

Public Announcement on the Decisions taken by the Seventh Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims from July to December 2022

The seventh Board of Directors (Board) of the Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) at the International Criminal Court (ICC) has continued its engagement to improve the governance of the TFV, the visibility of the TFV's work and expertise and the level of the TFV's funding through voluntary contributions of States.

From July 2022 until December 2022, the TFV Board held five remote meetings and one in-person meeting in The Hague. In addition, the TFV Board continued throughout this period its engagement in the selection process for the post of the Executive Director.

The list of decisions should be read and considered in conjunction with the public version of the [TFV Management Brief Q3 and Q4 2022](#).

Governance

Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Assembly of States Parties

An amendment to the Omnibus resolution, proposed by Ireland and adopted by the Assembly of States Parties (ASP), clarifies that States Parties consider the TFV to have an essential role for the Rome Statute system. The preamble of [Resolution ICC-ASP/21/Res.2](#) on Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Assembly of States Parties now emphasizes,

the essential role of the Trust Fund for Victims to help make the Court's justice a reality for victims through designing and implementing reparative programmes and complementing the convicted persons' payment of reparations awards.

Leadership transition

Upon agreement between the Board of Directors, the Executive Director, and the Registrar, Mr Pieter de Baan concluded his mandate as Executive Director on 31 August 2022. As agreed with the Board, Ms Franziska Eckelmanns, Legal Adviser and Deputy to the Executive Director assumed on 1 September 2022 the role of Acting Executive Director during the interim period until the new TFV Executive Director is in place. The Board of Directors conducted throughout 2022 the recruitment procedure for the post of Executive Director.

Amendment of the TFV Regulations

The Board of Directors, upon seeking the advice of the Registrar, proposed [an amendment to the Regulation 17 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims](#) (ICC-ASP/21/Res.2, Annex 5) to ensure tenure and an performance appraisal system of the Executive Director, which was adopted by the Assembly of States Parties (ASP) in December 2022. The amended provision regulation 17 of the Regulations of the Court reads:

17. The Secretariat, established in accordance with Resolution of the Assembly of States Parties ICC-ASP/3/Res.7 shall provide such assistance as necessary for the proper functioning of the Board of Directors in carrying out its tasks. The Secretariat shall be headed by an Executive Director selected by the Board of Directors and appointed by the Registrar.

17bis The Executive Director's term of office shall not exceed seven years, with an initial appointment period of one year and two subsequent extensions of three years each, provided that there is a continuing need for the post and that his or her performance meets a satisfactory level. The Board of Directors shall inform the Registrar on the outcome of their assessment regarding any extension of the appointment at least six months before its expiration.

17ter The performance of the Executive Director is subject to an annual evaluation by the Board of Directors, which will also inform the extension of the appointment of the Executive Director referred to in regulation *17bis*.

17quater Unless otherwise inconsistent with the present mandate, the appointment and conditions of employment of the Executive Director shall be in accordance with the Staff Regulations and Rules and relevant administrative issuances of the Court.

17quinquies In their work, the Executive Director shall be guided by the terms of the Delegation of Authority issued by the Board of Directors, which shall be re-evaluated by the Board of Directors at least every four years.

TFV Draft Strategic Plan 2023 – 2025

The Board of Directors preliminarily approved in October 2022 the TFV Draft Strategic Plan 2023-2025. The Strategic Plan was informed both by the outcome of the assessment of the TFV-relevant IER recommendations and consultations with donors. The Strategic Plan is built on the basis that the ICC and TFV together form the pillar of reparative justice of the Rome Statute system. The focus for the next strategic period lies on increasing the TFV's visibility about its programmes and its expertise, on raising additional and adequate funds and on strengthening its governance and efficiency.

Outcomes for the development of fundraising and acquisition strategies were presented to the Board in July 2022 and at the end of 2022 respectively by the fundraising consultant Prof. Mirjam van Reisen. The Board agreed that active steps be undertaken to address the European Commission and United Nations with the goal of raising awareness about the TFV's activities.

