

NEWSLETTER



DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE
AND THE RULE OF LAW

HUMAN RIGHTS

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

◀ **INSIDE**

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

Dear ICJ Kenya Members, Partners and Friends,

I am pleased to share with you the fourth and final edition of ICJ Kenya's Newsletter 2024, providing you with updates on our recent endeavours in advancing justice, human rights, and the rule of law in Kenya.

During the fourth quarter of the year, ICJ Kenya has actively participated in various activities aimed at promoting and strengthening judicial independence, constitutionalism and the rule of law.

We have also actively advocated for the right to health, launching, the critically acclaimed, Right to Health Bench book.

Notably, we have devoted substantial efforts to producing knowledge products as well as conducting sensitization workshops for paralegals on legal frameworks to combat Gender Based Violence as well as trainings for judicial officers on the sentencing policy guidelines and management of petty offenders.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our devoted team, partners, and ICJ members, whose invaluable contributions have been fundamental in the success of these initiatives.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I encourage you to delve into this year's fourth and final newsletter to gain further insights into our recent activities and accomplishments.

Yours sincerely,

Protas Saende,
ICJ Kenya Chairman.

SUPPORT ICJ KENYA'S MISSION

Join us in advancing justice, human rights, and the rule of law in Kenya.

Your support enables us to drive impactful advocacy, provide legal aid to vulnerable communities, and empower citizens to defend their rights.

Mpesa Paybill Number: 320150

Account : Your Name

Together, we can build a more just and equitable society.



PAYBILL NUMBER

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A golden scale of justice stands on a marble table. The scale is perfectly balanced. In the background, there are several law books with leather covers. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, creating a professional and serious atmosphere.

**DEMOCRATIC
GOVERNANCE AND
THE RULE OF LAW**

PROGRAMMATIC WORK

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND THE RULE OF LAW

Constitutional Reforms and Implementation

Human Right Summit

The Annual Human Rights Summit, under the theme "Upholding Human Rights in a Changing Kenya," brought together policymakers, judicial officers, civil society leaders, and human rights advocates to explore the intersection of justice and human rights in the country.

One of the central discussions focused on the death penalty, with Julie Wayua Matheka, Programme Manager at ICJ Kenya, condemning it as a cruel violation of the right to life.

- Despite Kenya's de facto abolition since 1987, the death penalty remains entrenched in law for offenses like murder, robbery with violence, treason, and mutiny.

In his opening remarks, Deputy Executive Director Demas Kiprono framed the summit as a moment of reflection and action. He emphasized the collective responsibility of the Judiciary, Legislature, and Executive to protect democracy and human rights.



Judicial Strengthening and Reforms Sentencing Policy Guidelines

ICJ Kenya, in partnership with the NCAJ Committee on Criminal Justice Reforms, hosted a two-day sensitization meeting on November 21st and 22nd. The event brought together participants from various courts, including City Court, JKIA, Kibera, and Milimani Law Courts, focusing on the Sentencing Policy Guidelines (2023) and the management of petty offenders.

Lady Justice Grace Ngenye, Chairperson of the NCCJR, presented the importance of these guidelines in promoting fair sentencing and addressing challenges in handling petty offences. Julie Wayua Matheka, ICJ Kenya Programme Manager, highlighted the organization’s “Campaign to Decriminalise Poverty and Status,” which advocates for legislative reform and the promotion of human rights in law enforcement.



Discussions centered around ICJ Kenya’s research, including studies on petty offences and their impact, particularly on women. The meeting emphasized the need for clear, accessible laws that comply with international human rights standards and avoid criminalizing poverty.

Media Coverage

Citizen Tv: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhcrfLhRdvc>

Citizen Tv: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qdh006zfQss>

Defending The Constitution

On November 2nd, ICJ Kenya council chairperson Protas Saende joined justice sector stakeholders at the Supreme Court organized town hall engagement titled: "Fostering an Open Democracy: An Open Conversation on the Supreme Court's Contributions to the Protection of Human Rights & the Civic Space."



Mr. Saende in his presentation spoke of various landmark Supreme Court decisions which have played a significant role in expanding and safeguarding human rights and civic space.

He also addressed emerging threats to human rights and civic space in today's political climate, further recommending how the Supreme Court can address these challenges.



