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TRIAL CHAMBER II

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

SITUATION IN UGANDA

IN THE CASE OF THE PROSECUTOR v. DOMINIC ONGWEN

Public
with Confidential Annexes I, II and Public Annex III

Public redacted version of “Trust Fund for Victims' Third Update Report on the implementation of reparations”, ICC-02/04-01/15-2118-Conf, dated 5 May 2026

Source: Trust Fund for Victims

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

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Applicants

☐ **Unrepresented Victims**

☐ **Unrepresented Applicants**

(Participation/Reparation)

☐ **The Office of Public Counsel for
Victims**

☐ **The Office of Public Counsel for the
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REGISTRY

Registrar

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☐ **Counsel Support Section**

☐ **Victims and Witnesses Unit**

☐ **Detention Section**

☒ **Victims Participation and
Reparations Section**

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Public Information and Outreach Section

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 28 February 2024, Trial Chamber IX issued an order for reparations (“Reparations Order” or “Order”) against Mr Ongwen, ordering collective community-based reparations focused on rehabilitation, and symbolic and satisfaction measures to the direct and indirect victims of the crimes for which he was convicted, through the Trust Fund for Victims (“TFV”). Trial Chamber IX set Mr Ongwen’s liability at EUR 52,429,000.¹ The TFV’s draft implementation plan of 3 September 2024² was approved by Trial Chamber II on 18 February 2025 (“Approved Implementation Plan”).³

2. The TFV hereby submits its Third Update Report on the implementation of reparations covering reparations related activities in Uganda in relation to the case of *The Prosecutor v. Dominic Ongwen* (“Ongwen case”), pursuant to regulation 58 of the Regulations of the Trust Fund for Victims, and in accordance with the schedule approved by Trial Chamber II.⁴

3. The structure of the present report is guided by the status of implementation of reparations for victims of the *Ongwen* case as follows:

- a. Contextual information;
- b. Identification, eligibility determination, notification and TFV’s first contact;
- c. Programmatic development;
- d. Programme implementation;
- e. Monitoring, evaluation, learning, and accountability;
- f. Collaboration with stakeholders;
- g. Fund mobilisation and resources;
- h. Communication and visibility;
- i. Funding status;
- j. Other challenges.

¹ Reparations Order, 28 February 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2074](#), paras 797, 800.

² Trust Fund for Victims’ submission of Draft Implementation Plan, 3 September 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2099](#).

³ Decision on the Draft Implementation Plan, 18 February 2025, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2106](#).

⁴ Decision on the Draft Implementation Plan, 18 February 2025, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2106](#) (Decision on the DIP), para. 79 approving the TFV’s proposal to report in May and November of each year.

II. CLASSIFICATION OF THE PRESENT REPORT

4. Pursuant to regulation 23 *bis* (1) of the Regulations of the Court, the TFV has classified the present report as confidential given that information refers to various inner-working processes of the Court and the TFV, which are of a confidential nature. Annex I is classified as confidential given this is a confidential work product of the Registry. Annex II is classified as confidential given the photography included shows staff of the TFV and victims and other persons who can be associated to the work of the Court or the TFV.

III. CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

5. The Registry's situational overview of Uganda, covering the period until 24 April 2026, including recent political developments, has been included as confidential Annex I to the present report for the information of the Trial Chamber.

IV. IDENTIFICATION, ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION (ASSESSMENT), NOTIFICATION AND TFV'S FIRST CONTACT

6. In order for victims to access reparations, they must first be identified, determined to be eligible for reparations, and be informed of their eligibility, and subsequently invited to participate, where applicable, in reparative services that form part of the TFV's reparation programme. Responsibility for the identification, determination of victims' eligibility and their notification lies with the Registry's Victims Participation and Reparations Section ("VPRS"), while the subsequent information about the reparations programme and the victims' entry into that programme falls under the responsibility of the TFV.⁵

a. PROGRESS ON THE ELIGIBILITY PROCESS CONDUCTED BY VPRS

Status progress in the eligibility process

7. As part of the eligibility process, the TFV receives from VPRS information on a) the victims assessed with positive eligibility determination, and b) the victims notified of their eligibility.

a) *Eligibility assessments:*

8. During the reporting period, the TFV has received from VPRS six batches with the names and information of 2,439 victims determined eligible by VPRS together with the relevant application forms. On respectively 19 November 2025, 17 December 2025, 21 January 2026, 25 February 2026, 18 March 2026 22 April 2026 and 22 April 2026, the names and information

⁵ Reparations Order, 28 February 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2074](#) Para. 810; Registry Submissions pursuant to Reparations Order ICC-02/04-01/15-2074, 2 April 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2082](#).

of respectively 119, 669, 842, 449, 136, and 224 victims were sent to the TFV. Together with the numbers reported in the previous update reports, to date, VPRS has transmitted progressively lists of eligible victims in 12 batches for a total of 4,779 names. Details provided by VPRS about the six batches are included in Annex III.

