

**Cour
Pénale
Internationale**



**International
Criminal
Court**

Original: English

No.: ICC-01/12-01/15

Date of the original:

29 January 2026

Date of the public redacted
version: **16 February 2026**

TRIAL CHAMBER II

Before: Judge María del Socorro Flores Liera, Presiding Judge
Judge Kimberly Prost
Judge Nicolas Guillou

SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MALI

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. AHMAD AL FAQI AL MAHDI

Public Document

**Public redacted version of Thirty-eighth Update Report on the Updated
Implementation Plan, with confidential Annexes A, B and C**

Source: Trust Fund for Victims

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 | ☐ 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 | ☒ Trust Fund for Victims |

REGISTRY

- | | |
|---|--|
| Registrar
M. Zavala Giler, Osvaldo | ☐ Counsel Support Section |
| ☐ Victims and Witnesses Unit | ☒ External Operations Division
- EOSS
- JCSS |
| ☒ Victims Participation and Reparations Section | ☒ Public Information and Outreach Section |

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Trust Fund for Victims (TFV) hereby submits its Thirty-eighth Update Report pursuant to Regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims and following Trial Chamber VIII's decision of 4 March 2019 approving the Updated Implementation Plan ("Decision on the UIP") submitted by the TFV,¹ and the Decision on the Request of the Trust Fund for Victims to Submit Update Reports Every Three Months.² On 29 October 2025, the TFV submitted its Thirty-seventh Update Report on implementation ("Thirty-seventh Update Report").³

2. The present report covers the period from 30 October 2025 to 29 January 2026 and is structured as follows: the TFV reports first on individual reparations (Part III); second, on collective reparations (Part IV); third, on supportive activities conducted during the reporting period (Part V); and fourth, on perspectives and next steps (Part VI).

3. In the confidential Annex A to this report, the Registry's situational overview concerning Mali covering the period from 11 October 2025 to 19 January 2026 (Country Analysis Unit Report) has been included for information of the Trial Chamber.

4. Annex A shows that, the situation has been very complex, impacting, as described in this Report, the implementation of activities and projects that required specific authorisations, participation, or travel, as part of the reparations programme.

II. CLASSIFICATION OF THE REPORT

5. Pursuant to regulation 23 *bis* (1) of the Regulations of the Court, the TFV has classified this report and its annexes as confidential, as they contain sensitive information related to the current situation in Mali and to the ongoing implementation of the programme, including internal TFV work products, the public disclosure of which could compromise its proper and secure continuation.

III. INDIVIDUAL REPARATIONS

6. As a result of the process of awarding individual reparations in the present case, a total of 1,691 beneficiaries were found eligible for reparations, and from these a total of 1,687

¹ Decision on the Updated Implementation Plan from the Trust Fund for Victims, 4 March 2019, ICC-01/12-01/15-324-Conf ("Decision on the UIP"). A public redacted version of this filing is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/1c2525/>.

² Decision on the Request of the Trust Fund for Victims to Submit Update Reports Every Three Months, 17 February 2021, [ICC-01/12-01/15-380](https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/icc-01-12-01-15-380), disposition.

³ Thirty-seventh Updated Report on the Updated Implementation Plan, with confidential Annexes A, B and C, 29 October 2025, ICC-01/12-01/15-482-Conf ("Thirty-seventh Update Report"). A public redacted version of this filing is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/iujwzje5/>.

beneficiaries received individual reparations awards, while four beneficiaries have not yet been located, and have therefore not yet received the award.⁴ The funds guaranteeing payment of their awards have been set aside and the attempts to locate them have been ongoing without success throughout the last seven reporting periods, including the current one.⁵

IV. COLLECTIVE REPARATIONS

7. The collective reparations ordered by the Trial Chamber for the benefit of the community of Timbuktu are organised around three modalities: (i) collective reparations for the moral harm suffered; (ii) collective reparations for the economic harm suffered; and (iii) collective reparations in the form of a mechanism for the protection and maintenance of the Protected Buildings.

8. As of date of the present submission: (i) all measures relating to collective reparations for moral harm have been completed, while (ii) collective reparations for the protection and maintenance of the Protected Buildings and (iii) collective reparations for the economic harm suffered by the community of Timbuktu are in the last phase of implementation. Progress achieved since the previous filing is detailed in the present Update Report.

9. Key activities during the reporting period include:

10. In relation to collective reparations for the moral harm suffered by the community of Timbuktu, the final training of community therapy facilitators and 71 rounds of psychological support have been successfully completed.

11. In relation to collective reparations for the economic harm suffered by the community of Timbuktu, 70 micro-initiatives, implemented by local organisations and two macro-initiatives, in the form originally planned, implemented by the Municipality of Timbuktu under the Economic Resilience Facility, have received their funding in full.

⁴ See Thirty-fourth update report on the updated implementation plan, with confidential, ex parte, Annex 1, available to the Trust Fund for Victims only, 29 January 2025, [ICC-01/12-01/15-478](#), (“Thirty-fourth Update Report”), paras. 4 and 7.

⁵ Thirty-second update report on the updated implementation plan, including report on finalisation of individual reparations, 29 July 2024, ICC-01/12-01/15-476, (“Thirty-second Update Report”), para. 40 (A public redacted version of this filing is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/w86l3si8/>); Thirty-third update report on the updated implementation plan, 29 October 2024, [ICC-01/12-01/15-477](#), (“Thirty-third Update Report”), para. 16; Thirty-fourth Update Report, para. 4; Thirty-fifth update report on the updated implementation plan, with Confidential Annexes A, B, C and D, 29 April 2025, ICC-01/12-01/15-480-Conf (“Thirty-fifth Update Report”), para. 5 (A public redacted version of this filing is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/j31zq28h/>); Thirty-sixth Update Report, para. 5 (A public redacted version of this filing is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/4pqjf6z0/>); Thirty-sixth update report on the updated implementation plan, with Confidential Annex A, 29 July 2025, ICC-01/12-01/15-481-Conf, para. 5 (A public redacted version of this filing is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/4pqjf6z0/>); Thirty-seventh Update Report, para. 5.