Supreme Court @12

During the commemoration of the Supreme Court @ 12, introspecting and reflecting on the court's jurisprudence while defending the constitution, ICJ Kenya continued to provide expertise on a wide array of issues especially on the importance of safeguarding human rights, constitutionalism and the rule of law.

Our Programme Manager Julie Wayua Matheka In a panel discussion, explained the role of development partners in supporting the realization of the constitutional social justice promise.



Security Sector Strengthening and Reforms

Criminal Justice

Abolish the Death Penalty

On October 14, 2024, ICJ Kenya brought together a dynamic group of partners to mark World Day Against the Death Penalty. The theme for this year's commemoration, The Death Penalty Protects No One, sparked crucial conversations aimed at dispelling the myth that capital punishment enhances community safety.

The occasion was graced by the French Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Arnaud Suquet, and the esteemed Court of Appeal Judge, Hon. Justice John Mativo.

The event featured a thought-provoking panel discussion with experts from diverse organizations, including Crime Si Poa, Reprieve, the Witness Protection Agency, the Crime Journalist Association of Kenya, and the Kenya Prisons Service.

Attendees, many of whom were ICJ Kenya members, contributed to the lively dialogue, emphasizing the urgent need to abolish the death penalty and advocating for a justice system that truly protects and rehabilitates.



Media Coverage

TV 47: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-q1GZHK0i8>

K24: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdEEcmJiH2Q>

News Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=svTW5c3_YJ0

KTN: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QFisHJC5UDY>



Human Rights Day

To mark International Human Rights Day, the French Embassy in Kenya, in partnership with ICJ Kenya and Crime Si Poa Kenya, hosted a powerful media training on the abolition of the death penalty.

The session aimed to empower journalists with the tools to report responsibly on this critical issue while fostering a broader dialogue on human rights and justice reform.

Journalists were immersed in the legal and historical context of the death penalty in Kenya, exploring its continued existence in criminal law despite de facto abolition. Ethical debates surrounding its deterrent



effect and human rights violations were also discussed, emphasizing the importance of state accountability in life-and-death decisions.

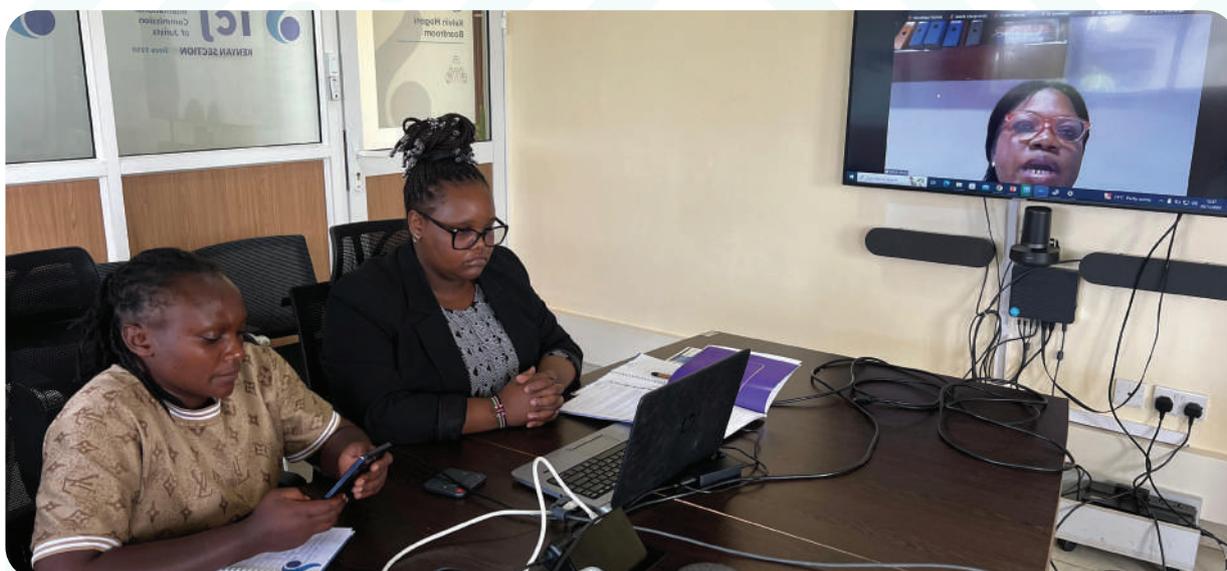
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A key takeaway was the importance of ethical reporting on sensitive topics. Journalists received guidance on covering the death penalty in a balanced, humane way, focusing on human dignity and the societal impact of capital punishment.