9. Given VPRS has at the time of these transmissions not yet notified the victims of their eligibility, the lists transmitted are not further built upon by the TFV given the information included in these lists, in particular as to the contact data and notification, are not yet updated.

b) *Notifications:*

10. On 28 January 2026, the TFV received a first list of eligible victims deemed to be in dire need of urgent assistance (priority category one) that had been notified by VPRS as part of a process to initiate notifications of eligible victims falling in this first priority category. Notifications by VPRS to eligible victims in this category continued until 27 March 2026.

11. To date, a total of 560 eligible victims in the first priority category have been notified by VPRS, and their information has been transmitted to the TFV. VPRS transmitted between 28 January and 27 March 2026 lists with the names, updated contact details and all other relevant information processed by VPRS on a daily basis electronically to the TFV.

12. Information on notifications was transmitted from VPRS to the TFV through a form integrated into an IT system. These communications included the number of notified victims and the following information: application number, reviewer, caller, date of notification, observations, and a reference link to the corresponding dataset. In addition, VPRS transmitted to the TFV a consolidated weekly communication each Friday summarising the total number of applicants notified during the preceding week.

13. VPRS reported at a meeting held on 4 May 2026 that of the 671 victims whom VPRS intended to notify as part of this first notification phase, 96 victims could not be reached by VPRS, and VPRS became aware that 15 or 16 victims identified were deceased prior to notification. In addition, due to likely entry error, three victims were transmitted to the TFV as notified, although they had already been identified as deceased and the resumption of action had been initiated.⁶

⁶ Meeting Minutes of TFV-VPRS meeting of 4 May 2026.

b. PROGRESS ON THE TFCV'S FIRST CONTACT WITH BENEFICIARIES:

14. Pursuant to the Trial Chamber's instruction, the TFCV is required to contact eligible victims within 30 days of VPRS' notification, for the purpose of informing the victims about the reparations programme and the next steps for these victims.⁷

15. Following receipt of the list of notified victims from VPRS, the TFCV inputs the relevant information into its internal database on a designated day each week. This includes all pertinent data transmitted by VPRS and enables the initiation of the first contact process.

16. Following the transmission of the notification data to the TFCV internal database, the number of newly added applicants is recorded. The TFCV staff member responsible for first contact then initiates telephone contact with each notified applicant. The staff members relies on the previously developed first contact script, which had been shared with VPRS for input, to ensure an informed-consent-based, victim-centred, trauma-informed, and confidential approach.

17. In light of the 30-day period established by the Chamber for first contact by the TFCV, the TFCV aims at making within that period a minimum of three (3) contact attempts in respect of each notified applicant. In the event that the eligible victim cannot be reached following three such attempts within the prescribed period, the individual is recorded as unreachable for the purposes of that notification cycle. Attempts to contact the unreachable individuals continue nevertheless thereafter periodically.

18. As of the day of this submission, the TFCV has made first contact with 393 of the 560 VPRS-notified eligible victims in the first priority category.

19. Within the 30-day period, with respect of 78 victims, the TFCV could only make one attempt to reach them. The attempts to reach out to them continued after the 30-day period. This was primarily due to operational and workload-related constraints, including the high volume of victims, challenges in communicating with intermediaries to establish contact, and difficulties in reaching victims across different locations and contact channels.

20. As of the date of the present report, 163 eligible victims were not reachable despite attempts by TFCV staff to contact them. Four eligible victims have been discovered to be deceased. Of these, one of the victims passed away after having been notified by VPRS.

21. Any issues arising during the first contact process are systematically recorded in a dedicated issues log, which serves as the basis for follow-up engagement with VPRS. In

⁷ Reparations Order, 28 February 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2074](#), para. 810(f).

addition, a weekly report is submitted from the TFV Uganda office to TFV Headquarters, detailing the number of applicants successfully contacted, those recorded as unreachable, and any cases requiring further attention.

c. CHALLENGES

- 22. [REDACTED].
- 23. [REDACTED].
- 24. [REDACTED].
- 25. [REDACTED].
- 26. [REDACTED].

V. PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENT

27. Programmatic development refers to all activities that enable the strategic approach to programme implementation. This means incorporating methodologies, strategies and approaches in line with the TFV's Approved Implementation Plan, the Reparation Principles and the contextual and operational realities in which the programme will be implemented.

