

Regional Training Facility on
Prevention and Suppression of Sexual
and Gender Based Violence
in the Great Lakes Region



Centre Régional De Formation Sur
La Prévention et Suppression Des
Violence Sexuelles Basées Sur Le Genre
Dans La Région Des Grands Lacs



REPORT

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIVE AND BRAINSTORMING MEETING ON THE ICGLR TRAINING FACILITY FOR THE PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF SGBV.

BY EUGENE NTAGANDA, Consultant.

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Executive Summary

The initiative to set up a training facility for the prevention and suppression of sexual and Gender-Based Violence was taken pursuant to Art 6(9) of the Protocol of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence. It was implemented as the fourth resolution of the Kampala special session on SGBV in Great Lakes in December 2011 that has instructed the ICGLR to establish a regional center of excellence to strengthen and train all relevant actors across the region on specific identified topics and issues related to SGBV.

The meeting was convened as part of a number of interventions to establish and operationalize the creation of the center. Uganda has offered to host the regional training facility. A feasibility study carried out early indicated the need to convene a regional high level stakeholder meeting to discuss existing initiatives, identifying training gaps and needs in the Region, so that the RTF could adequately respond to them. The meeting was indeed attended by representatives of UN-Women, World Bank, ICGLR secretariat, RTF/PSSGBV, IGAD, COMESA, EAC, FEMNET, CEDOVIP, Swiss Development Cooperation, UNFPA, OSESG-GLR and FEMNET

The participants discussed ongoing training and sensitization actions within regional blocks, namely: IGAD, COMESA, EAC, ICGLR, and in individual countries, such as Uganda, Kenya, South Africa and others;

The meeting identified the existing gaps and reflected on how the design of RTF curriculum and program would fill the gaps. Reflection was also done on what can be the institution (RTF/PSSGBV)'s comparative added value and distinctive advantage and where its training should focus as a true *Centre of excellence* in the region and beyond;

Participants commented on the Strategic Plan for the set-up of the facility, identifying possible key stakeholders, as the potential partners, allies, enablers, and possible blockers, and how they can be engaged for the Training Facility to be really effective, efficient and sustainable;

A comprehensive and creative curriculum, targeting specific levels of service providers and a training program recognizing the linguistic, political and cultural realities of the region were suggested;

The meeting emphasized the need to enhance a holistic, integrated, multi- sectoral and coordinated approach in fighting Sexual Violence against Women (SVAW) across sectors and at all levels;

Finally, Participants have encouraged RTF to identify a specific niche through a large consultation in member states. The initiative would identify “qualified trainers of trainers”. It was agreed that for strategic reasons, initial trainings would target Police and the Judiciary who are dealing on daily basis with victims seeking redress and holding perpetrators accountable for their crimes, investigation matters, forensic evidence,...

Commitment.

Finally, participants made general commitments. First of all, they committed themselves to a holistic and collective approach at various levels and sectors;

- High-level advocacy must continue at Heads of States level; and RIMC to keep the RTF a priority in their policy dialogues;
- Relevant ministries must avail resources for the necessary logistics to support the work of trained experts. One of the promising strategies would be among others to encourage Member states women's organizations through the women's regional forum to advocate for a RTF budget component through the gender responsive budgeting interventions as key priority area.
- For technical support, organizations such as UN-Women may help in assisting individual organizations in seeking funds for RTF in their budget consultation with their respective governments and engage ICGLR national coordinators for this purpose.

Action Points/Next Steps.

One idea emerging from the stakeholder workshop is that it is crucial for a new center to rapidly capitalize on quick wins versus long term interventions during 2015 for specific areas that do not require additional funds and resources. These actions would catalyze the strategic engagement of member states and hesitant potential donors in supporting the RTF. For the short run, the following points have been agreed upon by all present stakeholders. As shown above, they made commitment to support in one way or another the implementation of these actions.

1. In the short run, it is crucial to update and enrich the feasibility study/assessment report by hiring a consultant (group of consultants), one from each member state, with a regional lead consultant who will collect information related to existing training materials, expertise, guidelines and institutions in each member state that can collaborate and partner with the RTF; The strategic planning also needs to set clear and measurable indicators, a robust Monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanism(MEL), a theory of change underpinning its future work;
2. Undertaking a SGBV training needs assessment with an action plan targeting key urgent priority areas of capacity for judiciary and police;
3. Identify trainers of trainers in member states for police and judiciary, design in consultation with them curricula taking into account the two traditions(French and english, common law and civil law tradition) by engaging with comparative law experts who are conversant with both law systems,...
4. Convening a regional expert meeting to discuss training modules, validate them with their action plan with clear outputs, outcomes and potential impact.
5. Undertaking training of target groups in police and judiciary in all member states with planned follow-up sessions with tools to assess training progress and its impact on the police and judiciary daily work on SGBV cases;
6. In the mid term, organize a "Gender-access to justice symposium in the ICGLR", attended by experts in gender justice, human and women's rights, to present case study papers from

ICGLR member states on major challenges related to sexual violence, and discuss the best way the RTF can add value to the existing initiatives in member states. This will help in finding more materials for curricula development and information for experts;