Plight of Women Working in Public Spaces

ICJ Kenya alongside: Dullah Omar Institute and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative Africa Office with the support of the campaign to Decriminalise Poverty and Status launched the Sub-National Governance and the Plight of Women Working in Public Spaces fact sheet.

The Fact Sheet highlights challenges faced by women working in public spaces and presents guiding principles for improving legislation and policy development in Kenya.





**HUMAN
RIGHTS**

HUMAN RIGHTS

Equality Rights and Inclusion

Access to Justice

ICJ Kenya conducted a two-day sensitization workshop on access to justice for persons with mental disabilities in Nanyuki, Laikipia County.

The workshop convened 27 prison officers drawn from both Nanyuki Male prisons and the Women’s prison to sensitize them on our publication; Promoting Inclusion and Responding to Justice Needs for Persons with Mental Disabilities: An Access to Justice Manual for Persons with mental disabilities.

The publication documents recommendations from a research finding which revealed that prison facilities are inadequately equipped with both manpower and finances needed to provide the necessary reasonable accommodation to mainstream the stay of persons with mental disabilities.



Legal Aid

On October 24th, ICJ Kenya during an e-launch unveiled the baseline survey report on the implementation status of the Legal Aid Act. ICJ Kenya, through its publication of a cost-benefit analysis of legal aid, posits that legal aid has far-reaching economic and social benefits. In 2016, the National Assembly enacted the Legal Aid

Act 2016, whose objective is to promote access to Justice and establish a legal and institutional framework to promote access to Justice.

The development of this report was made successful by the generous financial support from the EU through the UNDP Amkeni Wakenya to which ICJ Kenya is most grateful.



icj International Commission of Jurists
KENYAN SECTION | Since 1959

Download a Free Copy of our
Publication

THE LEGAL AND REGULATORY GAPS INHERENT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGAL AID ACT, 2016

Download this and many more publications from our website:
https://icj-kenya.org/news/sdm_downloads/the-legal-and-regulatory-gaps-inherent-to-the-implementation-of-the-legal-aid-act-2016/

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Access to Justice

ICJ Kenya was in Kwale, Malindi and Mombasa counties to assess the impact of its legal empowerment initiatives following a series of trainings, more so on strengthening paralegalism and access to justice.



Paralegals from the three counties hailed ICJ Kenya's legal trainings noting that paralegals were now empowered to confidently interact with members of their communities and provide legal aid services, in turn bridging the justice gap. Through the training, paralegals have also

been able to train other legal aid providers, ensuring access to justice becomes a reality. During the visit, ICJ Kenya also visited an expansive tree nursery, that has become the key to addressing sustainability issues within the Kwale Paralegals network.



Combating GBV

ICJ Kenya with the support of Mott Foundation conducted a sensitization training for community paralegals in Meru county on legal frameworks in place to combat Gender based Violence as well as the role of the criminal justice system in responding to GBV cases.

Community paralegals enjoy trusting community connections and have proved reliable in offering legal advice to their community members. As a result, this places them in the ideal position to take up the role of first line responders to GBV in the community.



STOP

GBV

Paralegal Society of Kenya Summit

During this year's Annual Paralegal Society of Kenya Summit, our Programme Manager Vincent Kimathi in his opening remarks, acknowledged the vital role that paralegals play in offering legal aid for the poor and marginalised in the community.

Mr. Kimathi noted that paralegals are integral to the delivery of justice, and most importantly, access to justice for all.

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“This summit provides a unique platform for us to explore those innovations, examine new practices and tools, and discuss how we, as paralegals, can adapt to these changes to remain relevant, efficient, and responsive to the needs of our communities.”





**CIVIC SPACE, DIGITAL RIGHTS
AND INDEPENDENT MEDIA**

KMJA Conference

ICJ Kenya's Deputy Executive Director Demas Kiprono, Programme Manager Julie Wayua Matheka, and Programme Consultant Charles Jaika participated in the Kenya Magistrates and Judges Association (KMJA) 2024 Annual General Conference.



The event, themed "Ensuring Justice for All: The Role of a Functional Judiciary in the Modern Democracy," highlighted the judiciary's critical role in upholding justice and democracy in a modern society.

