

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

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No.: ICC-02/04
Date: **12 January 2026**

PRE-TRIAL CHAMBER III

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

SITUATION IN UGANDA

Public

**Forty-First 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 forty-first periodic report in the Situation, covering the period from 9 September 2025 to 9 January 2026.

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, approximately 11,000 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 victim applications that have not yet been registered in the VPRS database. Since the last periodic report, the Registry received and registered 470 new application forms for participation and/or reparations (154 individual forms and 316 household forms) in the *Kony* case and 771 new application forms for reparations (310 individual forms and 461 household forms) in the *Ongwen* case. Additional forms were collected in the field office, but have not yet been received in the headquarters.

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 771 application forms from newly identified beneficiaries⁶ and transmitting to the Trust Fund for Victims (“TFV”) information on 940 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 conducting information sessions for victims, training intermediaries and field clerks, engaging in 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 the context of the *Kony* case, on 9 and 10 September 2025, the VPRS, in collaboration with the Public Information and Outreach Section (“PIOS”), organised and facilitated community screenings of the *in absentia* confirmation of charges hearing against Mr Kony. The VPRS facilitated and attended screenings in the Teso sub-region, including at the Lwala Girls School, and in the Lango sub-region, in Lira City and Abia. Victim communities attended the screenings in large numbers. Many participants expressed satisfaction at

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, 17 September 2025 at 10:33, 15 October 2025 at 14:48, 19 November 2025 at 11:04 and 17 December 2025 at 11:04. This includes 758 victims who participated in the *Ongwen* proceedings and 182 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.

hearing that their locations and the crimes committed there were reflected in the charges, viewing it as a recognition of their suffering. For some, the proceedings reopened painful memories. Overall, victims conveyed continued hope that Mr Kony will ultimately be held accountable. Participants expressed appreciation for the 5,795 victims who were granted participating status and voiced the expectation that additional victims may be considered should Mr Kony be arrested and brought before the Court.

8. On 30 September 2025, following the issuance of the Decision on victim applications for participation in the Kony case,⁹ the VPRS conducted an information session in Bangui, organised jointly with PIOS and the TFV. The purpose of the session was to clarify the scope of the Kony case with respect to crimes allegedly committed by the Lord's Resistance Army ("LRA") in the Central African Republic ("CAR"). During the session, the VPRS explained that crimes attributed to the LRA outside the territory of Uganda, as well as crimes committed within Uganda after 31 December 2005, fall outside the scope of both the *Kony* case and the Situation before the ICC. The victims present reiterated their call for the crimes committed by Mr Kony in the CAR to be investigated and prosecuted.
9. In the context of the *Ongwen* case, on 25 September 2025, the VPRS held meetings with sub-county leaders, intermediaries, and field clerks in Abok and Odek to address concerns regarding potential biases in the identification of victims eligible for reparations, as well as challenges faced by survivors in obtaining identification documents from sub-county authorities. The discussions were constructive, with sub-county leaders affirming their cooperation in facilitating the issuance of documents to survivors and committing to transmit to the VPRS any complaints or concerns received during their community engagements.

⁹ Pre-Trial Chamber III, "Decision on victim applications for participation in the proceedings", 12 August 2025, ICC-02/04-01/05-624.

10. Between 27 and 31 October 2025, the VPRS held a three-day review meeting with all its field clerks ("clerks")¹⁰ and intermediaries to assess progress in completing reparation forms, identify lessons learned, and discuss challenges and recommendations. Clerks expressed appreciation for the Kobo¹¹ forms, noting their user-friendly design and offline accessibility. They commended the valuable support provided by intermediaries in identifying victims. The clerks also highlighted several challenges, including the high number of victims—particularly in the four case locations (*Abok, Lukodi, Odek and Pajule*), insufficient documentation, memory gaps regarding key information, wide geographical spread of thematic crime victims, and instances of re-traumatisation or post-traumatic stress. Intermediaries reported large numbers of victims outside the scope of the *Ongwen* case seeking inclusion, as well as challenges in reaching victims who had relocated to other areas. The three-day meeting also included psychosocial support sessions for clerks and intermediaries aimed at strengthening their capacity to manage trauma and to effectively engage with victims experiencing post-traumatic stress.
11. Finally, in November and December 2025, the VPRS and PIOS undertook several activities in Odek. Meetings were held with victims' representatives, community leaders and sub-county officials and two radio programmes were conducted to inform victims once again that reparations forms are free of charge and to provide the VPRS contact details for reporting any solicitation of money or in-kind items.
12. During the reporting period, the VPRS also organised, facilitated or attended a series of event, as detailed in chronological order below.

¹⁰ As previously reported, the VPRS hired field clerks who were trained, equipped with tablets, stationeries and other supporting accessories and deployed to various locations where they are providing support to victims in completing victim application forms.

¹¹ 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 was used to collect victim application forms for participation in the *Kony* case and continues to be used to collect reparations forms 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.)

13. On 7 October 2025, the VPRS participated in a workshop organised by the International Centre for Transitional Justice and the International Crimes Division of Uganda (“ICD”). The VPRS delivered a presentation on the ICC’s experience in identifying and registering victims of international crimes, to support the Uganda Judiciary in training data collectors responsible for identifying victims of the crimes for which Thomas Kwoyelo was convicted¹² and who may be eligible for reparations. The contribution provided context-specific guidance on victim identification and verification processes, including conducting sensitive interviews with children and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, and informed the ICD’s efforts to develop and standardise related protocols.
14. From 19 to 22 October 2025, the VPRS supported and actively participated in the visit of the ICC President and her delegation to Uganda. The VPRS facilitated the President’s engagement with mobilizers and clerks involved in victim identification and form completion, and delivered a presentation outlining key achievements, challenges, and proposed next steps. The need for continued coordination with government actors and civil society organisations (“CSOs”) was emphasised, to ensure that victims falling outside the ICC’s jurisdiction can access alternative support to address the consequences of the conflict in Northern Uganda, as well as continued information sessions with affected communities.
15. On 29 October 2025, the VPRS participated in the National Transitional Justice Working Group meeting in Gulu and delivered a presentation. The meeting brought together CSOs, government entities, including the Ugandan Parliament, and victims’ groups. At the request of the chairperson of the said meeting, VPRS provided an update on the status of reparations, scope of the *Ongwen* case and victim eligibility, and potential areas for collaboration. The update was well-received and the VPRS addressed several questions, particularly concerning continuous crimes that began before 1 July 2002 but

¹² <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/qcsqfayk/pdf>.

continued thereafter, children born in captivity, and modalities for collaboration between stakeholders and the Court.



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

Dated this 12 January 2026

At The Hague, The Netherlands