional development
- Civil society leadership and public-interest governance
- Strategic communications and public representation
- Stakeholder management and partnership development
- Policy advocacy and evidence-informed public discourse
- Public participation and civic education
- Community mobilisation and capacity building
- Ethical leadership, integrity and accountability
- Research, policy commentary and knowledge translation
- Monitoring, reporting and social-impact communication

For the past decade the candidate's policy contributions and skills development initiatives locally and internationally with global development focus has made a positive impact toward the achievement of access to human rights for marginalized groups.

From the IEC and UNDP democracy rooted skills training and reporting on the local and national elections, to provincial and national campaigns on GBVF and inclusion and diversity with institutions such as the Office of the Gauteng Premier, the Europe Union, and African Union, to the Department of Higher Education and Training of South Africa.

## INFORMATION REGULATOR RELEVANCE STATEMENT

The candidate's strongest demonstrated areas of relevance are human rights, constitutional governance, public education, public accountability, stakeholder engagement, policy advocacy, digital media, civic participation and interdisciplinary development planning. These capabilities can contribute an independent, rights-based and public-interest perspective to the Information Regulator's work on privacy, access to information and responsible information governance.

Specialist legal practice, professor-of-law status, technical information-technology credentials, formal data-protection officer experience and specialist POPIA/PAIA compliance roles are not claimed because they are not evidenced in the supplied source CV. Add only if supported by verifiable documentation.

## REFERENCES

Available upon request, or insert two to three verifiable professional/institutional referees before submission.

## DECLARATION

I declare that the information contained in this curriculum vitae is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I consent to verification of my qualifications, experience and suitability as required in the parliamentary appointment process.

Signature: Siya Seer Hlongwa Date: 16 August 2026