TORTURE AND ILL-TREATMENT IN UGANDA

THE ANTI TORTURE ACT OF 2012

- Everyone has the right to freedom from torture and cruel treatment.
- All complaints of torture must be investigated and prosecuted.
- All torture survivors have a right to compensation, rehabilitation and restitution.

THE EXPERIENCES OF ACTV CLIENTS

- 533 Ugandan torture survivors were registered in ACTV’s client database between March 2016 and December 2018.
- 40% were tortured in the context of police and security forces operations and 28% were tortured in the context of political actions such as public protests.
- 71% of victims were tortured in a place of deprivation of liberty – yet, permission has to be sought to monitor these places.
- 65% of victims were tortured by the police – yet the police are also in charge of investigating torture complaints.
- 95% were exposed to beatings, which leave visible physical marks – yet, no conclusive investigations have been carried out by the State authorities.
- ACTV’s clients suffer severe physical or psychological consequences including fractures, tissue damage and PTSD - yet there is no state rehabilitation programme available.
- 89% of survivors are unemployed and 90% have no or low income - torture often prevents victims from working and taking care of their family yet they receive no livelihood support.

ACTV RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure that the Uganda Police Council adopts the 2017 regulations to the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act 2012 and investigations are done in accordance with the forms therein.
- The Government of Uganda should establish and mainstream a State reparations programme that includes rehabilitation and livelihood support to victims.
- Ratify the Optional Protocol to the convention Against Torture (OPCAT) and establish a national preventive mechanism to monitor all places of detention.

To report torture, Call 0800202791

African Center for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims
Kampala office, P.O.Box 6108 Owen Rd, Kampala, Uganda, Gulu office, P.O Box 1076, Olanya Tony Road, Gulu, Uganda
Tel: +256 312 263 918/620, Email: actv@actvuganda.org, Web: www.actvuganda.org