As part of the development of the TFV Draft Strategic Plan 2023 – 2025, the TFV developed its programme-wide monitoring system, called Performance Monitoring Plan as well as a Theory of Change including with key performance indicators.

In November 2022, the TFV Draft Strategic Plan for 2023-2025 was disseminated together with the Draft Strategic Plans 2023-2025 for the Court, the Registry and the Office of the Prosecutor to States Parties and civil society for their comments by 31 January 2023.

Reparations:

In the *Lubanga* case, the TFV Board of Directors, through Board member Andres Parmas, adopted 1,132 administrative decisions on eligibility for collective reparations in *Lubanga*. The total number of beneficiaries in this case is 2,467, including direct victims (former child soldiers) as well as indirect victims (e.g. family members). A total of 1,042 victims benefitted between August 2021 and the end of 2022 from collective-service based reparations as part of the Lubanga programme.

In the *Al Mahdi* case, in 2022, the Board of Directors, through TFV Board Vice-Chair Ibrahim Yillah, took 237 administrative decisions on eligibility for individual reparations. 191 individuals received reparation awards in the form of compensation/symbolic compensation over the course of 2022. Between October and December 2022, 378 individual applications were transmitted to the TFV for eligibility determinations.

Fund management and resource development

Financial Statements 2021

The external auditor of the TFV and the ICC provided an unmodified opinion on the TFV's financial statement of the financial year 2021. Read further [Financial statements of the Trust Fund for Victims for the year ended 31 December 2021](#).

Regular Budget (Major Programme VI)

[In December 2022, the Assembly of States Parties approved the TFV Secretariat budget \(Major Programme VI\) for 2023](#), as recommended by the Committee on Budget and Finance, a total budget of €3,889,100, an increase of €661,900 (or 20.5 per cent) compared to the 2022 approved budget. The Chair of the Board, together with the Acting Executive Director, addressed the CBF in September 2022.

Voluntary contributions

The TFV wishes to express its gratitude for the contributions of €3,817,246 from 32 States Parties and €16,017 from private donations received in 2022.

For programme funding and planning purposes, it should be noted that of the EUR 3,817,246 contributions received from State Parties, 55.4 per cent of the funds were received during the last quarter of the year, particularly during December 2022 and 7.9 per cent of the funds were received in January 2023.

The TFV raised €1,180,000 in earmarked contribution to reparations (including cases) in 2022, an increase of over €450,000 from 2021. The TFV received an increased earmarked contribution to support survivors of sexual and gender-based violence from over €400,000 in 2021 to a total of €533,310 in 2022.

In October 2022, the Board approved the proposed re-allocations for the Incidental Programme Costs (IPC) 2023 while maintaining the total provision at the same level of 2022, distributed over situational assessments, monitoring and evaluation, fundraising and visibility and partnership and reparations.

“Financial data in the Public Announcement are not audited and might be subject to adjustments”

Engagement:

Throughout the second half of 2022, the Board members engaged at every occasion with Court and state representatives to speak about changes in governance and enhance the TFV's visibility.

On 1 July, the TFV Board Chair attended the high-level conference "[The ICC at 20: Reflections on the past, present and future](#)" in The Hague organised by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to mark the institution's 20th anniversary.

On 6 July, following on from the symbolic and individual reparations, [the TFV and its partners launched the collective reparations programme for Timbuktu in the Ahmad Al Faqi Al Mahdi case](#), in the presence of the city and regional authorities. Participants included the Representative of Mali to the ICC, Representatives of Canada and Norway, TFV Board Vice-Chair, the Mayor and Governor of Timbuktu, and TFV Implementing Partners like CFOGRAD, UNESCO and CIDEAL.

A [Joint Monitoring Visit to Uganda \(13 – 18 September\)](#) was organised by the TFV and the Embassy of Ireland in The Hague and the Embassy of Ireland in Kampala. Board Chair and Board Members Mr Kevin Kelly and Mr Andres Parmas participated in person. The delegation consisted of 64 individuals comprised of ambassadors and representatives of 14 States including the European Union and the President of the Assembly of States Parties. Following the mission, participating delegates and the TFV led by Ireland produced a report for this mission, including their observations and recommendations to the government of Uganda, TFV and States Parties to strengthen partnerships and collaboration.