ICJ Kenya reaffirmed its dedication to advocating for justice, human rights, and the rule of law while applauding KMJA and the Judicial Service Commission for safeguarding the financial, decisional, and institutional independence of Kenya's judges and magistrates.



Safeguarding Rights in the Digital Age

ICJ Kenya hosted a high-profile stakeholders' meeting to tackle the human rights challenges arising from digital public infrastructure. The gathering brought together thought leaders, policymakers, and digital experts to spotlight risks associated with technological advancements and explore solutions to protect fundamental freedoms in the digital era.



During an engaging panel discussion, Deputy Executive Director Demas Kiprono steered a vibrant debate on legal frameworks, advocating for robust data protection laws and human rights impact assessments for technologies handling sensitive personal information.

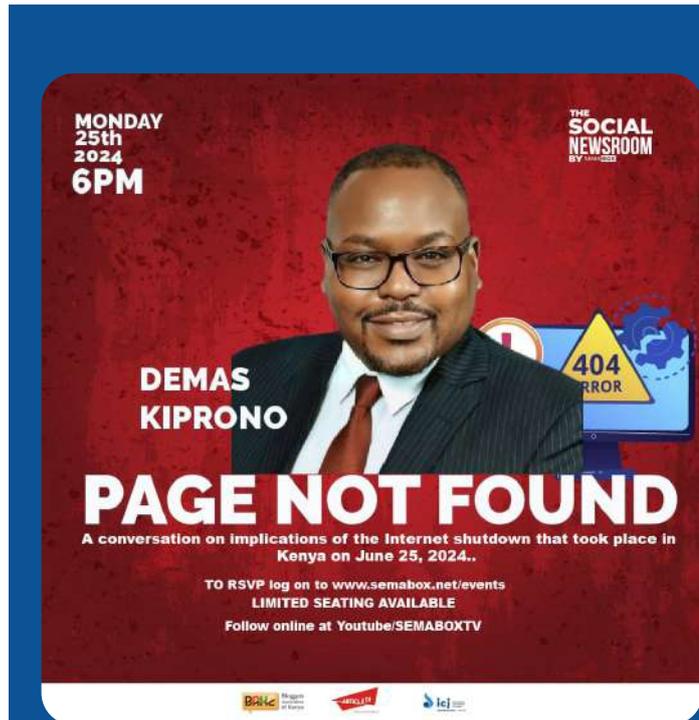
The meeting also underscored the importance of establishing a dynamic advocacy platform to address the implications of emerging digital solutions on privacy, free expression, association, and protection from discrimination.



Freedom of Expression

On November 25th, ICJ Kenya joined other stakeholders within the Digital Rights space for a townhall meeting to discuss the implications of the internet shutdown that took place in Kenya on June 25th, during the nationwide youth led protests calling for accountability and transparency in government.

Our Deputy Executive Director dames Kiprono spoke about the need to safeguard Kenyans' rights especially the freedom of expression.



Internet Governance Forum

Our Programme Consultant Charles Jaika attended the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia concluding five days of multistakeholder and high-level discussions. The Forum brought together experts, the private sector, technical community and civil society, in its largest-ever gathering with more than 11,000 participants,

- to address the transformative opportunities and risks posed by rapid advancements of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other digital technologies.

The Internet Governance Forum 2024, brought key digital concerns to the forefront including enhancing trust in digital systems, combating misinformation, and leveraging digital identity for secure e-processes.





**ECONOMIC
JUSTICE**

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

ECOSOC Rights

Right to Health Bench Book

On October 16th, ICJ Kenya alongside other partners including: the Kenya Judiciary Academy, the Center for Reproductive Rights, the Royal Danish Embassy in Kenya and Uraia Trust launched the Right to health bench book, issues and themes.

The publication audits emerging jurisprudence, laws and policies, and international and regional standards on the right to health in Kenya. It references various aspects of enforcing the right to health, as guaranteed under the Constitution of Kenya, while also giving illustrations from relatively recent case law.

During the launch, our guest of honor Hon. Justice Smokin Wanjala noted that the bench book will serve as a legal resource guide for Judges and other judicial officers on the right to health issues.



Media Coverage

TV 47: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iU6rQBt7_50

K24 : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBBPaBQuqy0>

News Watch : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QBBPaBQuqy0>

KTN : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pJJqjFguEM4>

Health Equity Advocates

ICJ Kenya hosted a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing community awareness of rights and responsibilities in healthcare governance.

