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

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION
CONFERENCE INTERNATIONALE SUR LA REGION DES GRANDS LACS

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

British High Commission Kampala

DOCUMENTATION AND INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE CASES: SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE MEDICAL, JUDICIAL, POLICE AND MILITARY OFFICERS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND JOURNALISTS.

ICGLR-RFT Training workshops supported by British High Commission (BHC) 2015/16

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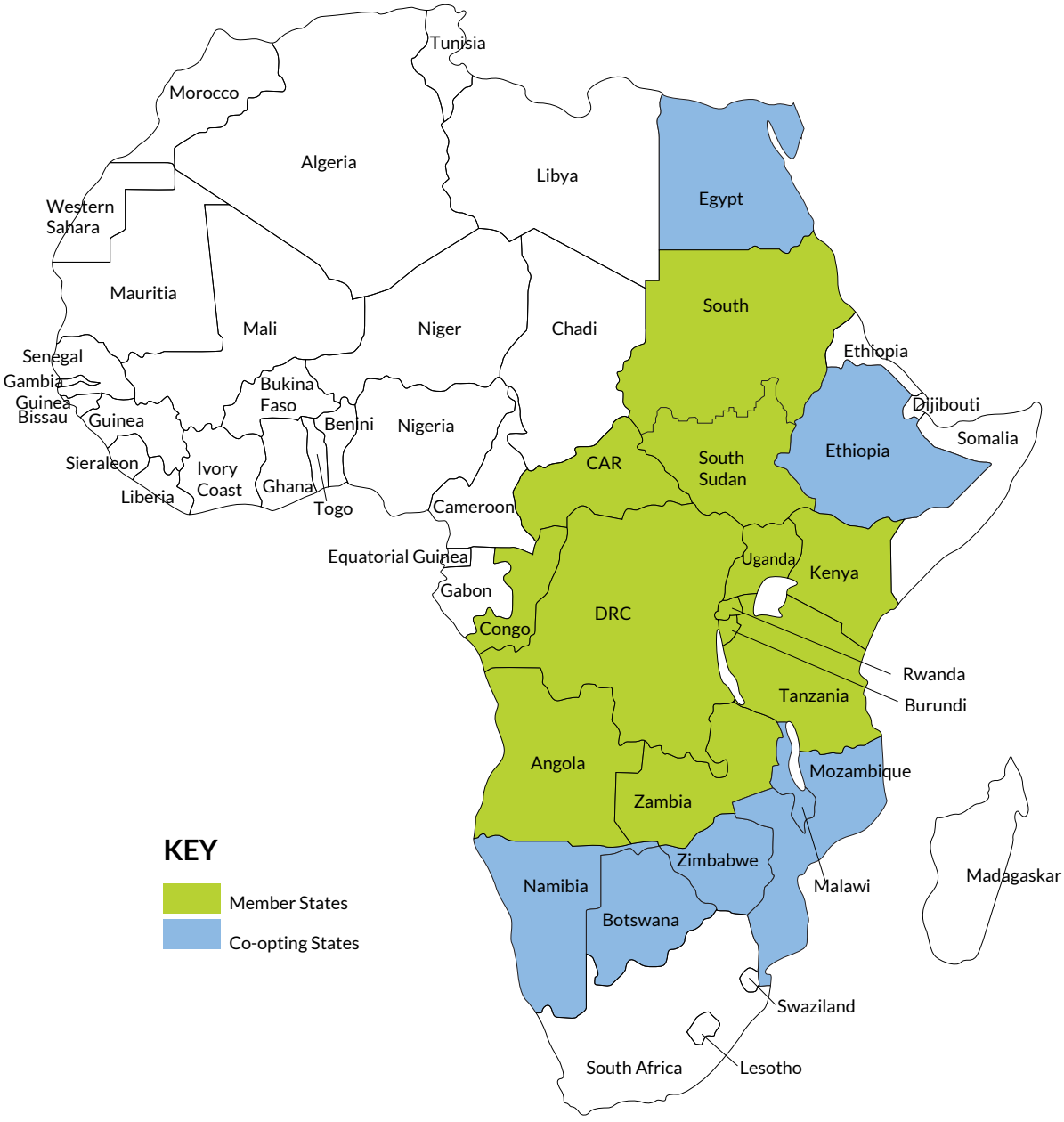

A Publication of the ICGLR-Regional Training Facility (RTF) on prevention and suppression of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in the Great Lakes Region.

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List of ABBREVIATIONS

ADF	Allied Democratic Front
AORs	Areas of Responsibilities
BHC	British High Commission
CAT	Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
CID	Criminal Investigations Department
DPP	Directorate of Public Prosecutions
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GCM	General Court Martial
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region
ICGLR-RTF	International Conference on the Great Lakes Region-Regional Training Facility
ICTR	International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
ICTY	International Criminal Tribunal Yugoslavia
IHL	International Humanitarian Law
IHRL	International Human Rights Law
IPSPC	International Peace Support Training Centre
ISS	Islamic State
JLOS	Justice, Law and Order Sector
MGLSD	Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development
NGBVD	National Gender Based Violence Database
RTF	Regional Training Facility
SGBV	Sexual Gender Based Violence
SRSG-SVC	Special Representative of the Secretary General-on Sexual Violence in Conflict
SV	Sexual Violence
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defense Forces
UPF	Uganda Police Force
UK-PSVI	United Kingdom-Prevention of Sexual Violence Initiative

FOREWORD
From the Acting Director

Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama

I. Introduction

The International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - Regional Training Facility (ICGLR- RTF) is an intergovernmental organisation. Its mandate is to train and sensitise judicial officers, police units, social workers, medical officers and other categories of persons who handle cases of sexual violence such as military officers, prisons officers and civil society in the countries of the Great Lakes Region. The 12 Member States of the ICGLR that agreed to set up the ICGLR- RTF are 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.

Amb. Zachary Muburi- Muita
Executive Secretary ICGLR

Sexual violence is defined to include, inter alia, rape, sexual assault, grievous bodily harm, assault or mutilation of female reproductive organs, sexual slavery, enforced pregnancy, enforced sterilisation, harmful practices, sexual exploitation or coercion, trafficking in or smuggling of women and children for sexual slavery, enslavement, forced abortions or forced pregnancies, infection of women and children with sexually transmitted diseases or any other act of comparable gravity (Art 1 of the ICGLR Protocol on SV)

Since its inception, the ICGLR-RTF has conducted six major trainings, four of which have been regional and two national (Ugandans only) trainings. The British High Commission in Kampala has exclusively supported the Uganda national trainings including the Police and the Military (August 13-14, 2015) and later of the military, police, medical officers, investigators, civil society, judicial officers and journalists (September 19-20, 2016).

Peter West
British High Commissioner to Uganda

The first training workshop focused on Protecting Women and Girls, (who are most vulnerable) from sexual violence during conflict and the target were officers going on peace keeping missions in South Sudan and Somalia. It was attended by over 60 officers.

The second training focused on "Documentation and investigation of sexual violence cases in conflict" and was attended by over 50 officers.

In this narrative, we combine the two reports to bring to the wider public useful discussions,

and knowledge that can bridge the existing gaps within the realm of documentation and investigation of sexual violence in Uganda as well as areas of possible capacity building for our major stakeholders in the struggle to combat the crime of sexual violence, both in armed conflict and in peace times.

The participants benefited from the guidance of some of the top notch experts from Uganda and the region in the subject of combating sexual violence. The guiding documents during the training were national, regional and international instruments on sexual violence with emphasis on best practices among several different stake holders as well as identification of existing gaps to be bridged in both conditions of armed conflict and peace. The International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict and the ICGLR Protocol on Prevention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children in the Great Lakes Region, which Uganda is a party provided the basic standards of achievement for Uganda's stakeholders in the fight against Sexual Violence. The crime of sexual violence is still prevalent and it requires collaboration and support of stakeholders on all fronts and by all means to contain it.

It is now time to implement the rich covenants, conventions, protocols, pacts, resolutions and other binding instruments at our disposal in order to protect our people from all forms of sexual and gender based violence

It is generally agreed with all stakeholders that the international community as well as the Great Lakes Region has done well to put in place a normative flame work to combat sexual and gender based violence. It is now time to implement the rich covenants, conventions, protocols, pacts, resolutions and other binding instruments at our disposal in order to protect our people from all forms of sexual and gender based violence

We are grateful to the support of the British High Commission in Kampala and remain committed to taking the partnership to a higher level in the coming years.

L-R: *Hon. Peace Mutuuzo, H.E Alison Blackburne, Brig. Muhanga Kayanja and Mr. Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama*

II. Executive Summary
for the report of 19th - 20th September 2016

1. A training and sensitisation workshop on documentation and investigation of sexual violence cases in conflict for Medical, Judicial, Police and Military officers, Civil Society and Journalists took place at Afrique Suites Hotel from September 19 – 20, 2016;

2. The opening ceremony was presided over by the State Minister for Gender and Culture, Hon. Peace Mutuuzo, representing the Minister for Gender, Labour and Social Development, Hon. Janat Mukwaya; and was also attended by the British High Commissioner to Uganda H.E Alison Blackburne, the then UPDF Forth Division Commander, Brig. Muhanga Kayanja (and now Amisom contigent Commander in Somalia), the Ag. Director of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - Regional Training facility (RTF) Mr Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama;

3. The workshop attracted over 60 participants that included the judiciary, prosecutors, the police, prisons, military, medical doctors, social workers, civil society and the media from Uganda and three participants from Kenya;

4. The major objectives of the workshop included to enhance the skills/abilities of multi- sectoral stakeholders to document, investigate and report cases of sexual violence through appreciation of the dichotomy that exists between managing sexual violence in conflict and in peace times, provide a neutral platform for state actors to interact with the fourth estate in the professional ways to document and investigate sexual violence without denigrating victims and witnesses. In addition, the workshop was intended to identify strategies for rehabilitating sexual violence offenders that are already in prison so as to avoid cases of recidivism and also identify challenges and areas for more training.

5. The two-day workshop covered topics ranging from understanding the concept of sexual violence in conflict and in peace times, international and regional instruments on sexual violence; UPDF containment of sexual violence in Somalia, South Sudan and Central Africa Republic; imperial evidence of sexual violence in Uganda; medical-legal challenges of sexual violence; prosecuting cases of sexual violence; lawyering and exposing the crime of sexual violence; punishment and rehabilitation of sexual violence cases and last but not least, access to justice for survivors of sexual violence.

6. Major observations: Lessons learnt and training needs from the workshop.

Lessons learnt

i. There is interest in the international protocol on the documentation and investigation of sexual violence in conflict and how aspects of it can be made binding at country level as a common standard of achievement;

ii. The need to domesticate the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region 10 protocols through a Miscellaneous Amendment Act to make some of the provisions enforceable under domestic law;

iii. There is interest in documentation and prosecution of sexual gender-based violence cases, especially in conflict-related situations and how such cases are managed, especially by the UPDF;

iv. The "room diagnosis" exercise demonstrated mixed perceptions about gender role, development and sex differences that are congenital and there is a danger that our own prejudices can be easily brought to bear on case management and service provision, implying that there is need for more sensitisation on sexual violence;

v. There is genuine interest in the respective work and mandates of various stakeholders and need for further broadening, strengthening and deepening of interaction and multi-sectoral coordination between UPF, medical personnel and the judiciary (and the entire JLOS). To this end, it was also resolved to have a protocol or mechanism, especially medical-legal, for co-ordination of data/evidence, if prosecution was to be effective;

vi. The need for psycho-social services for victims/survivors of sexual violence was also identified;

The necessity to create a special section for doctors at health facilities to meet victims/survivors of sexual violence was underscored;

Getting it right: Workshop overall facilitator, Ms. Florence Butegwa (right), engages one of the session chairs, as the workshop proceeds

vii. That basic medical evidence in sexual violence cases could be collected by "lower medical staff" as it is done in Kenya.

viii. Media is critical for reorientation of society with respect to the value systems that are responsible for perpetuating sexual gender-based violence

ix. The need for protection of witnesses in sexual violence cases was emphasised, as the absence of this protection is bound to fail cases.

x. The idea of a witness protection agency was proposed;

xi. The need for special courts/special sessions and special units to try sexual violence cases was also proposed, for speedy and timely justice.

xii. The need to emphasise the principle of Do-No-Harm, which is critical for protection of dignity and rights of the survivor;

xiii. The need to amend or repeal laws that do not conform with international standards, in the fight against SGBV;

xiv. The necessity to engage local communities in issues of sexual violence including sensitisation and working with them to find solutions to the problems of sexual gender-based violence;

xv. An appeal was made to tailor a very specific intervention for Northern Uganda, which suffered more than 20 years of conflict, in terms of sensitisation and awareness about sexual violence since the sexual gender-based violence cases there have a relationship with the war and its impact;

Training needs.

i. **Training for the Uganda Police Force on what to investigate and how to manage evidence in SGBV cases was also recommended;**

ii. **That medical personnel be trained in handling evidence in sexual violence cases to enable successful prosecution of offenders;**

iii. **There is, therefore, need for media training in key issues in sexual violence in conflict and in peace times and ethical considerations in handling sexual gender-based violence cases and also in having regular gender analytical reports on sexual crimes reported/published in the media accurately;**

iv. **That the media should also be trained in court reporting;**

v. **Prosecutors need more training in the skills of understanding and prosecuting of sexual violence cases, including basic medical knowledge and social and counselling skills;**

vi. **The judges need training in appreciation and sensitivity of handling sexual violence cases, and also in basics of forensic medicine, medical language in the documentation, investigation and prosecution of sexual gender-based violence crimes needs to be simplified in order for judicial officers and other parties to understand it more easily;**

vii. **That there should be tailor-made training to equip stakeholders in sexual gender-based violence with key skills in investigation and documentation of sexual violence cases and further, that the RTF should be an accredited training center with a syllabus for all such trainings.**

viii. **The prisons service need to link rehabilitation with the cause of the offending, in this regard there should be rehabilitation programmes for sexual violence offenders, in line with the ICGLR Protocol on sexual violence;**

Closing ceremony

The closing ceremony was presided over by the Hon. Justice Lillian Tibatemwa Ekirikubinza (JSC), who also handed out certificates of attendance to the participants. Also present at the closing ceremony was Mr. Joseph Bolton, representing the British High Commissioner to Uganda and Mr. Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama, the Ag. Director of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - Regional Training Facility.

