

PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE ICC PROSECUTOR:

INVITING VICTIMS OF CRIMES ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED ON THE
TERRITORY OF THE PHILIPPINES BETWEEN 1 NOVEMBER 2011 AND 16 MARCH
2019 IN THE CONTEXT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES' "WAR ON
DRUGS" CAMPAIGN TO SEND THEIR VIEWS TO THE ICC
IN THE HAGUE ON THE OPENING OF AN INVESTIGATION

The Hague, 15 June 2021

By this notice, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, informs victims of crimes allegedly committed on the territory of the Philippines between 1 November 2011 and 16 March 2019 in the context of the Government of the Philippines' "war on drugs" campaign, that she has requested authorisation from Pre-Trial Chamber I to open an investigation into alleged murder, and other crimes which are sufficiently linked to the "war on drugs" campaign, in accordance with Article 15(3) of the Rome Statute and Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence.

The Prosecutor considers that there is a reasonable basis to proceed with an investigation in relation to alleged crimes against humanity of murder, and other crimes which are sufficiently linked to the "war on drugs" campaign, committed from 1 November 2011 until 16 March 2019.

According to Article 15(3) of the Rome Statute, "victims may make representations to the Pre-Trial Chamber, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and Evidence". Accordingly, the Prosecutor hereby notifies victims of crimes allegedly committed on the territory of the Philippines between 1 November 2011 and 16 March 2019 in the context of the Government of the Philippines' "war on drugs" campaign, that they can send their views and comments to the Judges of Pre-Trial Chamber I on whether an investigation into the alleged crime of murder, and other crimes which are sufficiently linked to the "war on drugs" campaign, should be opened.

The Prosecutor's request for authorisation to open an investigation in the Situation in the Philippines is available on the Court's website at (https://www.icc-cpi.int/Pages/item.aspx?name=210614-prosecutor-statement-philippines). Victims or their representatives should make representations to the Pre-Trial Chamber through the Victims Participation and Reparations Section ("VPRS") of the Registry. The deadline for submissions of victim representations will be communicated in due course.

Please note that victims' engagement with the ICC is strictly voluntary. Victims can make their representations in writing, preferably in English or French (the ICC's working languages), either using a representation form developed by the Registry and ready for download as a PDF file from the ICC webpage (https://www.icc-cpi.int/philippines) or using the online form also available on the ICC website as part of the victim-related information under the above link. Filled-out representation forms that have not been filled out and transmitted online should be sent to the Victims Participation and Reparations Section (VPRS) to the postal address below:

International Criminal Court
Victims Participation and Reparations Section
PO Box 19519
2500 CM, The Hague
The Netherlands

Victims may also send their representations to the following email address: <u>VPRS.Information@icc-cpi.int</u>

Each victim/group of victims should fill in only one single form, either the online version or the (identical) PDF version of the form, to make their representation.

Before filling in the representation form, victims should carefully read the attached instructions developed by the Registry, and also accessible alongside the representation form on the ICC webpage: https://www.icc-cpi.int/philippines.

In addition, victims are encouraged to contact the VPRS for any questions and assistance, at: VPRS.Information@icc-cpi.int

The Pre-Trial Chamber may request additional information from any of the victims who have made such representations, and may hold a hearing if it considers it appropriate.

The Chamber will give notice of its decision on the Prosecutor's request to all victims who have made representations. The VPRS will contact all victims who have submitted representations and/or their representatives in order to provide relevant information.

Should the Judges authorise the opening of an investigation, victims may also be able, in a separate process at a later stage, to apply for participation in potential judicial proceedings and have the opportunity to present their views and concerns. In the context of a case, victims will also be entitled to request reparations.

The present notice has been posted as of today on the website of the ICC, and sent to the media worldwide, including the media of Philippines, the authorities of the Philippines, and to a wide range of NGOs. The Registry is ready to receive victims' representations through the above channels with immediate effect.