7. In the mid term, hold a meeting of ICGLR national coordinators to agree on the concrete steps to support the RTF as part of a resource mobilization process;
8. In the short run, fast-track the recruitment of relevant staff related to IT and Knowledge management, research and documentation, outreach and communication strategist in preparation for full-scale training;
9. In the short run, put in place a mailing list for information sharing; including the results from the assessment report (with its popular /advocacy versions), can continue to be collected and shared among the gender-influencing Great Lakes network with a purpose of creating more information base and more expertise;
10. Establish a steering committee/advisory board that will continue to help the RTF to set up effective mechanisms for training;
11. In the short run, convene a meeting of SGBV experts from member states for validation of the updated assessment/mapping report;
12. In the short run, convene a consultative meeting with participants from all member states to finalize and validate the RTF strategic plan.
13. In the mid term, RTF should seek technical and financial support from allies and partners to undertake training of social and health workers;
14. Implementation of action plans and immediate next steps will be successful only if RTF engage with all stakeholders (health workers, social workers, judiciary, prosecutors, state Attorneys, police and military) in order to enhance multi-sectoral interventions;
15. Participants agree to widely disseminate the above action points in different for a, namely: AU, UN, ECA, etc.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

For external readers, there is a need toThe International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) is made of twelve (12) Member States namely: Angola, Burundi, Central Africa Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo (Congo Brazzaville), South Sudan, Sudan, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

Historical conflicts, persisting to date, have been particularly devastating to women of the region, who have been targeted by warring factions; in post-conflict too, the status of women remains precarious, compared to their men counterparts. Commendable headways have been made by respective member countries, though with diverse performance levels.

Yet, the issue of gender-based violence in general and sexual violence against women in particular is challenge across borders. All stakeholders thus agree on the importance for a coordinated action in fighting Sexual Violence against Women (SVAW) across sectors and at all levels. This led to the adoption of the Protocol of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence. Later on, in December 2011, a special session during the ICGLR summit of heads of State, has drawn a considerable of the huge consequences of SGBV on women health, national development and sustainable peace in Great Lakes. The fourth of the nineteen resolutions directed the ICGLR executive secretariat to seek resources and means to establish the RTF.

It is against that backdrop that the Regional Training Facility (RTF) on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence (RTF/PSSGBV) in the Great Lakes Region is being set-up as an institution of the ICGLR, with its headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. The RTF is still in its inception phase and is keen to hear from its allies, partners and enablers how best it may serve the purpose for which it has been established. Thus, the workshop is intended to learn from all stakeholders involved in the fight against SGBV.

Introduction

The RTF's objective is to train and sensitize judicial officers, police units, social workers, medical officers and other actors who handle cases of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region, as provided for under Art 6(9) of the ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children and the ICGLR Pact on Security, Stability and Development of the Great Lakes region¹, as a contribution towards “preventing, criminalizing and punishing acts of sexual violence both in times of peace and in times of war.”

The RTF was officially launched on 18th Feb 2014 and started operational on 2nd April 2014 with the appointment of its Ag. Director. During the four months of its existence, several stakeholders from government, international organizations (including the UN) Development Partners and the civil society have been consulted on possible support and collaboration.

¹ Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region (2006) and the ICGLR Protocol on the Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence Against Women and Children (2006)

UNWOMEN supported the official launch of the RTF and the World Bank has offered US\$ 1million for training judicial officers and police for the period between November 2014 and 2018. In readiness for the training and sensitization of the relevant stakeholders as provided for under the Protocol, preparatory initiatives are being undertaken by all stakeholders, including the initiative to have a current baseline survey to ascertain what exists about similar or related institutions, training materials, curricula, guidelines in the member states or the region. The RTF/PSSGBV and the UNWOMEN have agreed to convene a multi-stakeholder meeting to identify the needs for the RTF to effectively meet its training and sensitization objectives, as expected of it by Heads of State and the region. A rapid assessment on the feasibility of the RTF/PSSGBV in the GLR was carried out in 2011 and has some useful and relevant information was gathered; this information would nevertheless need to be updated by this meeting.

RATIONALE OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING

As per Art 6(9) of the ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence, the RTF objective is to train and sensitize judicial officers, police units, social workers, medical officers and other categories of persons who handle cases of sexual violence in the Great Lakes Region. Training and sensing these stakeholders has been on going in a number of Member States of the ICGLR, albeit at different levels in both form and content. Baseline knowledge of what already exists is a prerequisite to determine levels of harmonization in skills training curriculum development, stakeholder collaboration and impact monitoring that is expected of the RTF mandate.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING

As per the concept note and opening remarks, this Consultative Meeting had the following objectives:

The general objective of the UNWOMEN/GLR-RTF-SGBV meeting is to involve the SGBV stakeholders in the region to contribute to the conceptualization of the mapping exercise (baseline survey) about anti- SGBV training infrastructure in the region.

More specifically:

- (i) Review of Rapid Assessment Report on the feasibility of a Regional Training Facility on SGBV (2011) that was conducted with the support of the World Bank /LOGICA, to inform the new assessment
- (ii) Discuss the methodology of carrying out a mapping /baseline survey on what is being done by stakeholders o SGBV- where, by who and how in the Member States of the ICGLR and at regional level;
- (iii) Draft a proposal for the Regional Baseline Survey that would inform the effectiveness and efficiency of the RTF.
- (iv) Suggest strategies for regional and International stakeholder support to the RTF/PSSGBV.