Mr. Fred Enanga of the Uganda Police Force, speaking at the closing ceremony thanked the organisers, the British High Commission and the hotel staff for making the training a successful and memorable experience. He stated that this training workshop had been a great learning opportunity for all the participants and expressed hope that similar training would be organised in the future.

Mr. Byamukama thanked the participants for the two days of very serious engagement, especially those that travelled long distances to attend the workshop. He was grateful to the judges for sparing their precious time to participate in this workshop. He also thanked the UPDF, the media and civil society for joining hands with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - Regional Training Facility to tackle the problem of sexual gender-based violence. He informed the meeting that International Conference on the Great Lakes Region is a regional organisation whose mandate is contained in its protocol.

Mr. Bolton said the British High Commissioner had asked him to thank the organisers of the training. He observed that sexual violence exacerbates conflict and that while Uganda had no conflict, the great lakes region was still affected by it. The duty of the armed forces, he said, was to provide an environment in which sexual violence offences can be dealt with, if they occur. He also mentioned that the workshop was part of on-going efforts by the British High Commission to deal with sexual violence.

Justice Ekirikubinza thanked the British High Commission for their support and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region for knowing

who to choose in inviting the participants, which ensure the meeting was a success and the effort well worth it. She thanked the facilitator, Ms. Florence Butegwa, for facilitating the workshop very well.

She underscored the importance of access to justice in the fight against sexual violence. 'Access to justice is central to the issue of sexual violence and the context in which this takes place. We must mainstream gender into the criminal justice system', she emphasised.

She pledged to take a report of the workshop to the Chief Justice.

Certificates of attendance were also given out to participants who had successfully completed the training.

III. Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony was presided over by the State Minister for Gender and Culture, Hon. Peace Mutuuzo, representing the Minister for Gender, Labour and Social Development, Hon. Janat Mukwaya. She underscored the necessity to identify as well as design interventions to ensure justice prevails in cases of sexual violence. She also emphasised the importance of gender-balanced reporting by the media. She noted that whereas Uganda was now peaceful and we are discussing sexual violence in peace times, the LRA war had shattered lives of young men and women through forced recruitment and marriages. We should never allow war on our land, she advised.

The British High Commissioner to Uganda, H.E. Alison Blackburn, said the workshop forms part of a wider programme of activities that the British High Commission is supporting this year to enhance the capabilities of the Uganda Police Force, Uganda People's Defense Force, Medical Practitioners and Civil Society, to prevent, document and investigate sexual violence in conflict.

She also noted that last year, the British High Commission, working with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, supported a training workshop for over 40 Uganda People's Defence Force and Uganda Police Force officers on addressing sexual and gender-based violence in peacekeeping operations, with a particular focus on the use of the International Protocol on Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict adding that this workshop is a continuation of last year's effort.

She emphasised that: "It is important to acknowledge and address the fact that in a number of conflict-affected countries around the world, members of the military and of different nationalities have also been perpetrators of sexual exploitation and abuse. The Great Lakes Region, in particular, has had an unfortunate history where rape has been used as a weapon of war by both State and non-State actors". She thanked the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region for their continued support in this area, as well as the UPDF and UPF senior command for their active engagement in developing this programme and their commitment towards eliminating sexual violence in conflict.

In his opening remarks, the Ag. Director of the ICGLR-RTF, Mr. Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama, thanked the British High Commission for their support towards the workshop and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social and Social Development for its support, leadership and guidance in addressing sexual violence crimes in Uganda. He was also grateful to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through which Uganda conducts her business for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and its organs like the RTF.

Mr. Byamukama noted that in conflict situations, sexual violence remained a diverse and complex phenomenon. In some cases, it is part of the military strategy to humiliate a defeated community, while in other cases, it is an inevitable consequence of a war situation, where impunity largely thrives. He said whether in war or peace, sexual violence must be fought collectively by all who can. These include the peace keeper, the police, the doctor, the prosecutor, the lawyer, the judge, even the prisons service, civil society and the media. The ICGLR-RTF was committed to keeping the conversations about sexual violence

in workshops and other public spaces with various stakeholders at national and regional levels to engender concerted efforts towards prevention and punishment of sexual violence crimes, in addition to assistance to survivors of sexual violence. He added that the RTF planned to host a regional colloquium of stakeholders in December 2016, on the same topic of sexual violence.

He also applauded the Police leadership for establishing a gender directorate and passing the gender training curriculum for mandatory training for entry level cadres; the judiciary for working on a bench Book to guide judges and magistrates on applicable law regarding sexual gender-based violence; the media and CSOs for strategic partnerships that resulted into timely reporting/ documentation of sexual crimes; and the security sector and JLOS for its involvement in addressing crime.

He mentioned that the RTF was in the process of developing high level curricula for stakeholders in sexual violence cases like judicial officers, the police, medical officers, social workers, the military, the media and the prisons for the 12 member states of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region.

Participants at the workshop, Panafrique Hotel, Mutungo

IV. Understanding Sexual Violence in Conflict and Peace Times: Challenges of Investigation and Documentation

UPDF containment of sexual violence in peace keeping missions in Somalia, South Sudan and CAR: What strategy has been used? The presentation was by Brig Kayanja Muhanga of the UPDF.

Brig. Kayanja Muhanga

Brig. Muhanga discussed the strategies that the UPDF has used in the containment of sexual violence in peacekeeping missions in Somalia, South Sudan and the Central African Republic (CAR). He stated that the aim of his presentation was to raise awareness, rally efforts, promote greater regional, inter-agency coherence and re-affirm the UPDF commitment and capacity in handling sexual violence in its respective areas of responsibilities (AORs) and in conflict areas, to bring the perpetrators to justice and ensure full support for the victims.

He first explained the context and historical perspective of sexual violence arguing that the background to sexual violence was important in the understanding of the ramifications of the problem.

He noted that right from the ancient Greeks and Romans up to the 20th Century, sexual violence was considered as only happening against women and as being common (routine) and normal during war and peace times.

Brig. Muhanga noted that it was not until the end of the 20th Century for sexual violence to no longer be considered a minor issue and hence, gradually became criminalised.

He, thereafter, delved into the codification of laws of war on gender-related crimes and explaining how this evolved over the centuries through the tumultuous period of world wars and giving context to the various laws generated and conventions.

He observed that the international legal framework within which the UPDF is bound to operate, for

example, the International Humanitarian Law (IHL), strongly prohibits sexual violence in all armed conflicts, so do the International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and International Customary Law.

Brig. Muhanga noted that the IHL also ensures that women are protected through a two-tier approach, being covered in terms of general and specific protections and the UPDF does not condone sexual violence against women. He emphasised, and informed the meeting that the populations in conflict areas in countries where UPDF is serving, like CAR, had protested the withdrawal of the Ugandan army because of its discipline.

The allegations of sexual violations levelled against the UPDF by Human Rights Watch had also been investigated and found baseless. He highlighted the UPDF institutional framework against sexual violence citing the various mechanisms that have been instituted to tackle the issue such as the Chieftaincy of Legal Services (CLS), that is to say; GCM, DCM, UDC, among others, which are supported by law enforcement departments of the Army like; the Military Police (MP), Military Intelligence (MI), Counter Intelligence (CI) and the Special Investigations Branch (SIB) to conduct investigations, arrests and successful prosecution of offenders implicated in various offences within and in conflict areas. The UPDF also engaged in routine training in human rights and rules of engagement.

Brig. Muhanga ended his presentation by asking the participants to render effort in addressing the cultural issues that enhance sexual violence. He also pledged that the UPDF would do more to sensitise its officers and men against sexual violence and ensure that perpetrators of the vice are brought to book.

V. Overview of international, regional and national instruments on sexual violence: ICGLR perspective on sexual violence during conflict and peace times.

By Nathan Byamukama, *the Ag. Director, Regional Training Facility (RTF)*

Mr Byamukama presented a paper on the international and regional instruments on sexual violence, looking at International Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law.

He started by pointing out that sexual violence is prohibited under International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and International Criminal Law and International Humanitarian Law (IHL).

Mr. Byamukama noted that State parties to these instruments have obligations to protect, respect and fulfill these obligations and that the Police are at the centre of enforcing obligations.

ICGLR-RTF Ag. Director, Mr. Nathan Mwesigye Byamukama (centre) engages two training workshop participants during break time

Mr Byamukama reiterated that all human rights instruments apply without regard to sex, colour or age, so women and girls, men and boys are equal. He then tackled the Bill of Rights, which includes the UDHR, the CCPR and the ICESCR and pointed out how they all emphasise equality of men and women on the basis of human Rights. He further noted that provisions under the Bill of rights are not specific to SGBV but emphasise equal treatment and no discrimination between men and women, boys and girls.

Mr. Byamukama then dug into the details of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and how it guaranteed women the right to life, to be free from torture, cruel and inhuman treatment, in addition to setting out women's right to legal remedy when their rights are violated. He also looked at the other instruments such as the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women of 1981, the Convention on the Rights of Child, which came into force effective September 2, 1990 and the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) of 1984. He cited in detail the application of these instruments and how the Police are obliged to observe them and concluded by pointing out (posing a question to the police) that now that the legal and policy mechanism in place, how do we implement and enforce the law?

VI. Utilising the International Protocol on Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict.

By Ms. Susan Alupo, ***Refugee Law Project***

Ms. Alupo made a presentation on the use of the international protocol on investigating and documenting sexual violence. She defined International Protocol as non-binding legal instrument that provides guidelines on how to investigate and document sexual violence under international law.

In taking apart the topic of sexual violence in conflict, she made use of two key examples. She started with former Yugoslavia where up to 60,000 women were raped from 1992-1995 and in Rwanda, where about 500,000 women were sexually tortured and raped during the 1994 genocide.

Ms. Alupo then proceeded to relate how these war crimes led to the institution of a legal framework to tackle the Sexual Gender-Based Violence beginning with the 1993 UN Security Council Resolution 827 that established the International Criminal Tribunal Yugoslavia (ICTY); the first war crimes court established by the UN.

This resolution also established the Statute of the ICTY which defined the Tribunal's jurisdiction – a Temporal and Geographical jurisdiction – to prosecute war crimes committed in the territories of former Yugoslavia between 1991 and 1995.

She then switched to the Rwandan scenario, which in 1994, led to the establishment of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) by the UN Security Council Resolution 955 to prosecute war crimes committed between January 1, 1994 and December 31, 1994.

In her discussion, she reiterated how these tribunals were critical landmarks in regard to Conflict-related sexual violence, that is to say; the Statutes establishing the tribunals listed rape as a crime against humanity.

She thereafter expounded it all up to the installation of the International Criminal Court (ICC) in July 2002. The ICC was established by the Rome Statute. Ms. Alupo noted that the Rome Statute establishes sexual violence in conflict as a Crime against Humanity and War Crimes as specific sexual violence crimes.

Ms. Alupo, however, pointed out that the non-binding nature of the protocol and the limited knowledge about it, together with challenges around the application of medical forms/ certificates remain major hindrances towards the utilisation of this protocol.

