

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-02/04

Date: 11 September 2025

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER III

Before: Judge Althea Violet Alexis-Windsor, Presiding Judge
Judge Iulia Antoanella Motoc
Judge Haykel Ben Mahfoudh

SITUATION IN UGANDA

Public

**Fortieth Periodic Report of the Registry on Applications Received by the Victims
Participation and Reparations Section in the Situation in Uganda**

Source: Registry

Document to be notified in accordance with regulation 31 of the *Regulations of the Court* to:

☒ The Office of the Prosecutor

☐ Counsel for the Defence

☒ Legal Representatives of the Victims

V40 Ongwen LRV Team

V49 Kony LRV Team

☐ Legal Representatives of the Applicants

☐ Unrepresented Victims

☐ Unrepresented Applicants
(Participation/Reparation)

☒ The Office of Public Counsel for Victims

☐ The Office of Public Counsel for the Defence

☐ States' Representatives

☐ Amicus Curiae

REGISTRY

Registrar

M. Zavala Giler, Osvaldo

☐ Counsel Support Section

☐ Victims and Witnesses Unit

☐ Detention Section

☒ Victims Participation and
Reparations Section

☒ Other

Trust Fund for Victims

Public Information and Outreach Section

I. Introduction

1. On 12 March 2012, the Single Judge of Pre-Trial Chamber II (in its previous composition) ordered the Victims Participation and Reparations Section (“VPRS”), following the submission of a comprehensive report on the *status quo* of all victim applications for participation in proceedings received in the Situation in Uganda (“Situation”),¹ to submit every four months a periodic report on further applications received and progress made by the VPRS on their assessment under rule 85 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.² The Registry hereby submits its fortieth periodic report in the Situation, covering the period from 10 May to 10 September 2025.

II. Applicable Law

2. The Registry submits the present report in accordance with article 68(1) and (3) of the Rome Statute, rules 16(1) and 89(1) of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence and regulation 86 of the Regulations of the Court.

III. Submissions

A. Status of applications

3. To date, 7,581 victims have submitted to the Registry application forms for participation and/or reparations in the Situation and the related cases.³

¹ Registry, “Comprehensive report on the *status quo* of all applications received in the Situation in Uganda and on other aspects related to victims' applications for participation in the proceedings”, 11 May 2012, ICC-02/04-193.

² Pre-Trial Chamber II, “Decision on Victim’s Participation in Proceedings Related to the Situation in Uganda”, dated 9 March 2012 and notified on 12 March 2012, ICC-02/04-191, para. 31.

³ This number does not include the victim applications that have not yet been registered in the VPRS database. Out of the 7,581 victims, 3,861 are participating in the *Ongwen* proceedings and were also registered in the *Kony* case, following the notification to the VPRS of their expressed consent to participate in both cases. In addition, since the last periodic report, the Registry received and registered 1,133 new applications for participation and/or reparations in the *Kony* case and 289 new applications for reparations in the *Ongwen* case. Additional forms were received but have not yet been registered.

4. In the case of *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen* (“Ongwen case”), currently at the reparations stage,⁴ there are 4,096 participating victims.⁵ During the reporting period, the VPRS continued its victim assessments for reparations, receiving 289 applications from newly identified beneficiaries⁶ and transmitting to the Trust Fund for Victims (“TFV”) information on 1,671 victims assessed to be eligible for reparations.⁷
5. In the case of *The Prosecutor v. Joseph Kony* (“Kony case”) Pre-Trial Chamber III authorised 5,795 victims to participate in the current stage of the proceedings.⁸

B. Activities undertaken by the VPRS during the reporting period

6. During the reporting period, the VPRS continued its field activities, which included conducting information sessions for victims, training activities for intermediaries and field clerks, holding stakeholder meetings, identifying victims and survivors, assisting victims with the completion of application forms, facilitating access to identification documents, and collecting supplementary information.
7. In May 2025, the VPRS trained field clerks, deployed across affected districts, in the use of KoboToolBox on mobile devices.⁹ As part of their introduction to local leaders and victims communities, the field clerks conducted information sessions to explain the scope of the *Kony* case and clarify eligibility for

⁴ Trial Chamber IX, “Reparations Order”, 28 February 2024, ICC-02/04-01/15-2074 (“Reparations Order”). The *Ongwen* case was referred to Trial Chamber II on 12 March 2024. Presidency, “Decision assigning judges to divisions and recomposing Chambers”, dated 12 March 2024 and notified on 13 March 2024, ICC-02/04-01/15-2079.