Based on the above objectives, the following expected outputs have been designed:

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The Consultative Meeting achieved its Expected Outputs; namely:

- i. Identification of gaps (and proposals to bridge them) in the Rapid Assessment Report into the feasibility of a Regional Training Facility on SGBV (2011) that was conducted with the support of the World Bank /LOGICA
- ii. Information on what exists on SGBV in Member States and the region and on major stakeholders with whom contact must be made during the mapping exercise and in other related activities, shared;
- iii. A Proposal for the Baseline survey on SGBV in the in the Great Lakes Region, drafted;
- iv. Methodologies and content of the Strategic Plan for the RTF, drafted;
- v. RFT-partner collaboration Strategies and networks, established

Participants to the Consultative meeting and methodology

Participants to the meeting were selected from different organizations at national, regional and international levels: These include among others UN women, world Bank, ICGLR secretariat, RTF/PSSGBV, IGAD, COMESA, EAC, FEMNET, CEDOVIP, Swiss Development Cooperation, UNFPA, the ICGLR/RTF-SGBV (Kampala), UN agencies: UNFPA, OHCHR, OSEGLR, the office of the Special Representative on SGBV, Special Advisor on Prevention of Genocide and mass Atrocities; as well as (1) the Regional Youth Forum (Tanzania), (ii) the Regional Women Forum (Sudan/Kenya), (iii) the ICGLR Secretariat (Bujumbura), (iv) the Lusaka Centre, (v) the Forum of Parliament, (vi) the Regional Civil Society Forum (Kampala),

Participants were given an opportunity to share the work of their respective institutions and identify opportunities for learning and synergy with each other. Five presentations were made, they include:

1. **Regional Training Facility on Sexual and Gender- Based Violence (SGBV), by Nathan M Byamukama, Ag. Director, RTF/PSSGBV**
2. The work of Femnet in fighting GBV, especially by engaging men by Kennedy Odhiambo Otina – Regional Programme Associate Men to Men, FEMNET;
3. The UN joint Programme on GBV, by **Roselidah Ondeko, UNFPA;**
4. **The work of IGAD in training for effective law enforcement on SGBV, by Mubarak Mabuya, Programme Manager, Gender Affairs, IGAD Secretariat;**
5. Training and sensitization programs for SGBV stakeholders in Kenya , by Lydia Gachoya – Vice President RWF of ICGLR;

After every round of presentations, the debate was opened to the audience to react, respond or ask questions related to the themes. At the end of the Consultative meeting, joint resolutions were presented and adopted by participants. Discussions were facilitated by a team of facilitators including Jenet Kem from UN-Women based in Addis Ababa and a lead consultant, Eugene Ntaganda.

The debates were mainly conducted in English with free translation availed by the lead facilitator when and where needed for francophone participants.

Opening Remarks.

Welcome note: By Nathan Byamukama, ICGLR/RTF/PSSGBV.

The acting director for RTF took five minutes to welcome all the participants by stressing the relevance and the importance of this consultative meeting to advance and intensify the fight against SGBV. He stressed that one of the gaps identifying in fighting the widespread initiatives is the lack of capacity of relevant actors including police and judiciary, a lack of awareness among them to helping victims seeking redress and holding perpetrators accountable for their crimes.

Another area of concern he highlighted is the paucity of data and the issue of under reporting cases of SGBV for a number of reasons including cultural barriers based on male dominance even in institutions like the police, limited technical and logistical resources of police and judiciary... He then expressed the hope that the meeting will gather sufficient knowledge that would shape the future work of RTF in eliminating the capacity gap of all relevant institutions in member states. His speech was followed by the keynote address of Jennet Kem from UN-Women who has jointly convened the meeting in collaboration with the RTF.

Keynote speech: Jennet Kem, UNWOMEN.

In addressing the participants, Jennet Kem began by welcoming the participants and thank them for availing their invaluable time and accepted to attend the stakeholder meeting. She stressed the stakes at hand, challenges in overcoming the rampant SGBV in the region. She then expressed some expectations and potential outcomes at the end of the workshop. After her five minutes speech, the facilitator took the floor to engage participants by a simple ice break exercise. This one consists of explaining to other participants the meaning of family names, its origin and whether if participant has a concrete knowledge of his/her name.

Amid lovely laughs, participants were able to engage each other in constructive and active discussions with their colleagues. Following this exercise, under the leadership of the facilitator, participants were invited to discuss expected outputs, to set concrete objectives and share together the directives and the meeting guideline rules that should govern the workshop. These rules were written on flipchart and we transparently agreed upon them. For time management, a time keeper was finally appointed.

CONSULTATIVE MEETING PRESENTATIONS, BRIEFS AND DISCUSSIONS

2.1. Ugandan Experience in fighting SGBV

- By TINA MUSUYA

One of key lessons learned for CEDOVIP initiatives in Uganda is the SASA tool. It seems to be a best practice being replicated around the country. However, the approach has faced with some challenges. In short, SASA teams (Start Awareness Support Action) has shown that educating men and women /boys and girls is beneficial in increasing awareness of SGBV;

CEDOVIP has worked with police, from beat cops to top-level police leadership. The experience has shown:

Institutional framework:

Domestic Violence Act, Female Genital Mutilation Act etc were developed, but police are still using police act (old laws which do not address GBV cases) where there are no guidelines on how SGBV cases should be handled.

Police:

- Uganda has child and family protection units, which handle many of the SGBV cases. However,
- When people are reporting cases, victims are made fun of by the police recording statement and stigmatised;
- Police in child and family protection units are not properly facilitated, sometimes they complain that they do not have fuel for transport, no stationery for recording statements, etc.;
- Uganda Police is working on a curriculum for all officers who handle SGBV cases.

