

Presentation to the National Parliament

Driving Africa's Future through Development, Inclusion, and Youth Empowerment

Presentation to the National Parliament: African Development and Agenda 2063

Introduction

Aligning South Africa's Vision with the African Union's Blueprint
Presented to National Parliament

What is Agenda 2063?

- Africa's master plan for inclusive, sustainable development
- Vision: 'The Africa We Want'
- Aspirations: Prosperity, unity, democracy, peace, culture, youth-driven growth, and global presence

South Africa's Role & Responsibility

- Regional leader with capacity and influence
- Must amplify African interests globally
- Enhance intra-African collaboration and human rights advocacy

Youth and Agenda 2063

- Youth = not future leaders, but current changemakers
- Needs: Agenda 2063 Youth Council, youth-led innovation, regional collaboration
- Areas: Climate, tech, governance

Challenges & Opportunities

Challenges:

- Policy disconnection
- Underfunded youth programmes
- Silence on human rights

Opportunities:

- AfCFTA & entrepreneurship
- AU Youth Charter
- Digital reform

5 Recommendations for Parliament

1. Integrate Agenda 2063 into national plans
2. Create a Standing Committee on African Affairs
3. Fund youth innovation and exchange
4. Prioritise rights in diplomacy
5. Expand South-South collaboration

Collective Responsibility

- Governments must lead with inclusion
- Parliaments must act boldly
- Youth must be trusted
- Diplomacy must reflect values

In Closing

Agenda 2063 is not a dream — it is a plan.

Let us act, align, and lead.

Let us be the generation that made it real.

Presentation to the National Parliament: Inclusive Social Development and LGBTIQ+ Youth

Honourable Members of Parliament

Thank you for the opportunity to present on behalf of young people who have long been spoken about, but seldom spoken to — particularly those of us who are LGBTIQ+, Black, poor, rural, undocumented, and differently abled.

1. What is Inclusive Social Development?

Inclusive social development means deliberately and consistently creating systems that reduce inequality, dismantle stigma, and centre the needs of those who have been pushed to

the margins.

It ensures that everyone — including LGBTIQ+ youth — is seen, protected, and supported in all areas of life: from healthcare and education to employment, housing, and safety.

2. Why This Matters for LGBTIQ+ Youth

Inclusion means survival. Queer youth are often:

- Rejected from homes
- Bullied in schools
- Denied healthcare
- Targeted with violence

Yet our voices are too often excluded from legislation, such as the final draft of the Hate Crimes and Hate Speech Bill.

3. South Africa's Responsibility on the Continent

South Africa must lead human rights diplomacy across Africa. Remaining silent as anti-LGBTIQ+ laws spread is complicity. Inclusion must extend beyond borders.

4. What We Need: 5 Solutions

1. Institutionalise queer youth participation
2. Enforce hate crimes legislation
3. Inclusive education and affirming healthcare
4. Use foreign policy to defend rights
5. Fund grassroots-led safe spaces

5. What Reducing Inequality Means for LGBTIQ+ Youth

1. Access to public services without stigma
2. Protection under the law
3. Representation in decisions
4. Economic opportunity
5. Cultural and social acceptance

6. Recommendations to Parliament

- Mention LGBTIQ+ youth in policy
- Oversee law implementation
- Promote rights in diplomacy
- Fund inclusive education and shelters
- Champion civil society partners

7. Collective Responsibility

- Civil society must advocate
- Youth must lead
- Departments must collaborate
- Parliament must act
- All must uphold dignity and justice

In Closing

We have a choice: uphold the status quo or pursue real justice.

Let us not fail the youth who are watching.

The time to act is now. The responsibility is ours.