⁵ Trial Chamber IX, “Decision on the Registry Additional Information on Victims”, 16 December 2022, ICC-02/04-01/15-2024, para. 18 and footnote 37.

⁶ This number does not include victim applications received in the field and not yet registered in the headquarters.

⁷ Emails from VPRS to TFV, 18 June 2025 at 11:44, 16 July 2025 at 9:38 and 27 August at 11:28. This includes 1,655 victims who participated in the *Ongwen* proceedings and 16 that were newly identified.

⁸ Pre-Trial Chamber III, “Decision on victim applications for participation in the proceedings”, 12 August 2025, ICC-02/04-01/05-624.

⁹ KoboToolBox is a tool for digital data collection, especially in challenging environments with limited internet access. It allows the collection of data *via* mobile devices online or offline. In Uganda, it is used to collect victims application forms for participation in the *Kony* case and reparations in the *Ongwen* case. (See International Organization for Migration, *KoBo Toolbox User Guide*, Dec. 2022, https://emergencymanual.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd11956/files/2022-12/kobo_user_guide.pdf.)

reparations in the *Ongwen* case. Working together with VPRS intermediaries, they also supported the identification of eligible victims.

8. In June 2025 and July 2025, activities focused on reaching victims from the four regions – Acholi, Lango, Teso and West Nile regions – and particularly on victims and survivors of thematic crimes.¹⁰ These victims had previously submitted applications for participation in the proceedings between 2006 and 2015, and were considered within the scope of the *Kony* case. Activities included providing updated information on the *Kony* case proceedings, obtaining informed consent from those willing to participate in the *Kony* case as well as collecting supplementary information required to complete their respective applications. While the VPRS successfully collected consent and additional information from 111 victims, it faced various challenges. Specifically, many victims had relocated, some were deceased and others lacked identification documents such as the national identity card.
9. The VPRS facilitated the completion of victim applications for participation in the *Kony* case and reparations in the *Ongwen* case, using the newly developed household form *via* KoboToolBox. The launch of the registration process was met with appreciation from the communities and local leaders who had long anticipated this process. However, concerns were raised by many victims who fall outside of the scope of the *Ongwen* and *Kony* cases. The VPRS also notes the long-lasting challenges faced by children born of war, many of whom remain without identity document while they are in the process of securing official documentation. Finally, the VPRS notes that the victims are geographically scattered requiring additional outreach efforts and increased financial resources to ensure comprehensive support.
10. In commemoration of the International Criminal Justice Day, the Registry and the Trust Fund for Victims (“TFV”) organised a joint stakeholders meeting for

¹⁰ Thematic crimes include sexual and gender-based crimes as well as the crime of conscripting children under the age of 15 and using them to participate actively in hostilities in the *Ongwen* case. In the *Kony* case, these include age and gender-based crimes.

the local leaders, civil society organisations and victims about the relevant provision of the Rome Statute as well as the functions and mandates of the VPRS, the Public Information and Outreach Section and the TFV. The discussion addressed the scope of the Uganda cases, concerns about the reparations process such as the accurate identification of victims, issues with deceased and/or missing victims as well as the limited timeframe to complete victim application for participation and reparations.



Marc Dubuisson, Director, Division of Judicial Services
on behalf of
Osvaldo Zavala Giler, Registrar

Dated this 11 September 2025

At The Hague, The Netherlands