28. The main activity conducted in this period concerns setting up data management capacities. There are three tracks.

29. The first track consists of the work to set up an advanced database, the TFV Information and Data-Management System (IDMS). The advanced system will enable the TFV's work across the life cycle of the programme, from the information received from VPRS, the management of the workflow of first contact with victims, the processing of data of victims enrolled in the reparations programme, and the services that the victims have received, as well as the measurement of performance against targets and indicators. During the reporting period, procurement of the system was completed, and the set-up phase was launched. This included comprehensive process mapping of all functions and tasks across the programme lifecycle, followed by data mapping to define the fields and forms required to capture all relevant information. A beta version of the integrated system is expected to be available by August 2026.

30. Subject to further approvals, it is envisaged that the system underpinning the TFV IDMS may also be used by VPRS for the management of certain aspects of its data. This would facilitate more secure, streamlined, and efficient data exchange between VPRS and the TFV.

31. A second track relates to the management of historic data, in light of the past work of the TFV in Northern Uganda. As previously reported, the TFV had, since the end of the

assistance programme in Uganda in April 2025, initiated data analysis and data integration. This aims, inter alia, to enable cross-referencing between victims found eligible for reparations and beneficiaries of the assistance programme, in particular those referred by their legal representatives in recent years. During the reporting period, the TFCV prioritised cross-referencing with newly notified victims. A preliminary estimate indicates that approximately 80 notified victims had previously been referred to implementing partners under the assistance programme. This information will be critical during the intake phase to inform treatment planning and will also support projections of medical and related costs based on victims' existing needs.

32. A third track consists of the design of an interim process of management of data received from VPRS (of notified victims) for the purpose of TFCV first contact, until the TFCV IDMS is operational. This interim system is based on the model used in the Former Child Soldiers Programme (*Lubanga* and *Ntaganda* cases), adapted to the specific circumstances of the *Ongwen* case. In the reporting period, the TFCV achieved the activation of the interim system and input all data received from VPRS on notified victims. The system is updated on a rolling basis to track contact attempts and successful first contact.

33. The TFCV continues to progressively develop the Programme Charter to integrate a description of all aspects of the programme ensuring incorporation of the reparation principles and knowledge management as programmatic decisions in this preparatory phase. The Charter is intended to improve upon past practice by providing a single point of reference to support effective knowledge transfer and organisational learning. The TFCV considers the Charter to be an adequate and necessary complement to the schematic format adopted by the Trial Chamber in the *Ongwen* Reparations Order for the purposes of the Approved Implementation Plan and a key support to guide operations and information to stakeholders. During December 2025 and February 2026, the TFCV continued its planning work, including defining approaches to participatory mechanisms, symbolic payments, information management, fundraising, communications, and comprehensive three-year financial planning.

34. In the reporting period also, the TFCV initiated a cross-programme stocktaking exercise for the *Al Mahdi* reparations programme and a retrospective examination of the assistance programme in Uganda, with a view to identifying lessons learned and supporting the systematisation of approaches and eventual institutionalisation of best practices for new programming.

35. For the benefit of the *Ongwen* programme, a Uganda-focused workshop was conducted in Gulu from 24 to 27 March 2026. Participants included local and district leaders, service

providers involved in the assistance programme, former implementing partners, victim associations, civil society representatives, transitional justice practitioners, legal representatives of victims in the *Ongwen* case, and staff of the VPRS.

36. The discussions were guided by, *inter alia*, the following key questions: (i) what considerations should the TFV prioritise when designing and implementing programmes in previously unknown or unexplored operational contexts; and (ii) from the perspective of implementing and other partners, what information or guidance would have been essential at the outset to support effective programme delivery.

VI. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

37. The Trial Chamber approved the following measures as part of the *Ongwen* reparations programme: 1) a participatory mechanism to ensure victim participation throughout the design and delivery of reparations;⁸ 2) delivery of collective community-based physical, psychological, and socio-economic rehabilitation measures, collective community-based symbolic and satisfaction measures;⁹ and, as included in Reparations Order, 3) delivery of a symbolic payment of €750 to each eligible direct and indirect victim.¹⁰ This section describes the progress made in these areas.

a. PARTICIPATORY MECHANISM AND VICTIM ENGAGEMENT

38. As central to the reparations programme, the Approved Implementation Plan includes a Participatory Mechanism¹¹ to enable victims to be engaged in the implementation process through their active and meaningful participation.

39. In the reporting period, the TFV secured the establishment of the Participatory Mechanism.

40. The participatory mechanism was set up in the first place, based on consultations that took place during previous reporting periods,¹² on the need for creation of the participatory mechanism in Gulu with approximately 65 victims selected from across the four case locations of Abok, Odek, Lukodi, and Pajule/Lapul as well as thematic crime victims. The aim of the consultation was to understand the victims' views on the suitability, purpose, and design of the representative committees as part of the participatory mechanism, the role and function of the

⁸ Decision on the Draft Implementation Plan, 18 February 2025, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2106](#), para. 43.

