

Dear Partners,

Thank you for the support you have shown us in advancing the Rule of Law and Human Rights. We are excited to share our recent updates with you.



CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

PROTAS SAENDE

We want to thank the Secretariat and appreciate their effort in the last four months to further ICJ Kenya's vision of promoting a just, inclusive, and equitable society where everyone lives in dignity. I also appreciate our members for their continued support and cooperation in advancing the rule of law and human rights.

In this first quarter, ICJ Kenya takes great pride in partnering with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) in developing, validating, and launching the ODPP compendium. The compendium is a valuable resource for prosecutors, and we believe it will enhance knowledge of the various criminal justice actors working to deliver a fair, credible, and free election.

We acknowledge that the internet is a powerful tool and an interconnecting factor that is critical for ensuring access to justice. Through our work of Judicial Strengthening and Independence, we have been part of a remarkable convening that brought together the Heads of Judiciaries from across the region to network, sharing experience, exchanging ideas, and discussing internet governance. We also had a chance to co-host a robust discourse on the Supreme Court of Kenya Judgment on the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) in form of a webinar to interrogate the ramifications of the court's findings and reasoning.

As part of the effort to spotlight the safeguard the credibility of the election, ICJ Kenya has been implementing the 2022 Election strategy. We are happy to see some of our members, paralegals, and secretariat staff having registered to monitor the August General Election. We hope to see more of our members join and participate in other important campaigns we are working on. Together we are stronger!

I would also like to thank my Council Members who have worked as a team.

In solidarity,
Protas Saende
ICJ Kenya Chairman.

MEMBER'S CORNER #BREAKTHEBIAS

The International Women's Day (IWD) is a worldwide day that celebrates women's social, economic, cultural, and political achievements and is a call to action for accelerating women's equality. This year's theme was #BreakTheBias.

Despite decades of investment in women's leadership programs, the progress in advancing women has stalled. ICJ Kenya is committed to closing the gender gap once, and in this edition's member's corner, we celebrate two of our members who have broken the glass ceiling, Senior Counsel Patricia Nyaundi and Ms. Jacqueline Ingutiah.



Ms. Patricia Nyaundi is the Rule of Law Advisor, Chief Justice at the National Council on the Administration of Justice and an ICJ Kenya member. She has formerly served as the Nairobi Director at the Crisis Action, Commission Secretary at the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Kenyan Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission (TJRC) [Read more](#)

Ms. Jacqueline Ingutiah is the female representative of the Law Society of Kenya to the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) and an ICJ Kenya Member. She is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a renowned human rights enthusiast with over ten years of experience working on women's rights issues [Read more](#)



Senior Counsel Patricia Nyaundi



Ms. Jacqueline Ingutiah

1. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE & THE RULE OF LAW



1: Constitutional Reform and Implementation

a) Unpacking the Supreme Court Decision on the Building Bridges Initiative

In partnership with Kabarak Law University, Katiba Institute and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) Rule of Law Program for Sub-Saharan Africa, ICJ Kenya held a discourse on the recent Supreme Court of Kenya BBI Judgment on Friday, April 15, unpacking the joint and individual judgments.

Watch the recording: <https://youtu.be/QFgfcTSPu8U>



b) The Launch of the ODPP Compendium on Electoral Justice

The ODPP, in partnership with the Kenyan Section of the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Kenya), held a validation workshop and later launched the Compendium on Electoral Justice that aims to standardize and bring consistency in prosecuting offences of election-related offences.



[ICJ Kenya, U.S Department of Justice and NCIC collaboration on peaceful elections](#)

ICJ Kenya has continued to build on partnerships with stakeholders to ensure peaceful elections in August. We met with the U.S. Department of Justice team and National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) team led by their Commission Secretary Dr Skitter W. Ocharo, to discuss on possible areas of collaboration.



[Angaza Movement](#)

As part of its elections work, ICJ Kenya is a member of the Angaza Movement. The movement seeks to empower and catalyse citizens to reclaim their space in public affairs' governance and advance accountability in our electoral and political processes at all societal levels. Angaza has been launching its manifesto in counties across Kenya including Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru, Machakos, and Kisumu.