VII. The State of Gender-Based Violence in Uganda: Some Empirical Evidence during Peace Time

By Kenneth Ayebazibwe, ***MGLSD***

The Presentation was based on statistics obtained from the National Gender-Based Violence Database (NGBVD) for the period January 1, 2014 to May 17, 2016. The NGBVD is a Government of Uganda Initiative to enable actors in Uganda, who are responding to Gender-Based Violence, to safely collect, store and generate analysed reports in time.

He highlighted statistics of gender-based violence and also showed which parts of the country were hit hardest. For instance, the districts of Gulu (4,235), Jinja (1,434), Kamuli (789), Iganga (748) and Katakwi (457) had the highest number of GBV reported cases in the 73 districts that were surveyed during the period under review.

Denial of resources, opportunities and services, physical assault, psychological abuse, sexual assault and forced marriages (in that order) were also found to be the most common types of gender based violence, according to this research.

It was also noted that the northern region had the biggest number of reported cases of gender-based violence at 48%, followed by the eastern region at 41%. The western and central regions followed at distant 5% and 6% respectively. The bulk of the survivors of gender-based violence by gender were female, at 81%.

Police (4,214 cases) accounted for the most cases

reported at Gender-Based Violence Service points, followed by Gender-Based Violence Shelter (3,301cases) and Probation offices at 1,896 cases.

Current innovations and new indicators in tracking GBV were also given as follows:

- Registration of Gender-Based Violence service providers countrywide on the NGBVD
- Data mining textual content as remarks
- Upgraded the NGBVD to complete the Gender-Based Violence referral pathway: police, health and courts
- Testing the case management module on the system
- Gender-Based Violence helpline for immediate response: online counselling, information and Gender-Based Violence reporting

Question and Answer session.

VIII. Question and General Discussion Session

Q: Can we have telephone lines to report sexual violence?

A: Rwanda police has hotlines in cabs; Uganda could introduce them as well and they are starting it in Uganda including use of *"neighbourhood whatsup watch groups"*.

Q: There is need to disseminate content in protocols and other instruments, especially the obligations; can we have them published in a compendium and distribute them to all those institutions that should implement them?

A: The international instruments are helpful in the fight against sexual violence and should be utilised optimally. Indeed the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region has a protocol on prevention and punishment of sexual violence against women and children, which can be accessed on its website *www.icglr-rtf.org* and International Conference on the Great Lakes Region website *www.icglr.org* and will print more copies for dissemination. The compendium of international instruments on Sexual Violence will be worked on and distributed to relevant stakeholders.

Q: There is the issue of cultural challenges and practices; there is the legal framework against sexual violence but people seem to prefer cultural practices of resolving these matters.

A: We have to continue the sensitisation campaigns against cultures which perpetuate sexual violence in their communities.

Q: How do you deal with the problem of command responsibility, for example, in the Great Lakes Region? How do you provide support to the judiciary in war areas, in the face of a breakdown in the rule of law?

A: Command responsibility is a legal concept and is related to situations where the commander fails to take action over subordinates who violate the law or where there are violations of the law in conflict, with even the commander involved. On supporting the judiciary, the UPDF upholds the Constitution and works with Police to restore the rule of law where it has broken. The UPDF also supports civil institutions.

Q: Is it possible for female soldiers to take senior officers involved in sexual violence to court without jeopardising their careers?

A: Structures exist right from a platoon to

division level of the UPDF to handle and punish senior UPDF officers that sexually harasses or abuses females. There is a women's wing at battalion level, senior women officers can be found in a division and there is even military intelligence. Such information cannot be hidden. The army courts will then complete the process and the General Court Martial has unlimited jurisdiction in UPDF. Additionally, there are also barazas that involve commanders and the soldiers to share views on what is happening and the challenges.

Q: Medical evidence is crucial in cases of sexual violence. But there are no structures in Uganda to get medical evidence from villages to Mulago Hospital. Kenya has a chief government pathologist. What can be done about this?

A: The UPDF has zero tolerance policy to criminality and an investigation machinery that includes the Special Investigations Bureau (SIB), prosecutors (there is a Director of Prosecutions under the Chieftaincy of Legal Services) and courts that run through UPDF structures up to the Court Martial Appeal Court to handle this.

Q: What strategies are in place to clear case backlog in the courts and similar institutions to help the cause of justice?

A: The UPDF also has lawyers who guide and help in investigations and ensure that the ends of justice are served, whenever there are alleged breaches of the law.

Q: Do we have cases of people who have been sexually abused by the UPDF and what has been done?

A: The Human Rights Watch allegations came after the UPDF itself had investigated the incident, which established no abuse.

IX. Group work: Investigating and Documenting Sexual Violence in Conflict and Peace Times: Where are The Gaps and Solutions?

To effectively obtain the required information, participants were categorised in six groups, according to their specialities. They were then assigned four questions each for discussion. The questions involved the principles, good practices, challenges and training gaps in investigation and documentation of sexual violence. Each group presented the results of their deliberations as follows:

Group 1: Judiciary

Principles: Speedy and timely justice, non-discriminative approach, doing no harm to the victim, reparation (capture all expenses in investigation and documentation) and ensure admissibility of evidence.

Good practices: Sensitisation, community outreaches, specialised units to handle sexual violence cases, special measures during investigations for example the use of video and camera hearings, empathy and generally the use of child and gender friendly procedures.

Challenges: Bad attitudes (the thinking these are private matters), unfavourable laws that disadvantage the victims, poor investigations due to limited resources and training (medical reports lacking because there was no personnel or money to get them done), no victim support services, no rehabilitation services, lack of uniform framework to promote a multi sectoral approach, forensic evidence not available.

Training gaps: training needed in sensitivity in

dealing with gender violence and to the victims, in child friendly procedures, in art of advocacy and in gathering and preserving evidence.

Group 2: *Medical* and *DNA* Experts

Principles: Confidentiality, verbal evidence collection, physical evidence/examination, collection of sample, integrity of the sample, documentation on appropriate forms, for example, Form 3 of Police.

Good practices: Confidentiality, counselling, screening and treating STIs, community sensitisation of stakeholders and preservation of specimen, multi sectoral collaboration, involvement of opinion and religious leaders.

Challenges: Timely reporting, evidence preservation, sociocultural hindrances, settlement out of court process, gang rape situations (whose semen is it?), lack of specialised centres leading to long lines at medical facilities and dishonesty, for example, when the alleged victim denies she consented to sex, because the other party did not settle an obligation.

Training gaps: In knowledge of processes and procedures of collecting evidence, counselling skills.

Group 3: Civil Society

Principles: Confidentiality, accountability, do no harm, timeliness

Good practices: Community dialogues, community policing and activism, working out referral pathways with different service providers, working through coalitions with different organisations.

Challenges: Poor co-ordination, corruption in police, judiciary and LCs, poor funding for Sexual Gender-Based Violence, lack of victim friendly facilities

Training gaps: Knowledge in existing laws, need for regular training of police officers since they are transferred frequently, translation of laws into local languages, skills in documenting cases involving persons with disabilities.

Group 4: Uganda Peoples Defence Forces *(UPDF)*

Principles: Safety, confidentiality, timely intervention, privacy and empathy.

Good Practices: Training before missions, sensitisation, clear code of conduct and law, appointment of civic officers to handle and improve civilian military relations, zero tolerance policy on sexual violence, investigations by SIB that lead to prosecution if there is a problem, counselling services, multi sectoral approach for example investigators, legal officers, gender officers and scenic officers work together.

Challenges: Difficult and insecure working environment, for example, Somalia. Difficulty in collecting evidence because of stigma, culture, age (if children, for example), inadequate resources, difficulty in accessing survivors in conflict situations, it is a challenge training officers in such matters (UPDF deployed in three countries at the moment), difficult to arrest perpetrators of sexual violence in operational areas outside Uganda as UPDF has to depend on local authorities there.

Training gaps: Gender dynamics, handling children.

Group 5: Uganda Police Force (UPF)

Principles: Relevance, authenticity, professionalism, accuracy.

Good practices: The Department at CID headquarters with trained officers, disciplinary code of conduct, advisory from DPP, work with

counsellors and civil society, file returns on progress of cases of SV, meetings with ministries and district committees, press briefings and radio talk shows to share information.

Challenges: These include lack of structures, heavy workload (too many cases to handle) and lack of investigative skills. If victims are poor, they cannot afford medical examinations, corruption and commercialisation of sexual offences, unprofessional behaviour whereby premature arrests are made, tampering with evidence by victims or their care givers, media misrepresentation

Training gaps: These are in the areas of training at induction level, in service training, sensitisation of communities, specific training in sexual gender-based violence and more equipment.

Group 6: Media

Principles: These include truthfulness, keeping victim out of public, protection of sources, evidence (forensic/medical)

Good practices: Being balanced and verification of stories and do no harm

Challenges: The media houses have priorities when it comes to news; there is lack of training, risks in writing about some topics, lack of access to information from public officials

Training gaps: These are in sexual gender-based violence and reporting on it and also in science reporting.

Observations and comments on group presentations

1. Necessity by the Police to improve in evidence/chain of exhibits
2. Journalists can always contact the communications officer to answer their queries, provide information and comment on issues and not the judges handling the cases.
3. Police has various spokespersons both at headquarters and in the regions, who can always be contacted to provide information to the media and comment on issues before publication.
4. The training curriculum being designed by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region - RTF must include provisions for PROs as well.
5. Reporting sexual gender-based violence by the media is very important and must be done well.

X. Medical Legal Challenges of Sexual Violence: Perspectives from Documentation, Preservation and Investigation (Panel Discussion)

The panellists who included Dr. Sylvester Onzivua and Mr. Godfrey Onen responded to questions posed by the moderator on the key issues of medical evidence in sexual violence cases. The panellists raised the following issues and concerns:

i) If the health worker is well trained, he/she will capture information on the Police form and it will suffice. The Police form used to be

inadequate but we have tried to improve it by borrowing ideas from Kenya. It is now four (4) pages.

ii) Sometimes the victim or survivor may not give information and that affects the outcome of the case. In some cases, the victim is not willing to go to Police that means there will not be justice, if cases are not reported to

responsible institutions.

iii) Multi sectoral collaboration in documenting sexual violence cases is difficult; from securing scene of crime, collection of information, transfer of victim, ensuring the victim preserves the evidence, ensuring the HBS is collected and that the doctor has the right control specimens, the specimens are well preserved, packaged and labelled and also guarantees that witnesses required in court appear to give evidence and be cross examined in conflict areas, the suspect may not even be available.

Question and Answer session.

Q: Judicial officers do not understand the language that medical personnel use; should they use the language that judicial officers can easily understand?

A: There is need for the medical and legal professions to interact and move together on investigation and documentation of sexual violence. Medical language is explained during the trial, but health workers should use language that judges can understand.

Q: Judges complained of delay in Government Analytical Laboratory reports. Has anything changed in the last four months?

A: This is usually caused by delays in funds releases and sometimes there is no money to buy reagents. There is no structure in the Ministry of Health for forensic evidence and this means there is no funding for it

Also, the scene of crime officers should be specifically trained; the method of collection of evidence is important. They should avoid collecting irrelevant evidence.

There is also need for clear guidelines so that the Police does not give unnecessary samples, which is not economical

Q: Are the medical personnel moving together with the Police in these investigations and documentation?

A: There is interaction between medical personnel and the Police at training level but specific trained Police officers are transferred frequently. Nurses and clinical officers can fill Police forms but they do not have training on forensic evidence. A medical school's curriculum on forensic evidence is yet to be developed. The midwifery training manual has been revised, in collaboration with Makerere University, and sexual gender-based violence has been integrated.

Q: Is there a training need that the RTF can follow up on and design?

A: Encourage case conferencing during hearing of sexual violence cases. There is also need for integrated training of health workers in management of sexual violence cases.

XI. Prosecuting Cases of Sexual Violence in Post Conflict Situations: Successes, Challenges and Recommendations for Further Training

This was a panel of prosecutors consisting of Mr. Charles Richard Kaamuli and Ms. Alice Komuhangi Khaukha from the Directorate of Public Prosecutions and Col. Dr. Godard Busingye from the UPDF's Chieftaincy of Legal Services. The session chair, Lady Justice Dr. Winfred Nabisinde first observed that adequate investigations and documentation of sexual violence cases determines whether victims or survivors will get justice. She also asked them to suggest changes that can be made with regard to resource constraints.