⁹ *Ibid.*, paras 53, 59, 74.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 37; Reparations Order, 28 February 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2074](#), para. 664.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 39.

¹² First Update Report, 18 June 2026, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2109](#), para. 27-47.

representative committees, and the logistical arrangements and resources required to enable their operation.

41. During the reporting period, from 10 to 14 November 2025, follow-up consultations took place in Gulu that focused on discussing the formation of the participatory mechanism committees.

42. The consultations were undertaken with victims from the four case locations (Community Committee Group) and victims of thematic crimes (Thematic Committee Group). In order to facilitate productive discussion, participants were provided with TFV updates on the implementation process thus far.

43. At these November 2025 consultations, the participants reviewed and updated the draft Bylaws and Code of Conduct following consultations with members of their respective communities. As reported in the Second Update Report, consultations led to the development of governing frameworks including the Bylaws and Code of Conduct. The number of Victim Participation Committee (VPC) members for each location or group, their nomination and election process, the VPC's composition, eligibility requirements and disciplinary measures in case of acts of misconduct were confirmed by the participants.

44. The Thematic Committee Group decided that their VPC ought to include between 11 and 15 representatives from various locations, reflecting where the thematic crimes victims come from. They also decided cultural and religious leaders should not be part of their VPC but can be called upon to collaborate on specific matters, as necessary. The group concluded that, as they prefer the VPC to be composed of victims found eligible for reparations, an interim committee would be established.

45. *Governing frameworks:* The Bylaws and a Code of Conduct were further developed after the end of these consultations of November 2025 and have been translated since. They guide and govern the design, activities, and engagements of the VPCs.

46. *Bylaws:* The Bylaws provide that, for the first three years, the VPCs will include members representing both victims from the case locations and victims from non-case locations who are currently concentrated in those case locations. This approach is intended to foster inclusion and promote social cohesion among victim communities. It also reflects the fact that the eligibility process conducted by VPRS is ongoing in parallel to the establishment of the VPCs, and that the full composition of the community of eligible victims is not yet finalised.

47. The Bylaws lay out the multi-purpose nature of the VPCs: to facilitate victim participation in the implementation process, to provide emerging developments to victims, to

enable feedback channels for victims' concerns, and to facilitate liaison between stakeholders and implementing partners. The guiding principles of the committees include, among others, justice, dignity, privacy, integrity, inclusion, transparency, accountability, and non-discrimination.

48. The structure of the committees comprises a Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Welfare Officer with the Bylaws detailing the respective roles of each position. Practical details are also outlined, including terms of service, procedures in cases of death, illness, or relocation, and guidelines for handling misconduct.

49. Meetings with the community are to be conducted quarterly, four times per year - except in the first year - with each meeting guided by a pre-circulated agenda developed by the Secretary in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair. Committee meetings are to take place four times per year to discuss the update narrative reports and implementation.

50. *Code of Conduct:* all VPC members are to take an oath of commitment to abide by the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct sets out expected behaviours of VPC members. These standards of behaviour include respect and dignity; confidentiality; integrity and honesty; professional conduct; non-discrimination and inclusion; conflict of interest; accountability and transparency; and supportive environment.

51. *Elections of the Victim Participatory Committees:* From 21 to 28 February 2026, community-led elections of the VPCs took place, supported by the TFV, in Pajule, Lapul, Abok, Lukodi, Odek, and Gulu, for thematic crimes victims. The TFV includes in Confidential Annex II photographs taken during these elections.

52. The structure of the election days consisted of a first session where the TFV provided background on the Reparations Order and Approved Implementation Plan, as well as on the implementation phase. The second session provided an overview of the participatory mechanism process to date and the role of VPC members as decided in the workshops that preceded the election. The third session gave guidance on the election process before moving on to the election of the VPC members. Guidance involved explanation of registration and election modalities, criteria for nomination of VPC members (as per the bylaws developed and adopted) and guidance on the priority of securing gender representation; some VPCs are more gender balanced than others reflecting the community's selection process and prevailing social/cultural norms.

53. The committees were elected as follows.

54. In Gulu, the first engagement with the Thematic Committee Group took place with 25 participants in attendance. This meeting included victims from the other sub-regions beyond Acholi, which are Teso, West Nile, and Lango. Due to consensus on establishing a VPC composed of eligible victims, but in the absence of a complete list of eligible victims from VPRS, the group decided to establish an interim committee. The interim VPC consists of 11 people; five representatives of the Acholi sub-region, two for Teso sub-region, two from Lango sub-region, one from West Nile region, and one representative from a Victim Association, Watye Ki Gen. Within this committee, four men and seven women were elected.

55. In Pajule, 364 participants attended the election. 16 VPC members are on the committee, including representatives of the cultural institution and persons with disabilities. The committee is composed of 11 men and five women.

