

## Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms: 20 Years After Vienna

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**Presentation Title:** “Post-2015: Towards an agenda for structural transformation and a rights-based, just, accountable and sustainable paradigm of development”

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*The post-2015 development agenda will only be meaningful if it is universal and rooted in human rights norms. To be universal is to be sustainable economically, socially and environmentally.*

The presentation will be premised on the *universality, indivisibility, interdependence and inter-related* nature of all human rights and the idea that the “*human right to development*” also implies the full realization of the *right of peoples to self-determination*. Four key arguments will be advanced:

- i. Human rights, equality and non- discrimination principles ought to underpin the development agenda (clear normative frameworks already exist in this regard and as such there is no need to re-invent the wheel- the post-2015 development framework should draw from and build upon these);
- ii. There is an imperative to redress the structural hindrances to real developmental progress (such as: inequalities inducing, unfavourable macro-economic policies and other orthodoxies which limit the role of the state to deliver on its core duties and responsibilities etc.)
- iii. Workable accountability and financing strategies have to be built into the post-2015 development framework; and,
- iv. The need for a global economic and political environment conducive to stability, justice, equity and mutual accountability as the basis of new forms of partnerships.