Ms. Komuhangi looked at prosecution of sexual

and gender-based violence in Uganda, pointing out some of the various sexual gender-based violence crimes and the subsequent laws/instruments

in place to address them. She defined sexual gender-based violence as per the International Conference on Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) 2006 protocol on the prevention and suppression of sexual violence against women and children, which defines sexual violence as any act, which violates the sexual autonomy and bodily integrity of women and children under international law. She said a number of crimes fall within this definition and cited several laws along with the national regulations in place to enforce them. These include; Rape as per C/S 123 of the Penal Code Act., Aggravated defilement C/S 129(3) and (4) of the Penal Code Act, Defilement C/S 129(1) of the Penal Code Act, Child pornography C/S 29-30 of the Computer Misuse Act and S.14 of the Anti-Pornography Act and sex involving children (child to child sex) Section 129 A of the Penal Code Act, among others.

She also highlighted the challenges involved in tackling SGBV including legal loopholes that are being exploited to get away with sexual gender-based violence crimes and the challenge of presentation of evidence and witness protection, inadequate psychosocial support services, inadequate shelters for the victims/survivors of sexual gender-based violence, inadequate specialised investigation, prosecution and adjudication skills to handle sexual gender-based violence, limited availability of specialised health services to attend to the victims of sexual gender-based violence and lack of legal provisions or specific guidelines on friendly procedures for Adjudicators, Prosecutors, Probation Officers, Health Workers or Police Officers, among several other challenges.

She called for training on gender sensitive interviewing skills for the prosecutors, training in counselling, training on child friendly procedures-how to lead a child witness in court, training on art of advocacy generally and dissemination and training on the international and regional instruments.

Mr. Charles Richard Kaamuli, Directorate of Public Prosecutions, presented the response of the Directorate of Public Prosecutions in management of sexual gender-based violence in war crimes through the case study trial of Thomas Kwoyelo, a former Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) combatant who was captured and is charged under the Geneva Conventions Act with 12 counts of war crimes and alternative charges under the Penal Code Act, bringing the total of all preferred offences to 70, amongst which were sexual violence charges. He also highlighted threats in the Great Lakes Region among which are the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), Allied Democratic Front (ADF), Islamic State (ISS) and AL-Shabaab/AL-Qaeda. He also mentioned areas affected by the LRA/ADF focusing on LRA for which the Thomas Kwoyelo case is relevant. He then proceeded to divulge the approach to investigations beginning with the prosecution led approach where the investigations were a direct reaction to the arrest and repatriation of Thomas Kwoyelo by DRC to Uganda. Several incidents were investigated but charges only preferred in those particular attacks that were masterminded by Kwoyelo.

The other approach was through the international crimes department – Police, where the Police through its team of CID officers based at the headquarters and about 45 investigators based in different parts of the country were used as focal points in tackling this case. He delved into the background of the LRA conflict and highlighted the several legal instruments – both local and international – that are being used in the prosecution of the rebels charged with sexual violence crimes. He noted that top on the DPP

agenda is the decision to include sexual gender-based violence in war trial by amendment of the indictment and plans to return to the field to close gaps in evidence.

In his conclusion, Mr. Kamuuli also called for more support from partners, sensitisation of the communities to support victims' testimony, witnesses/victim protection/possible relocation and networking with the civil society to tackle sexual gender-based violence related cases.

Col. Dr. Godard Busingye, UPDF Chieftaincy of Legal Services, noted that sexual gender-based violence was widespread in conflict affected environments and also highlighted the need to pay attention to the complexity of this form of violence and appreciate the necessity for a more inclusive understanding of sexual violence that, for instance, acknowledges males as victims or survivors.

He also explained the international and domestic legal setting regarding prosecution of sexual gender-based violence in post conflict situations.

He recommended the following interventions:

i) Integrate into the training modules of the armed forces protection of civilians in armed conflicts.

ii) Training modules for the armed forces to include scenario-based exercises on sexual gender-based violence -identifying victims, perpetrators and mock trials—use of films.

iii) Increase outreach programmes to local communities in armed conflict areas.

iv) Identifying early warning signs specific to conflict-related sexual gender-based violence

The session chair asked the panelists about their own personal safety as prosecutors. The panelists, especially those from the DPP, mentioned that in the immediate aftermath of the assassination of their senior colleague, the late Joan Kagezi, heightened security measures had been prescribed for prosecutors in the directorate.

Question and Answer session.

Q: How can the Regional Training Facility (RTF) support your work as prosecutors?

A: i) UPDF has a legal training centre in Jinja that will work together with the RTF especially in developing curriculum.

ii) RTF should conduct special training for prosecutors on sexual gender- based violence as rape and defilement constitute 70 to 80 percent of sexual gender-based violence cases in Uganda. This training could also include social skills, basic medical knowledge and counselling skills.

iii) Should have joint trainings with judicial officers some of whom are extremely insensitive to the victims.

iv) There is need to have guidelines on whether sexual violence cases are heard in chambers or whether this is determined on a case by case basis. The problem with chamber hearings also is that the victim is nearer to the suspect and this can create extreme discomfort

Q: How do we deal with psychological trauma of sexual violence victims?

A: Some Police officers recommend victims and survivors to certain doctors, Some doctors do not personally examine the victims, they pass on the responsibility to other health workers and just sign the documents, yet they have to testify in court. This has resulted in embarrassment and miscarriage of justice. Cases of sexual gender-based violence require passion and empathy, right from the police, doctors, witnesses, and prosecutors, otherwise they will be lost.

XII. Lawyering and Exposing the Crime of Sexual Violence in Court and in Public: Challenges of Documentation and Investigation and their Impact on Victim and Perpetrator

The panel comprised of Lt. Ambrose Baguma, UPDF officer; Ms. Beatrice Nyangoma, a journalist and Florence Akol, project officer of the Bwaise Women Protection Centre, Action Aid Uganda. It was chaired by Justice David Batema. The panellists responded to questions posed by the session chair. The following issued were outlined by the panellists:

i) There is need to give victims of sexual violence time to complete their testimony and enable them to see justice being done at court.

ii) Lawyers appearing before non-lawyers at the Court Martial is a huge challenge. However, the Court Martial is advised by a senior lawyer on matters of law be able to make a decision.

iii) Journalism has changed tremendously with social media and information moving faster, without any other consideration. We need journalists to do stories on sexual gender-based violence, regularly.

XIII. Punishment and Rehabilitation of Sexual Violence Offenders: Successes and Challenges.

The panel included; Lady Justice Dr. Winfred Nabisinde, Lady Justice Susan Okalany and Robert Munanura, Commissioner at Uganda Prisons Service, chaired by Lady Justice Lillian Tibatemwa Ekirikubinza. The panellists made their remarks by way of response to questions from the chair.

The chair observed that the purpose of the criminal justice system is punishment and rehabilitation. The process that starts with Parliament enacting law up to the judge's verdict and sentencing of the offender, whereupon the prison services take over.

Q: Can punishment lead to rehabilitation or are the two mutually exclusive?

i) There is no general approach. Everyone in prison needs help and there are clear policies on rehabilitation. Prison authorities begin with the mind-set by providing counselling services. There are many rehabilitation services in prisons.

ii) Judges consider several issues in arriving at a punishment for the perpetrator of sexual violence. These include sentencing guidelines, mitigating circumstances, balance between aggravating and mitigating circumstances, judge's discretion, demeanour of the accused, injury to the victim (for consideration of compensation and refund of medical expenses).

iii) Evidence is crucial for sentencing, compensation and reparations. Sentencing guidelines, if handled well can increase sentences handed out to perpetrators and Prosecution is not an event but a process.

iv) Judicial officers visit prisons under their jurisdiction and offer counselling to prisoners, although the counselling is not good enough.

v) Plea bargaining has become more common, including in sexual violence cases.

vi) We do not have programmes in the country that follow up ex-convicts to see how they behave after serving time in jail.

vii) Our society believes in custody and majority of offenders in custody are sexual gender-based violence offenders. Prosecutors also want offenders to stay in jail yet majority of these offenders are young people.

viii) There is need for sensitisation and community

outreaches because some offenders in sexual violence cases do not know they are committing offences.

ix) There is a process of releasing a sexual violence offender back into the community upon serving sentence. Some ex-convicts have been rejected by communities and advised to relocate immediately. Some are even released to police stations for fear of being killed.

x) A suspect or offender does not lose right to be treated as a human being. Human rights are protected by courts.

Q: Are all prisoners rehabilitated the same way?

A: There is urgent need to tailor a specific intervention for prevention of sexual gender-based violence for northern Uganda in terms of sensitisation and outreach, as this region was affected by war for a long time and most people there have never lived a normal life.

XIV. Judges Panel Discussions: Access to Justice For Survivors of Sexual Violence: Unresolved Issues and Recommendations for Speedy and Fair Trials

This panel of judges was composed of Lady Justice Susan Okalany, Justice David Batema and Lt. Col. Agnes Musoke, chaired by Lady Justice Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza. Questions like how survivors of sexual violence can access justice, why prosecutors lose sexual violence cases, what areas the judiciary should pay attention to in order to improve conviction and whether there is collaboration between actors/judges to bring justice to the victims. These issues guided the panel discussion.

L-R: *Lady Justice Prof. Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza, Lt. Col. Agnes Musoke and Justice David Batema*

On the side of the Military Justice System, Lt. Gen. Andrew Gutti, the Chairman of the General Court Martial was represented by Lt. Col. Agnes Musoke who participated in the panel on "Access to justice for Survivors of Sexual Violence: Unresolved issues and Recommendations for Speedy and Fair Trials" . In a circulated paper, titled "Presentation on the Access to Justice for Survivors of Sexual Violence – the General Court Martial (GCM)'s Perspective" the legal basis as well as the enforcement of the law by the military Court martial was highlighted. The legal mechanisms pointed out included:

A. The 7th schedule to the UPDF Act No.7 of 2005 provides for a Code of Conduct to Defence Forces, where under Regulation (2) Military personnel are prohibited from developing any illegitimate or irresponsible relationships contrary to public morals with any persons.

B. The General Court Martial is established under Sec 197 of the UPDF Act 2005 with unlimited original jurisdiction with powers to entertain appeals referred to it from the Division Court Martials and Unit Disciplinary Committees and with revisionary powers on matters decided by the summary trial authority.

C. During trial, prosecuting sexual violence offences is statutorily covered by the Penal Code Act CAP120 and UPDF Act of 2005(Refer to B for UPDF Act 2005) Therefore, the said laws and related codes provide statutory protection to victims of sexual violence.

D. The GCM's composition like its subordinate Court (DCM's) summary trial authority(s) UDC's) is always conscious of gender balance within Ranks and files. It is Statutory that lady soldiers are catered for while composing GCM (General Court Martial)

E. The Standing operating Procedures at work are that there should be no relations between females and their male counter parts during trainings or missions. If the standing procedure is breached, the staff is reprimanded or prosecuted no matter the rank.

Mechanism of intervention include:

a. UPDF is a pro-people's Army and inter relates with all categories of people including women. – It enlisted females as combatants. The UPDF set up the women's wing to address Sexual Violence. The UPDF receives and trains female soldiers against Sexual Gender-Based Violence.

b. The UPDF has set up administrative measures to entertain complaints and ensure discipline in the army. These include Standing Operating Procedure(s) (SOP's) and Senior Women Non Commissioned officers, among others, to handle not only indiscipline, but also cases of sexual violence.

c. In 2008, The UPDF leadership elevated the women's wing to a fully-fledged Directorate of Women Affairs with a mandate to protect the female combatants, female spouses and children from any form of sexual harassment and gender-based violence.

d. The Directorate liaises with different departments in the army to ensure justice to all women in uniform, for example, wives of soldiers, girl children and female relatives. Including those on foreign missions, where it deploys lady officers to handle issues of female soldiers.

Cases below were highlighted to illustrate UPDF commitment to fight sexual violence

Some of the Sexual Violence Cases Handled by General Court Martial (GCM).