56. In Lapul, 357 participants attended the election. 15 VPC members are on the committee with one representing the religious group. This committee is composed of ten men and five women.

57. In Odek, 298 participants attended the election. 14 VPC members are on the committee with one representative of the cultural institution, and one person with disabilities. This committee is composed of eight men and seven women.

58. In Abok, 404 participants attended the election. 13 VPC members are on the committee with two representatives for the cultural and religious groups. This committee is composed of six men and seven women were elected.

59. Finally, in Lukodi, 464 participants attended the election. 15 VPC members are on this committee with seven representatives from the 11 villages, one representative of a cultural institution, one representative of a religious institution, one representative of persons with disabilities, one representative of Lukodi Primary School, two youth representatives, and two women representatives. This committee was structurally different from the other committees to allow for representation of the necessary interest groups. Overall, this committee is composed of eight men and seven women.

60. *Training for VPC members:* Between 21 and 24 April 2026, training workshops were held by the TFV in Gulu for all newly elected 84 VPC members.

61. The workshop consisted of providing the VPC members with in-depth information on the implementation plan, the Bylaws and the Code of Conduct, the principles on reparations adopted by the Court to guide the development, implementation, and monitoring of reparations, procedures for the Grievance Committee to address issues that come up in the process, and

support with the logistics of conducting meetings within the community. PIOS also gave a presentation on the final day.

62. The workshops were designed to be highly interactive. This involved mock community meetings to guide VPC members on responding to questions from the community. The participatory nature of the workshops was well-received with participants emphasising they came away with a significantly improved understanding of their role and a newfound confidence in engaging with the community.

63. An Executive Committee for each VPC was also selected. This includes a Chairperson, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Welfare Officer. Each was informed of their duties and responsibilities. The VPCs were also informed that their tasks includes providing a quarterly narrative report to the TFV and preparing an annual work plan and budget. Templates were shared to assist with these responsibilities.

64. At the conclusion of the workshop, the 84 VPC members took an Oath of Commitment in relation to the Code of Conduct. The VPC members were sworn in for a tenure of three years starting as of April 2026. Name tags, branded shirts, backpacks, pens, and notebooks were also distributed to support the performance of their duties in the field.

65. *Next steps:* In June 2026 the TFV will travel to the respective districts of the four case locations including Gulu, Pader, Omoro, and Oyam to introduce the VPC members to the local authorities in the respective locations. Feedback from the training workshops also highlighted the need for a practical session on annual planning, including support to the VPCs in preparing their first community meetings. As a further follow-up, the Bylaws, the Reparations Principles documentation, and a flyer explaining the purpose of the participatory mechanism have been translated into the local language and shared with the VPCs for dissemination.

b. COMMUNITY-BASED MEASURES AND SYMBOLIC PAYMENT

66. The Approved Implementation Plan includes physical, psychological, and socio-economic rehabilitation measures as part of the rehabilitation component of the reparations programme,¹³ as well as memorialisation and community-healing measures and measures countering stigma as part of the symbolic and satisfaction component of the reparations programme.¹⁴ Trial Chamber IX included in the Reparations Order a symbolic payment of €750 for each eligible direct and indirect victim as part of the collective community-based reparations in the present case. As instructed in the Reparations Order, this modality of reparations is not

¹³ Decision on the Draft Implementation Plan, 18 February 2025, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2106](#), paras 44-66.

¹⁴ Decision on the DIP, paras 67-74.

referred to in the Approved Implementation Plan, but forms part of the programme and it is contained in the Programme Charter.

i. PREPARATORY STEPS FOR SYMBOLIC PAYMENT

67. Preparation for the implementation of the symbolic payment forms part of the broader preparation for programme implementation. The TFV has continued its preparation for the implementation of the cash modality, by (i) continuing to take stock of its institutional cash delivery practice and experience. The TFV is (ii) in the process of engaging cash delivery expertise to conduct a thorough comparison of delivery methods and to advise on any improvements needed to the TFV's policies for cash delivery.

c. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF REPARATIONS

68. In its Second Update Report, the TFV indicated that it anticipated being operationally ready to initiate implementation in early 2026. This projection was made based on a) availability of resources considering the Board allocation made in July 2025; b) in anticipation of the notification to victims by VPRS by early 2026; and c) work conducted by the TFV to ensure capacity for delivery of cash or services. Capacity for delivery was designed by pursuing two tracks: i) a full tender to select implementing partners, and ii) a process to contract an existing implementing partner to initiate the programme as soon as possible, while the full tender was ongoing.

i. FULL TENDER FOR THE SELECTION OF IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

69. In order to deliver the reparative measures set out in the Reparations Order, and as noted in the Approved Implementation Plan, the TFV must engage organisations with the requisite technical expertise and contextual understanding to implement the programme effectively, and must select them in line with the Financial Rules and Regulations of the Court. The TFV has prioritised the design of a selection approach that reflects the principles of fairness, transparency, and inclusivity, particularly in reaching national and community-based actors. As previously reported, the expression of interest remained open until 1 October 2024 and was widely disseminated both online and within Uganda to ensure broad accessibility and inclusive participation.¹⁵

70. As of the date of this submission, the TFV has been in the process of strengthening its processes for the selection of implementing partners through the adoption of a TFV Standard

¹⁵ First Update Report, 18 June 2025, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2109](#), para. 54-55.