[NCIC meeting to discuss the current electoral environment.](#)

ICJ Kenya held a meeting with ECES - European Centre for Electoral Support to discuss the electoral legal framework and the amendments (enacted and bills) that would influence the upcoming electoral process. At the meeting, ICJ Kenya emphasised its keen interest in developing Standard Operating Procedures to govern hate speech investigation, documentation, and prosecution.

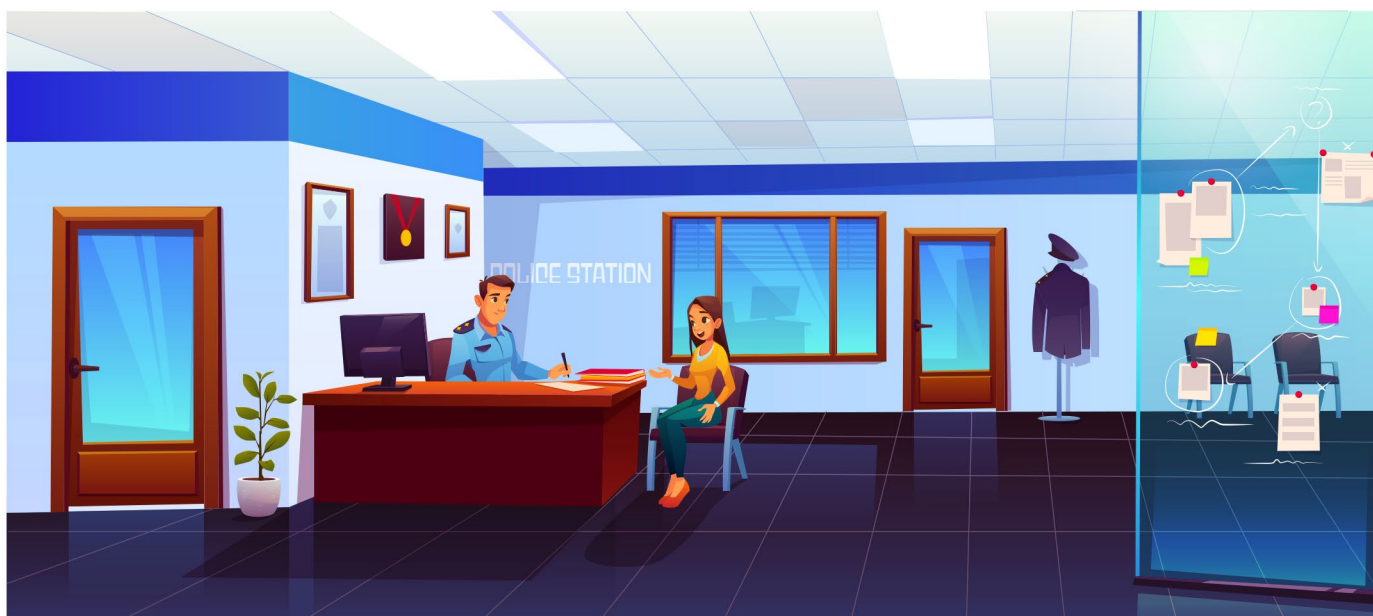


f) CSO Meeting with the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties.

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) held a consultative meeting in March with the members of Civil Societies to highlight and discuss the provisions of the Political Parties Amendment Act 2022. ICJ Kenya raised the issue of misinformation being peddled to the general public regarding the provision on the Coalition political party and asked the ORPP to explain the provision and debunk some of the myths on the same.



3. SECURITY SECTOR STRENGTHENING & REFORMS.



Missing Voices 2021 Annual Report Launch “Delayed Justice”

As part of our advocacy work, ICJ Kenya is a member of the Missing Voices, a coalition of 15 Civil Society Organizations that aim to end extrajudicial killings and enforced disappearances in Kenya.



On Wednesday, April 27, 2022 the Missing Voices Coalition launched its 2021 annual report, “Delayed Justice” at the Nyayo Gardens in Nakuru. The report showed that there have been 219 police killings and enforced disappearances in 2021. Out of the total number, 187 cases were of police killings and 32 enforced disappearances. Of the 32 cases of EDs, two of the victims were later found alive after public outcry and campaigns by Civil Society Groups. It also concluded that Pangani Police Station in Nairobi leads with the highest number of police killings in Kenya.

