



KENYA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
PUBLIC NATIONAL INQUIRY ON SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN NORTH
RIFT, KENYA
TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR HANSARD OFFICER

Introduction

The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) is a national human rights institution established under Article 59 and Chapter 15 of the Constitution of Kenya and subsequently made operational through the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights Act, 2011. KNCHR has the broad mandate to promote the respect for human rights and develop a human rights culture in the Republic. Section 8 of the KNCHR act details the functions of the Commission to among other things monitor, investigate and report on the observance of human rights in all spheres of life in the Republic and on its own initiative or on the basis of complaints, investigate or research a matter in respect of human rights, and make recommendations to improve the functioning of State organs.

Background

Insecurity continues to rise in the country at an alarming rate with violence replicating itself in a variety of ways. However, the State's attention has been arrested by the severe consequences that are directly linked to violent extremism and radicalization that leads to violence. One such area that has been affected by recurrent violence is the North Rift region and contiguous counties of Laikipia, West Pokot, Turkana and Samburu. The conflict in the North Rift can be traced back to 2005 when it is alleged that a prominent member of the Ilchamus community was attacked and killed by members of the Pokot community. Subsequently there have been repeated reprisal attacks that have resulted in a high number of casualties and fatalities. Research reports attribute most of the violent attacks to members of the Pokot community. However the reports also acknowledge the role of the other communities in revenge attacks.

Cattle - rustling is also rife in the area and the same is complicated by commercialization of the practice with reports indicating that rustled cattle are sold in markets in Nairobi and neighbouring countries. With the State's attention directed at curbing the effects of terror, not much focus has gone to violent acts occurring in "marginal" parts of the country and the impact it has on human rights enjoyment. While several interventions have been mounted by various actors to quell the

conflicts when they arise and to ameliorate the impacts on communities, there is no account of the human rights implications of the conflict and therefore little or no accountability has been secured for the human rights violations.

Proposed action

In discharge of its mandate KNCHR proposes to conduct a Public Inquiry into the state of insecurity in the country, starting with North Rift as first phase.

The overall objective of the inquiry is to secure accountability for the human rights violations in the conflict

Specific objectives of the public inquiry are to;

- I. determine the nature of rights violations
- II. ensure accountability for the rights violations
- III. raise public awareness and promote the debate on the obligations of the state as to the right to security of the person and property

During this phase, the Commission will conduct a public hearing where survivors and other relevant witnesses will give their oral evidence of the various conflicts that have affected the region.

Terms of reference for Hansard service providers

Specifically, the Hansard officers will travel with the hearing panels to Baringo and Kainuk where they will ;

- Audio and video record the oral evidence during camera hearings in all the public hearing sessions
- Undertake transcription of the audio recordings.
- Edit and proof-read the transcripts
- Prepare an original written report of the proceedings.
- Provide an audio and video of the proceedings.

Outputs

- Report of the hearings

Skills & Qualifications

- Bachelors degree in Linguistics majoring in English and Kiswahili; or;
- A degree in Journalism or other Social Sciences from a recognized University.
- Experience in Journalism/Media for a minimum period of three (3) years.

- Diploma in Secretarial Studies (KNEC) with typing II, Shorthand II and audiotyping1 & 2.
- Excellent communication skills and computer skills.
- Experience in actual transcribing.

Deliverables

- Witness accounts and original recordings(both in audio and written format)
- Report of the proceedings

Time frame for the assignment

The said assignment will be for a period of 30 days i.e 8th May to 28th May (Baringo County) and 5th June to 11th June (Turkana County)