Spearheaded by the Economic Justice Programme team, the activity focused on empowering participants from Nairobi's Kariobangi and Dagoretti areas to grasp healthcare policies, pinpoint gaps in service delivery, and actively engage in policy and legislative processes to drive health equity.



These engagements not only resonated with ICJ Kenya's mission to promote participatory governance but also bolstered efforts to ensure accountability in public service delivery.

Through this grassroots-focused initiative, communities were equipped with the tools to advocate for equitable healthcare systems and strengthen their voices in decision-making. By addressing systemic inequalities and fostering meaningful community involvement, ICJ Kenya advanced the broader goal of justice in healthcare.



Grassroots Environmental Defenders

From November 27th to 29th, 2024, the Kenya STAND capacity-building workshop brought together about 100 grassroots environmental defenders (GEDs). The intensive three-day event equipped participants with essential knowledge and tools to enhance their advocacy efforts amidst challenges like criminalisation and harassment. The workshop featured expert-led sessions on procedural environmental rights, legal

mechanisms, media engagement, and safety strategies.

Participants explored how to enforce environmental laws, utilise media to amplify their causes, and navigate personal safety risks. Interactive training also focused on coalition building and leveraging international networks to strengthen advocacy efforts, fostering a sense of unity and shared purpose among GEDs.

Climate and Health Africa Conference

ICJ Kenya's Christine Wainaina was in Harare, Zimbabwe speaking at the Climate and Health Africa Conference, held from October 28th to 31st, 2024.

Her presentation, titled Bridging Equity Gaps: Ethical Climate and Health Research in Kenya, delved into the pivotal role of Indigenous knowledge in shaping climate and health research. She explored how integrating traditional local wisdom is essential for addressing the health challenges exacerbated by climate change in Kenya, underscoring the need for equity in these efforts.



PARTNERSHIPS

Digital Rights

In a bold step toward championing internet freedom and accountability, we hosted a pivotal meeting that brought together leading voices in Kenya's digital space. This collaborative effort, in partnership with the Bloggers Association of Kenya (BAKE) and ARTICLE 19, reaffirmed our shared commitment to safeguarding the right to access information for all Kenyans.



Regional Democracy

On October 15, 2024, ICJ Kenya hosted representatives from the Innovation Foundation for Democracy (IFD) for a pivotal technical visit aimed at exploring a collaborative partnership. The delegation, comprising Dr. Jean Marc Segoun, Dr. Richard Makon, and Miss Victoria Phillipe from the French Embassy, engaged ICJ Kenya in discussions on establishing a democracy-focused lab in Nairobi.



The proposed initiative envisions a partnership with a Civil Society Organization to host the lab, which will serve as a regional hub for promoting and strengthening democracy in East Africa. With its extensive legacy in championing democratic values, ICJ Kenya was recommended by the French Embassy as a potential host.



This prospective collaboration signals a new chapter in advancing democratic ideals across the region.

MoU Promoting Right to Health

On November 11, ICJ Kenya and the Kenya National Union of Nurses and Midwives (KNUNM) formalized their partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on a range of joint initiatives aimed at promoting and protecting the right to health and enhancing health governance in Kenya.

ICJ Kenya Deputy Executive Director Demas kiprono and KNUNM, Secretary



General Seth Panyako noted the critical role both organizations play in advancing health rights, improving health systems, and ensuring equitable access to quality healthcare for all citizens.



ANNUAL JURISTS CONFERENCE

This year, ICJ Kenya was in India's capital city of New Delhi for its signature event, the Annual Jurists Conference (AJC 2024). We had an inspired theme by not only Kenyan events this calendar year, but also global events: South to South Dialogue on Economic Justice and Citizen Action.

The conference addressed pressing issues of economic inequality, government accountability, and excessive taxation in the Global South, drawing from the experiences of countries like Kenya, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.

Through interactive sessions, panel discussions, and case study presentations, the conference explored the role of citizen action in advocating for economic justice and holding governments accountable for their policies. Delegates also analyzed how digital tools are shaping economic justice.





ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Kenya) recently held its Annual General Meeting (AGM), providing an opportunity to update its members on the organization's progress, key achievements, and ongoing initiatives.

The AGM served as a platform to engage with members, review the year's milestones, and discuss strategies to advance justice and human rights and the rule of law in Kenya. Members were also briefed on governance matters, financial performance, and upcoming programs aimed at strengthening the rule of law and fostering accountability.