12. In relation to the protection and maintenance of the Protected Buildings the following activities have been completed:

- Operationalisation of the Maintenance Fund to ensure the community's capacity to protect and preserve its heritage;
- Acceleration of activities aimed at raising community awareness regarding the importance of maintaining and enhancing the Protected Buildings;
- Organisation of a master class on conservation techniques for earthen architecture and maintenance of Protected Buildings in Timbuktu between 16 and 18 December 2025 in Timbuktu.

13. Annex B to the present report highlights the percentage of implementation of each of the collective reparations measures. Annex C presents a map of the locations where collective reparations are being implemented.

A. COLLECTIVE REPARATIONS FOR MORAL HARM SUFFERED BY THE TIMBUKTU COMMUNITY

14. Collective reparations for moral harm consist of several measures, the general purpose of which is to alleviate the moral suffering endured by the community of Timbuktu due to the destruction of the Protected Buildings. Collective reparations for moral harm are implemented by CFOGRAD, a Timbuktu-based organisation selected by the TFV as the implementing partner.

15. The activities described in the present sub-section concern (1) memorialisation measures, and (2) psychological support in the form of community-based therapy in Timbuktu.

16. All measures planned under this component of collective reparations were fully implemented. Accordingly, steps toward programmatic and financial closure are being undertaken.

17. Feedback received from beneficiaries and stakeholders indicates a high level of satisfaction with both the substance and the impact of the activities carried out.

1. Memorialisation

a) Background

18. In accordance with the Trial Chamber's Decision on the UIP, the TFV implemented a memorialisation measure with the purpose to empower the community to debate and discuss whether memorialisation measures would adequately alleviate the moral harm suffered, and if

so, to determine, design, and implement the types of measures that would be appropriate.⁶ The locally-driven memorialisation process set up by the TFV led to the selection of memorialisation measures composed of: (i) the erection of a memorialisation monument, or memorial, in the form of a Walaha, entitled “Louha” to be erected on the Diamane Hana square;⁷ and (ii) the construction of an additional room in the Municipal Museum of Timbuktu. The Louha was inaugurated in October 2024 during a memorialisation ceremony.⁸

19. In June 2024, additional measures to address the moral harm were identified by the communities and the TFV, including (i) a memorialisation measure for Kabara to mitigate the perceived feeling of exclusion of the population of Kabara in the context of the reparations implemented in this case, (ii) the strengthening of the exhibition on the mausoleum in the newly built exhibition room, (iii) dedicated activities with the tour guides, hoteliers, and restaurateurs; and (iv) efforts to rehabilitate the Timbuktu museum.⁹

b) Progress made during the reporting period

1) Visit of the Qâloum Memorial in Kabara

20. The finalisation of the Qâloum memorial in Kabara has previously been reported.¹⁰ The handover to the community and inauguration of the finalised memorial of Kabara (Qâloum Memorial) was initially planned to take place in December 2025, but could not be organised in a timely manner. Nevertheless, the TFV conducted a monitoring visit to the memorial and met with the community of Kabara to exchange about the process of memorialisation.

21. The TFV and its partners held a consultation meeting at the residence of the neighbourhood chief with representatives of the Kabara community, including local council members, women leaders, youth and sports committees, the neighbourhood development committee, and members of the municipal commemoration committee. A total of 32 participants (11 women and 21 men) attended.

22. The Qâloum Memorial is located in the historic square known as “Doudhel.” Community representatives welcomed the memorial as a meaningful response to longstanding concerns and acknowledged the work of the TFV and its implementing partner, CFOGRAD. The community emphasised their sense of inclusion in the reparations process that generated a high symbolic value and a shared feeling that the memorial served to repair the harm done.

⁶ Decision on the UIP, paras. 97 and 111. See also the Updated Draft Implementation Plan, 22 November 2018, [ICC-01/12-01/15-291-Conf-Exp](#), paras. 160-166.

⁷ See Thirty-third Update Report, paras. 16-22.

⁸ See Thirty-fourth Update Report, paras. 14-26.

⁹ See February 2025 Decision, paras. 4 and 7.

¹⁰ See, e.g., Thirty-seventh Update Report, para. 15.

23. As shared by members of the Kabara community, the Qâloum Memorial constitutes the first symbolic and historical monument in Kabara and represents a significant reparative value for the Timbuktu community following the destruction of the Protected Buildings.

24. The neighbourhood leader said that this memorial fulfils the community's wishes and provides residents with a place of remembrance that bears witness to the moral resilience of the population in the face of the destruction of the mausoleums in 2012. It is an essential complement to the Louha memorial in Timbuktu. Qâloum and Louha speak to each other: the Louha (لوحة) represents the tablet on which students learn to write and read the Quran, while Qâloum (قلم) represents the pen with which students learn to write.

25. According to the neighbourhood chief of Kabara, the community was only expecting a miniature memorial. The construction of Qâloum exceeded their expectations. Equipped with a high-flow water source of exceptional drinking water quality (the water having been declared safe for human consumption by Mali's national water analysis laboratory, following tests carried out in Bamako), the Qâloum memorial has become an important place in Kabara. The members of Kabara have stated that Qâloum will serve as a living testimony of what happened during the 2012 occupation for the current and future generations.

26. The community expressed the hope that the memorial would attract visitors to Kabara to visit the three mausoleums that have been rebuilt after having been destroyed in 2012.

27. Following this meeting, the TFV, its partners and the community of Kabara visited the Qâloum Memorial and the associated water point. The Kabara community expressed a high level of satisfaction with the memorialisation measures and that they took pride in them. The community also expressed satisfaction with the water point. The community had suffered from low water supplies until the drilling and commissioning of the new water point. The drilling provides 10 cubic meters of water per hour.

28. While the memorial and the water point have already been in use by the community, the official inauguration is tentatively scheduled for [REDACTED].

