NEWSLETTER

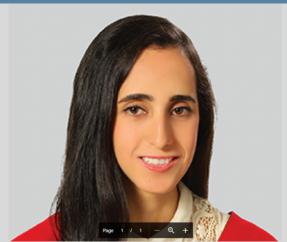




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Special Feature
Advocate of the Year 2024



Dr Rima Al Hasan

Assistant Dean of Quality Affairs, University of Jordan Chair, AlphaZULU Advocates Country Directors Forum

AlphaZULU Advocates specially celebrate Dr Rima Al Hasan as Advocate of the Year 2024. We recognise her dedication to the growth and success of the Global Advocates Network through which she committed over 150 voluntary hours leading peers, chairing meetings, coordinating country programme and representing at multilateral meetings. Follow here

FROM THE PRINCIPAL ADVOCATES' DESK: A DECADE OF THE PEOPLE



Dear Global Advocates and Colleagues,

If you are reading this, I warmly and happily welcome you to 2025. Accept my best wishes for a blessed, peaceful and plentiful year, and also my deepest thanks for being part of AlphaZULU Advocates' decade of advancing global sustainable development, human rights and civil society participation - our three focus areas. With your support, our baby steps have gained strength, direction and positive growth.

2024 was a challenging year for us. I had to make an important decision - a decision many leaders face at some point in the journey. Anxieties about ending our activities was heightened when a promising UK-based organisation which had been in operation for 15 years, delivering a great programme through which we trained our directors yearly, suddenly closed its doors due to the challenging funding climate. How I wept for them!

Moving on from the challenges of the past year, we had our small wins o: we grew in size; in the UK, our Child Appeals Service was successful in all Education Appeals we supported; and we signed up our first client to the Elderly Immigrant Service on International Migrants Day. These are small paralegal and advocacy support initiatives we are carrying out on the side and solely in the UK towards reducing inequalities and advancing human rights.

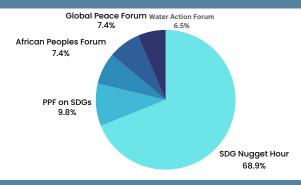
Now, I am stirring up my devotion and leveraging this amazing network of communities we have together built, and attendant resources, to develop a Global Advocacy Strategy 2025-2030 to shape and steer multi-partner activities around our three focus areas in the last trimester of the 2030 Agenda. If afterwards we close, then I rest. *Best, Elizabeth MM*



GROWING COMMUNITIES

In the last few years, we have concentrated our efforts on building the global SDG Nugget Hour Community which has been successful, but otherwise affected growth of our other equally important communities. This year, we will be giving focus to these communities and also building new ones. Relevant information will be shared via monthly newsletters.

As promised in the past year, we are also re-designing the website to give visibility to our Global Advocates and you can access our <u>Communities</u> (in progress). Global Advocates Messaging Boards will be created for different communities and SDGs to foster discussions and sharing.



UPCOMING EVENTS



The 30th Session of the Global SDG Nugget Hour will be held virtually on 25 January 2025. Interested speakers should indicate by completing the <u>Speaker Form</u> by January 20. Please ensure all sections of the forms are completed as required. We particularly recognise and thank colleagues who share link to Speaker Form and help us invite new speakers who bring meaningful contributions to the platform.

Follow our <u>events page</u> for other events to be updated.

CALL TO ACTION

Last year, we joined some global action days and particularly interesting for us were the 1st UN International Day of Play - June 11, and the 1st UN International Day for the Prevention of and Fight against All Forms of Transnational Organized Crime - November 15.

This year, we have identified 33 UN International Days that we would like to create call to action for. We will send out at least a week's notice for submissions.

We are now accepting submissions for January 24 - International Day of Education (Theme: Learning for Lasting Peace) and January 26 - Global Day of Clean Energy (Theme: TBA). Submissions should be in video format - MP4 and not longer than 20 seconds. Send to action@alphazuluadvocates.net with the specific international day in the subject line by January 20.

Global Advocates Fellowship 2025

Building on the purpose of and experience from our Country Director Programme in 2023-24, we hope to continue the programme with some changes.

We are also starting the Global Advocates Fellowship in June 2025. More information about this and link to apply will be shared in our February Newsletter.

Multilateral Meetings Delegation...Engaging Intergovernmental Processes

AlphaZULU Advocates has now received additional accreditations and actively participated in over 20 multilateral events, contributing to intergovernmental processes. This is an important aspect of our work and a great opportunity for our civil society advocates to gain global advocacy and diplomacy experience. We are currently seeking Global Advocates to join our Multilateral Meetings Delegation.

To help us improve delivery, Advocates interested in joining our Multilateral Meetings Delegation will subscribe annually. Members must also be able to self-sponsor their travel, accommodation, insurance and subsistence. This year we have a list of 30+ events through which we can accommodate 100 members. Out of the 30+ events, there will be opportunity to meet our Principal Advocate in-person at 7 events - Washington, New York, Vienna, Nice, Seville, Geneva and London.

Dates for virtual Multilateral Meetings Delegation Briefings have been set for January 23rd and May 29th. Please note that this **is only opened** to Advocates from our network of communities who request for Membership. Annual membership for 2025 is £250. Send requests to ammd@alphazuluadvocates.net

Other Information

Join us as an Advocacy Partner (Organisation only) in 2025 and have your organisational causes and fundraising activities spotlighted on our website and more. Annual Advocacy Partner fee - £1000

Share your latest resource via our website - book, research and report relevant to our focus areas - Sustainable Development Goals, human rights and civil society participation. (£100 - Annual), open to individual/organisation

We seek volunteers to train on, develop and implement Transnational Organized Crime Advocacy in their country, ASAP.

Partnership for strengthening global advocacy ... every little counts