Health:

- Until recently, medical workers did not consider the importance of preventing sexual violence in their programmes (E.g. knowing that when a victim of a sexual crime comes in, they should be handled in a special way, respecting confidentiality, etc.)
- There were no guidelines on how to handle victims (emergency contraceptive, post exposure prophylactics, etc.)
- Health workers do not look at GBV as a component of health; in terms of having a direct impact on health;
- Non confidentiality and blaming attitude in handling GBV cases thus survivors sometimes fear reporting cases
- No integration of human rights base approach
- Health sector, with guidance of WHO is also developing a curriculum

Local government:

- People need to understand the context under which these acts of violence occur (predominant aggressor, battered woman syndrome, self-defence, marital rape, etc.)
- Local government, through local Councils have been given mandate to handle some cases of SGBV in Council Courts (conflict of interest in these small communities where everybody knows everybody), LG, LCs should be included in categories of people to be trained.
- Some cultures accept economic, sexual, and domestic violence against women and children.

Judiciary:

- Its holds the same perception as community, e.g. victim blaming etc. They need competencies to enable them to understand gender dynamics and rights issues.

- It is difficult for victims to get justice. Domestic violence is considered almost a waste of ‘court’s time’, so cases are not handled properly.
- Fear of giving detailed testimonies in courts of law stops a lot of people from reporting sexual crimes. It is hard for victims to give detailed testimony in courts, there is the need to consider recorded testimonies, in camera;
- Judicial training institute is also developing something.

Recommendations:

- We need to guide persons handling cases of GBV such that Perpetrators are held accountable.
- We need to recognize that work on SGBV is **relatively new**, and yet it is a very complex and sensitive field and we need to ensure that there has to be a component on continuous learning. New dynamics will always come up and this should be considered during the development of curriculum.
- We need sector specific curriculums, tailored for each group.
- We need to recognise/have Do’s and Don’ts for each sector, observe confidentiality, etc. E.g. free treatment for Sexual Violence victims.
- Ensure that there is collaboration and understanding of the processes involved in handling crimes of SGBV, with each category of people knowing their role and the roles of other sectors/categories, and know when to pass on the case to the next levels.
- Civil Society, more could be done, but will is there.
- Attitudes need to be challenged and changed, awareness raised, sector-specific skills improved, and understanding of the regulatory principles.

Following her presentation, the facilitator opened the floor for exchanging ideas, raising questions and comments. A number of questions has been raised.

Main questions raised:

1. Which category of people should be trained first, given limited resources?
 - Do we have SOPS (standard operating procedures), for training?

Answers and discussions: the starting point should be development of curriculum. Competencies should be built in the training facility as opposed to consultants etc. Police is ahead of other groups, so possibly start with them.

- Once that is done, RTF can work with other stakeholders in developing curriculums.
 - Find the important people, policy makers in the stakeholder institutions and impress upon them the importance of this work.
2. Which areas should be focused on when training police and judiciary?
 - In discussions with World Bank, police and judicial officers were suggested as the people to start with. But we should look to ensure that health workers, social workers are properly trained.
 3. We should be strategic in our planning.

Issues/comments raised:

1. Police as the gatekeepers, should be the priority of the training;
2. For Uganda's case, consider that when training judges, the trainer should be someone the judges can respect
3. There are only 6 remand homes for children in Uganda: To address both issues there is a need for development of sentencing guidelines
4. There is no uniformity in sentencing?

Following her presentation, Mubarak Mabuya in charge of gender affairs in IGAD Secretariat, was given the floor to share his practical experience in working both in Uganda and regional organisation like IGAD.

2.2. Introduction to IGAD's Work;

- By MUBARAK MABUYA, Programme Manager, Gender Affairs, IGAD Secretariat;

Training for effective law enforcement on SGBV

Sharing case study on member state's experience in training on SGBV for police, prosecutors, and health workers.

A brief presentation of IGAD:

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

Members: Sudan, S. Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda

- IGAD has cross cutting issues with ICGLR;

Case study of member states)

- Inadequate knowledge and skills (health workers, judicial officers, **prosecutors**)
- Attitudes of duty bearers (police, judiciary, prosecutors)
- Weak coordination between the different SGBV sectors
- Logistical challenges – Police, courts, prosecution, shelters for victims (even temporary) (and **prioritization**)
- Technicalities in the law (defence teams quickly punch holes in victims cases, due to poor handling of evidence, etc)
- Gaps on the demand side (late reporting, withdrawal of charges)

Actions undertaken:

Training:

- Development of Manuals & targeted/parallel trainings of agencies;
- Engendering Police Curriculum;
- Integrated inter-agency (health (forensic pathologists), police (investigation) and prosecution (for multi-sectoral approach) need for different sectors to learn from each other, so integrated training will be beneficial to all members of the ICGRL

Advocacy:

Advocacy is conducted mainly through the respective Justice Law and Order (Criminal Justice Working Groups) on issues, such as:

- Vulnerability of victims of sexual offences
- Legal framework on sexual offences
- Best practices at investigations level
- Best practices by the prosecutor (there could be systemic issues that need to be addressed)
- Best practices by the court (protection of children/victims/witnesses etc)

