



ABOUT THIS BRIEFING

The NPRC Act & stakeholders response

On 5 January 2018, the Government gazetted the NPRC Act [Chapter 10:32] finally operationalising the NPRC, almost five years since the Constitution established the NPRC. NTJWG issued a Press Statement welcoming the Act and pointing out the weaknesses of the Act. Please read the full statement [here](#). Many stakeholders welcomed the Act and encouraged the NPRC to get down to work. Heal Zimbabwe issued a statement applauding the President for the Act. The statement by Heal Zimbabwe is available [here](#). The Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP) also issued a statement welcoming the Act. Please find the statement [here](#).

On 12 January, 2018 the NPRC addressed a Press Conference at Munhumutapa Building in Harare. Issues were raised at the Conference regarding the adequacy of the law, appointment of the Chairperson and the timeframe for the Commission. Commissioners did not seem to have much knowledge on the issue of the Chairperson and timeframe and noted that they had scheduled a meeting with Vice-President Mohadi to discuss the outstanding issues. On the adequacy of the law, Commissioner Masunungure said that the regulations will try to fill in the gaps. Please read our report of the press conference [here](#).

This update serves to provide a brief update for Stakeholders on the transitional justice developments in the country as well as activities of the NTJWG in the first quarter of 2018. This briefing covers the NPRC Act and the Next Steps, continuing dialogue on the transitional justice processes, NTJWG Stakeholders Conference, NTJWG Interface with the Special Advisor to the President, NTJWG interface with the NPRC, the Transitional Justice Archive, the NPRC Watch, the Guide to Understanding the NPRC, among other developments.

Continuing dialogue on Transitional Justice in Zimbabwe

On 9 January 2018, the NTJWG Secretariat did a radio interview on Star FM providing an analysis of the Act. Please listen to the interview [here](#). Please download the Act [here](#) and let us hear what you think.

On 24 January 2018, Zimbabwe's President, Emmerson Mnangagwa was interviewed in Davos, Switzerland by BBC's Mishal Husain at the World Economic Forum. Mnangagwa was

asked about the Gukurahundi atrocities. Mnangagwa said he will be ready to appear before the NPRC and apologise for past wrongs. He disputed the figures that about 20 000 people were killed in the Gukurahundi atrocities. Please watch the full interview [here](#).

On 11 February 2018, NTJWG Deputy Chairperson reflected in the Standard: Can the NPRC overcome a legacy of failed Commissions? Please read the full article [here](#).

NPRC What's Next Conference

On 7 February, 2018, NTJWG convened the NPRC What's Next' Conference to review the NPRC process and discuss strategies for engagement with Stakeholders. 36 organisations participated. Conference Outcomes were published in the Standards of 11 February, 2018. The summary of the outcomes is accessible [here](#).

Training for Peace Monitors

On 17 February, 2018, the Forum Secretariat partnered with ZPP and trained 13 Peace Monitors to monitor the NPRC process. Their reports contributed to the reports shared with the NPRC and to be shared in more detail, publicly.

NPRC Consultative Meetings

From 19 to 23 February, 2018, the NPRC held consultative meetings throughout the country to inform the public of its strategic planning process. The meetings were received with mixed feelings with some stakeholders expressing the view that the meetings lacked adequate preparation. NTJWG noted that the NPRC needed to hold on the roll-out until they had the regulations passed, full complement of the Commission's Secretariat. Some of the meetings were disrupted in Bulawayo, Lupane and Marondera. NTJWG noted that the public consultation meetings ended up being public hearings. A full report on the meetings will be shared separately.

Interface with the Special Advisor to the President on the NPRC

Following recommendations by the Stakeholders at the 7 February 2018 'What's Next' Conference, the NTJWG Chair met with Prof. Clever Nyathi, the Special Advisor to the President on the NPRC to share with him the outcomes of the Conference and the concerns of the Stakeholders, especially the issues regarding the 'let bygones be bygones mantra', the statements by the Vice President Mohadi on the role of traditional leaders and the conduct of the

Executive that seemed to compromise the independence of the NPRC. The full report of this engagement will be shared separately. You can read NTJWG statement on the utterances by V.P Mohadi [here](#).

Appointment of the NPRC Chairperson

On 1 March, 2018, President Emmerson Mnangagwa appointed Retired Justice Selo Nare as the Chairperson of the NPRC. NTJWG issued a statement welcoming his long awaited appointment and expressing hope that the NPRC Chairperson would give sound leadership not only to the NPRC, but to the nation.

Interface with the NPRC

On 15 March 2018, NTJWG met with the NPRC at their Harare offices. The meeting, which was chaired by Justice Nare, reflected on the NPRC so far and shared with the Commissioners recommendations of the NPRC 'What's Next Conference and observations by Peace Monitors from the NPRC public consultations. NTJWG highlighted concerns of Stakeholders with the inadequacy of the law, delay in the regulations, non-availability of human and material resources for the Commission and the involvement of the Executive in the affairs of the NPRC. The NPRC responded that work was in progress to adequately equip the NPRC to do its work. The NPRC informed NTJWG that regulations and policies would be released soon. A full report of this engagement will be shared soon.



International Day of Truth

On 24 March, 2018, NTJWG joined the world in commemorating the International Day of Truth concerning past human rights violations. In a statement published in the Standard of 25 March 2018, NTJWG called on the Government to show sincerity with the ongoing peace and reconciliation processes by publishing the reports of past commissions. The full statement is available [here](#).

NTJWG Archival Project

Following on a number of recommendations from Stakeholders, NTJWG has launched the Transitional Justice Archival Project. A reference group was established with representatives from all regions of the country. On 1 March, 2018, the reference group met in Harare to review the project asserts and policies. On 4 April 2018, the archival training and records survey started in Chinhoyi. The project aims to capacitate NTJWG stakeholders for purposive documentation and archival of all human rights records and create a central portal for easy collaboration and sharing of information.

Coming this Month

NPRC Watch - NTJWG will this month launch the 4th issue of the NPRC Watch with more detailed reports.

Guide to the NPRC – Following the enactment of the NPRC Act, NTJWG will be publishing the updated Guide to Understanding the NPRC.



**NATIONAL
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE
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