**Submission on behalf of HRD Coalition Uganda**

1. Please provide information on past/ongoing initiatives focusing on enforced disappearance in Africa.

**In Uganda ,there are demands and calls  by relatives of missing persons and political actors mainly the opposition for the state to account for 18 missing persons since the last elections held in uganda in 2021.its  been in public domain for so long and the pressure has been growing for the state to account for the same.Indications are that they are going to investigate since the opposition Members of parliament walked out and have boycotted partici[pating in the parliament until the matter is resolved or so.**

**There are also indications that the state has been secretly negotiating with families of missing persons to have a settlement out of court but this is not in the public domain and no official data is available to be quoted or so.**

1. Please elaborate on possible reasons for the low registration/reporting of cases of enforced disappearances in the region. Please provide information on whether families, human rights defenders, humanitarian workers, prosecution, judges and lawyers or persons in charge of investigations and search face reprisals, threats and harassment for their work and, if so, in which form (and how this could be prevented and mitigated).**It's a very sensitive subject  matter that only families of missing persons and opposition leaders have the guts to raise and amplify the voices of accountability.All this is due to fear oof reprisal from state actors. No human rights defender has the temerity to raise it without the data to indicate the specific persons missing and your sources would be a matter of concern by state actors.**
2. Could you please share experiences, good practices, lessons learned, emerging trends and specific features and potential solutions, in the context of the below themes and cross-cutting issues:
   * Enforced disappearances and elections; **This is where it all began, young people belonging to the opposition were found missing and nobody can account for them to date.Elections in Uganda in 2021 explains the phenomenon of enforced disappearances more than** anything else.
   * Other issues that you deem relevant for the African regional context.- **I don't understand how one expects a state to investigate itself on matters of enforced disappearances after an election. The perpetrators are state actors and are best suited to explain where they have placed these missing persons.Secondly, where there are no drug lords and drug related crimes, all enforced disappearances can only be attributed to state actors.**