



Fonds au Profit des Victimes
The Trust Fund for Victims



New TFV Board of Directors: Prioritizing Victim Survivors in International Justice

Press Release, 26 April 2016



Photo: TFV Board Members together with H.E. Sidiki Kaba, President of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP), and ICC officials attending the 14th TFV Annual Board of Directors Meeting in The Hague

From left to right: Alma Taso-Deljkovic (Board), Felipe Michelini (Board), Herman von Hebel (Registrar), Baroness Arminka Helić (Board), H.E. Sidiki Kaba, (President of the ASP), Motoo Noguchi (Chair), H.E. Judge Fernández de Gurmendi (ICC President), Shamila Batohi (Senior Legal Advisor and Head of the Legal Advisory Section Office of the Prosecutor)

The 14th Annual TFV Board of Directors Meeting took place in The Hague from 18 – 21 April 2016. They reaffirmed the TFV's mission to respond to harm, support victims in regaining dignity, hope and leading their lives to the full again, making justice a reality for victim survivors.

The Board re-elected Motoo Noguchi as Chair for the next three years. Mr. Noguchi noted, "The new Board discussed vigorously how the TFV can continue to achieve tangible results despite the constraint of resources and other challenges. We are aware of the very long waiting time for victims in needs and will do our best on our part to start reparations programs without further delay, while strengthening programs under the assistance mandate. We think we must take action and make a difference." The Board members underlined that behind the headlines of the Court's decisions and judgments, there are real people who have been harmed by the most heinous crimes of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes. The Trust Fund for Victims makes a real difference on the ground in the lives of people and deserves full support so it can expand its work.

Following engagements with various parties including H.E. Sidiki Kaba, President of the Assembly of States Parties (ASP), ICC Principals, Committee Budget and Finance (CBF), and civil society colleagues, the Board underlined the need for collaborative partnership between the TFV and the ICC to ensure that victims have access to legally sound and operationally viable reparations. The visit of Ms. Angelina Jolie Pitt with the TFV Board and Secretariat as well as with the Court's Principals on 20 April highlighted the importance of putting victim survivors at the centre of international justice.

The Board committed to strengthening the global public awareness of the TFV, expressing a strong need to make the Trust Fund's values and achievements known to both public and private donors. Furthermore, the Board's noted the unique footprint of the TFV's assistance mandate in ICC situations, going beyond the scope of judicial proceedings and reaching over 180,000 direct and indirect victims in northern Uganda and DRC. Considering the responsibility of States to care for victimized populations, the Board will vigorously explore expanding assistance mandate activities in other ICC situation countries. This was discussed in meetings with

civil society organizations including the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC), Parliamentarians for Global Action, and Human Rights Watch.

The current structure of the TFV provides a minimum capability to provide assistance and reparations. The Board considers 2016 to be transition year of rebuilding and fulfilling ambitions for further development that requires support from States Parties.

The Board members were invited to participate in the inauguration ceremony of the ICC premises as well as in an expert seminar on the ICC held at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the seminar, both Motoo Noguchi (Chair) and Elisabeth Rehn (former Chair) advocated that it is time for victim survivors concerns to move from the fringe to the center stage in the Rome Statute system.

The list of decisions of the Board meeting will be published soon on the TFV website.

TFV Board of Directors

Mr. Motoo Noguchi (Chair) (Japan, representing the Asian States),
 Baroness Arminka Helić (UK, representing Western European and Other States),
 Mr. Felipe Michelini (Uruguay, representing the Americas and Caribbean State),
 Ms. Alma Taso-Deljkovic (Bosnia Herzegovina, representing Eastern European States),
 Ms. Mama Koité Doumbia (Mali, representing African States)

Mr. Pieter de Baan, TFV Executive Director

For more information contact: Moureen Lamonge at +31 70 515 8013 or trust.fund@icc-cpi.int
 Please visit www.trustfundforvictims.org

Background: Trust Fund for Victims (TFV)

In 2002, the Rome Statute came into effect and the Assembly of States Parties established the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) to benefit victims of crimes and their families within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC). These crimes are genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes – and in the future, crimes of aggression.

With the unique roles of implementing both Court-ordered and general assistance to victims of crimes under the ICC’s jurisdiction, TFV offers key advantages for promoting lasting peace, reconciliation, and wellbeing in war-torn societies. The TFV fulfils two mandates:

1. **Reparations:** implementing Court-ordered reparations awards against a convicted person when directed by the Court to do so.

TFV BY NUMBERS	
59,695 direct beneficiaries from DRC & Uganda projects, Oct 2014–June 2015	126,703 indirect beneficiaries from DRC & Uganda projects, Oct 2014–June 2015
31 total implementing partners in DRC and Uganda 2008-2015	34 donor countries to date
A total contribution of €2.9 million received in 2015 from states parties	€8,000 received in 2015 from individual contributions
€4.8 million reserved for reparations	€1 million reserved for Lubanga reparations order
€5.5 million earmarked to SGBV projects since 2008	
€12,7 million available resources as of March 2016, and €700,000 unobligated for programmes	

2. **General Assistance:** using voluntary contributions from donors to provide victims survivors and their families in situations where the Court is active with physical rehabilitation, material support, and/or psychological rehabilitation.

The assistance mandate of the TFV is distinct from reparations before the ICC or the payment of compensation to victims. The TFV assistance programme provides a broad range of medical and psychological rehabilitation services for injured and traumatized victims.

Since 2008 the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) has been delivering assistance and rehabilitation to victims under the assistance mandate across 18 districts in Northern Uganda, and 3 provinces in Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, by providing the physical, psychological, or material needs of the often forgotten survivors. The TFV works closely with NGOs, community groups, women's grassroots organizations, governments, and UN agencies at local, national, and international levels.

Assistance Mandate

Under the assistance mandate, the TFV may provide **three forms of support:**

Physical rehabilitation: include reconstructive and general surgery, bullet and bomb fragment removal, prosthetic and orthopedic devices, and referrals to medical services for victims of sexual violence.

Psychological rehabilitation: addresses the individual psychological consequences and trauma arising from war, conflict, sexual violence, and other crimes. TFV is also promoting healing at affected communities to reduce stigmatization of victim survivors and promote a greater sense of trust, shared responsibility, and peaceful coexistence among community members.

Material support is provided to improve the economic status of victim survivors through education, economic development, rebuilding of community infrastructure, support for village savings and loans, and creation of employment opportunities.

There are currently 10 situations before the ICC, in *Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Darfur (Sudan), Central African Republic (CAR) I and II, Kenya, Libya, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali and Georgia*, which means that, with your help, the TFV can assist thousands of victims who come under the jurisdiction of the Court.

A short video on the activities of the Trust Fund for Victims can be viewed at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ho_fEiZ3ark