Injury Patterns in sexual offences

- Nature of sexual assaults
- Where to search for injuries (body, genitalia, mouth or anus)
- Responsibility of the health worker
- GBV (Types, causes, consequences)
- Types of sexual assault injuries and manifestations (abrasions, bruises, laceration, cuts, stab wounds, self-inflicted wounds, defence wounds, genital injury)
- Recording medical/legal evidence (police forms)

Expert evidence, expert witnesses and their testimony in sexual violence cases (evidence gathering (scope), witness summons, court decorum, expert testimony)

- Forensic Specimen Management (Physical evidence, examination sheet, protocols, swabs (vaginal, anal, rectal, blood, urine, buccal), hair, nails)

Areas that RTF should focus on:

- Survivor centred approach
- Multi-sectoral response (Referral pathways, SOPs, Protocols, Information Management)
- Response (Gaps and Good Practices)-criminal justice, health, social development
- GBV- Types, causes & consequences and overall intro on gender
- SOCs – Sexual Offences Courts the example in Soweto has 97% conviction rate
- PGIs - Prosecutor Guided Investigations (collaboration between the two to form a strong winnable case)

Questions/Comments/Discussions:

- Trainers should be pulled from the respective sectors, e.g. cops training cops, judge training judges, etc);
- The different dynamics of GBV (economic, health, etc.) should be highlighted to draw attention to the issue;
- Do baseline analysis (Using law to solve social problems);
- Training should be accompanied by advocacy in order to generate support to the cause;
- Invitations to trainings should be targeted towards selected champions of the cause of fighting SGBV;
- Kampala declaration, RTF is only part of it. The rest of it should be worked on as well.
- Knowledge management is very important. Need to set up a Knowledge management Systems within RTF, incorporated with their plan, so that the learning is continuous.
- Curriculum development is a phased process. Do the pilot training, which might bring up new issues, which will be sorted in follow up training sessions.
- Member state buy (at policy making level) in is essential to have the program moved at the right pace. After the discussions, in the afternoon and following an energizer from Tina Musuya, participants shared the experiences from the work of COMESA.

2.3. COMESA Work in Fighting SGBV:

- Ms. Andjouza Ahamada, Program Officer, Gender Affairs.
- COMESA (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa). Background of COMESA (member states-19).
- Launched free trade area and customs unions.
- Cross border trade between COMESA states is dominated by women and youth who are sometimes unduly harassed or prone to exploitative practice and abuse;
- Women face challenges not only at domestic level, but also while carrying out cross-border trade.

- It is only in 2007 that COMESA formed a division that handles gender and social development. The first measure they put in place is STR (Simplified Trade regime) to stop sexual harassment of women traders, STR stipulates that people crossing border with goods less than \$1000 can cross borders without paying taxes (though both the border agents and the women traders need sensitization of this, they do not know their rights/responsibilities)
- COMESA has developed 8 sets of manuals as part of this process of including social development in their programs: (names of manuals can be found at the COMESA website)
- Border officials have also been trained (Borders between Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Malawi). It is also important to train women traders to make them aware of their rights.
- A Round table with COMESA first ladies was held, where it was determined that COMESA should have SGBV programs and the COMESA gender policy reviewed.
- We must take into account that countries are at different stages of preparedness in terms of SGBV awareness, training etc. So this should be taken into account when determining who to train, and in what?
- COMESA has developed a social charter to protect cultural and social rights. (Department of gender and social affairs (Look up Article 143, COMESA gender policy).
- In COMESA, getting commitment from executive level is hard, because they feel that fighting SGBV it is not COMESA's role, as an economic and trade body primarily
- Changing of cultural beliefs on SGBV is essential to getting progress done.

Observations and recommendations.

- There is need of harmonizing cross-cutting programs are done (peace, security, SGBV, trade, etc.)
- Need to set up a platform for knowledge sharing of best practices on SGBV, between IGAD, ICGLR, COMESA.

2.4. The training and sensitization programs for SGBV stakeholders in Kenya

- Presented by Lydia Gachoya: Vice President RWF of ICGLR

- The problem: In a male dominated world, likeliness of reporting GBV remains low;
- Victims are unwilling to report sexual violence perpetrators due to stigma pressures and fears, experienced daily their communities

Model gender recovery centres: Located in many hospitals namely: (Nairobi Women's Hospital; Kenyatta National Hospital) which is a product of women's rights and health activists concerned with effective response to SGBV survivors has triggered the government to initiate gender recovery

centres in national hospitals; Moi Teaching Hospital, Naivasha District Hospital, Coast General Hospital, Kitale Hospital, Thika District Hospital and Migori District Hospital;

Gender Desks and Help lines: this aims to support women throughout their rehabilitation process, including through legal action taken against perpetrators: The general treatment accorded to victims of SGBV in the courts the world over does not measure up to their expectation; Victims who have gone through the court process have reported that they felt marginalized by the criminal justice system. For women and girls, the procedures and evidence required to access the justice system with a full proof case are often complex, burdensome and quite humiliating

Prevention measures on SGBV – legal policy and framework: Kenya has made great progress over the last 5 years.

