



June 2019



Stakeholders, Friends and Partners

In this Edition

There have been several transitional justice developments in the country in June. In this newsletter, we package these developments for you, so that you get the full picture of the transitional justice landscape in the country. We cover the general developments in the communities and the activities of the NPRC. We also share some of our activities and other global developments. We will feature the NTJWG editorial in which we zoom into the issues that we care about. We welcome your feedback.

IN THE NEWS

The NPRC Concludes its Outreach Programme

From 6 to 7 June 2019 the NPRC was in Bulawayo engaging stakeholders and sectoral groups identifying strategic priorities for 2019 such as public hearings for healing and reconciliation, adoption of mechanisms for early detection of conflicts, national dialogue facilitation, agreements on dates to set-up and members of peace committees.

This was the last of its outreach meetings, and they were highly participatory and engaging. This was immediately followed by the establishment of the Provincial Peace Committees.

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Widow of Slain CIO Boss Demands Justice

THE Zimbabwe Independent has reported that wife of killed Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) boss Peter Munetsi, who died in military detention during the November 2017 coup which ousted former president Robert Mugabe, Rossie, is demanding her late husband's postmortem report and US\$600 000.

Read the story here >

The NPRC Establishes Provincial Peace Committees (PPCs)

On 29 May 2019, the NPRC announced that it would be devolving its operations to Provinces by establishing Provincial Peace Committees beginning 31 May 2019 ending on 28 June 2019. The NPRC announced that the Provincial Peace Committees would be mandated to solve conflicts in their areas because a "one-size-fits all" approach has proved impractical. The programme commenced on 31 May 2019 and is expected to be concluded on 2 July 2019.



The purpose of the peace committees is to promote peace, tolerance building and strategic advice on potential conflicts and raise awareness about conflict indicators within the Province. At the time of reporting, nine Provincial Peace Committees (PPCs) had been set-up across nine Provinces in Zimbabwe.

The NPRC Secretariat

Some personnel of the Secretariat of the NPRC have been constituted. Out of the required staff establishment of 103, 32 were recruited by the end of 2018. The Executive Secretary and the other departmental staff are now in place, enabling the NPRC to roll-out its five-year strategic plan beginning 2019.

Although interviews have been completed for the 32 staff members, the NTJWG anticipates that 71 more should be recruited to fulfil its human resources requirements. Positions such as the Records, Accounting, Administration, Human Resources Officers and General Managers for Healing, Gender, Media, among others are now resourced. To get in touch with the Commission, anyone can visit their new offices currently located at:

Physical Address

7th Floor, First Mutual Building 99 Jason Moyo Avenue, Harare Tel: +263 (242) 792676-9, 792469, +263 (242) 792390, 791757

Government Refuses to Pay Damages

The Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum has published a list of 28 cases where the courts have awarded damages to victims of state violence. In awards range from three thousand dollars to about six million Zimbabwean dollars per individual. In the Anti-Impunity Update published in the Standard on 30 June 2019, the Forum said the State Liabilities Act was an obstacle to justice for many victims. Speaking at the launch of the Anti-Impunity Report: 2018, Public Interest Litigation Specialist at the Forum, Miss. Michelle Matsvaire said, "lack of political will to honour judgements was perpetuating impunity." She urged the state to ensure that it meets its obligations.

See The Forum's Anti Impunity Update >

NTJWG ACTIVITIES

Radio Programme on Skyz-Fm

On 7 June 2019, the NTJWG organised and participated in a radio programme on Skyz-Fm in Bulawayo from 3 to 4 pm. The topic for discussion was entitled "Implementation of Sustainable Transitional Justice Measures in Zimbabwe."

The programme featured Ms.Shari Eppel (Ukuthula Trust Director), Mr.P.T Nyathi (NTJWG

Deputy Chairperson) and Mrs.Nkiwane (CCJPZ). The discussion raised critical issues around the national transitional justice policy framework, exhumations and healing, truth-seeking and truth-telling in transitional justice issues processes in Zimbabwe. The NTJWG has published 'Guiding Principles for Transitional Justice Policy and Practice in Zimbabwe' available on the NTJWG website which addresses some of the issues raised in the radio programme. You can access this and other radio programmes here:

Radio Programmes >

NTJWG Publications

This month, the NTJWG has invested a lot in knowledge production and management with the publication of the survivors' participants and trainers manuals. The two publications are important in advancing survivors' knowledge and participation in national peace and reconciliation processes. Hard copies of the training kit are now available at the Forum offices. You can also visit our website for many other reports here:

NTJWG Publications >

NTJWG Executive Briefing

The NTJWG also presented the first Executive Briefing of the year to the Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Vice President Reverend Damasani on 20 June 2019. The briefing drew from the monitoring work done by NTJWG and the views obtained from stakeholders concerned with the national peace and reconciliation process in Zimbabwe. Of great significance is the reform of the security sector, follow-up on the establishment of the Independent Complaints Mechanism and follow-up on funding for the NPRC.

Executive Briefing >

Stakeholders in Action

There is a lot of work being done by stakeholders in the promotion of truth. In this edition, we report on the work being done by CITE based in Bulawayo. On 12 June 2019 CITE launched the 'January Shutdown Protests' Documentary at Rainbow Hotel. The documentary launch was

attended by delegates from the City of Bulawayo, traditional leaders, civil society and faith-based organisations.

Full Documentary is Available Here

Radio programme on Gukurahundi

On 19 June 2019 CITE organised a radio programme on Skyz-Metro Fm to discuss the Gukurahundi atrocities in Zimbabwe. The panellists were Dewa Mavhinga (Human Rights Watch Southern Africa Director) and Zenzele Ndebele (Founder and Director of CITE). The issues raised were the effects of the atrocities to individuals, families and the country at large and how the process should be resolved by accountability, truth-telling, truth-seeking and compensation of victims and survivors.

Around the World

On 19 December 2018, a series of demonstrations broke out in several Sudanese cities, due in part to rising costs of living and deterioration of economic conditions at all levels of society. The protests quickly turned from demands for urgent economic reforms into demands for President Omar al-Bashir to step down.

Since the ouster of Sudan's President, the situation in Sudan remains tense with reported attacks by the military on the civilians. So far the protests have claimed approximately 208 lives and has led to the arrest of more than 800 civilians. The African Union has moved to suspend Sudan from the African Union until the return to civilian rule. Civilians are continuing to hold night vigils and non-violent protests pushing for reforms and dismantling of military rule.



Upcoming Activities

The clock is ticking. In August 2019, the NTJWG will convene the Annual Stakeholders Conference. The concept and programme will soon be shared with stakeholders. The programme will feature special sessions that include:

- Breakfast with Our Guest of Honour whom we will announce soon,
- The Unbroken Silence Memory Tour,
- Movie Night where we would feature a special film from Sierra Leone that will move you to tears and inspire you to invest more in the work of healing.

Feedback and this Newsletter

Please share with us your feedback on the content that we have just shared with you. To view or download the newsletter online,





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