Operating Procedures (“SOP”) concerning the procurement process consistent with the applicable core principles of impartiality, transparency, and accountability.

71. As a part of the ongoing institutional review with respect to the procurement process in selecting implementing partners, the development of a plan for the procurement of the full-scale programme is underway. The TFV expects that a first procurement process concludes in the first quarter of 2027 relevant to cash payments and the physical and psychological components of the programme.

ii. Initial Programme through existing implementing partners

72. To accelerate the start of the programme, while the full tender has been ongoing, the TFV initially pursued the option of using existing contracts (as part of the assistance programme). For this, it conducted a review of capacities and identified one partner with superior capabilities and presence, access and legitimacy in relevant areas to support the initial start of the reparations programme. The TFV accordingly submitted a request for the continuation of this contract to the Procurement Review Committee, which issued a positive recommendation to the Registrar for the renewal of the contract into a seventh contractual year. This approach would have enabled the immediate provision of support to victims in dire need at the relevant locations throughout 2026, allowing to transfer in 2027 the continuation of the implementation to the organisations selected under the full tender.

73. [REDACTED].

74. On the basis of intensive consultations and assessments, the TFV has identified several alternatives to seek a start of the programme in 2026. These are being assessed and pursued.

75. In the meantime, the TFV is assessing alternative next steps and will appraise the Trial Chamber accordingly.

76. In conclusion, the TFV is in the process of taking the steps necessary to launch a programme for the vulnerable victims in dire need of urgent assistance.

VII. MONITORING, EVALUATION, LEARNING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

77. In submitting the DIP, the TFV proposed a feedback mechanism to be implemented together with the Registry alongside each measure of the reparation programme. The aim of the

feedback mechanism was to enable beneficiaries to directly request information, provide feedback, ask questions, and convey complaints.¹⁶

78. The Chamber approved the feedback mechanism, concurring that the mechanism should be independent, cover all actors involved in the implementation of reparations, and be available in relation to all reparations' measures, instructing the TFV and Registry to safeguard the confidentiality of victims' information and to ensure cost-effective design of the mechanism.¹⁷

79. The TFV has started to develop feedback management tools, designed to ensure the prompt recording, response, and follow-up of victim feedback. The TFV will continue working on the development of these tools with VPRS and the participatory mechanism, as described above.

VIII. COLLABORATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

80. *Interaction with the ICC Registry:* As part of cooperative institutional efforts, the TFV, VPRS, and PIOS continue to collaborate closely throughout the implementation of reparations in the present case, in particular through a) meetings every other month to appraise each other of developments in the eligibility, notification, transmission, and public information and outreach activities, as well as on the progress of reparations design and implementation, and b) ongoing appraisal of each other's activities among relevant staff in the Country Office and at Headquarters.

IX. FUND MOBILISATION AND RESOURCES

81. In submitting the DIP, the TFV Board of Directors committed to mobilising the resources needed to complement in full or to the maximum extent possible the Reparations Order.¹⁸ In doing so, the TFV Board of Directors underscored the common responsibility of the TFV, the Court and the States Parties in ensuring the integral, timely and high-quality implementation of the Reparations Order, and recognised the importance of the call made by the Trial Chamber in the Reparations Order, on States and other donors for voluntary contributions to complement the payment of the reparations award.¹⁹

¹⁶ Draft Implementation Plan, 4 September 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2099-Anx](#), pp. 2, 7 (DIP); Registry's Observations on the Trust Fund for Victims' Draft Implementation Plan, 3 October 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2104](#), para. 15.

¹⁷ Decision on the Draft Implementation Plan, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2106](#), para. 77.

¹⁸ Trust Fund for Victims' submission of Draft Implementation Plan, 3 September 2024, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2099](#), para. 31.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 32.