JURIST OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Law Society of Kenya (LSK) president Faith Odhiambo was this year's recipient of the prestigious ICJ Kenya Jurist of the Year Award (JOYA), joining an eminent list of 31 other notable jurists who have received the award.

Mrs. Odhiambo was recognized for her role in defending the rights of protesters during the nationwide anti-finance bill protests and securing the release of those arrested by providing pro-bono legal services. She was also widely recognized

for the role she played through LSK in leading the prosecution of acting inspector general of police for contempt of court orders directing the release of the Kitengela 3. The award has been given out on the 10th December each year since 1993 to commemorate and honor the United Nations International Human Rights Day. As an advocacy tool to motivate jurists who engage in human rights work, the Jurist of the Year Award has no equal in the country.



CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP

The ICJ Kenya Council announced the appointment of Mr. Eric Mukoya (LLM, LLB, BBA) as its new Executive Director, effective January 2025.

Eric brings over 23 years of extensive experience in organizational development and leadership within the nonprofit sector, having successfully led two organizations since 2018. A lawyer specializing in environmental and natural resources law, he is passionate about advancing human rights, democratic governance, environmental and climate justice, and public participation.

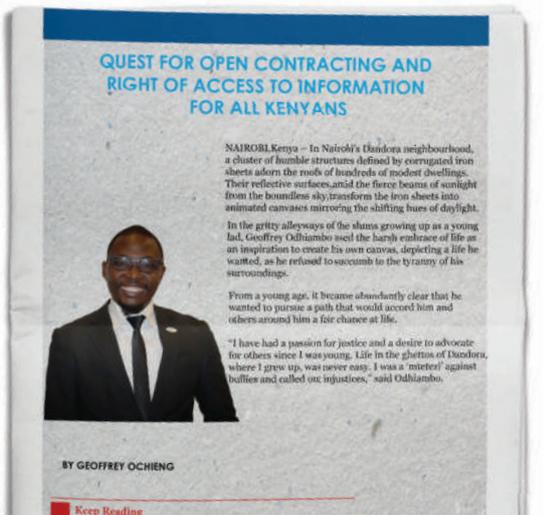
In addition to his legal expertise, Eric is a well-known columnist for the Daily

Nation and has served on important justice committees, including the Intersex Persons Implementation and Coordination Committee (IPCC) and the National Community Service Orders Committee (NCSOC).

The ICJ Kenya Council also extended its heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing Acting Executive Director, Mr. Demas Kiprono, for his exceptional and visionary leadership during this transitional period throughout 2024.

We look forward to ICJ Kenya's continued success and growth under Eric Mukoya's leadership.





QUEST FOR QPEN CONTRACTING AND RIGHT OF ACCESS TO INFORMATION FOR ALL KENYANS

Nairobi Kenya - In Nairobi's Dandora neighbourhood, a cluster of humble structures defined by corrugated iron sheets adorn the roofs of hundreds of modest dwellings. Their reflective surfaces and the fierce beams of sunlight from the boundaries shy transform the iron sheets into animated canvases mirroring the shifting hues of daylight. In the gritty alleyways of the slums growing up as a young lad, Geoffrey Ochieng used the harsh embrace of life as an inspiration to create his own canvas, depicting a life he wanted, as he refused to succumb to the tyranny of his surroundings.

From a young age, it became abundantly clear that he wanted to pursue a path that would succeed him and others around him a fair chance at life.

"I have had a passion for justice and a desire to advocate for others since I was young. Life in the Dandora of Dandora, where I grew up, was never easy. I was a 'miser' against bullies and called out injustices," said Ochieng.

BY GEOFFREY OCHIENG

Keep Reading

The moulder 'intense' (defended) would stik with him throughout his formative years, as he would later decide to pursue a career in law and most importantly, as a human rights defender. "My legal background has equipped me with the knowledge and skills to navigate our legal system, analyse legislation, and advocate for fairness and justice."

ABDUCTIONS

Take meaningful action to rebuild public trust in criminal justice system

In October, Kenya was elected to the 47 member United Nations Human Rights Council, an intergovernmental body tasked with the responsibility of promoting and protecting all human rights around the world. It is a significant milestone for Kenya, as it is the only African country to have been elected to the council. This election is a testament to the country's growing international reputation and its commitment to human rights.