Download the report: <https://icj-kenya.org/downloads/missing-voices-2021-annual-report/>

Read the article:

<https://icj-kenya.org/news/pangani-police-station-leads-with-the-highest-number-of-police-killings-in-2021-missing-voices-reports/>

Training on Public Order Management

In partnership with Amnesty International and the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), ICJ Kenya trained community actors in Uasin Gishu County on Public Order Management. The partnership was to avoid duplicity and for greater impact and broader reach.



Sustained Advocacy on mental health and the Security Sector.

ICJ Kenya held a webinar to discuss the importance of police officers' mental health well-being, the laws and policies on mental health, and the operationalisation of psychosocial support programmes for police officers. We further conducted a Tweet chat campaign and held meetings with like-minded partners on how to collaborate and advance the discourse especially during the electioneering period in Kenya.

Newsletter

4. Criminal Justice



ICJ Kenya makes submission to the UN Committee Against Torture

ICJ Kenya submitted a statement to the Committee Against Torture highlighting the issues and recommendations for consideration by the Committee as relates to the Abolition of the Death Penalty in Kenya and the reported incidences of Torture in Kenya. The Statement summarized the observations and recommendations set out in the report submitted by the World Coalition on the Abolition of the Death Penalty, The Advocates for Human Rights, ICJ Kenya and the Kenya Human Rights Commission.

Decriminalization of petty offences in Africa

ICJ Kenya has been continuously advocating on the Decriminalization of petty offences in Africa. On 28 April 2022, the Cabinet Secretary, Dr. Fred Matiang'i of the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, made a commitment to release of 5000 petty offenders to the Community Service Program at the launch of a training program for newly-recruited probation officers at the Kenya School of Government in Nairobi. He noted that the prisons struggled with congestion due to the heightened number of incarcerated petty offenders.



ICJ Kenya statement on the Government's Commitment to release 5000 Petty Offenders

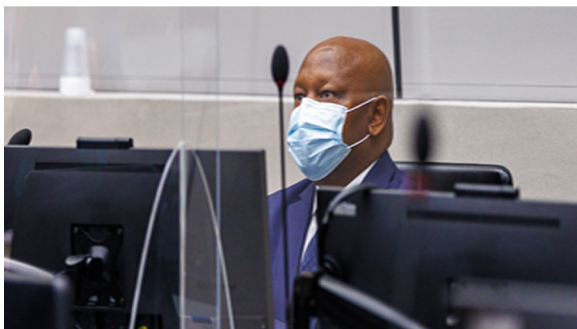


HUMAN RIGHTS

ATTROCITY CRIMES

Monitoring of the Paul Gicheru Case

ICJ Kenya has continued to monitor and document the developments in the Paul Gicheru Case¹ before the ICC with the support of the Communications Department. The trial commenced on February 15, and the prosecution is done presenting its case.



Press Statement on the Incidence of Violence against a woman along Forest Road

ICJ Kenya issued a press statement condemning the acts of assault and harassment against a woman by alleged bodaboda operators. We called for the immediate investigation, arrest, and prosecution of the perpetrators of the acts and participated in the CSO protest condemning acts of Gender-Based Violence. We further submitted a memorandum with recommendations for the prevention of GBV in Kenya.

<https://twitter.com/ICJKenya/status/1500928302005035008?s=20&t=2a5JxbUkRwKhC8IGLtbZdA>



Support to the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Multifunctional Youth Forum in Kenya convened a peer-learning workshop on UNSCR 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security

ICJ Kenya supported the ICGLR to convene a peer-learning workshop on youth, peace, and security in celebration of six (6) years of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security, with the theme; "Policy, Promise and Challenges: Youth, Peace, and Security in 2021". ICJ Kenya shared perspectives on the "Prevention of Gender-Based Violence: Role & Contribution of Policy Makers, and Youth Perspectives on UNSCR 2250 on Youth Peace and Security."

The ICJ Kenya Chairman delivered welcome remarks during the opening ceremony of the meeting².



Chairman Protas Saende delivering welcome remarks at the 8th Year Anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace, and Security

¹ <https://icj-kenya.org/news/kenyan-lawyer-gicheru-trial-opens-tomorrow-before-the-icc/>
² <https://twitter.com/ICJKenya/status/1468504903492505600>

6. EQUALITY RIGHTS & INCLUSION



Launch of Access to Justice Manual for Persons with Mental Illness

ICJ Kenya launched the Access to Justice Manual for Persons with Mental Illness on Friday, May 6, 2022. The manual is premised on the fact that persons with mental disabilities experience legal problems because of the discriminatory attitudes of society.