82. The success in mobilising resources for the *Ongwen* Programme relies on both institutional fund mobilisation capacity of the TFV as well as on dedicated and focused efforts in relation to the *Ongwen* programme.

a. INSTITUTIONAL FUND MOBILISATION EFFORTS

83. The TFV recalls the institutional fund mobilisation efforts outlined in the previous update report, namely the approved TFV Fund Mobilisation Strategy and the constitution of the External Relations Team on approval by the Assembly; the appointment of Ambassador Vusimuzi Madonsela (South Africa) as a facilitator of the Assembly Working Group on the Trust Fund for Victims; and the challenging global landscape for the mobilisation of resources. The Assembly of States Parties decided in December 2025 that the facilitation, and accordingly the Working Group, continue throughout 2026 with a focus on fund mobilisation.²⁰

84. *ASP Facilitation on the Trust Fund for Victims:* The first meeting of the facilitation was held in March 2026, chaired by Ambassador Vusimuzi Madonsela. The meeting focused on the approval of the work programme for 2026, which encompassed five scheduled meetings throughout the year to address the mandated topics, including the operationalisation of paragraph 2(d) of the resolution establishing the TFV to consider Assembly contributions to the TFV, other than from assessed contributions,²¹ broader victims-related issues, governance and funding matters. In the first meeting, the TFV provided a briefing to delegations on the financial situation, activities and challenges of the TFV, noting that the funding landscape remains limited and unpredictable.

85. At the institutional level, the Strategic Plan of the ICC 2026-2029 refers in the cross-ICC strategy the necessity to ensure contributions for reparations. Correspondingly, the risk register of the Court integrates, under risk 8, the significant impact on the Court should resources for the victims not be available. In the reporting period, the TFV, as owner of risk 8, coordinated the creation of the cross-ICC Action Plan that includes a) efforts from the OTP to strengthen the work of the newly created Financial Investigations Unit, b) from the Registry through its Judicial Cooperation Support Section ("JCSS") to work closely with the OTP in relation to the freezing and seizing of assets, and c) from the TFV implementing its fundraising strategy. The Action Plan has been approved by the Court's Coordination Council ("CoCo") and is under implementation.

²⁰ Resolution ICC-ASP/24/Res.6 'Strengthening the International Criminal Court and the Assembly of States Parties', 5 December 2025, [R.6-E-51225](#), Page 25, 11(f).

²¹ ICC ASP/1/Res. 6 para 2. (c) Resources collected through awards for reparations if ordered by the Court pursuant to rule 98 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence; (d) Such resources, other than assessed contributions, as the Assembly of States Parties may decide to allocate to the Trust Fund.

86. As part of the development of the fundraising and management plans, the TFV is actively working to diversify its donor base and explore new funding streams, such as European Commission and individual donations as well as strengthening partnerships with existing supporters. The TFV is also significantly increasing its visibility, demonstrating impact and results of its activities through more strategic communications, external relations and participation in events, which are essential to maintaining donors and prospects' confidence and interest in the TFV. In this regard, the project of the new website of the TFV as part of the TFV Communications Strategy is under implementation.

87. The TFV has additionally been piloting modalities of sponsored campaigns, where entities external to the TFV volunteer time and effort to target specific markets for the purpose of small giving. As previously reported, the first was launched on 17 July at the initiative of the Office of Public Counsel for Victims ("OPCV") on the 20th anniversary of its establishment. A framework for the relationship was piloted on this occasion, including the endorsement of the TFV Board of Directors of the campaign. The campaign ran until December 2025 through a crowdfunding platform and collected approximately €80,000, a part of which is earmarked to the *Ongwen* case.

88. *European Commission*: during the reporting period, the TFV has dedicated a substantive amount of time in engaging with the Commission from the perspective of funding earmarked to reparations. Upon fruition of such engagement, the Board of Directors could decide to allocate resources to the *Ongwen* programme.

89. Despite ongoing efforts, the global landscape for the mobilisation of resources has remained challenging since 2025 due to numerous international developments in relation to politics, trade and security. In this regard, the TFV reports that its income in 2025 amounted to a total of €2.1 million, which is a drastic drop from the €5.7 million mobilised in 2024.

b. ONGWEN-PROGRAMME-SPECIFIC MOBILISATION EFFORTS

90. Since the issuance of the Reparations Order, the TFV Board of Directors has remained informed of the activities undertaken in the development of the programme. An urgent funding appeal was issued on 27 June 2024 to initiate the reparations programme. The TFV has since engaged in various fora, including in Uganda, based on this fundraising appeal.

91. Diplomatic missions in Kampala: In the reporting period, the TFV engaged in Kampala with seven embassies to pursue funding, and with whom a dialogue is ongoing. Additional seven embassies of State Parties to the Rome Statute are being pursued for a second round of outreach. Overall, States have reported that in the current context in which resources available

are meagre and budget cuts piling up year after year, their priority for funding generally aligns with their foreign policy through the lens of issues considered by the Government as a priority. In this regard, it is noteworthy to emphasise that none of the policies of State Parties present in Uganda consider the issue of reparation as a funding priority and are rather focused on issues of a more contemporaneous nature. In this regard, it is upon the TFV to advocate with capitals of these States Parties to integrate the implementation of reparations in Uganda as a priority, and to develop the linkages that reparations have with current interests.