2) Progress on an exhibition on the Protected Buildings at the Timbuktu Municipal Museum

29. As part of the initial memorialisation measures, the community decided to establish a permanent exhibition dedicated to the mausoleums. Following preparatory work previously reported,¹¹ artefacts and central artistic elements were chosen; and an introductory text for the exhibition was finalised, with the latter approved by the local committee.

¹¹ See Thirty-Seventh Update Report, paras 22-26.

30. The exhibition was successfully installed at the Timbuktu Municipal Museum during the reporting period despite logistical challenges, including delays in the arrival of the scenographer and photographs due to air travel constraints.

31. The exhibition is housed in the new room built within the museum as part of the restoration of the Museum and of the reparation programme.¹² The exhibition room has been designed as a memorial site displaying the scars of the destruction of 2012. The committee responsible for its design chose to focus on engaging the younger generation of Timbuktu. The objects on display serve as educational tools to combat violent extremism and contribute to a better appreciation of the history and heritage of Timbuktu. The exhibition includes photographs of the destroyed and rebuilt mausoleums, wall paintings, a door and religious objects found in 2012 after the destruction. It also documents the reparation efforts.

32. Although not yet officially inaugurated, the exhibition was open to the public during the December 2025 Art and Culture Biennial.

33. At a meeting held on 18 December 2025, the Director of the Museum expressed satisfaction with the quality of the exhibition, and the rehabilitation works of the Museum as previously reported,¹³ and conveyed a noticeable increase in visitor numbers.

2. Psychological support

34. The measure of providing psychological support aims to provide such support to the Timbuktu community, addressing the moral and emotional harm resulting from the crimes for which Mr Al Mahdi was convicted.

35. Considering the local context, prevailing attitudes toward mental health, and the number of individuals requiring psychosocial support, the TFV and CFOGRAD have opted to implement a community-based therapy approach. For anchoring and sustainability purposes, CFOGRAD associated 16 community relays (eight women and eight men), as well as the local department for the Promotion of Women, Children and Families.

36. Rounds of community therapy: During the reporting period ending in December 2025, **eight rounds** of community therapy were organised in the town of Timbuktu gathering **184** persons (143 women and 41 men). These community therapy rounds were held in Badjindé, Bellefarandi, Kabara, Sareikeina, Abaradjou, and Sankoré, with the participation of a considerable number of women and girls (around 78% of the participants were women and 22% were men).

¹² See, e.g., Thirty-Seventh Update Report, para. 19.

¹³ See Thirty-Seventh Update Report, paras 19-21.

37. Since the initiation of the programme, a total of 71 rounds of community therapy have been conducted, engaging 2,162 participants, consisting of 1,542 women and 620 men. This represents 71.2% women and 28.2% men in relation to the total number of participants.

38. The topics addressed during these sessions vary according to the concerns of the participants. During the reporting period, these sessions provided Timbuktu community members with a space to discuss issues such as flooding of crops and villages, the loss of loved ones, chronic illness, physical and psychological abuse perpetrated by jihadist groups, and youth unemployment. The opportunity to share experiences, receive support, gain recognition, and explore possible solutions with fellow community members continues to play a significant role in strengthening psychosocial wellbeing.

Table no. 1: Community Rounds in Timbuktu – October to December 2025

Neighbourhood/location	No.	Participants no.		Total
		Women	Men	
Systemic and Integrative Community Therapy				
Badjindé	1	16	5	21
Bellefarandi	2	16	6	22
Kabara	1	26	6	32
Abaradjou	1	17	5	22
Sankoré	1	18	4	22
Hamabangou	2	30	14	44
Total	8	143	41	184

39. Training of Community Therapy Facilitators: From 5 to 11 December 2025, five participants affiliated with CFOGRAD completed a training on Integrative and Systemic Community Therapy (TCIS), Modules II and III, in Bamako. The training has the purpose of ensuring the sustainability of the programme beyond the completion of the implementation.

40. The training was jointly organised by the TFV with the TFV's implementing partners CFOGRAD and the P15 Consortium that implements the TFV's programme pursuant to regulation 50(a) of the TFV Regulations for victims and their families in the region of Gao/Mopti ("the TFV's Regulation 50(a) Programme"). These two modules followed the first one that was organised in Bamako in May 2024 in Bamako.

41. While the training was supposed to take place in October 2025, the shortage of fuel and its impact on internal flights led to the postponement of its organisation in December 2025. With five moderators of the rounds fully trained, the community of Timbuktu owns the skills and capacity to continue the organisation of rounds on a regular basis, including after the

completion of the implementation of the ordered modalities of reparations by December 2025. Such methods and tools ensure sustainability beyond the reparations programme.

42. Status: The TFV hereby officially reports to the Trial Chamber that, as of December 2025, the psychological support measure has been fully implemented. No additional implementation-related activities remain outstanding for this measure.

43. Additional project and contract management activities are being undertaken to formally close the project from an administrative perspective.

B. COLLECTIVE REPARATIONS FOR ECONOMIC HARM SUFFERED BY THE TIMBUKTU COMMUNITY

44. Collective reparations for economic harm suffered by the community of Timbuktu are delivered through a mechanism referred to as the Economic Resilience Facility (“ERF”). The ERF aims at addressing the indirect economic harm caused by the crimes to the community of Timbuktu. The ERF is structured around two components:¹⁴ (i) a Microproject Support Fund to support a minimum of 46 initiatives carried out by local grassroot organisations based in Timbuktu and Bamako for a maximum amount of XOF 6,500,000 (equivalent of 9,909.18 EUR)¹⁵ selected following a local, inclusive, and open process; and (ii) the provision of support to two macro projects conducted by the municipality of Timbuktu, designed to benefit the entire community, to complement the other collective reparations measures, and to enhance the reparative effect of the programme. The collective reparations for economic harm are implemented by TFV’s partner CIDEAL, an organisation that has, among other locations, a base in Timbuktu.