Launch of the study on the role of legal empowerment groups in Africa in addressing GBV during the pandemic

ICJ Kenya partnered with FIDA Uganda and the Legal Empowerment Network convened by Namati to launch a study in Sub-Saharan Africa on the institutional responses to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) during the pandemic and the role of legal empowerment groups in particular. The study includes Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe



Launch of the Citizenship and Nationality Rights Case Digest.

ICJ Kenya was invited to attend the Kenya Law Reform Commission (KLRC) launch of the premier Citizenship and Nationality Rights case Digest in Nairobi on February 25, 2022. This publication consists of national and international jurisprudence covering various issues on nationality and citizenship.

Coordination of paralegals to monitor and document human rights violations

ICJ Kenya continues to coordinate and support its paralegal networks drawn from Trans Mara, Meru, Laikipia, Kwale, Taita Taveta, and Kitui counties, whose activities play an integral part in the promotion of access to justice at the grassroots.

Conduct of feasibility study in Kisii

ICJ Kenya seeks to expand its paralegal networks and thus conducted a visibility study in Kisii. This is informed by a previous visit to Kisii county, whereby key stakeholders expressed the need for a paralegal network to promote access to justice. The feasibility study sought to establish whether there is a need to expand the paralegal project to Kisii county.

Study on the cost-benefit analysis of legal aid

ICJ Kenya is currently conducting a study on the cost-benefit analysis of legal aid. The policymakers will use this document better to evaluate the economic impact of legal aid services and make informed decisions on addressing the justice gap and allocating funding most efficiently and effectively.



ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Corporate and Public Sector Accountability

Community Validation Forums in Machakos and Nairobi.

ICJ Kenya held community forums in Machakos county [Matuu and Kathiani] and in Nairobi County [Kariobangi and Kawangware] on Access to Information and Open Contracting.



Information Requests

We trained and engaged community monitors from three community-based organisations in Nairobi and Machakos to conduct physical visits to projects in health and education institutions. However, although the public officials shared information from the contracts, they were not willing to avail copies. In this regard, ICJ Kenya has been following up with the target public agencies on the grant to access copies of the contracts for the monitored projects to verify the information provided.

Voice for change Impact stories

ICJ Kenya developed its voice for change and impact stories to highlight how the activities under the project impact issues of transparency and accountability in open contracting. The stories highlighted that our activities have empowered public officials, especially the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA). It also illuminates how citizens—community monitors and journalists—promoted transparency and accountability in public procurement.

PPRA Meeting on System Integration

ICJ Kenya collaborated with Development Gateway, Hivos, and other CSOs to engage the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority in integrating County government open contracting portals to build the capacity of the officers on the proactive disclosure of information and the importance of integration; to identify the challenges that national and county public institutions face in embracing open contracting; and experience sharing by county governments on the County Public Procurement Information Portals; while providing recommendations and options for integration.

Okoa Uchumi Coalition Meeting

ICJ Kenya participated in the Coalition's meeting that sought to identify the Coalition's role in the forthcoming General Elections. Okoa Uchumi is a coalition of civil societies actively working to support effective and accountable service delivery under devolved government while seeking to address corruption and the lack of political accountability in debt management. This is to further advocate for strengthening of the county's source revenue under a robust social accountability system.

ECOSOC RIGHTS



Unpacking Health Rights for Accountability to facilitate Access to Health Services in Kenya Project

Development of a compendium on emerging and comparative jurisprudence on the right to health

ICJ Kenya is in the process of developing a compendium on emerging and comparative jurisprudence on the right to health that will offer a resource for comparison and experience sharing for Kenya's health governance and realisation of Universal Health Care. It will focus on eight jurisdictions: Kenya, South Africa, India, Rwanda, USA, UK, Sweden, and Brazil.



Environment, Natural Resources & Climate Justice

Development of a Climate Change Matrix

ICJ Kenya, as a member of the Kenya Climate Change Working Group, developed a draft County Climate Change matrix highlighting climate change issues, legislation, and policy development on climate change and initiatives promoting gender mainstreaming in climate change in various counties. The matrix will assist the KCCWG Gender and Capacity Building thematic group with its county advocacy.



In case you have any feedback, please reach us on;

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THANKYOU