On 19 September 2022, the Chair of the Board addressed, together with the Acting Executive Director, the Committee on Budget and Finance, presenting the TFV's proposed budget for 2023. In the ensuing days, she met with heads of organs and Court officials and, in particular, held meetings with many different sections of the Registry to increase cooperation and understanding between the TFV and the Registry.

On 28 September 2022, Board member Kevin Kelly addressed, together with the Acting Executive Director, The Hague-based diplomats of the WEOG group at a remote session, calling for voluntary contributions, speaking about the Uganda mission and the status of TFV governance changes and programmes.

In October 2022, Vice-Chair Ibrahim Sorie Yillah held a speech on challenges in relation to outreach at the Nuremberg Forum organized by the Nuremberg Academy on *The International Criminal Court 2002-2022: A Court in Practice*.

Minou Tavárez Mirabal, the Chair of the Board, spoke on behalf of the TFV on the lessons learned from the recommendations of the Independent Expert Review at the conference on the universal ratification of the Rome Statute organized by Parliamentarians for Global Action in November 2022 in Argentina.

On 14 November 2022, Board member Andres Parmas, together with the Acting Executive Director, addressed The Hague-based diplomats of the Eastern European Group of States to ask for voluntary contributions and speak about the status of TFV programmes.

In November 2022, [ICC President and the TFV Acting Executive Director visited Central African Republic](#) to witness Court's work on the ground, including the assistance programme of the TFV aimed at redressing harm suffered by victims of Rome Statute crimes. While in Côte d'Ivoire, the TFV organised [two symbolic ceremonies in the presence of the Minister of National Reconciliation and Cohesion in Duékoué](#). In addition, the programmes in the Democratic Republic of the Congo gained visibility through the [mission of the Acting Executive Director together with Ambassadors of Canada, Netherlands and Senegal from Kinshasa](#).

The TFV joined the United Nations 16 Days of Activism to end Violence against Women and Girls, and organised on 2 December 2022 a virtual event, chaired by the Board Chair, which focused on emphasizing on the urgency to end violence against women and girls, titled "Supporting women and girls, who have born children as a result of sexual violence in conflict". Ms Virginia Gamba, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict provided her support to the TFV through video recording.

On 5 December 2022, Minou Tavárez Mirabal, the Chair of the Board, [addressed](#) the ASP at the opening of the 21st session of the ASP, on the basis of the [Report on the TFV's activities](#) (ICC-ASP/21/14).

During the 21st session of the Assembly of States Parties, the Board engaged with many States representatives and participated in two TFV co-hosted side-events and a reception: on 5 December 2022, "Realising reparative justice for victims of international crimes: impact, results, reflections, and what more states can do", co-hosted by Finland, Germany and Sweden and the TFV. The second side-event was held on 6 December 2022 titled, "Making reparative justice a reality:

monitoring visit to Northern Uganda and the future of the Trust Fund for Victims”. This second event was co-hosted by the Estonia, Belgium, Ireland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Uganda and the TFV.

Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for Victims

Minou Tavárez Mirabal (Dominican Republic, Latin American and Caribbean States) – Chair

Ibrahim Sorie Yillah (Sierra Leone, African States) – Vice-Chair

Sheikh Mohammed Belal (Bangladesh, Asian States)

Andres Parmas (Estonia, Eastern European and Other States)

Kevin Kelly (Ireland, Western European and Other States)

ICC

Peter Lewis, Registrar

Secretariat of the Trust Fund for Victims

Pieter de Baan, Executive Director (until 31 August 2022); Adviser to the Board of Directors (1 September 2022-15 June 2023)

Franziska Eckelmans, Acting Executive Director (1 September 2022 – 31 April 2023)

For more information about the Trust Fund for Victims, please contact: trustfundforvictims@icc-cpi.int or visit: www.trustfundforvictims.org