45. As part of the reallocation of the balance available from the financial envelope of individual reparations awards, in Q3 of 2025, the number of local initiatives to be supported had been increased to supporting 70 initiatives in total, and the amount allocated to the macro projects was increased as well to supporting three initiatives in total.¹⁶

46. The management of such a number of local macro initiatives required significant time to ensure the proper use of the grants. As a result, local initiatives were launched in groups, with the payment to the last group issued during the reporting period. For the purpose of risk

¹⁴ This structure is the product of the lengthy participatory and inclusive process previously reported, that led to defining the adequate measures and to ensuring that they are endorsed by the community.

¹⁵ Exchange rate applicable on the day of the previous report, 29 July 2025, using <https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

¹⁶ See Thirty-second Update Report, para. 123.

management due to both the amount concerned and the capacity of the City Hall, macro projects have been launched on a progressive basis.

47. Once the payment to all initiatives had been processed in December 2025, a review of the accounting balance indicated that some funds remained unspent. These funds were subsequently reallocated to increase the budget for the macro initiatives.

48. Status: By December 2025, all funds had been transferred to all the initiatives. The focus in the first quarter of 2026 will be on monitoring and supporting the funded activities. With the reallocated funds, additional financial support to the macro projects has started in December 2025. Full completion is expected by 31 March 2026. Details on each component are provided below.

3. Component 1: implementation of initiatives by selected grassroots organisations

49. The TFV continues to support 70 local initiatives under Component 1 of the ERF, including the initially approved 46¹⁷ and the additional 24. Out of 70 initiatives, 60 have been implemented in Timbuktu and ten in Bamako. Twenty-two of them consist of projects aimed at strengthening social cohesion, five relate to projects with the goal of protecting the environment, nine pertain to promoting cultural heritage, and thirty-four aim at supporting productive sectors.

c) Disbursement of funds

50. As of the reporting date, all 70 initiatives have been launched and are at varying stages of implementation, depending on the timing of the issuance of the first instalment.

51. During the reporting period, the final 18 initiatives that were launched received their first and second instalments, for a total of 93,761,150 XOF.¹⁸

d) Support of local initiatives

52. Throughout the reporting period, monitoring of the initiatives continued. Specific site visits were conducted for the newly launched organisations to ensure the implementation of the agreed activities, verify expenses and accounting documents, assess the implementation and quality of the activities, and identify any need for technical support. The most common technical support needs identified related to simplified business management, sales and marketing, and production techniques.

¹⁷ See Twenty-eighth Update Report, 6 June 2023, ICC-01/12-01/15-465-Conf, para. 27. A public redacted version of this report is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/y3fw7v/>.

¹⁸ Equivalent to 142.93 EUR according to currency converter <https://www.xe.com/> on 27 January 2026.

53. In Bamako, the commemoration committee, which is called, as part of the ERF “the project selection committee”, requested to be associated with the monitoring and was therefore included in the various site visits. The commemoration committee visited six previously launched initiatives and issued recommendations to the local organisations on how to improve the quality of the service.

54. The ERF implementation period was extended by three months to enable continued monitoring of the funded activities that are implemented by grassroots organisations. This aims at enhancing the sustainability of the measure. Completion is programmed to take place by the end of the first quarter of 2026.

e) Visibility and participation

55. To enhance visibility, beneficiary grassroots organisations participated in a craft fair organised within the framework of the Art and Culture Biennial held in Timbuktu from 18 to 28 December 2025, enhancing community engagement and enabling the sale of products to a wide audience of visitors.

56. The implementing partner set up 15 booths, enabling 30 organisations to take turns participating and selling their products for one week at a time, in groups of 15. A wide range of products were exhibited, including agri-food products (pasta, couscous, vermicelli, cakes, biscuits, *accassas* balls, dried meat, etc.); market gardening products (lettuce, tomatoes, onions, cabbages, beets, carrots, etc.); crafts (handbags, briefcases, swords, knives, necklaces, bracelets, leather stools, wallets, etc.); dyed textiles (turbans, boubous, embroidery, etc.); and hairdressing services (a dedicated salon offering various styles and wigs).

57. [REDACTED]

58. Once the organisations participated, TFV staff personally monitored the fair and the various stands. Discussions with the exhibiting organisations highlighted their expertise, the dynamism of their organisation and/or consortia, and their strong satisfaction with the opportunity to sell their products alongside the Biennial.

4. Component 2: macro projects in partnership with the Timbuktu Municipality

59. The second component of the ERF relates to the provision of support to projects conducted by the municipality of Timbuktu. As previously reported, two proposals were ultimately selected for support: (i) enhancement of the main façades of the Idje Thina Sarey, Cheik Sidi El Wafi, and Diamane Hanane cemeteries, which are subject to uncontrolled occupation; and (ii) treatment of domestic wastewater on the eastern part of the city of Timbuktu and construction of ten soak pits. A third project was subsequently made feasible

through the remaining balance after funding the 70 local initiatives. This project involves a clean-up initiative around protected sites, aligning with the macro projects previously pre-identified by the City Hall.

60. The first project had been completed during the previous reporting period.¹⁹ The renovation of the facades of these three cemeteries, located in prominent, high-traffic areas of the city, has enhanced the city's appearance. These facades provide protection to the sites while giving the city a cleaner, more organised look. The trees planted in front of the facades not only contribute to the aesthetics but also help protect the cemeteries.

61. The second project was launched during the current reporting period. It involves the construction of 10 cesspools to address issues related to wastewater disposal and stagnation of wastewater on roads. To achieve this, water collection wells were dug at the end of the targeted streets, a pipe network was installed in the relevant streets, and conduits and manholes were added at the exit of each street. The ten cesspools, each 6 meters deep and 1.80 meters in diameter, were constructed (i) near the "Souba Nafa" kindergarten, (ii) opposite Bahadou school, (iii) opposite the large cemetery at Sareikeina CDC, (iv) opposite the small cemetery at the end of the street leading to the Alpha Sekou mosque, (v) near the ARBI building, (vi) near the fast food restaurant, (vii) near the former Tinariwen pharmacy, (viii) opposite the Tinariwen pharmacy, (ix) on the street leading to the late Sekou Baber's house, and (x) on the street leading to the late Cheickna Moulaye's house.