Case No	Applicant	Case	Respondent	Sentence
A) Gcm/014/14 Ug Vs Pte Talya Siraj C/W Defilement Contrary to Section 129 of Pca Cap 120	Ug Solider	Sexual Act Defilement Contrary to Section 129 of Pca Cap 120	Amuran Hussein Mohamadi (Somali Minor Girl)	Charges Were Withdrawn by Prosecution because of lack of sufficient evidence.
B) Gcm/014/13 Ug Vs Lt Col Benson Olanyac/W	Senior Officer	Abuse and Violence to Inferiors Contrary to Section 141 of The UPDF Act 2005	Privates Mulongo Madina and Auma Agnes were indecently Assaulted while on Operations in Somalia	The Senior Officer was tried, convicted and sentenced to a caution.
C) Ug Vs Lt Iddi Higiro Muhairwe C/W Defilement	Officer	Defilement	Defiled minor Girl in Gulu on May 4, 2000	GCM sentenced the accused to Five (5) Years Imprisonment though upon Appeal, The Court Martial Appeal Court allowed the Appeal Quashed The Conviction and set a side the sentence of five years Imprisonment on ground that the appellant's Defence of Alibi had not been considered by the Trial Court thus a Miscarriage of Justice.
D) GCM/020/15Ug Vs Pte Olinga Rapheal C/W	Officer	Defilement	Defiled Somali Girl Under 18 Years of Age	Case Still on Going.
E) Crim. Appeal No. 006/13 Capt Charles Kato-	Officer	Defilement	Defiled A Minor Who Was Under His Guardianship While At Bihanga Training School In 2002	The Trial Court sentenced him To 10 Years Imprisonment. on appeal to GCM Quashed the conviction and set a side the sentence for lack of sufficient evidence.
F) GCM/012/15 Ug Vs Lt Noah Shinyekwa C/W	Officer	Conduct Prejudicial to good order and discipline. impregnated woman	Ms. Sophia Hassan a Somali woman Was Impregnated by the Officer accused while in operation In Somalia	Case still ongoing.
G) GCM/011/015 Ug Vs Cpl Karaka Hassan C/W	Officer	Conduct Prejudicial to good order and discipline. impregnated	Ms. Madinah Mohamed Ahmed a Somali woman was impregnated.	Case still ongoing.

The above illustrations are indicative of UPDF's zero tolerance to sexual violence and whoever deviates from this policy is punished.

The following is a summary of the issues that were raised in this panel discussion:

i) Sexual violence cases need to be handled expeditiously because justice delayed is justice denied. It was noted that sexual crimes are crimes against the state.

ii) Sexual violence cases are lost because of lack of evidence, for example, in cases where parents of a defiled girl take money from offenders and lose interest in the prosecution; where evidence is tampered with or where the victims succumb to threats from the offenders or their relatives. Sometimes the DPP withdraws cases from the courts when the evidence is weak or not forthcoming.

iii) Courts also need reasonable time within which to handle the sexual violence cases.

iv) The challenges of keeping victims undisclosed, cultural practices that abridge women's rights and poverty that hampers facilitation towards evidence are a huge problem to access to justice in the event of sexual violence.

v) Police needs to know what to investigate in cases of sexual violence.

vi) There is need to identify an agency to co-ordinate efforts against sexual gender-based violence in a multi-sectoral approach that includes ministries of Gender, Internal Affairs, Education, the Police, Parliament and the Judiciary. The procedures and guidelines to this effort must be clear.

vii) Lady Justice Ekirikubinza asked Lady Justice Okalany to write a report about the key issues this workshop had raised that concern the judiciary in order to report back to the Chief Justice.

Summary statement of the workshop

A summary statement that captured key issues of the proceedings of the workshop was drafted and read to the participants, who made comments on it. The version in the annexes is the revised version of the summary statement:

Report II

Addressing sexual Violence in Conflict Settings: RTF Training Workshop for Ugandan Police and Military Officers on Protecting Women and Girls during Conflict

August 13-14, 2015-Kampala

With support from the
British High Commission in Uganda

I. Introduction and Background

On August 13 – 14, 2015, the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region - Regional Training Facility (ICGLR-RTF) organised the Training workshop for Ugandan Military and Police in protecting women and girls during conflict with support from the British High Commission in Kampala, Uganda.

The main goal of the workshop was to equip both Ugandan military and the Police officers with the knowledge and skills needed in dealing with cases of sexual violence in conflict. Given the fact that sexual violence is prevalent in conflict zones and considering the fact that Ugandan military and Police officers are involved in peacekeeping missions and mitigating conflict, the training aimed to strengthen the capacity of participants in investigating and responding to cases of sexual violence in conflict settings. The prevalence of rape and other forms of sexual violence throughout the Great Lakes Region has brought forth the necessity to train and sensitise both Ugandan military and police officers.

The training workshop was expected to bring about positive change in the prevention of sexual violence crimes by certifying that Ugandan military and police are rightfully equipped with the skills needed in investigating and prosecuting said crimes.

The objectives of the training workshop included:

- Create awareness amongst Uganda military and the Police in managing cases of sexual violence in conflict;
- Inform the military officers and the Police of the challenges related to mitigating sexual violence crimes in the region;
- Sensitise the military and police on the relevant global and regional instruments related to sexual violence
- Enhance understanding on the appropriate collection of evidence in sexual violence cases (including but not limited to medico-legal and forensic responses)
- Provide a forum for invited officials to share best practices and challenges on the best methods fit to investigate and prosecute conflict-related sexual violence
- Discuss strategies for national and regional co-operation on addressing the issue of conflict -related sexual violence

II. Highlights of the Opening Session

The workshop commenced with an opening ceremony with speeches from Mr. Nathan Byamukama, Mr. Innocent Balemba Zahinda, represented by Ms Alison Hayes, Mr. Joseph Bolton of the British High Commission and Dr. John Kamya of the Uganda Police Forces.

In his speech, Mr. Nathan Byamukama, the Acting Director of the Regional Training Facility, emphasised the importance of creating awareness on the prevalence of sexual and gender based violence in conflict and post conflict settings and the overall necessity of familiarising military officials, personnel and the Police in the tools available to mitigate Sexual and Gender Based Violence. In addition, Mr. Innocent Balemba Zahinda, the Team Leader of the UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, placed great emphasis on the need for state accountability of military personnel, officials and the Police as first responders and investigators in dealing with cases of Sexual and Gender Based Violence. As mentioned, the speech presented by Mr. Joseph

Bolton, the Head of Political Affairs at the British High Commission, highlighted the importance of regional efforts in combatting the rise of Sexual and Gender Based Violence. Dr. John Kamya, the Acting Commissioner of Police for the Uganda Law Enforcement, placed emphasis on the need to do away with the discrimination and the objectification of women and for the Uganda Police Force to continue to play a key role in enforcing the law to curb sexual and gender-based violence. (See annexes for the opening ceremony speeches)

III. Day I: Thursday, August 13, 2015

A. Setting the Scene Objectives of training and expectations of participants

By Nathan Byamukama

The Acting Director of the Regional Training Facility, Mr. Nathan Byamukama elaborated on the objectives of the training in protecting women and girls during conflict. He covered the regional and national instruments pertinent to the mitigation of sexual violence throughout the country and the region. He familiarised participants with the relevant laws in investigating and prosecuting sexual violence cases on both a national and a regional level. As stated in the workshop, Mr. Byamukama noted that there are national and regional standards that the Uganda Police and the military are to adhere to, when dealing with sexual violence cases.

Introduction to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV), Understanding Sexual and Gender Based Violence in conflict and post-conflict environments

Maj. Renee Mwesigwa of UPDF

Major Renee Mwesigwa of the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) gave a presentation on Understanding Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Conflict and Post-Conflict zones to the Uganda military and Police. At the beginning of the presentation, Maj. Renee explained the dynamic of confronting sexual violence cases in conflict zones. As noted in the presentation, Maj. Mwesigwa stated that the nature of conflict has changed as warfare is now asymmetrical. As stated by Maj. Mwesigwa, this means that the opposition is within the civilian populations. Additionally, Maj. Mwesigwa went on to addressing the dilemma that peacekeepers are confronted with, as they are under an obligation to protect the civilians. The fact that the military and police are oftentimes first responders to Sexual and Gender Based Violence victims places a great need for them to be trained in dealing with Sexual and Gender Based Violence cases.

***L-R** Col. Andre Grobbelaar of the British Peace Support Team, Nathan Byamukama and Maj. Renee Mwesigwa of UPDF*

To conclude the introduction, Maj. Mwesigwa reminded participants that the departments of civic and women's affairs continue to deal with Sexual and Gender Based Violence cases.

Following the introduction, Maj. Mwesigwa commenced the session on Sexual and Gender Based Violence prevention. She outlined the objectives of the session by stating that the session aims to provide participants with knowledge on Sexual and Gender Based Violence in conflict and post conflict settings and helps participants learn the outcomes of Sexual and Gender Based Violence cases (as participants will be able to define sex, gender, and the overall characteristics of Sexual and Gender Based Violence and Gender Based Violence and have a basic understanding of Sexual and Gender Based Violence in conflict settings).

As mentioned by the facilitator, gender is a social construct made up of roles and relationships. Gender should not be confused with a person's sex, as gender can be unlearned. The societal roles of gender are conditioned by the period of time in which a person is living in and a person's culture. As a result of the fact that gender is a social construct, the restrictions and limitations that gender places on people can be unlearned by willing participants.

In addition to giving a detailed explanation of the conditions of gender, Maj. Mwesigwa listed the characteristics of Sexual and Gender Based Violence. These characteristics were listed as acts of sexual violence and abuse, acts of gender based violence and violations of human rights.

Maj. Mwesigwa then asked the participants to list the human rights abuses that were being violated in regards to Sexual and Gender Based Violence.

According to participants, these human rights abuses were, but not limited to the right not to be tortured/degraded, the right to human dignity, the right to consent, the right to privacy and the right to life (in the event that the victim contracts life threatening diseases or the act of violence is fatal in itself).

The participants were engaged in identifying the ways in which sexual and gender-based violence can be used as a weapon of war. From the presentation, Maj. Mwesigwa identified the fact that sexual and gender-based violence is used to traumatise the civilian population as means of political gain in war, to undermine the state (in relation to acts of terrorism by fundamentalist groups), to humiliate the other party (women being raped/violated to display the other party's failure to protect them). As mentioned by Maj. Mwesigwa, sexual and gender based violence is also used as a means of disempowering both men and women in the community.

To conclude this portion of the session, participants listed the possible factors of sexual and gender-based violence, which included, but were not limited to economic inequality, societal standards rooted in sexism, inadequate laws, misuse of power, the lack of implementation of existing laws and so forth.

B. Analysing sexual and gender-based violence effects and impacts
Dr. Sally Wangamati, IPSTC Trainer

For the second segment of the session, Dr. Sally Wangamati elaborated on the impacts and effects of sexual and gender-based violence. The participants were informed of the fact that there are a number of players of sexual and gender-based violence. These players include the perpetrator, the survivor, the family and the community. Dr. Wangamati explained the ripple effect of sexual and gender-based violence to participants.

Dr. Sally Wangamati in blown dress chatting with Col. Andre Grobbelaar in a blue shirt during a practical session

From this, Dr. Wangamati stated the fact that when a victim is violated, there is the immediate effect of the act, the medium term consequence of that act, the long term consequence of that act, the act moving from the individual and becoming a case that the community has to deal with in one way or the other. As noted by Dr. Wangamati, a victim of sexual and gender-based violence is faced with dealing psychological scars (trauma, PTSTD, etc), the spiritual questioning of one's existence, feeling unsafe in one's own

community alongside the shame and the guilt associated with the act.

Dr. Sally Wangamati took participants through the common effects of sexual and gender-based violence, which included feelings of anger, self-blame for the act, self-loathing, and feelings of powerlessness, trauma of the rape / sexual and gender-based violence and so forth.

As noted in the presentation, there are several challenges in investigating cases of rape/ sexual and gender-based violence. As mentioned by Dr. Wangamati, it is common for victims to take showers directly after being raped/violated, which in effect eliminates the physical evidence of the act. Nevertheless, investigators are should not rely solely on physical evidence because the victim's testimony and witness testimonies are enough to substantiate a case. First responders to sexual and gender-based violence crimes (in this case the Police officers and or military officers) usually run the risk of further traumatising victims by blaming the victim for the act that was inflicted upon them.

The participants were made aware of the number of diseases and long-term health consequences of sexual and gender-based violence.

The third segment of the presentation brought attention to the grave health consequences of sexual and gender-based violence.

Dr. Wangamati noted that female genital mutilation (FGM), which is practiced throughout East Africa (and in rural regions of Uganda), causes health consequences that follow victims into adulthood, such as, fistula, difficulty in child birth, pain from engaging in sexual acts and so forth. In addition, Dr. Wangamati also shed some light on the fact that sexual and gender-based violence victims are not only women, as there have been and continue to be several cases of men and boys being victims of sexual and gender-based violence. As mentioned before, victims suffer from psychological and physical health consequences, such as risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases (STD)/ sexually transmitted infections (STIs), rectum/genitalia damage, trauma, PTSTD, anxiety, depression, and so forth.

The participants were also made aware of the spread of military sexual trauma, which is a result of sexual assault and or harassment within the military.

C. UK PSVI: Applicability of the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of sexual violence in conflict

By Ms. Danae va der Straten Ponthoz, British High Commission, UK PSVI

As an instructor from the British High Commission and the UK PSVI, Danae va der Straten Ponthoz trained participants on the applicability of the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of sexual violence in conflict. The presentation commenced with a clear outline of the session objectives that stated that participants would be able to understand that gender-based violence is any form of violence that targets both men and women because of societal roles, and that acts of sexual violence are forms of gender-based violence, but not all forms of gender-based violence can be categorised as sexual violence.

