



NATIONAL
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE
WORKING GROUP
ZIMBABWE

Gender Committee Meeting Report Holiday Inn, Harare 30 October 2019

Introduction

On the 30th of October 2019 the Gender Committee had its inaugural meeting. The meeting was attended by representatives from Women's Institute *for* Leadership Development(WILD), Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association(ZWLA), Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe(PTUZ), Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ), Musasa Project and the Secretariat of the National Transitional Justice Working Group. The main objectives of the meeting were to:

- Review the NTJWG Strategy in line with the guiding principles on gender and transitional justice;
- Elect a thematic leader on gender and transitional justice;
- Formulate a plan of action for the committee as well as reviewing the Concept on Section 9 in Practice.



Summary of Proceedings

The meeting was kicked off by introductions by participants. Mr Dzikamai Bere then highlighted the NTJWG strategy briefly giving insight into the role that the Committee would need to play in the implementation of the strategy. In his presentation he highlighted that the main purpose of the gender committee is to influence transitional justice processes from a gender perspective. This was said to be necessary because so far there has not been a deliberate focus on the gender aspect of transitional justice. He then laid out the responsibilities of the thematic leader of the committee as:

1. Chairing meetings of the group;
2. Convening the four meetings of the committee each year;
3. Driving implementation of the committee strategy.

He then invited nominations of the thematic leader but the participants requested that there be a discussion on the NTJWG Strategy and the NTJWG guiding principles on gender and transitional justice. Farirai Sibanda then made a presentation on the strategy. She said there was need for the Gender Committee to locate its interventions within the NTJWG Strategy to further the vision of the NTJWG of integrating gender issues into all transitional justice processes. The meeting resolved that it is necessary to use the NTJWG coordination strategy to coordinate efforts and bring the gender aspects of transitional justice into focus. She then went on to make a presentation on the NTJWG key principles for giving a gender lens to transitional justice. The participants acknowledged that the presentation was comprehensive and gave them a good understanding of what was required of the committee and its thematic leader as well as the issues arising in transitional justice from a gender point of view.

The election process was the last session of the meeting and was led by Mr Dzikamai Bere who began by calling for nominations for the thematic leader. Only one nomination was made for Abigail Matsvayi from ZWLA to be the thematic leader. Participants agreed that the nomination was unanimous and no other name was brought forward. Abigail Matsvayi accepted the nomination and is now the thematic leader on Gender.



Outcomes of the Gender Committee Meeting

The gender committee meeting had the following outcomes:

- The NTJWG Strategy was reviewed in line with the guiding principles on gender and transitional justice;
- The thematic leader on gender was elected;
- An action plan was formulated.