62. Technical partners worked under the supervision of a commission established by the Municipal Council, in partnership with CIDEAL.

63. The cesspools improve the domestic wastewater management system, enhancing living conditions and hygiene for the population, while also protecting the medina and its earthen buildings. The second macro project increased the coverage rate of the municipality's sanitation facilities, prevented the usual flooding during the rainy season, reduced pollution linked to wastewater, mitigated conflicts over stagnant water.

64. In December 2025, the TFV monitored in person the various sites during a visit joined by the Mayor of Timbuktu who expressed strong satisfaction with the results.

65. The additional measure financed by the reallocated funds as part of the macro projects is being launched following the end of the Biennial.

¹⁹ Thirty-seventh Update Report, para. 54.

66. The implementation of the third macro project, and the official handover of all the additional measures within the macro projects, is scheduled for full completion by the end of March 2026.

C. PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PROTECTED BUILDINGS

67. Reparations in the form of protection and maintenance of the Protected Buildings are executed in partnership with UNESCO and consist of a series of measures, namely: (i) capacity-strengthening of the masons corporation; (ii) reconstruction of the Al Arawani mausoleum; (iii) capacity strengthening of the Cultural Mission;²⁰ (iv) planting of trees and hedges to strengthen the protection of mausoleums from environmental pressure; (v) lightning improvements around certain Protected Buildings; (vi) reconstruction of the walls of two cemeteries housing Protected Buildings; and (vii) the set-up of a Maintenance Fund for the Protected Buildings.

68. The following complementary measures had been added following the reallocations of funds from individual reparations awards to collective reparations: (i) additional reparation of the fences of the cemeteries of Three Saints and Alpha Moya; (ii) the continuation of the capacities' strengthening of actors in charge of the protection and maintenance of Protected Buildings in Timbuktu; (iii) outreach of the Timbuktu community about the value of Protected Buildings; (iv) the installation of information signs near the Protected Buildings; (v) additional work on the fences of the cemeteries of Sidi Mahmoud and Sidi El Moktar El Kounti; (vi) setting up of an irrigation mechanism for the trees planted; (vii) the dwelling for the irrigation system; (viii) the increase of the material support to the Cultural Mission of Timbuktu²¹ and (ix) contribution to the refurbishment of a cultural space in Timbuktu.²²

The activities of the TFV's implementing partner UNESCO, are set to be completed by March 2026.

1. *Reconstruction of the walls of the Cheick Sidi El Moctar El Kounti and Cheick Sidi Mahamoud cemeteries and additional work on fences*

69. As approved in the February 2025 Decision,²³ this additional measure involves the rehabilitation of fences around the cemeteries of Cheick Sidi El Moctar El Kounti and Cheick

²⁰ Decision on the TFV's twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth update reports on the updated implementation plan, 25 August 2023, ICC-01/12-01/15-466-Conf ("Decision of 25 August 2023"), para. 14 (A public redacted version of this decision is available at: <https://www.legal-tools.org/doc/a7w99z/>); February 2025 Decision, paras 4, fn 9 and 7.

²¹ February 2025 Decision, paras 4 to 7, fn 8.

²² *Ibid.*, para. 5, fn. 13. See also Thirty-third Report, [ICC- 01/12-01/15-477](#), para. 96.

²³ *Ibid.*, para. 7.

Sidi Mahamoud. Following reconstruction efforts in 2023 and 2024, additional rehabilitation works were required to address partial collapses of the boundary walls at both cemeteries.

70. Two local firms had been sub-contracted to carry out supplementary rehabilitation works, which were completed in August 2025. Ongoing pressures related to adjacent land use and waste management continue to pose risks, highlighting the need for sustained community engagement and stakeholder cooperation to protect the restored cemetery boundaries.

71. In the fourth quarter of 2025, an additional phase of the intervention was launched, focusing on the rehabilitation and repair of boundary walls, gates, and metal grilles at the cemetery of the Three Saints and the Alpha Moya cemetery, alongside the design and installation of ten informational signboards and ten commemorative plaques for nine mausolea and the Sidi Yahia Mosque. The activity is expected to be finalised by the end of the first quarter of 2026 at the latest.

72. While the procurement process for this additional element had been launched by UNESCO in September 2025 for a two-months duration, to date, none of the bidding companies has fully met UNESCO's criteria for selection as an implementing partner. The selection process is in its final stage.

2. Planting of trees and hedges to strengthen the protection of mausoleums from environmental pressure

73. This measure concerns the planting of trees and hedges around the four mausoleums of Sidi Mahamoud Ben Omar Mohamed Acquit, Trois Saints, Alpha Moya, and Cheikh Sidi El Mokhtar Ben Sidi Mouhammad Al Kabir Al Kounti. These actions aim to safeguard the sites from environmental degradation while promoting community engagement in their long-term preservation.

74. The technical handover of the trees and hedges took place in October²⁴ and December 2024, in the presence of the TFV.

75. Maintenance and surveillance responsibilities were assigned to the Neighbourhood Development Committees, under the coordination of UNESCO and the Timbuktu Cultural Mission.

76. During the reporting period, visits by UNESCO confirmed that improvements had been made. Regular maintenance has promoted tree growth and increased foliage density, while the

²⁴ See Thirty-third Update Report, para. 61.

hedgerows are progressively forming a natural barrier as the shrubs mature. The initial goal of creating a hedgerow around the cemeteries to prevent sand encroachment has been achieved.

77. UNESCO was also able to monitor the transfer of responsibility to communities through the Neighbourhood Development Committees, which took place in December 2024. Issues arose related to recent delays in the payment of guards' fees and the latest water bills. Two dedicated meetings bringing together the relevant stakeholders helped to clarify the situation and establish prospects for better management.

