



NATIONAL
TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE
WORKING GROUP
ZIMBABWE

NEWSLETTER

Transitional Justice Briefing – Feb to March 2019

The NTJWG consolidated the June–September, 2018 and October–December, 2018 Newsletters which are critical in informing Zimbabweans on the work of the NPRC and NTJWG. Newsletters are also a culmination to the NPRC Watch. They are available on the [NTJWG website](#). This newsletter highlights activities carried out between February and March 2019.

March 2019 Newsletter

NPRC Watch

The (National Transitional Justice Working Group) NTJWG produced the 5th and is in the process of producing the 6th and 7th Editions of the (National Peace and Reconciliation Commission's) NPRC Watch. These documents capture the work of the NPRC in particular and other transitional justice processes in general. These documents are available on the NTJWG website for review.

Stakeholders' Consultative and Feedback Meeting

20 Feb 2019

On the 20th of February, the NTJWG convened a meeting with stakeholders in Bulawayo to reflect on the work of the Working Group in 2018 and to also map the way forward for 2019.

The discussions were based on the real and perceived threats to transitional justice processes happening across the country and how the NTJWG can be organised to respond to these pertinent issues. The meeting was facilitated by Mr. Brian Kagoro and attended by 12 participants in total.

NTJWG Strategic Planning Retreat

21 – 22 February 2019

From the 21st to 22nd of February, the NTJWG in partnership with CSVR, met to develop the Working Group's strategic framework for 2019 and beyond, building on the momentum of the Transitional Justice Policy Symposium convened in November 2018, in Bulawayo. The draft report for the strategic planning meeting is now with the NTJWG members for review and is due for publication in April, 2019.

Radio programme on Skyz-FM in Bulawayo

22 February 2019

On the 22nd of February, the Working Group, with its stakeholders, had a radio programme on Skyz Metro FM, discussing on the national and regional transitional justice strategy for 2019. The program consisted of the 1st of August 2018 shooting and the January 2019 shutdown protests. It also popularised the NTJWG transitional justice advocacy strategy and linked it to the pending issues in the Matabeleland region. The conversation gave citizens an opportunity to input into the policy, making the process inclusive. Panellists were Rev. Motsi (NTJWG), Annah Moyo (CSVR) and Mthokozisi Ndebele (WILD Trust).

International Women's Day

8 March 2019

On the 8th of March, the NTJWG joined UN Women, ZWLA, ZCC and other stakeholders to discuss pertinent issues related to gender-based violence. The event which was held to commemorate International Women's Day was attended by 51 participants. During the meeting, it was agreed that there is need to use innovative techniques such as technology to pursue gender equality and to quell violence against women.





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The NTJWG Stakeholders' Consultative and Monitoring Meeting on the Work of the NPRC

13 March 2019

The NTJWG convened a meeting bringing together 30 stakeholders based in Masvingo on the 13 th of March, as a prelude to the NPRC-Survivors interface meeting on the 14 th of March. These activities were held so as to prepare the NTJWG to effectively engage the Commission and speak with one voice, identify areas that need improvement and map the way forward for 2019.



[WATCH FULL VIDEO HERE >>](#)

The NTJWG NPRC-Survivors Interface Meeting

14 March 2019

The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, in its capacity as the Secretariat of the National Transitional Justice Working Group (NTJWG) held a meeting with survivors who are victims of gross human rights violations on the 14 th of March in Masvingo. The meeting was held to increase interaction and collaboration between the NPRC and survivors. Even though the NPRC failed to come, it also gave the NTJWG an opportunity to reconnect with survivors in the Masvingo region. Survivors openly expressed their needs and concerns, and gave advice to the NTJWG on how to effectively engage communities and other survivors. 23 participants attended the interface meeting. The NTJWG is strengthening its victim-centred approach in its programming in the process of engaging survivors of past atrocities.

The Archival Project Review and Training Workshop

18 March 2019

Since 2018, the NTJWG has been developing a digital human rights archive which will enable all human rights stakeholders and survivors to readily access and upload data on human rights, transitional justice and conflict in Zimbabwe since 1980. The Working Group convened training on the 18 th of March for the Archival Reference Group so as to show them how to use this portal which will be a major source of information for national peace and reconciliation processes in the country. 12 participants from Harare, Masvingo, Mutare, Bulawayo, Gweru and Chinhoyi, attended the workshop.

The Transitional Justice Dialogue Series in Harare and Bulawayo

19 and 26 March, 2019

In March, 2019 the NTJWG launched the first of its transitional dialogue series which brought together players in transitional justice processes in Zimbabwe to input into the increased call for a national dialogue. The NTJWG aims to create coordinated and inclusive platforms which enables everyone to participate in the process and prevent the dialogue from becoming a gathering and a deal for the elite as history has shown. It is in this context that NTJWG convened 2 high level dialogue series on understanding the principles, processes and foundations for an effective and sustainable dialogue from an African experience. In Bulawayo, the event was held on the 19 th of March, while in Harare it was on the 26th of March.



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International Day of Truth Commemorations

28 March 2019

As NTJWG celebrated a number of its significant and notable advocacy milestones marking its 5 th Anniversary, it set aside the 28 th of March for reflection and strategic re-engagement with its partners. This coincided with commemorations of the International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Violation of Human Rights which is observed on 24 March of every year.

In the morning of 28 March, 2019 the NTJWG convened a strategic partners engagement with ten members from the donor community, 5 NTJWG members, 3 survivors and seven members from the Secretariat. The NTJWG exhibited six of its signature document products and its human rights archive to stakeholders which were well received.

Movie Night: Cinema of Truth

28 March 2019

In the evening of the 28 th of March, the NTJWG hosted a movie night at Eastgate Ster Kinekor in Harare in commemoration of the right to the truth. The documentary showcased the plight of women in situations of violent conflict who are often victims of sexual assault and rape. This was chosen in light of the sexual reports of women who were raped in Zimbabwe in the aftermath of the #ZimShutDown protests which the State curbed with armed violence.

The movie was followed by a panel discussion on the role of archives in truth-seeking and reconciliation. Panelists were Shari Eppel who is an expert in exhumation of victims of Gukurahundi, Patson Dzamara who is a human rights activist and Roselyn Hanzi who is an NTJWG Justice and Accountability thematic leader. The cinema of truth was attended by 64 participants representing CSOs, faith organizations, youth movements, among others.

WATCH FULL VIDEO HERE >>

UPCOMING EVENTS/ ACTIVITIES

Presser for Independence Day

NTJWG Website Migration.

Publication of the NPRC Watch: 6th and 7th Editions.

Publication of the Nambya 'Guide to Understanding the NPRC.

Presser for International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for for Peace

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Visit our offices on Suite 4, Number 1
Raleigh Street, Harare.
Call us on +263 770177/8

Email us on info@ntjwg.org.zw

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