Laws:

- The Sexual Offences Act 2006 (SOA) is the legal and comprehensive framework protecting survivors of sexual and gender based violence;
- The Employment Act 2007 also outlaws sexual harassment by or against either gender and requires employers to set out sexual harassment policies in their respective places of work.
- The passage of the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting Act 2011 provides a legal framework to accelerate the campaigns on abandonment of FGM. The law is intended to prohibit the practice of FGM, to safeguard against violation of a person's mental or physical integrity through the practice of FGM;
- National Cohesion and Integration Act, No. 12 of 2008, which has been enacted to address the issue of ethnicity;
- The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Act, 2008;
- The HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control Act, 2006

Policies and institutions:

Under the Ministry of Devolution and Planning;

- The National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC);
- The National Action Plan on UNSCR
- Prioritizing interventions for SGBV by strengthening of the legal systems to deal with GBV. By Legal Notice No. 132 of 17th October 2008 and Legal Notice No. 133 of 2006
- Issuance of Sexual Offence Regulations;
- Establishment of a Dangerous Sexual Offenders' DNA Data Bank;
- National Guidelines on Rape and Sexual violence management have been developed;

- The completion of the mapping of Gender Based Violence Service provision is contributing towards the up scaling of multi-sectoral prevention and response to Gender Based Violence at the community level

2.5. **Presentation on UN JOINT PROGRAMME ON GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (JPGBV)**

- By Roselidah Ondeko, UNFPA

The Purpose of JPGBV:

- To contribute towards creating GBV free society where women and children are treated with dignity and respect;
- To reduce social tolerance for GBV, ending impunity for sexual violence offenders as well as ensuring that when women and children experience gender based violence, they are supported to access high quality victim-friendly response services

More specifically, the JPGBV envisions the following outcomes

- Outcome 1: Social tolerance to gender based violence reduced in targeted communities;
- Outcome 2: A conducive legal and policy environment created for strengthened accountability for GBV prevention and response particularly for women and children;
- Outcome 3: GBV survivors who report in the areas of health, justice, psychosocial support and police/security have increased access to and availability of high quality and child friendly services;
- Outcome 4: Strengthened partnership, learning, coordination and implementation of the joint programme on Gender Based Violence.

Lessons Learned

- **Engaging** community leaders as SASA: activists have shown more acceptability by the community thus facilitates community buy-in and ownership.
- **Transparency** is vital in networking with other stakeholders, and it adds value in creating mutual partnership with the local authority and the community
- **Coordination** of GBV actors at the national level enhances sharing of information and avoid duplication.
- Joint trainings of medical staff and police officers proved to be successful understanding of roles
- Bringing men and women to mutually save money and operation of joint ventures has improved relationships in households and decision making between couples leading to reduction of GBV incidences

- Good cooperation from partners involved in GBV prevention and response e.g. there are increased reports of multi-sectoral engagements to address GBV with Police working with health and legal partners.
- The joint quarterly support supervision by MGLSD and UNFPA improved programming and implementation of program activities at the district level.
- Involvement of FBOs (e.g. Catholic Secretariat, the Muslim Supreme Council and the Church of Uganda) is the only viable option, due to their unmatched level of outreach to remote areas, high no. of followers and their role and respect in society,

Presentation by Kennedy Odhiambo Ottina from FEMNET.

The detailed presentation is attached to this report. The presenter first gave background on their organisation which started operating in 1988 as a platform for advancing women's development and human rights through training, advocacy and communications. The success of its Men to Men strategy has been scaled up and replicated as a best practice not only in Kenya, Uganda, DRC, Malawi, Zambia, Mali,... Strategies include sensitization activities followed by targeted training to those of the participants who showed commitment to make change happen in their respective communities,... The final stage is a training of trainers intervention that helps to sustain knowledge acquired in their community. Target groups are diverse and cover all sectors and all levels: police and Military(in Malawi for instance), religious leaders, youth and teachers,...

Challenges identified include language barriers, high turn over of trained groups in police and other sectors that does not facilitate follow-up of target groups, the cost of training that is high and may not be available even though the training needs are huge and clearly identified. For RTF, its added value is in generating regionally recognized and standardized knowledge and to build a community of practice in overcoming SGBV issue in Great Lakes.

In discussions with participants, they noted with a certain the best practice of Men to Men strategies and tools. Some wanted to know how FEMNET measure impact and outcomes that are very difficult to assess in the communities. He answered by pointing out the need to maintain not only network but also a certain presence in the field, so that changes within communities can be marked and traced. Building trust with champions men in their respective communities is key and crucial to expect some outcomes and measured impact.

Presentation by Nathan Byamukama, Ag Director for RTF: an overview of the feasibility study of RTF.

The presenter gave a background of RTF and the origin of its mandate in various protocols of ICGLR. A feasibility study was commissioned to establish under which conditions it may be best set up. The study has made considerable efforts to map organisations who undertake training, have designed training modules in each member states. The feasibility found that materials and modules exist in all countries under investigation both by government structures or by NGO.

The high volume of materials pertains to police, judiciary and to a limited extent social work. Surprisingly, there is a limited number of medical and health related materials. The study also found

a lack of coordination among stakeholders and training is designed and implemented without any approach or concrete efforts for standardization, harmonization and coherence. There is no system in ensuring quality and ways to measure the impact of training done. Finally, no regional materials or institute exist to provide quality training to all practitioners in this new field.

The presenter went on providing to participants a brief outline of strategic plan which is part of the feasibility study. The plan has identified goals, objectives, outputs and has also proposed a viable structure of RTF with required staff for its effective and efficient operationalization. Following the presentation, discussions have revolved around ways to improve its strategic plan, how to fill in the gaps identified in the study and how to engage actors in respective member states in order to complete the feasibility study under very tight and limited time and resource constraint.

