

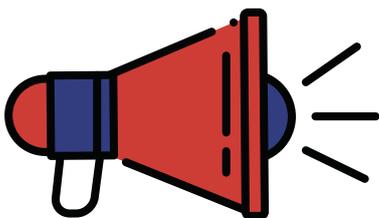


## AGM Highlights

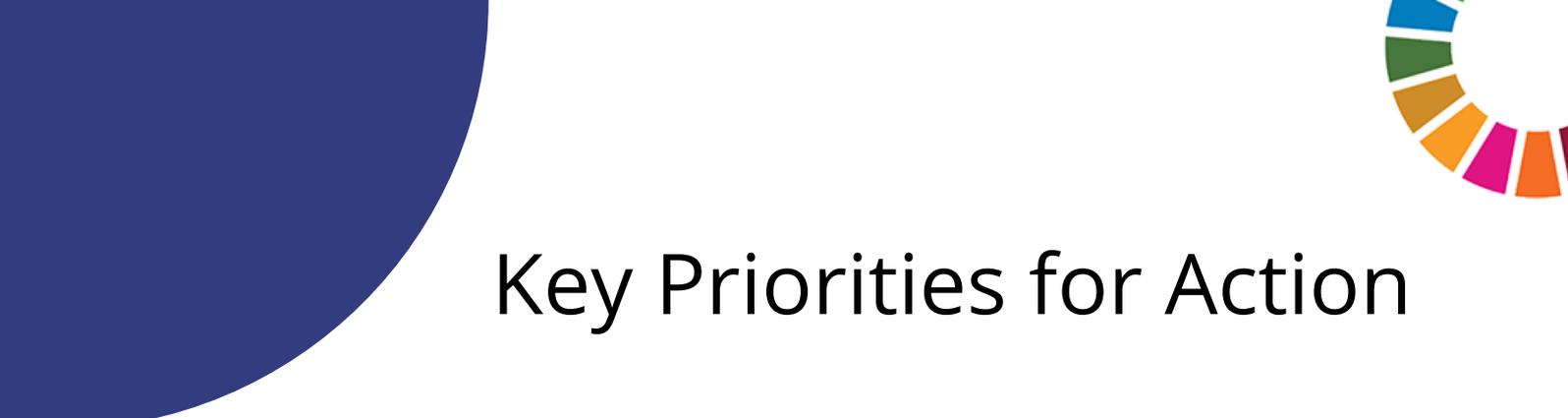
On 26 - 28 October 2021 members from the Commonwealth 8.7 Network gathered for their first ever Annual General Meeting. Over three days, members from around the world shared ideas and shaped the future of the Network. Thank you to everyone who attended!

60 people from across the Commonwealth attended regional workshops and thematic sessions on child rights, the impact of Covid-19, survivor support, and business and supply chains. Key milestones of this AGM included the adoption of a new three-year strategy for the Commonwealth 8.7 Network and ideas for action in the coming year.

**Building on the momentum of our AGM, we invite members to take action on the following opportunities:**



- **Subscribe to The 8.7 Quarterly Newsletter** - watch out for calls to contribute!
- **Reach out the Secretariat to share opportunities for joint advocacy.** Get in touch with Laura Bloom, CHRI's Legal Advocacy and Research Officer:  
[laura@humanrightsinitiative.org](mailto:laura@humanrightsinitiative.org)
- **Encourage organisations to apply** to join the 8.7 Network. [More information here.](#)



# Key Priorities for Action

1.

## **Enhance regional action and communication**

Members welcomed more frequent communication in their regions to enhance collaboration and build momentum on regional and national issues. Members explored various tools for active, ongoing dialogue.

## **Share good practices across thematic areas**

2.

Members shared their experiences of key issues in the thematic sessions. Members noted the value of being able to discuss successes and challenges, and encouraged sharing of good practice going forward.

3.

## **Create opportunities for meaningful survivor inclusion with space to contribute and lead**

The keynote address by Smarita Sengupta of Destiny Reflection highlighted the importance of meaningful inclusion and leadership of survivors. Members reaffirmed the importance of integrating survivor voices and experiences within their own work and within the work of the 8.7 Network.



4.

## **Promote legislation that highlights accountability**

The keynote address by Kevin Hyland, the UK's first independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, emphasised the importance of accountability, particularly of companies and large corporations complicit in forced labour within their supply chains. During the session on business and supply chains, members reaffirmed their commitment to promoting legislation that requires due diligence in supply chains.

## **Promote the 8.7 Network and build collective action**

5.

Members were keen to expand the 8.7 Network membership to include diverse sectors and stakeholders. They indicated the importance of promoting the network to help with this growth. Expanding the network will enable members to strengthen their collective voice and build momentum towards tangible change.

6.

## **Advocate strategically**

Members committed to collaborating around key issues, dates, and priorities at various scales to form a strong and coherent voice. Members suggested sharing their plans for advocacy with the Secretariat to leverage the reach of the 8.7 Network.