The African Union

It succeeded the Organization of African Unity (OAU)
The AU is an intergovernmental organization with 53 member states

- It was established on 9 July 2002.
- The main objectives of the AU are:
  - to accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent.
  - to promote and defend African common positions.
  - to achieve peace and security in Africa.
  - and to promote democratic institutions, good governance and human rights.
The African Union member states are:

Following the Treaty relating to the establishment of the African Economic Community of 1991, the African Union has recognized eight Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as officially representative regional associations of African states.
Arab Maghreb Union (AMU)
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)
• East African Community (EAC)
• Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
• Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
• Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD)
• Southern African Development Community (SADC)

ECOWAS, EAC and SADC dispose of systems to promote and protect human rights.