Part II: Questions for break out groups.

From presentations made by participants, two working groups were established for in depth discussions. The first one focused on training needs assessment for RTF. The second discussed stakeholder mapping, engagement, strategic partnership with RTF and collaboration.

A plenary session thereafter, captured the main ideas and key recommendations of the group work.

Group One: Training Needs assessment: Key questions:

Question 1) What largely inhibits police, judicial officers, medical workers and social workers from effectively addressing impunity related to SGBV? How are these inhibitions and challenges addressed by your institutions in the region/country? What strategies are you suggesting to link all levels in a holistic, integrated and systemic approach to tackle such challenges? Where do you see the RTF making a real difference in tackling these challenges? What could be its added value, its competitive advantage in terms of ongoing effort to train and/or sensitize S/GBV service providers? After reading the RTF strategic plan and following the RTF director's presentation on this strategy, what gaps should be addressed in short to mid-term plan to help RTF rapidly operationalize this plan?

Question 2) Following the reading and brief presentation of the feasibility study, what would be a good strategy to update the baseline survey made in 2011? Identify similar organizations in the region/outside the region? Identify existing materials through the following criteria: language used (English and/or French, local language), Types of materials (curricula modules, instruction

materials, guides, training manuals, education approaches and methodologies,..); Content areas (awareness tool, police training, health care, victim's assistance, counseling, legal assistance, judiciary training, advocacy,..); Skills focus (cases screening, confidentiality, Community education and outreach, documentation, surveillance(in court video and camera, referral, victim and witness protection, forensics, DNA, SGBV investigation training, case management,..); Assessment quality (up to date, accuracy, easily available, useful for field application, instructional design, readability, usability, consistency and adequacy)

Question 3) What are the experts in the region/outside in police/judiciary training, for health workers and social workers? Where can we find them? How to reach them and partner with them? What are their contact details?

Group two: Stakeholder engagement, mapping, strategic partnership and collaboration.

- 1) Who are the main stakeholders in the region and in the member states? Where can we get the missing information? In regards to training, materials and needs of ICGLR member states? What could be the strategy to get the missing information from the member states? Getting information from request to MS and convene a regional meeting for validation?
 - One option would be recruiting consultants in member states with guidelines and processing the information gathered by a senior consultant working closely with the RTF? Would the police training remain an area of top priority for RTF short-term strategy?
- 2) Who could be the natural partners of RTF? Who are the allies? Who can be perceived as enablers/blockers of the RTF initiative?
 - There is a need to establish a mailing list for all the participants and stakeholders for sharing information purpose and in view of establishing later on a solid electronic platform for knowledge management and sharing.
 - What kind of partnership is to be established between RTF and stakeholders? Consortium? Memorandum of understanding? Network? Coalition network? Ad-hoc cooperation?

Recommendations:

- High-level advocacy must continue for Head of States to keep the RTF a priority in their policy dialogues;
- Relevant ministries must make resources available for the necessary logistics to enable trained experts execute their duties.
- Communities and women must be sensitized enough to overcome socio-cultural norms that foster the culture of silence and inhibit demand for official redress.

Closing Remarks

- By Ms. Christine Musisi, UN Women Regional Director, ESA
- ***Presented by Ms. Simone Ellis Oluoch-Olunya, DRD***

This session was facilitated by Jennet Kem from UN-Women who thanked all participants for this knowledge generated, the respectful and constructive spirit that has characterized the full week of

stakeholder meeting. She expressed her wishes for a safe return in their respective families. She strongly believes that the workshop has marked a turning point in the fight the world in general and Africa have resolved to against GBV. She invited the guest of honor to deliver the closing remarks on behalf of Christine Musisi, regional director of UN Women. Simone Ellis started by situating the issue of GBV in general and VAWGs especially sexual violence as a big challenge and that remains a stark reality in the Great Lakes Region. She pointed out the existing gaps, in terms of required expertise, dedicated resources, cultural norms and beliefs, amongst others.

She commended regional heads of states' efforts to put in place a strong legal and policy frameworks; the relevant ministries to translate them into concrete actions to fight the human rights abuse.

Thanking stakeholders for great work done in such short period of time, she reiterated that working to prevent, respond to and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls is a key area of UN Women's work, which explained the tight partnership between UNWomen and ICGLR in this initiative; first in the adoption of the Protocol, and now in its operationalisation, by creating the training facility

She vowed to support:

- An effective operative phase of the ICGLR Training Facility on Preventing and Suppressing Sexual and Gender-based Violence;
- The envisioned facility to become a real Centre of excellence in the region and beyond

She hailed the idea to develop a comprehensive and creative curriculum, targeting specific levels of service providers, a training program that recognizes the linguistic, multi-judicial and political, peace, security and cultural realities of the region;

She recognized the need for cross-sector capacity to effectively coordinate, harmonize and standardize training and sensitization of judicial, prosecution and police officers, social workers, medical officers and other service providers working to address SGBV in the region.