Shukri Wachu,
Communications officer,
ICJ Kenya

While the council has the ability to discuss all human rights issues and monitor the situation in various countries, it is not a judicial body. It is a platform for dialogue and advocacy. The council's mandate is to promote and protect human rights through dialogue, cooperation, and the peaceful settlement of disputes. It is a forum for the international community to discuss human rights issues and to develop strategies to address them.

A report by the Missing Voices initiative this year showed that 18 people were killed by police in 2023 while 10 were seriously injured. Disproportionately few police officers accused of committing these offences have been arrested or even charged. In 2024, data of those killed and abducted is far worrying.

In order to address the problem, government should act, in its right capacity, to investigate and prosecute. It is the duty of the state to ensure that the police are held accountable for their actions. This requires a commitment to transparency and accountability, as well as a willingness to take meaningful action to rebuild public trust in the criminal justice system.

Kenya needs to reform the police and the criminal justice system. This requires a commitment to transparency and accountability, as well as a willingness to take meaningful action to rebuild public trust in the criminal justice system. The government should act, in its right capacity, to investigate and prosecute.

People Plus Tell your Story

Beyond the gavel: Young lawyer's crucial mission to eradicate death penalty

Damaris Kemunto, an advocate of the High Court seeks to reshape public opinion and sway policymakers toward a more humane and equitable approach to justice.



Sheerly Mwachiro

When it comes to the death penalty, Damaris Kemunto is a woman of conviction. She is a young lawyer who has dedicated her career to advocating for a more humane and equitable approach to justice. She believes that the death penalty is a violation of human rights and that it is not an effective deterrent to crime.

Sheerly Mwachiro is a young woman who has dedicated her career to advocating for a more humane and equitable approach to justice. She believes that the death penalty is a violation of human rights and that it is not an effective deterrent to crime.

The making of an activist

Growing up in a community where the rule of law was often challenged, Damaris was inspired to become a lawyer. She was a member of the school debating team and she was always interested in social justice issues. She was inspired by the work of human rights activists and she wanted to make a difference in the world.

Her journey

Damaris completed her law degree from the University of Nairobi and she was called to the bar. She has worked for several law firms and she has been involved in many human rights cases. She has been a vocal advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and she has been instrumental in the work of the Kenya Human Rights Commission.

Her vision

Damaris's vision is to see a Kenya where the rule of law is upheld and where human rights are protected. She believes that the death penalty is a violation of human rights and that it is not an effective deterrent to crime. She wants to see a Kenya where justice is served in a humane and equitable way.

Her message

Damaris's message is that the death penalty is a violation of human rights and that it is not an effective deterrent to crime. She wants to see a Kenya where justice is served in a humane and equitable way. She believes that the rule of law is the foundation of a just society and that human rights are the cornerstone of a democratic system.

These facts are not just statistics; they are the lives of individuals who have been taken away from their families and communities. The death penalty is a permanent and irreversible punishment that is not an effective deterrent to crime. It is a violation of human rights and it is not an effective way to promote justice.

As a young lawyer, Damaris has dedicated her career to advocating for a more humane and equitable approach to justice. She believes that the death penalty is a violation of human rights and that it is not an effective deterrent to crime. She wants to see a Kenya where justice is served in a humane and equitable way.

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Democracy: How we can get public participation right

A fundamental component of democracy is public participation. It is the process by which citizens are involved in the decision-making process of their government. Public participation is essential for the development of a democratic system and for the promotion of human rights. It is a way for citizens to voice their concerns and to influence the actions of their government.

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Kenya must create explicit, legally-binding guidelines for public participation that include sufficient notice, extensive public forums

Beatrice Mwangi | Legislation

This bill aims to create a legal framework for public participation. It will require government agencies to hold public forums and to provide notice of these forums. It will also require government agencies to consider the views of the public in their decision-making process.

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Unmasking the political trickery in bipartisan talks

Behind the scenes of bipartisan talks, there is often a complex web of political maneuvering. This is where the real action takes place. It is where the interests of different groups are being protected and where the true nature of the negotiations is being revealed. This is where the political trickery is often at its most blatant.

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Justice still eludes post-polls gender violence victims

Despite the passage of the Gender Violence Act, many victims of gender violence are still waiting for justice. The law has not been fully implemented and many cases are still pending in court. This is a failure of the government and it is a disgrace to the victims who have suffered so much. Justice should be served to all victims of gender violence.

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