78. The Timbuktu Cultural Mission is a body within the Ministry of Culture responsible for managing buildings classified as national and international heritage sites and is a key player in monitoring these measures. It has undertaken to monitor these payments and liaise with local authorities during the completion of the measures.

3. Water supply and irrigation infrastructure for cemeteries

79. This activity aims to strengthen sustainable water access and irrigation systems to support tree planting and landscaping efforts in the Sidi Mahamoud and Three Saints cemeteries.

80. A major challenge pertains to the water supply through the national network, which remains insufficient. A call for projects has been launched for the construction of two boreholes and the installation of a drip irrigation system in two cemeteries (Trois Saints and Sidi Mahamoud). Works will be completed by 31 March 2026.

81. At the same time, the Neighbourhood Development Committees responsible for maintaining the hedges in the other cemeteries, Alpha Moya and Cheick Sidi El Moutar Al Kounti, engaged in discussions with the local authorities about the challenges of supplying water within the perimeter of these two cemeteries. The authorities have responded by granting plots of land on the outskirts of each of these cemeteries for the installation of equipped water pumps. Works will be completed by the end of March 2026.

4. Capacity-building and training activities for local actors in cultural heritage conservation

82. During this reporting period, three activities were successfully implemented:

- Training and capacity-building workshop for 16 cultural actors and local authorities in Timbuktu (ref: Maintenance Fund for Protected Buildings);
- Training for 40 women ambassadors of Timbuktu's cultural heritage between 21 and 22 October 2025.

83. In collaboration with the Cultural Mission of Timbuktu, and with the attendance of the Deputy National Director of Heritage of the Ministry of Culture, a workshop was held to increase women's participation in the conservation, safeguarding, and promotion of both tangible and intangible cultural heritage in Timbuktu.

84. The main objectives of this workshop were to promote an inclusive and participatory approach to cultural heritage management by strengthening women's involvement in the physical conservation of Protected Buildings. The training sought to strengthen the technical and operational skills of women leaders in relation to the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Timbuktu, enabling them to contribute to peace, social cohesion, and sustainable development, while addressing their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting heritage, so that they become advocates for the preservation and transmission of best conservation practices and traditional knowledge within their communities.

85. Furthermore, a Master Class on conservation techniques for earthen architecture and maintenance of Protected Buildings was held in Timbuktu between 16 and 18 December 2025 in Timbuktu.

86. This session brought together 40 traditional masons from Timbuktu, including 10 women, to enhance their skills in earthen architecture and masonry. Led by expert architects, master masons, engineers, and cultural heritage specialists, the training aimed to ensure the sustainability of the traditional craft. The master class's closing ceremony included the presentation of certificates to participants, including master masons, traditional masonry apprentices, and women builders.

87. During the training, it was recommended that a workshop be organised at a university in Bamako to share experiences on earthen architecture techniques, with the participation of various professional associations in the sector (architects and engineers) from universities and technical colleges.

5. Maintenance Fund for the Protected Buildings

88. As approved in the Decision on the UIP,²⁵ a Maintenance Fund for Protected Buildings aims to ensure preventive maintenance of the affected sites by preserving their conservation status, minimising deterioration risks, and fostering community ownership of their upkeep. By doing so, it enables the Timbuktu community to perpetuate a living tradition associated with the maintenance of Protected Buildings, ultimately strengthening the communities' ability to

²⁵ Decision on the UIP, paras 66, 78.

meet the challenges of managing and maintaining Timbuktu's architectural heritage beyond the duration of the project.

89. The Fund's goal is to strengthen the capacity of communities to address the challenges associated with the management and maintenance of Timbuktu's architectural heritage beyond the duration of the programme by restoring a central role to traditional methods and systems of prevention and maintenance for the sustainable conservation of heritage properties.

90. To ensure the Fund's long-term viability, UNESCO has entrusted its management to the Association of Managers of Timbuktu Mausoleums and Mosques (ARMMT), in collaboration with the Timbuktu Cultural Mission and other relevant stakeholders. The ARMMT's action plan extends through 2029, and it will actively seek funds to continue its activities.

91. During this reporting period, six specific activities were carried out:

(i) A training session on administrative and financial management, fundraising, and cultural heritage conservation was held from 18 to 20 October 2025 in Timbuktu for 16 local cultural actors (five mosque and mausoleum managers, five neighbourhood development committee managers, two cultural heritage association leaders, and two local government representatives).

(ii) Stakeholders were informed between 10 and 12 October 2025 in Timbuktu and between 16 and 17 October 2025 in Bamako about sanitation and the risks posed to Protected Buildings through activities marking the 700th anniversary of the Djingareyber Mosque.

(iii) Maintenance tools, including wheelbarrows, ladders for solar panel maintenance, dabas, shovels, spare batteries for solar streetlights, and keys for solar panel maintenance, were provided to the managers of Timbuktu's mausoleums and mosques. A symbolic handover ceremony took place in Timbuktu on 19 December 2025, during the Quran reading ceremony and community meal in presence of TFV.

(iv) Building materials, such as Koriomé soil, Alhor stones, Bourem soil, mortar, pestles, and additives, were purchased for the maintenance of mausoleums and mosques.

(v) Two collective mosque plastering ceremonies were organised: one for the Djingareyber Mosque on 12 October 2025, as part of the celebration of the mosque's 700th anniversary, and another for the Sankoré Mosque on 23 November 2025.

(vi) In conjunction with the plastering work, the scaffolding of the Djingareyber Mosque was replaced to ensure safe restauration.

92. During the reporting period, no emergency interventions (repairs, maintenance, etc.) have been recorded. However, emergency interventions are planned and will be carried out as needed following consultation with the Timbuktu Cultural Mission in the event of damage to the Protected Buildings.

6. Outreach activities about the value of Protected Buildings

93. As part of the awareness campaign on the protection and conservation of Timbuktu's cultural heritage, a series of key actions has been implemented during the reporting period.