Thanking other partners namely, the World Bank, OSEGLR, UNFPA, CSO and regional bodies for collaborating in the operationalisation of the Training Facility. The Facilitator invited the director of RTF to deliver key messages and outcomes of the stakeholder as follows:

Action Points/Next Steps(these steps amended by stakeholders at the end of the workshop are part of the executive summary because of their importance for the RTF programming):

1. Update the feasibility study/assessment report by hiring a consultant (group of consultants), one from each member state, with a regional lead consultant who will collect information related to existing training materials, expertise, guidelines and institutions in each member state that can collaborate and partner with the RTF;
2. Organize a "Gender-access to justice symposium in the ICGLR", attended by experts in gender justice, human and women's rights, to present case study papers from ICGLR member states on major challenges related to sexual violence, and discuss the best way the

RTF can add value to the existing initiatives in member states. This will help in finding more materials for curricula development and information for experts;

3. Hold a meeting of ICGLR national coordinators to agree on the concrete steps to support the RTF;
4. Fast-track the recruitment of relevant staff related to IT and Knowledge management, research and documentation, outreach and communication strategist in preparation for full-scale training;
5. Put in place a mailing list for information sharing; including the results from the assessment report (with its popular /advocacy versions), can continue to be collected and shared among the gender-influencing Great Lakes network with a purpose of creating more information base and more expertise;
6. Establish a steering committee/advisory board that will continue to help the RTF to set up effective mechanisms for training;
7. Convene a meeting of SGBV experts from member states for validation of the updated assessment/mapping report;
8. Convene a consultative meeting with participants from all member states to finalize and validate the RTF strategic plan.
9. Support the RTF in the implementation of training processes for Police and judiciary (funded by the World Bank), scheduled to start in 2015.
10. RTF should continue seeking partner's support for training of all stakeholders (health workers, social workers, judiciary, prosecutors, state Attorneys, police and military) and the implementation of all the above action points.
11. Members agree to widely disseminate the above action points in different for a, namely: AU, UN, ECA, etc.

List of Annexes

- List of participants
- Agenda of the Consultative Meeting
- Presentations are in separate documents.

Annex II:

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR THE RTF SGBV CONSULTATIVE MEETING, OCTOBER 21 – 24, 2014, NAIROBI.		
PROGRAMME		
	Tuesday, October 21, 2014	
Time	Activity	Responsible
6:00 am to 6:00 pm	Arrival of Participants	
	Wednesday, October 22, 2014	
	<u>Opening Session</u>	
7:30 am to 8:00 am	Breakfast	
8:00 am to 10:00 am	Opening remarks, expected outcomes, directives for workshop and ice break exercises.	Nathan Byamukama, RTF/ICGLR. Jennet Kem UNWOMEN
10:00 am to 10:30 am	Break	
10:30 am to 1:00 pm	Presentation of Meeting objectives. Discussion	Facilitator, Eugene Ntaganda.
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Lunch	
2:00 pm to 2:30 pm	THEME: Identification of Baselines on SGBV Training and sensitization in the region	

	Briefing on a Rapid Assessment into the Feasibility of a Regional Training Facility on SGBV (2011): identifying gaps and way forward.	Nathan Byamukama
	Discussion	
2:30 pm to 4:30 pm	Presentations by participants: Capacity building activities: which institutions are trained which target groups for which purpose? What are the lessons learned, challenges, obstacles, opportunities and prospects for RTF?• Which areas can the RTF focus on (to train and sensitize) to add value? What can be its distinctive competency that can be strengthened and scaled up?	COMESA, IGAD, CEDOVIP.
4:30 pm to 5:00 pm	Discussion on presentations	
Thursday, October 23, 2014		
Theme: Training and Sensitization of Judiciary/ Police/ Health Workers/ Social Workers + collaboration and engagement with stakeholders.		
7:30 am to 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast	
8:00 am to 10:00 am	Summary of previous day General Discussion	Facilitator
10:00 am to 10:30 am	Break	
10:30 am to 1:00 pm	Presentations continue: Same issues for knowledge generation sharing. Presentations continue. They are followed by open discussions on lessons learned, best practices and challenges for RTF and individual organizations.	Facilitator FEMNET, UNFPA, ICGLR, KENYA EXPERIENCE.

1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Lunch break	
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm	Discussions continue on presentations made in the morning session.	Facilitator
Friday, October 24, 2014		
Theme: Group work Collaboration and Support with Stakeholders and Partners		
7:30 am to 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast	
8:00 am to 10:00 am	Summary of previous day General Discussion	Katahweire Oscar, and Eugene Ntaganda.
10:00 am to 10:30 am	Break	
10:30 am to 1:00 pm	Group work: <i>Institutions:</i> Identify similar organizations in the region/outside the region	Facilitator, Eugene Ntaganda.
	Identify which organizations are training one or more of these categories (Judiciary/Police/Health Workers/Social Workers)	
	<i>Training materials and manuals:</i> Identify which materials or manuals that exist in each of the areas (Judiciary/Police/Health Workers/Social Workers)	

	Which other categories of training materials on SGBV exist for which categories (Judiciary/Police/Health Workers/Social Workers)	
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Stakeholders: Identify and map key stakeholders for RTF next steps.	Facilitator
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Plenary session and discussion around group outcomes	
3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Break	
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm	Brainstorming on partner support to the RTF: Briefing of the participants on the progress made on partner collaborations. Next steps and concrete plans for RTF.	Nathan Byamukama, RTF and Facilitator, Eugene Ntaganda.
	Official Closure by UN-Women	Facilitator: Jennet Kem, UN-Women.
	Saturday, October 25, 2014	
Time	Activity	Responsible
6:00 am to 6:00 pm	Departure of participants	