

# The Human Rights Framework

A human rights framework for the development and delivery of legislation, policy and practice incorporates the following six elements:

1. **identification of all relevant human rights involved**, and a balancing of rights, where necessary, to maximise respect for all rights and right-holders;
2. **the linking of decision-making at every level to human rights norms** at the international level as set out in the various human rights covenants and treaties;
3. **accountability** for actions and decisions, which allows individuals and groups to complain about decisions that affect them adversely;
4. **empowerment** of individuals and groups by allowing them to use rights as leverage for action and to legitimise their voice in decision-making;
5. an emphasis on the **participation** of individuals and groups in decision-making; and
6. **non-discrimination** among individuals and groups through equal enjoyment of rights and obligations by all.