94. First, communication materials were produced and printed, including two large banners, 500 leaflets, and a high-quality programme brochure, which were used during the 2025 Artistic and Cultural Biennial. Second, a public awareness campaign was conducted during the Biennial (18-28 December 2025). This included an UNESCO stand at the event village and participation in the radio programme "Grin de la Biennale," which highlighted UNESCO's heritage conservation and community resilience initiatives. Third, a digital campaign was carried out across UNESCO and partner platforms, featuring articles, videos, and messages.

95. These activities successfully raised public awareness of heritage conservation issues and strengthened the visibility of the project.

96. Finally, a partnership contract was concluded by UNESCO for an information campaign running until December 2025. Activities included recording and broadcasting awareness messages on local radios, hosting radio programmes on cultural heritage, and conducting digital campaigns via social media and web TV.

7. Installation of signage on Protected Buildings

97. In June 2025, UNESCO commissioned a study by a historian-archaeologist to gather key historical and cultural information on ten Protected Buildings in Timbuktu, including nine mausoleums and the Sidi Yahia Mosque. The study follows the 1972 UNESCO World Heritage Convention and aims to guide interpretive signage to improve public understanding of the Saint's mausoleums and Sidi Yahia Mosque. It also seeks to promote heritage education among youth and support tourism revival in Timbuktu.

98. The study has been completed on 30 July 2025 and has provided detailed data on the official names, histories, and significance of each site, forming the basis for the signage content.

99. The production is within the responsibility of the Association of Managers of Mausoleums and Mosques of Timbuktu under the supervision of the Cultural Mission.

100. This reporting period allowed for the selection of a local company in Timbuktu to design and install ten signage panels and ten plaques on nine mausoleums and the Sidi Yahia mosque. Discussions between UNESCO and the company selected to undertake this task are ongoing. The works are scheduled to be completed by 31 March 2026.

8. *Support to the Cultural Mission*

101. This measure, which complements the initial ones, consists of providing the Timbuktu Cultural Mission with equipment including a surveillance camera kit, a video projector, two external hard drives, and a solar installation kit. This support aims at strengthening the Mission's heritage management capacity.

102. During the reporting period, a supplier was selected through a tender process to provide and install solar and IT equipment for the Timbuktu Cultural Mission.

103. Two local companies were preselected in November 2025, and the work is expected to be completed by 31 March 2026.

9. *Contribution to the rehabilitation and/or equipment of a cultural space in Timbuktu*

104. This measure supports the rehabilitation of a cultural space in Timbuktu,²⁶ namely of the former Ahmed Baba Documentation and Research Centre ("Ahmed Baba Centre"), in order for the local community to benefit from artistic performances and events. It replaces the originally planned support to the Ali Farka Touré Cultural Centre, which was completed prior to the launch of the project. The adjustment responds to the authorities' request to provide the community with a second cultural space, thereby reinforcing cultural resilience and access to heritage activities.²⁷

105. During the reporting period, UNESCO engaged with national authorities, including the Regional Council of Timbuktu, the Ministry of Culture, and the Support Unit for Reparations Efforts of the Timbuktu Governorate, to advance the implementation of this measure. Progress was, however, delayed, due to the ongoing political context. The regional authority in charge of conducting the work refrained in October and November from engaging with UNESCO and the TFV due to the announcement of Mali's withdrawal from the Rome Statute. However, in

²⁶ See, e.g. February 2025 Decision, fn 13.

²⁷ Thirty-Seventh Update Report, 29 October 2025, ICC-01/12-01/15-482, paras 86-89.

the aftermath of the November workshop with the Minister of Reconciliation reported below, UNESCO has been again in a position to take steps to move forward in the matter.

106. On 14 January 2026, the local authorities authorised the works. The available resources allow for the rehabilitation of two walls. In case the measures are not as costly as foreseen, the remaining funds will be used to equip the centre with computers.

V. SUPPORTIVE ACTIVITIES

107. During this reporting period, the TFV also carried out a number of supportive activities in Bamako and Timbuktu, namely (A) management of the feedback mechanism; (B) programme coordination with the implementing partners; (C) final steps in the completion of the collective reparations including cooperation with the Government of Mali and attendance in the Biennial; (D) progress in relation to the TFV's Mali Gender Action Plan; (E) a final evaluation of the reparations programme and (F) a stocktaking exercise.

A. MANAGEMENT OF THE FEEDBACK MECHANISM

108. As reported previously, taking into consideration the restricted access to Timbuktu, the extensive target population of the collective reparations measures, and its accountability vis-à-vis the community of Timbuktu, the TFV put in place a feedback mechanism in April 2024,²⁸ to facilitate the interaction between the community of Timbuktu and the TFV.²⁹

109. During the last reporting period, 11 calls were received. Nine of these related to the *Al Hassan* case, while two concerned the *Al Mahdi* case. These two calls regarding the *Al Mahdi* case came from members (one man and one woman) of the project selection committee in Bamako. One request sought additional information about the funded projects, while the other request was a suggestion for monitoring of the Bamako-based projects. As previously indicated, the relevant information was shared with CIDEAL. Feedback was provided and both two cases have been closed.

110. Two observations emerged during this period: (i) there was a higher number of women providing feedback, with a total of seven women compared to four men and (ii) as the *Al Mahdi* programme nears its conclusion, the number of calls regarding reparations is steadily decreasing.

²⁸ Thirty-first Update Report, 29 April 2024, ICC-01/12-01/15-474-Conf-Exp ("Thirty-first Update Report"), paras 94-96.

²⁹ Thirty-first Update Report, paras 94-96.

B. PROGRAMME COORDINATION WITH THE IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

111. Monitoring by the TFV of the work of implementing partners is taking place on a permanent basis. To reinforce monitoring, the TFV continued to hold coordination meetings with all three implementing partners. During these meeting, implementing partners presented their activities, preliminary results, encountered challenges, and upcoming priorities. Joint activities were also organised in close coordination between all stakeholders.