Dr. Danae va der Straten Ponthoz presenting during her session in a training workshop

The participants were all given a copy of the guide for the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of sexual violence. The instructor, Danae va der Staten Ponthoz, made participants aware of the fact that the guide was to serve as a source for explaining the need for the greater accountability for crimes of sexual violence.

Part I of the guide on the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence elaborates on the meaning of sexual violence and how it can be an international crime, while part II of the guide focuses on the tangible documentation skills, made up of planning, interviewing victims and handling evidence.

The purpose of the Protocol is to increase accountability, improve standards of investigation and prosecution and to provide overall practical guidance in response to sexual violence. The participants were made aware of the importance of the Protocol, as it was stated that a great deal of practitioners are not aware of safe and effective methods in investigating sexual violence. The Protocol would provide participants with the information needed to further understand how to appropriately investigate sexual violence crimes and comfort victims/survivors.

The participants were challenged to dispel the myths surrounding sexual violence and victims/survivors of sexual violence. They were informed of the fact that survivors of sexual violence are not naturally ashamed; do not always feel stigmatised; not naturally afraid to report and not less credible because of trauma. Victims are not to be denied their right to information that will aid them in making their own decisions regarding justice and remedies.

The last segment of the session dealt with the various responses to sexual violence. Responses to sexual violence include, but are not limited to, providing shelter to survivors, providing protection to survivors and witnesses of sexual violence, including female team members in the investigation, documentation and interview process, referring survivors to local police and support services (psycho-social, women's group, humanitarian organisations), preparing incident reports and creating strategies to increase security to avoid further incidents and so forth.

D. Understanding International and Regional Regulatory Framework for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

By Mr. Nathan Byamukama, RTF Ag. Director

Mr. Byamukama defined the different categories of sexual violence. He explained sexual violence from the perspective of international criminal law, international humanitarian law, international referee law and international human rights law and UN Resolutions plus Regional Instruments. He pointed out that this body of law prohibits sexual violence and it is binding on most states of ICGLR. In addition, he outlined the relevant laws and policies that are currently in effect in Uganda. He pointed out areas in economic rights (which includes and advocates for women's rights to education and healthcare alongside prohibiting the discrimination of women), Article 6 of Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), which notes that states are to suppress all forms of trafficking of women and exploitation of women through prostitution) and so forth. At the end of the presentation, Mr. Byamukama emphasised the fact that under both national and international standards, the Police and the military hold the responsibility of being at the forefront of enforcing the said laws and policies.

E. Mission Specific Mandate and Guidelines

By Col. Andre Grobbelaar, Police Adviser

The session on Mission Specific Mandate and Guidelines was conducted by BPST (EA) Police Adviser, Andre Grobbelaar. The session aimed to familiarise participants with the mandate, characteristics, and the role of the United Nations/ AU Police. Mr. Andre Grobbelaar presented that UN/AU police divisions are to manage and support police missions, interact with police contributing countries, establish

peacekeeping capacity (IPO/FPU Training), develop suitable police peacekeeping practices and produce in mission training materials centred on police issues. Participants were informed of the importance of becoming familiar with the mission specific mandate, as the mandate permits the mission to utilise the necessary means to protect civilians and investigate human rights violations, create conditions suitable for delivery of humanitarian assistance and to assist in developing local police capacity and resources in mission.

Col. Andre Grobbelaar in a blue shirt chatting with Lt Col. Charles Wacha, Director Human Rights Affairs UPDF

PSOs were defined as a traditionally military undertaking, as police were a different component of the PSO unit, which was put into action in 1989 (PSOs included police officers drawn from member states).

As noted in the presentation, the UN/AU police objectives include, but are not limited to, advising and training to reform the local law enforcement agencies. In addition, if specified within the Mission Mandate, peace keepers are to take on the responsibilities of executive policing while simultaneously developing a new local police force. IPOs are expected to be the principal source of information to the international community on the progression of the local law enforcement agencies. Formed Police units were defined as active and armed rapid reaction place units made up of 140 members, who are considered "Experts on Mission."

Formed Police units are expected to uphold civil order through public order maintenance, crowd control, protection functions (UN staff, property, etc). In addition, Formed Police units are to fill in the national capacity gap through confidence building patrols and tactical support. Lastly, Formed Police units are to take part in capacity enhancement through mentorship.

The participants were informed of the challenges by UN Police which included meeting language requirements, having the political will to contribute to missions and the lack of the number of family officers on mission.

F. Understanding the National Regulatory Framework for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (Prevention and Response):- General overview Considering Uganda National Legal Framework (Police/Military Acts/ Regulations/ Procedures) Uganda Law Reform Commission

By, Ms Lilian Kiwanuka of Uganda Law Reform Commission

In addressing the Uganda National Legal framework for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, Ms. Lilian informed participants of the prevalence of sexual violence and gender-based violence within post-conflict settings. Sexual violence and gender-based violence are utilised as tools to exacerbate division and sectarianism. In northern Uganda, the LRA used sexual violence as a weapon of war, to exert control over communities. Nonetheless, the sexual violence survivors have yet to receive justice and face challenges in accessing medical, psychosocial and economic support needed to heal. As a result of the crimes committed against the survivors, they are still dealing with the physical and psychological trauma, diseases and the lost years of education, the stigma and so forth. A comprehensive policy that would bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes of sexual violence does not currently exist.

The Government of Uganda utilises a multi-sectoral method in providing appropriate support to victims of sexual and gender-based violence. The responsibility of providing support to victims

and survivors is taken up by ministries, agencies and departments at the central level, which are further decentralised at the Local Government Level. In 1997, the Uganda Human Rights Commission was established to respond to crimes of human rights violations through surveillance, dealing with complaints and raising awareness on civil and political rights.

The Government of Uganda has put into place a number of laws that are to protect people from the various forms of sexual violence which include the Penal Code Act, the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act (2010), the Domestic Violence Act (2010) and the Anti-trafficking in Human Persons Act (2010). Nevertheless, the application of these laws has proven to be extremely difficult as communities in Uganda face the lack of a safe and supportive environment to report the crimes, the lack of equipment and material and properly trained staff to respond to survivors of sexual violence in conflict through investigations and psychosocial support and the absence of strategies to protect victims and witnesses and the perpetuation of stigma and trauma.

As amended in 2007, the Penal Code Act and the Domestic Violence act (2010), are to be utilized to address and penalize crimes of sexual and gender based violence, nevertheless, they do not provide a clear definition as to what sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations actually is. Legislations like the Trial on Indictment Act cannot be fulfilled as a result of the fact that the reporting, investing, and the proffering charges cannot be put into place in the context of conflict situations.

As noted by the presenter, there are a number of key players in the mitigation of sexual and gender-based violence. The Government and the private hospitals of Uganda play a significant role in providing medical evidence and treatment to victims. The Uganda Police conducts investigations in which victims of sexual violence would receive justice, through the recording of statements, gathering of evidence and proffering of charges. The Child and Family Protection units located at all police stations are under an obligation provide support to victims, specifically victims facing domestic violence. Although an institutional framework in addressing sexual and gender-based violence exists, institutions located in conflict or post- conflict regions, do not have the tools to initiate jurisdiction that pertains to sexual and gender-based violence.

The Government of Uganda has domesticated a number of international laws and policies that deal with crimes of sexual and gender-based violence. As stated by the presenter, "Uganda domesticated the Rome Statute with the enactment of the International Criminal Court Act in 2010." Although the Rome Act states that sexual violence is a crime against humanity when committed as a war crime, this position is not shared in local legislation. Uganda has also signed the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, CEDAW, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and the Solemn Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

Despite the fact that Uganda has signed international laws that address the mitigation of sexual violence, there has yet to be a reflection of said laws within domestic Ugandan legislation. As concluded by the presenter, "there is need to design a specific legal and institutional framework to address the needs of victims of sexual and gender-based violence faced during conflict and to improve and harmonise the domestic laws with regional and international provisions."

G. UPDF Act and Code of Conduct
By Lt. Col. Charles Wacha,
Director Human Rights Affairs, UPDF

The session on the UPDF Act and Code of Conduct was conducted by UPDF human rights director, Colonel Charles Wacha Angulo. The objectives of the session were to make participants aware of the guidelines of the UPDF Act of 2005 and the appropriate measures taken

to regulate the conduct of members of the UPDF. In addition to harmonising military law with the Ugandan Constitution of 1995, the UPDF Act of 2005 functions under the basis of enhancing all pertinent laws related to the army to develop better control, discipline, administration and operational efficiency.

UPDF officers are to undergo courses to inform them of the political climates of the regions in which they are serving. Officers are to be encouraged to master military science so that they can gain the capacity to defend the people that they are protecting more efficiently.

Aside from the guarantee of education of UPDF officers, the UPDF act of 2005 comes with rules and regulations that officers are to abide by. The regulations include, but are not limited to:

a) UPDF officers prohibited from abusing, insulting and beating or in any form provoking any member of the public
b) Stealing property or obtaining goods under false pretenses
c) developing inappropriate relationships that are contrary to public morality
d) consuming alcohol in a public setting, while on duty, in uniform or in possession of a weapon
e) Consuming drugs or being in possession of drugs
f) Killing civilians or anyone who is not considered to be the enemy

The UPDF Act of 2005 and the Code of Conduct obliges UPDF officers to offer help to civilians, offer emergency medical treatment to civilians and any other form of aid to civilians.

H. Police Act and Code of Conduct

By Atuhaire Maureen, Child and Family Protection Department, UPF

The Deputy Director of Child and Family Protection Department, Ms. Maureen Atuhaire commenced the session on the Police Act and Code of Conduct by explaning the Police Act and Code of Conduct. The Police Act is the basis for disciplinary conduct of police officers. The Code of Conduct requires police officers to uphold the highest standards of integrity and be mindful of their obligation to perform in accordance with the Police Act. In addition, police officers are to have the capacity to recognise the needs of the people that they are serving in Uganda. Police officers are obligated to follow the guidelines of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) force.

To better serve the interest of the public, the UPF has implemented the several units and departments to support the rights of the public (ex. CID, WA, PSU).

J.Bolton of the British High Commission awarding certificates.

The UPF officers are prohibited from:

a.) Abuse of the authority of his or her position
b.) Acting on the infringement on the rights and liberty on any without reasonable cause
c.) Converting property of individuals or property to be utilised for investigative purposes, into his or her custody

Nonetheless, UPF officers are obligated to treat individuals humanely, avoid receiving undue compensation for his or her services and conduct themselves in accordance with the rules and regulations of their office. Police officers face challenges in investigating crime, one of which is the socialization and stigma faced by victims (which in turn prohibits victims from reaching out to relevant authorities). This requires UPF officers to be equipped with the relevant knowledge to guarantee the safety of vulnerable persons.

I. Other Relevant Laws on Prevention of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
By Susan Okalany, DPP

The Penal Code Act, defines rape as "having unlawful carnal knowledge of a woman or girl, without her consent, or with her consent, if the consent is obtained by force or by means of threats or intimidation of any kind or by fear of bodily harm or by means of false representation as to the nature of the act, or in the case of a married woman, by personating her husband" (Okalany 2015). As noted by DPP Ms. Susan Okalany, rape is punishable by death while attempts to rape are punishable by life imprisonment.

Hon. Lady Justice Susan Okalany making her Presentation during the Training workshop

As mentioned by Ms. Susan Okalany, 60 percent of women experience physical violence from the age of 15. In addition, Ms. Okalany informed participants of the fact that there are no comprehensive statistics on gender-based violence, in which she declared, is an indication of the lack of attention given to the prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence.

In addition to ratifying the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, the Government of Uganda has implemented the Penal Code Amendment Act No. 8, which prohibits violence against women and children. The state is under an obligation to protect the rights of women and children as violations of their rights, goes against the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda. Under the Constitution, persons are not to be subjected to torture, cruel and degrading punishment and or treatment (Okalany 2015). All health facilities in Uganda are under an obligation to provide appropriate services to victims of sexual and gender-based violence.

Although strides have been made in ameliorating the legal framework in addressing sexual and gender-based violence, the implementation of legislation and the lack of reported sexual violence cases prove to further challenge the reduction of sexual and gender-based violence crimes in Uganda.

J. Ethics, Code of Conduct and Sexual Abuse (SEA)
By Col. Andre Grobbelaar, Police Adviser

The Ethics and Code of Conduct that UN/ AU Police must follow include:

a) dressing, thinking, talking in a mannerly fashion

b) Respecting the Rule of Law/Law of the Host Country

c) Treating all individuals with respect

d) Respecting the human rights of all individuals

e) Avoiding the mismanagement of all UN/AU Resources

f) Promote the discretion of confidential information/victims of abuse (vulnerable persons/woman and children).

