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NPRCWATCH

NEWSLETTER

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STAKEHOLDERS, FRIENDS AND PARTNERS

In this Edition

The month of August is always a difficult time for Zimbabwe. It is the same month in which at least six civilians were shot dead by the army following the demonstrations in the Harare CBD. Since then, things have not been the same. In this newsletter, we highlight so that you get the full picture of the transitional justice landscape in the country.

We cover the general developments in the country, work done by NTJWG stakeholders and the activities carried-out by the NPRC. We also share some of our activities. This month we are sharing with you our quarterly meeting, stakeholders' conference, survivors' training among other things. We welcome your feedback.



IN THE NEWS

NPRC ACTIVITIES

The NPRC Induction Workshop

From 7 to 10 August 2019, the NPRC conducted a 3 day induction workshop in Nyanga for its staff members to develop their capacity with regards to the mandate and strategy of the Commission. The training was attended by the old and new staff members who recently joined the ranks of the NPRC.

The NTJWG looks forward to the full list of the senior management in the NPRC's Secretariat that was promised to be shared with the public soon after the workshop.

The NPRC Statement on the Proposed Demonstrations by the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC)

Following the proposed demonstrations by the MDC from 16 to 24 August 2019 in Harare and other surrounding areas, the NPRC released a press statement imploring the MDC and other parties to exercise restraint and shun violence. The main concerns raised in the press statement were the statements made by ZANU-PF youths in retaliation to the purported demonstrations, the injuries sustained by women, children and the elderly during protests, the role of the police in curbing criminal activities during protests and engagements with relevant stakeholders to ensure that the protests were peaceful. However, the protests were eventually blocked by the police citing the possibility of violence.

The NPRC's Engagements with Community Representatives

On 14 August, 2019 the NPRC met with representatives of the Chitungwiza community led by Pastor Matyora who shared concerns and strategies on behalf of the community on how to prevent violence in the future, assist victims of past violence and how they can get healing and justice. The meeting was attended by seven people and the NTJWG looks forward to the implementation of the action points adopted at the end of the meeting.

The NPRC Hosts a Joint 3-Day Workshop on the Mandate of the NPRC

From 19 to 21 August, 2019 the NPRC, the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs and the Thematic Committee on Human Rights had a joint workshop in Bulawayo on the mandate of the NPRC. Issues such as apology for the Gukurahundi massacres, documentation for victims, strategic plan, implementation matrix, and consensus building programmes were discussed.

The NPRC's Workshop on Complaints Handling and Investigations

Following the recruitment of the Commission's staff, the NPRC old and new staff members underwent an upskilling workshop on complaints handling and investigations. This comes after a widespread call by citizens for the NPRC to expedite its complaints handling and investigations into gross human rights violations that have occurred in the past and recently. The NTJWG looks forward on how the Commission will be handling complaints submitted by victims and also how investigations will be done given the reports in the media of people, particularly women, whose rights were violated after the 1 August, 2019 protests and the #Zimbabweshutdown protests which occurred in January, 2019.



NTJWG ACTIVITIES

NTJWG Quarterly Meeting

On 28 August, 2019 the NTJWG met for the second time this year to evaluate its work done in the first quarter so that it is informed on how it should proceed into the third quarter. Other issues such as the election process of vacant NTJWG membership seats, the stakeholders' conference on 29 August, 2019 and the survivors' training on 30 August, 2019 were discussed. The meeting was attended by six NTJWG members and four members of the Forum Secretariat.

[The Full Report is Available Here](#) >

NTJWG Annual Stakeholders' Conference

On 29 August, 2019 the NTJWG hosted a Stakeholders' Conference at Cresta Lodge, Harare which was attended by seventy-one participants from the civil society and church leaders who formed the NTJWG and participate in its activities. Issues such as the strategy, vacant positions and representation of survivors in the Working Group were discussed.

[The Key Outcome of the Conference](#) >

NTJWG Survivors' Training on the Mandate of the NPRC

On 30 August, 2019 the NTJWG convened a workshop to train representatives of survivors to become focal points in Bulawayo, Matebeleland (North and South), Mashonaland (East and West), Manicaland, Masvingo and Midlands on how to utilize the training manual to know and participate in the work of the NPRC. This process will allow citizens to be active participants in the work of the NPRC, and to contribute, through the NTJWG, the NPRC's interventions by ensuring that they are victim centred.

[The Full Report is Available Here](#) >

NTJWG PUBLICATIONS

Annual Report: 2017 to 2018

In August, 2019 the NTJWG produced its annual report detailing the activities of the Working Group, its stakeholders and the NPRC implemented in the year 2017 to 2018. The report was launched at the NTJWG's Annual Stakeholders' Conference held on 29 August, 2019.

[The Full Report is Available Here](#) >

Stakeholders in Action

Under the banner of the Church Convergence, churches through their mother bodies such as the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, Zimbabwe Christian Alliance, Zimbabwe Divine Destiny, Evangelical Fellowship of Zimbabwe met at Regency Hotel in Gweru to pray for peace in Zimbabwe, to discuss unresolved transitional issues such as Gukurahundi, land issues, natural resources governance and how they can be resolved through an inclusive dialogue. The link to the proceedings is available here:

[The Proceedings are Available Here](#) >

Upcoming NTJWG Activities

In September, 2019 the NTJWG will roll-out survivors mapping, convene the Survivors' Support Group meeting, have 3 community dialogues on the Monitoring Framework and a workshop on mental health and transitional justice. Dates will be communicated as we proceed.

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 click:

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