C. COLLECTIVE REPARATIONS – FINAL STEPS

1. *Continued engagement with the Government of Mali*

112. For the TFV to complete the programme, continued cooperation with the Government of Mali was central during the reporting period. As set out in the Thirty-seventh Update Report, the interest of the authorities of Mali to continue supporting the collective reparation implementation had been reaffirmed at the inter-Ministerial meetings held in September 2025.³⁰ At such meeting, the authorities requested that a workshop be convened to brief the Minister of Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion on the status of the implementation of the entire *Al Mahdi* reparation programme, including its governance framework and the status of implementation which would be organised before any efforts for the closure of the programme could be engaged. Only after the workshop would a decision be made, if, when and how to proceed with the official handover/delivery of the results of the collective reparation implementation.

113. Accordingly, in the reporting period, a workshop chaired by the Ministry of Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion was held on 27 November 2025, at which the TFV participated in person.

114. Participants included, *inter alia*, members of the Office of the Prime Minister and the Secretaries-General of five ministries, namely the Ministry of Reconciliation, the Ministry of Territorial Administration, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Culture, as well as the Executive Secretary of the *Autorité de gestion des réparations des victimes des crises au Mali* (AGRV), the authority in charge of reparations, the Governorate of Timbuktu.

115. Following the TFV's presentation of its programme, the Minister expressed his satisfaction and considered that the TFV reached 97% of the objectives. He congratulated the TFV and implementing partners and insisted on the importance for Mali to own the process and to take over to ensure sustainability. He: (i) recommended to proceed with the delivery to the

³⁰ Third-seventh Update Report, para. 102.

community; (ii) requested to convene a Steering Committee session to share further details on the status of implementation; and (iii) conveyed the request the Court officially to share the list of beneficiaries of individual reparations with the Government of Mali.

116. The Minister also clarified that the oversight of the programme remains under the authority of the Ministry of Culture and that he will be kept informed through official channels.

117. [REDACTED]

118. The authorities further noted that, the Government of Mali raised no objections to the forthcoming handover of the collective reparations programme's results to the community of Timbuktu.

119. [REDACTED]³¹

120. Despite the approval given by the Minister to hold a handover ceremony during the Biennial organised in Timbuktu in December 2025, [REDACTED] making it difficult for the TFV to get any timely confirmation of participation, or confirmation that the handover could take place.

121. The TFV thus abandoned the plans for a handover, and instead chose to participate to the Biennial in Timbuktu in December 2025, which commemorated the attack on Timbuktu of 2012, and use the opportunity to conduct site visits with the local authorities and engage with the national authorities informally during the Biennial.

122. The TFV continues to assess the relevant operational, political, financial and security constraints relevant to the organization of a formal handover of the results of the collective reparations to the Government of Mali.

2. *The Artistic and Cultural Biennial of Mali 2025*

123. At the 2025 Biennial held in Timbuktu, the TFV attended the opening ceremony, which was presided over by the Prime Minister in the presence of the Minister of Culture. The opening ceremony was closely linked to the *Al Mahdi* and *Al Hassan* cases as the opening performance depicted the occupation of Timbuktu in 2012/13, the destruction of the mausoleums, and the suffering of the local community during the period of occupation. The organisation of the Biennial in Timbuktu, the first such event in northern Mali since independence in 1962, was widely celebrated as a symbol of the city's rebirth and a return to its cultural prominence.

124. During the Biennial, at the political level, the TFV engaged with a broad range of national and local authorities. Meetings were held with the Governor, who reaffirmed his

³¹ [REDACTED]

support while indicating that further instructions were awaited from Bamako. Productive visits were also conducted with the Mayor of the Urban Commune of Timbuktu and members of the municipal council, who expressed strong enthusiasm for the achievements and the partnership with the TFV. These engagements contributed to addressing ongoing challenges and reinforcing the collaborative efforts between local stakeholders and the TFV.

125. The TFV met the President of the Timbuktu Region and maintained regular liaison with technical advisers, SEGALs, and senior officials within several ministries.

126. In addition, for documentation purposes, images were collected and interviews conducted with programme participants and community members. A synopsis outlining the main narrative elements was developed and shared internally, forming the basis for a documentary film commissioned by the TFV to be produced in the coming months.

3. Diplomatic Exchanges

127. The TFV kept the Embassies of Germany and Canada regularly informed of programme developments. Other diplomatic representations, including Spain, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, the European Union, and Belgium, were also briefed on progress. Donors and diplomatic partners expressed strong support for the TFV. The tangible and visible nature of the reparations implemented to date has proven particularly persuasive and indicated a willingness to support conditioned to the acceptance of the State of Mali to have reparations continued.

D. GENDER ACTION PLAN

128. Context: The TFV has progressively integrated a gender-sensitive approach into its reparations and assistance programmes in Mali. Gender considerations were included in the Updated Draft Implementation Plan and operationalised through the Mali-specific Gender Action Plan (GAP) adopted in August 2022 and revised in December 2023, with updated outcome and impact indicators. A comprehensive external evaluation was conducted between October and December 2025, combining document reviews, indicator analysis, and stakeholder consultations. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation are under analysis.

E. EVALUATION

129. During the reporting period, the TFV conducted the procurement to commission the final evaluation of the programme. After contracting data collection, involving stakeholders including the authorities will commence.

F. STOCKTAKING

130. The TFV initiated a stocktaking exercise in respect of the *Al Mahdi* reparations to draw lessons from the process and support the institutionalisation of approaches designed in Mali, as well as on TFV's experience in Uganda and DRC. The exercise will be supported by technical facilitators contracted for this work. More than ten interviews have been held during the reporting period to identify the key themes for the stocktaking, which will guide the workshop scheduled for the week of 9 February 2026 in Bamako together with diverse stakeholders, including the implementing partners.

IN CONCLUSION,

Significant progress has been achieved towards completion of the Programme by the end of the first quarter of 2026. The Trust Fund for Victims respectfully requests the Trial Chamber to take note of the present report.



Deborah Ruiz Verduzco
Executive Director of the Trust Fund for Victims

Dated this 16th Day of February 2026

At The Hague, The Netherlands