UN/AU Police are to be familiarised with categories of sexual exploration and abuse. Sexual exploitation is defined as any form of attempted abuse or trust for sexual purposes while sexual abuse is defined as any form of physical intrusion of a sexual nature. SEA is not only limited to

physical gestures, as it can be direct or indirect and be manifested in terms of words and insults. The inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse has a zero tolerance to SEA.

IV: Day II: Friday, August 14, 2015 *Co-ordination Framework for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in PSO*

A. Overview of basic Approaches to Prevention and Response

By Dr. Sally Wangamati, IPSTC Accredited Trainer

Dr. Sally Wangamati made participants aware of the relevant approaches in prevention and response to sexual violence and sexual and gender-based violence cases. Participants were provided with an outline of guiding principles on the appropriate measures in dealing with sexual and gender-based violence. Participants were made aware of the fact that they were to aim to protect the safety of survivors. In addition, participants were to be aware of the fact that persons who report an incident of gender-based violence are vulnerable to experiencing further violence from perpetrator(s) or their communities. The only acceptable reason to breach confidentiality is if great risk is posed to the safety of the survivor or the VAWG worker.

Participants in the training session during a workshop

In addition, Dr. Sally Wangamati also stated that all persons have the right to the best available assistance regardless of their gender, age, disability, race, political and or religious beliefs. The underlying principle for investigators and first responders is to avoid harming victims; at all costs (do no harm principle). In means of prevention, first responders and investigators were encouraged to take a multi-sectoral approach. Nevertheless, first responders and investigators were greatly advised to take a rights based approach in cases of sexual violence and sexual and gender-based violence. Rights-Based Approach aims to empower women, boys, girls and men.

B. First Response and Victim Support

First responder guidelines for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence /SEA, supporting victims/ survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence / SEA, Evidence collection during. first response, referral process

The First Response and Victim Support module was facilitated by Maj Renee Mwesigwa. The presentation placed great emphasis on the Protocol to responding to sexual and gender-based violence crimes and the ways that victims of said crimes are to be supported. Maj Renee Mwesigwa underlines the goals of the module, which were to identify the principles for gender-based violence response to real-life case studies and to familiarise participants of the role of the health sector in addressing gender-based violence in emergencies.

The response guiding principles were not limited to safety, confidentiality, conducting interviews in private, respect and non-discrimination. In responding to gender-based violence, the health sector is tasked with primary roles, which are to guarantee access to efficient quality basic health services to all survivors, prevention and overall management of consequences of gender-based violence and referring victims to specialised care and following up, where needed. As mentioned by Maj. Renee Mwesigwa, health sector actors

involved would include reproductive health co-ordinators, managers in humanitarian and government agencies, physicians, nurses, midwives, allied health professionals, community health workers and traditional birth attendants and traditional healers.

The module also covered the importance of access to health facilities for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, as said access includes a multitude of factors including geographical location, opening times, privacy of facilities, availability of female staff, sensitivity to age so services can be accessed by adolescents and children, non-discriminating facilities, ensuring staff can speak same languages as clients and affordability.

Participants were also made aware of the basic elements of health response which include referral, clinical care and the collection of evidence. The process of providing clinical care is composed of taking thorough history of the incident, not only performing but also documenting physical examination, providing treatment of injuries, evaluating patient for sexually transmitted infections and introducing preventative care to patients, evaluating for risk of pregnancy and pregnancy prevention, providing supportive counseling and psychosocial support, following-up through visits. Participants were informed of the fact that the first 72 hours following the crime are critical to the survivor's physical health. In addition, Maj. Renee Mwesigwa gave a clear step-by-step description of the referral process. This process includes but is not limited to providing survivors with information on additional services like psychosocial support, security, legal aid and livelihood programmes.

To conclude the module, participants were paired into groups to analyse real-life case scenarios in times of sexual and gender-based violence and gender-based violence and how the basic health sector elements would be applied to said cases.

Role of the Military
By Maj. Renee Mwesigwa (UPDF)

Maj. Renee Mwesigwa outlined the role of the military in regards to mitigating and investigating sexual and gender-based violence and gender-based violence crimes in both conflict and post conflict settings. As noted by Maj. Renee Mwesigwa, the military is tasked with providing protection to both survivors and witnesses who report perpetrators of sexual and gender-based violence crimes. In addition, the military officials and personnel are responsible for reporting sexual and gender-based violence cases to AUPOL or relevant human rights departments of the mission and for follow-up investigation by the national authorities. Lastly, the military is to contact local women's organisations in the area of operation to enhance military activities pertaining to the delivery of humanitarian assistance and including plans to further secure and protect the civilian population.

Role of the Police
By Superintendent of Police, Doreen Tumwebaze Bllva (UPF)

SP Doreen Tumwebaze Bllva presented on the role of the Police in addressing sexual and gender-based violence. Ms. Doreen Tumbwebaze noted that the first officer to come into contact with a victim is to ascertain whether or not the victim needs medical care, check to see if there are provisions available for transportation to take the victim to hospital (victim should be referred to hospital within the time span of 72 hours), figure out whether or not the suspect is nearby and whether or not the victim needs protection and to lastly verify whether or not there are evidence materials.

The purpose of preliminarily questioning conducted by the police is to obtain the description and physical characteristics of the suspect and ask relevant questions that pertain to the case (what? where? who?).

D. Practice Exercise: Dealing with Crime Scenes and Collecting Evidence
By Col. Andre Grobbelaar

At the end of this exercise, participants were equipped with the ability to apply their understanding of crime scene management and evidence collection to support host state police dealing with a sexual and gender-based violence crime scene, in a peacekeeping operation. Participants completed a syndicate exercise to further solidify their knowledge on crime scene management and evidence collection to support host state police dealing with an sexual and gender-based violence crime scene. Please find a sample of the Syndicate Activity 2 listed below:

Crime scene for the alleged rape of Joyce Kesi

Detective Sgt. John Amiri and his partner, Detective Sgt. Sara Ndlovu, from the KNP Investigation Unit in Kito, are the appointed investigators in the alleged rape of Joyce Kesi. Sgt. Amiri is the lead investigator.

Sgt. Penny Zulu – a local police officer of the Kuzuri National Police (KNP), was the first responding officer to the crime scene. Sgt. Zulu reported the crime to the Kuzuri National Police (KNP) and compiled a first responder statement.

The people of Kobibi IDP Camp are very upset to hear that another girl has been raped. According to IDP Camp Leader – Chief Goodwill Seroma, this is not the first time that Fargo militia rape, plunder, or abduct girls and women from the IDP camp. Similar cases have been brought to the attention of UNPOL and the Kuzuri National Police (KNP), who have repeatedly failed to respond and protect the people of Kobibi IDP Camp. The situation is tense and the people are clearly not pleased with UNPOL and the Kuzuri National Police (KNP). The IDP community are also threatening to take up arms and to start a man-hunt for the suspect. Fears are that this could spark widespread conflict between locals and the Fargo militia.

Sgt. Amiri, and Sgt. Ndlovu are both newly appointed in their positions. Sgt. Amiri, and Sgt. Ndlovu asked if you (UNPOL) could help them respond to the crime scene and collect any possible evidence.

Mosi Neema, an elderly fisherman from Kobibi IDP camp, are supposedly "safeguarding" the crime scene at the Amanzi River – situated one kilometer to the south-west of Kobibi IDP camp.

Instructions

There is an immediate need for Sgt. John Amiri and his partner, Detective F/Sgt. Sara Ndlovu, to examine the crime scene in the alleged rape of Joyce Kesi. You are required to assist the investigators with note-taking, reporting, first response to the crime scene, crime scene management, and evidence collection and processing.

Step 1: Prepare to brief investigators and attend to the crime scene (30 min)

- Sgt. John Amiri and his partner, Detective Sgt. Sara Ndlovu asked if you can guide and assist them to examine the crime scene in the alleged rape of Joyce Kesi.
- To ensure effective and efficient support to the investigators, we will work in four teams. Each team will focus on a different area of support:
  - **Team 1:** Planning, preparation, departure and safety at crime scene
  - **Team 2:** Managing the crime scene with specific reference to the duties and responsibilities of Guards, the Crime Scene Manager, the Exhibits Officer and the Investigating Officers.
  - **Team 3:** Search, identify, mark, lift and process evidence
  - **Team 4:** Note-taking, reporting, crime scene sketching.

- In small-teams, prepare to brief the investigators on the approach and guidelines that apply to your teams' assigned area of focus.

Teams have the following responsibilities:

- **Team 1:** Facilitate the logistics, departure and safety at the crime scene.
- **Team 2:** Manage the crime scene by assuming and performing the duties and responsibilities of Guards, the Crime Scene Manager, the Exhibits Officer and telling the Investigating Officers (played by your facilitators) what to do.
- **Team 3:** Provide technical assistance and support to the investigators (played by your facilitators) on how to search, identify, mark, lift, and process evidence found at the crime scene. Use the Crime Scene Kit and digital cameras provided for this purpose.
- **Team 4:** Keep accurate notes of everything observed and done at the crime scene. E.g. Also compile a crime scene sketch to help reconstruct the crime scene.

Step 2: Brief the investigators on assigned areas of focus (15 min)

- Teams brief Sgt. John Amiri and his partner, Detective Sgt. Sara Ndlovu on assigned areas of focus.
- Each team has 15 minutes to present their briefing, using the flipcharts and other means prepared for this purpose.

- After each assignment you will be provided three (3) minutes to reflect on each presentation, using these two questions:

Q. What best practices did you identify?

Q. What would you have done differently?

Step 3: Teams reflect on the practical exercise (5 min)

In plenary, reflect on these questions:

Q: How is ***crime scene management*** relevant to your duties and responsibilities to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in peacekeeping operations?

Q: How is evidence collection relevant to your duties and responsibilities to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence in peacekeeping operations?

IV. Closing Ceremony

The workshop on Protecting Women and Girls during Conflict was concluded with a closing ceremony, and the presentation of certificates to participants. As the Guest of Honor, Ms. Evelyne Bamba, the Head of Office from MONUSCO, gave a moving and informative speech to participants. Ms. Bamba highlighted the devastating impact of sexual and gender-based violence on survivors and their families. In addition, Ms. Bamba also underlined the measures of UN in implementing strict guidelines in the mission to combat sexual and gender-based violence. These measures included, but were not limited to establishing emergency response teams within peacekeeping missions.

Mr. Nathan Byamukama, the Acting Director of the Regional Training Facility, thanked participants and collaborators for their diligence and their active engagement in the workshop on Protecting Women and Girls during Conflict. The Note of Appreciation by Mr. Byamukama's speech included the following points:

- I wish to thank all the facilitators- a great team of experts from within and outside the region on understanding and preventing sexual and

gender-based violence. We are particularly grateful to Ms. Danae from PSVI who travelled from far and who took us through the International Protocol on Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Situations of Conflict, which should prove to be a critical document for your work going forward. I also wish to thank our colleagues who travelled from the International Peace Support Training Centre in Kenya, especially Dr. Sally Wangamati, Col. Andre Grobbelaar and Mr. Jim Haggarty, you made this a very rich workshop with your very relevant expertise.

- I also wish to thank our colleagues in the UPDF and UPF who we worked closely together with to organise this training and who did an excellent job with the identification of participants for this workshop.

- I next wish to thank the participants yourselves—for your commitment, your loyal attendance and for sharing your experiences which has made this a very lively and interactive workshop. Our connection to RTF does not end here, we should use this training as a first step to a longer term commitment to working together, because as we know, the task to address sexual and gender-based violence is a very big one that will require our good collaboration and co-operation to succeed in our mission to protect women and girls from these violations.

- Finally, I wish to thank the British High Commission for its confidence in and support of the RTF to organise this training. It is clear that such training is much needed for our police and military and, therefore, a long-term commitment is needed for us to adequately equip and sensitise our UPF and UPDF officers on the long-term. I am confident that with the continued support of our dedicated partners, the RTF will achieve its mission.

Training Programme

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

Training in Documentation and Investigation for Judicial, Medical, Police, Military officers, Civil Society and Journalists in Investigation and Documentation of Sexual Violence cases, September 19-20, 2016.

