SOUTH ASIAN
HUMAN RIGHTS
ASSOCIATION
OF MARGINALISED SEXUALITIES
AND GENDERS

SAHRA

Vision

SAHRA believes in the inherent right to dignity, security, equal opportunity and freedom of all people regardless of their sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions. It envisages a world where every LGBTI person enjoys the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and as expressed in the Yogyakarta Principles (www.yogyakartaprinciples.org).

Mission

SAHRA's mission is to protect, promote and fulfil the human rights of LGBTI persons and their defenders in South Asia by strengthening the impact and influence of organisations, advocates and movements working to advance the rights of LGBTI persons in the region; and by holding the States accountable to these rights.

SAHRA will work towards ensuring that LGBTI issues are integral to human rights and social justice in South Asia at regional, national and local levels. SAHRA believes that an enabling environment is fundamental to the realization of human rights.

The mandate of SAHRA will be: to document human rights violations of LGBTIs, to respond to these violations, to strongly advocate for all activities needed that will increase the recognition, protection and promotion of human rights.

In arriving at the scope and a full understanding of its mandate, SAHRA will be guided by the Yogyakarta Principles. An excerpt from the Introduction to the Principles follows:

"Human rights violations targeted toward persons because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity constitute a global and entrenched pattern of serious concern. They include extra-judicial killings, torture and ill treatment, sexual assault and rape, invasions of privacy, arbitrary detention, denial of employment and education opportunities, and serious discrimination in relation to the enjoyment of other human rights. These violations are often compounded by experiences of other forms of violence, hatred, discrimination and exclusion, such as those based on race, age, religion, disability, or economic, social or other status."