92. State Parties also expressed the importance to see a substantive contribution by the Government of Uganda to a reparation programme to benefit its own population to motivate their contribution.

93. Also, certain States have expressed in addition to the above-mentioned issues a structural impediment to providing support to the TFV from the embassy budget related to the fact that the TFV, as a Rome Statute based entity, may only be funded in their internal system through the legal department of their Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is the traditional mechanism through which the TFV has been receiving funding of a symbolic nature, although such departments may generally only provide funding stemming from limited unspent funds.

94. *Government of the Republic of Uganda:* The TFV has followed up on the Republic of Uganda's engagement to substantively finance the reparations programme. Such contribution would send a strong signal to donors regarding the strategic importance of the *Ongwen* programme for the Government and contribute to its inclusion in their list of priorities to be funded and therefore ensure a steady flow of funding. In the continuation of its dialogue with the Republic of Uganda, the TFV will provide it with feedback related to its fund mobilisation efforts and the substantive progress that could be made if it is to identify the *Ongwen* programme as a priority for donors to fund in Uganda. Given the post electoral period, engagement during the current reporting period was minimal.

95. *Representations in The Hague and capital of State Parties:* the TFV is progressively engaging with States Parties in The Hague and in their capital as a way to identify how funding reparations programmes may be included in their strategic priorities for funding, situation country by situation country, including in Uganda. The TFV is also engaging States as a way to ensure that the TFV may access development aid funding including funding available through their embassies in Uganda where the *Ongwen* programme may contribute to achieving strategic objectives of their foreign policy.

X. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

96. The TFV has pursued a comprehensive communications and visibility strategy to support the implementation of the Reparations Order in the present case.

97. The strategy has aimed to inform stakeholders and the public about key developments in the implementation of the reparations to generate support for the TFV's urgent appeals for voluntary contributions and amplify the voices of victims.

98. Following the First Urgent Funding Appeal of EUR 5 million launched on 27 June 2024, the TFV has participated in numerous public events and high-level engagements to raise visibility. These engagements were promoted across the TFV's social media channels.

99. During the reporting period, the TFV sustained close engagement with key stakeholders, notably through its strategic media outreach. This included off-the-record briefings with prominent international media outlets, focusing on recent developments and progress.

100. The TFV participated in and supported numerous visibility and outreach activities, which were reflected across its social media channels. In particular, a post concerning the community consultations held in Gulu, Pajule, Lapul, Odek, Abok, and Lukodi, Uganda, in preparation for the implementation of the reparations programme in the present case, was disseminated through the TFV's social media platforms. The post was translated into French and Spanish and shared on Bluesky, X, LinkedIn, and Facebook, in line with the TFV's efforts to ensure broad and accessible dissemination of information concerning programme-related developments.

101. The voluntary contribution made by Finland, the first contribution specifically allocated to the *Ongwen* reparations programme, was reflected in a dedicated press release. The press release was translated into French and disseminated across the TFV's social media channels and through global media outreach. The announcement received media attention, including mentions by the United Nations Information Centre for Western Europe, *The Daily Express* in Uganda, and Uganda Radio Network in Uganda.

102. *Consultation Report:* As previously reported and provided to the Chamber in the annex to the First Update Report, the TFV has prepared a report on the outcome of the consultations in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the consulted potentially eligible victims' views and concerns on the ordered reparations, including the symbolic payments, the preferred measures, and other considerations to take into account when designing and implementing the programme. In line with the planned activities, the formatted version of the report is under

preparation. The report will be published and supported by a comprehensive dissemination plan, both online and in print, across relevant fora to maximise outreach and engagement.

XI. FUNDING STATUS

103. As reported in the previous update report, the Board of Directors allocated €900,000 to the *Ongwen* programme. This allocation was made by the Board on the basis of unrestricted resources received. In addition, on 16 December 2025, the TFV signed an agreement with Finland to receive the first earmarked contribution for the *Ongwen* Programme. Finally, the TFV received from the OPCV20 Donation Campaign approximately €80,000, a part of which is earmarked to the *Ongwen* case.

104. The TFV will continue to appraise the Trial Chamber of developments on fund mobilisation, allocated resources, and any decision on complement and inform the Trial Chamber and the victims of a potential start date of the programme as soon as such information becomes available.²²

XII. OTHER CHALLENGES

105. [REDACTED].

106. [REDACTED].

XIII. CONCLUSION

107. The TFV respectfully requests the Trial Chamber to take note of the present report.



Deborah Ruiz Verduzco
Executive Director, Trust Fund for Victims

Dated this 30th Day of October 2026

At The Hague, The Netherlands

²² Decision on the Draft Implementation Plan, [ICC-02/04-01/15-2106](#), para. 14.