British High Commission Kampala

	DAY 1	Facilitator
08:00-08:30	Registration & Material Distribution	ICGLR-RTF Staff
08:30-09:00	**Opening Ceremony** 1) Ag. Director ICGLR-Regional Training Facility 2) Brig. Muhanga Kayanja-UPDF 3) ICGLR National Coordinator-Ambassador Nyirinkindi Rossette 4) British High Commissioner-Ms. Alison Blackburn, British High Commissioner 5) ICGLR Executive Secretary 6) Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development- Hon. Janat Mukwaya	Mr. Mondo Kyateka Assistant Commissioner, Youth and Child development, MGLSD
	Understanding Sexual Violence (SV) in Conflict and Peace Times: Challenges of Investigation and Documentation.	Chair: Amb. James Mugume or Amb. Nyirinkindi
09:00-10:00	Diagnosing the Room: A 'Traffic Light' Exercise on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.	Dr. Chi-Chi Undie
10:00-10:30	UPDF containment of Sexual Violence in peacekeeping missions in Somalia, South Sudan and CAR: Which strategy has been used?	Facilitator: Brig. Muhanga Kayanja
	Morning Tea Break & Group photo	
10:30-11:00	Utilising the International Protocol on Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict	Susan Alupo. RLP
11:00-11:30	Plenary discussions	
11:30-11:50	Overview of International, Regional and National instruments on Sexual Violence: ICGLR Perspective of Sexual Violence during conflict and Peace times.	Nathan M Byamukama, Ag. Director RTF
11:50-12:20	Plenary discussions	
12:20-12:40	The State of Sexual Violence in Uganda: Some empirical evidence during peace time.	Kenneth Ayebazibwe, MoGLSD
12:40-13:00	Plenary discussions	
13:00-14:00	**Lunch break**	
	Group Discussion: Investigating and Documenting Sexual Violence in Conflict and Peace times: Where are the gaps and solutions?	

14:00-16:00	• Perspectives from the Uganda Police Force (UPF)- Grace Akullo • Perspectives from the UPDF • Perspective from Journalists • Perspective from Prosecutors and Judges • Perspective from Doctors • Perspective from Civil Society- Helen Nwoha	
16:00-17:00	Report back & Discussion	
	DAY 2	
	Panel discussion: Discussion on Referral systems, collecting personal data and types of assistance for survivors and witnesses: Bridging the gaps.	Chair: Ms. Roselidah Ondeko, Representative from UNFPA
	Doctors Panel Discussion	
09:00-09:30	Medical-legal challenges of Sexual Violence: perspectives from documentation, preservation and investigation	Panelists: ▪ Onen Geofrey ▪ Magdalene Mwanzia, LVCT ▪ Dr. Sylvester Onzivua ▪ Stella Alamo Talisuna
09:30-10:00	**Discussions**	
	Prosecutors Panel Discussions	Chair: Hon. Lady Justice Dr. Winfred Nabisinde
10:00-10:30	Prosecuting cases of Sexual Violence in Post Conflict Situations: Success, Challenges and Recommendations for Further Training.	▪ Col. Godard Busingye. ▪ Charles Richard Kaamuli ▪ Alice Komuhangi Khaukha
10:30-11:00	**Morning tea break**	
11:00-11:30	Discussion	
	Lawyers Panel Discussion	Chair: Hon. Justice David Batema
11:30-12:00	Lawyering and exposing the Crime of Sexual Violence in court and in public: challenges of documentation and investigation and their impact on victim and perpetrator	▪ Beatrice Nyangoma ▪ Mr. Kanduho Frank ▪ Maj. Renee Mwesigwa
12:00-12:30	Discussion	
	Panel on Punishment and Rehabilitation	Chair: Lady Justice ,Prof Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza
12:30-13:00	Prisons: Punishment and Rehabilitation of Sexual Violence offenders: Successes and Challenges	▪ Robert Munanira, Uganda Prisons Service ▪ Florence Akol, Action Aid ▪ Hon. Lady Justice Dr. Winfred Nabisinde ▪ Rachial Odoi /Lucy Landira (JLOS)
13:00-14:00	**Lunch break**	
14:00-14:30	Discussion	
	Judges Panel Discussions	Chair: Lady Justice ,Prof Tibatemwa Ekirikubinza

14:30-15:00	Access to justice for survivors of Sexual Violence: Unresolved issues and recommendations for Speedy and Fair Trials.	▪ Col. Agnes Musoke ▪ Hon Lady Justice Susan Okalany ▪ Hon. Justice David Batema
15:00-16:00	Workshop review and agreed conclusions	Chair: His Worship, Elias Omar Kisawuzi, Registrar in Charge of Research and Training Presenter: Rapporteur
16:00-16:30	**Closing Programme** 1. Ag. Director ICGLR-Regional Training Facility- Mr. Nathan M. Byamukama 2. Vote of thanks from Uganda Police Force (UPF)- CP Enanga Fred 3. Head of Political Section, British High Commission- Mr. Joseph Bolton 4. Guest of Honour -Professor Lillian Tibatemwa Ekirikubinza, Lady Justice of the Supreme Court	ICGLR-RTF Staff

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

Course Agenda: ICGLR PSVI / SGBV Training Course Imperial Royale, Kampala 13-14 August 2015

PROGRAM

British High Commission Kampala

	DAY 1 Thursday 13 August 2015	Facilitator
08:00-08:30	**Registration & Material Distribution**	**ICGLR-RTF Staff**
08:30-09:00	**Course Opening Programme** 1) Ag. Director ICGLR-Regional Training Facility 2) ICGLR National Coordinator 1) Team leader Team Leader, UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict. 3) Head of Political – British High Commission in Kampala 4) A.g Commissioner of Police, Training Planning and Quality Control at Uganda Police Force, Uganda Law Enforcement.	ICGLR-RTF Staff
09:15-09:30	**Administration** Objectives of training / Expectations of Participants	Nathan M Byamukama, A.g Director ICGLR-RTF & Dr Sally Wangamati (PhD) (IPSTC Accredited Trainer
09:30-10:45	**Module 1:** Introduction to SGBV Understanding Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in conflict and post-conflict environments.	Dr Sally Wangamati (PhD) (IPSTC Accredited Trainer Maj Renee Mwesigwa, UPDF
10:45-11:00	**Morning Tea Break**	
11:00-12:45	**Module 2:** Analysing SGBV Effects and Impact.	Dr Sally Wangamati (PhD) (IPSTC Accredited Trainer

12:45-14:00	**Lunch**	
14:00-14:45	**Module 3:** UK PSVI: Applicability of the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict	Danae van der Straten Ponthoz, BHC / UK PSVI
14:45-15:45	**Module 4:** Understanding the International and Regional Regulatory Framework for SGBV. (Prevention and Response) - Overview of International, Regional and Sub-Regional frame work for SGBV.	Nathan M Byamukama Ag. Director ICGLR-RTF
	-UN Resolutions / Protocols / Guidelines - Incl Res 2185 (2014)	Alison Hayes, Team of Experts: Office of the SRSG-SVC
	-Mission specific mandate and guidelines	Col Andre Grobbelaar, (Police Advisor)
	Discussion	Team of Experts: Office of the SRSG-SVC
15:45-16:00	**Break**	
16:00-16:45	**Module 4: Continued** Understanding the National Regulatory Framework for SGBV. (Prevention and Response):-General overview Considering Uganda National legal Frame Work (Police/Military Acts / Regulations / Procedures)	Ms. Lilliane Kiwanuka, Uganda Law Reform Commission
	-UPDF Act and code of conduct	Lt Col Charles Wacha (Director Human Rights Affairs, UPDF)
	-Police Act and code of conduct	Atuhaire Maureen, Child And Family Protection Department, UPF
	-Other relevant laws on prevention of SGBV	Susan Okalany, DPP
17:00-17:45	**Afternoon Tea Break**	
17:45-18:00	**Module 5:** Ethics, Code of Conduct and Sexual Abuse (SEA)	Col Andre Grobbelaar, (Police Advisor)
	Practical exercise / Syndicate Activity 1. Identify Crimes and Human Rights Violations At the end of this exercise, participants will be able to apply their understanding of the regulatory framework for SGBV prevention and response to distinguish between domestic crimes, international crimes and human rights violations associated with acts of SGBV in peacekeeping operations	Dr Sally Wangamati (PhD) (IPSTC Accredited Trainer & Jim Haggerty (Stabilisation Advisor
	DAY 2 Friday 14 August 2015	**Facilitator**
08:45-09:30	**Module 6:** Coordination Framework for SGBV in PSO Overview of basic Approaches to Prevention and Response	Dr Sally Wangamati (PhD) (IPSTC Accredited Trainer

09:30-10:45	**Module 7:** First Response and Victim Support Considering: -First responder guidelines for SGBV / SEA. -Supporting victims/survivors of SGBV / SEA -Evidence collection during first response -Referral process	Maj Renee Mwesigwa, UPDF (Military)
10:45-11:00	**Morning Tea Break**	
11:00-12:45	**Module 7 Contd.** First Response and Victim Support	Col Andre Grobbelaar (Police Advisor)
	-Role of the Police	SP Doreen Tumwebaze Bllva
	-Role of the Military	Maj Renee Mwesigwa, UPDF (Military)
	-Working with other stakeholders -Other support services (Social Services, medical services, psychosocial etc.)	Dr Sally Wangamati PhD (IPSTC Accredited Trainer and Dr. Nuwamanya (Deputy Director Police Health Services)
	-Film "Working with NGOs" / Film "Iron Ladies of Liberia"	Dr Sally Wangamati PhD (IPSTC Accredited Trainer
12:45-14:00	**Lunch**	
14:00-15:30	**Practical exercise / Syndicate Activity 2**. Dealing with crime scenes and collecting evidence. At the end of this exercise, participants will be able to apply their understanding of crime scene management and evidence collection to support host state police dealing with a SGBV crime scene, in a peacekeeping operation	Col Andre Grobbelaar (Police Advisor)
15:30-15:45	Course review and final remarks	Dr Sally Wangamati PhD (IPSTC Accredited Trainer
15:45-16:00	**Break**	
1600-1645	**Course closure** 1) Mr. Nathan M Byamukama, Ag Director ICGLR-RTF/PSSGBV 2) Joseph Bolton, Head of Political – British High Commission in Kampala 3) Mr. Innocent Balemba Zahinda, Team Leader, UN Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict. 4) Ms. Evelyne Bamba, Political Affairs Officer, MONUSCO	ICGLR-RTF Staff

US warns China over secret agents

Ramba hands a certificate to Maj. Renee Mwesigwa as the British High Commissioner's Joseph Bolton and the acting director of the Regional Training Facility, Nathan Byamukama, look on at Imperial Royale Hotel on Friday. Photo by Francis Emorut

Crashed plane had $500,000

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Chinese President Xi Jinping is scheduled to make his first state visit to the United States next month as the countries seek to resolve tensions over such issues as trade, human rights and hacking.

UN to name countries with rogue forces

By Francis Emorut

The head of the United Nations Organisation's Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) Uganda, Evelyn Ramba has threatened that UN is going to name and shame countries whose forces in

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Human Rights Watch defines sexual violence as all forms of violence of sexual nature, such as rape, attempted rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, sexual assault and threats.

The head of political affairs in the British High Commission, Joseph Bolton, appealed to the peacekeeping forces to refrain from any acts of sexual violence in the cause of their duty but endeavour to protect the people in armed conflict zones.

Italy warns of 'Somali

Italy yesterday warned that "another Somalia" as it sig the US and several European acts carried out by the Islamic Minister Paolo Gentiloni said it in ending the country's civil war will find ourselves with another our coasts". "Time is limited, "Sirte has become alarming,"

The New Vision, Published in 2015

Regional Training Facility Takes Sexual Violence To Grassroots

The Regional Training Facility (RTF) has taken the fight against sexual violence to the grassroots in order to register positive results.

FRONT: Byamukama (R), Muhozi (M) British High Commissioner, Alison Blackburne (2L) during a photo moment at Afrique suites

building and networking," Byamugisha told Red Pepper, adding that, "It is hinged on the need for effective interaction between the above key stakeholders as a key approach to rapidly enhance access to justice for victims and witnesses of sexual violence

situations."

Explaining the great need for this and more workshops, Byamukama said that sexual violence remains one of the crimes mostly committed in the Great Lakes Region in general and in Uganda in particular. "Reports in the media, police and in conflict zones remain awash with sexual offences. In 2015, statistics in Uganda prisons showed that there were 4023 prisoners on remand and 2803 convicts for sexual violence related cases," Byamugisha said. According to him, despite current statistics, many

The workshop was officially opened by the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Janat Mukwaya who was represented by Hon. Peace Mutuuzo. UPDF's Brigadier Muhanga Kayanja was also in full attendance and he presented the army's version of handling sexual violence. At the invited stakeholders will, by the end of the workshop have contributed to the best way to identify the cases of sexual violence and how best to address them.

(By John Kanyomba)

The Red Pepper, Published in 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION - REGIONAL TRAINING FACILITY (RTF), CONTACT:

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