



INDEPENDENT MEDICO-LEGAL UNIT NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION

UN INTERNATIONAL DAY IN
SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF
TORTURE, JUNE 26TH 2020.
#SupportLifeAfterTorture



Mathare Residents during the peaceful march on June 26, 2020.

The UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture Peaceful March

The world celebrates the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture every June 26th and this year amidst the COVID-19 pandemic IMLU stood in solidarity with victims and survivors of torture and their families.

In commemoration of the day, IMLU scheduled several build up activities and conducted peaceful marches in Mathare, Nairobi County and Kondele, Kisumu

County. This year's global theme was "Support Life after Torture" calling for civil society, governments and communities to support victims rebuild their lives after torture through a combination of services including medical, psychological, legal and social support.

We called on the Kenyan Government to fully implement the Prevention of Torture Act which was enacted in 2017.



IMLU Assistant Programme Officer Redress Kennedy Kinuthia during the peaceful March in Mathare on June 26, 2020.

The main objective of the marches held in Nairobi and Kisumu was to celebrate the resilience of torture survivors and stand in solidarity with them in the fight for justice. This also ensured that we live up to our vision of a "world free from torture, violence and discrimination."



in holding the state accountable and enhance public participation to actualize human rights.

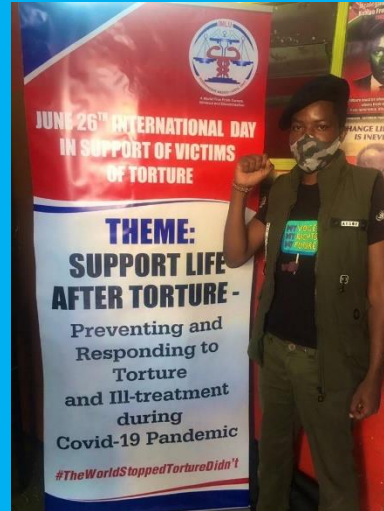


Community Dialogue in Kondele, Kisumu County on June 24, 2020

Community Dialogues in Mathare and Kondele Community Social Justice Centres

IMLU continues to raise awareness and encourage public outcry against torture. On 23rd and 24th June 2020, we partnered with Mathare and Kondele Community Social Justice Centres to conduct community dialogues to create awareness on torture. These forums created a platform for us to understand the community needs, empower citizens on basic human rights principles and ways through which they may seek redress and rehabilitation in the event that one falls victim. Thirty (30) men and thirty (30) women attended these community forums.

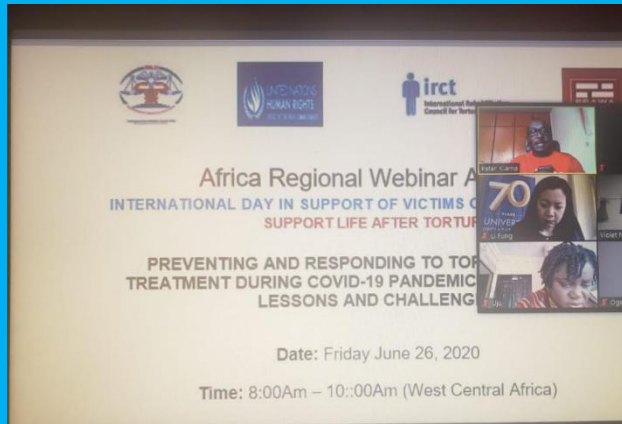
The dialogues also gave the communities a chance to share their stories on the nature of torture and other related issues such as police brutality which will strengthen our role



Mathare Community Social Justice Centre monitor takes a stand against torture, June 26th 2020.

“We are glad that IMLU is a leading organization in Kenya that has been consistent in speaking on torture” a community member said.

The community dialogues also educated the participants on actions they can undertake after an act of torture occurs.



Africa Regional webinar on prevention of torture held on June 26th 2020

Regional Solidarity Webinar

IMLU and [PRAWA Nigeria](#) successfully conducted a regional webinar on June 26th to commemorate the UN Day. The webinar discussed ways of preventing and responding to torture and ill-treatment during COVID-19 pandemic.

The webinar was addressed by Lawrence Mute, board member UN Voluntary Fund for Torture, Li Fung, OHCHR Kenya Senior Human Rights Advisor, Lisa Henry, IRCT Secretary General, Blessing Nyamaropa from the Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights, Ogechi Ogu of PRAWA Nigeria and IMLU Redress Programme Officer Kevin Mwangi. The topics of discussion were:

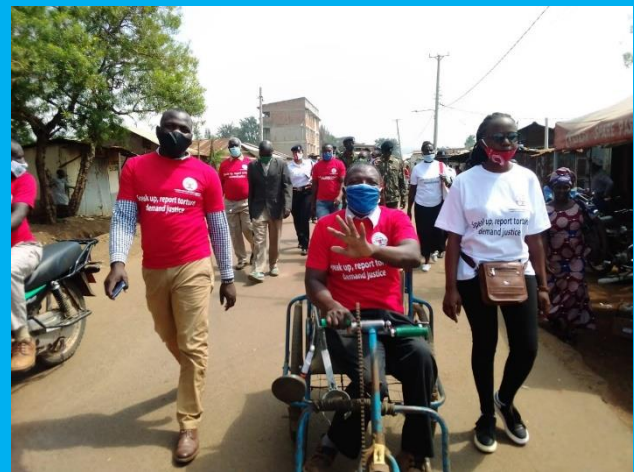
- Global and regional normative framework on the prevention of torture

- County case studies on the implementation of prevention of torture laws

- Global experiences on torture

The Webinar attracted 61 participations from Africa, Europe and the Americas.

“We must all commit to the healing of torture victims from the disturbing long-term effects of constant fear, debilitating depression and regular panic attacks which prevents them from caring for themselves, their families and contributing to their communities.” Deputy Director PRAWA Ogechi Ogu said.



The June 26th solidarity march in Kisumu County



A screenshot from the twitter chat held on June 25th 2020.

Twitter Chat

We also conducted a twitter chat on June 25th 2020 dubbed **#SupportLifeAfterTorture** to educate the public on the Prevention of Torture Act 2017 and to encourage the audience on the importance of reporting such cases.

To encourage more people to report their cases we also highlighted success stories of victims who had successfully gotten justice.

During the chat, the audience shared their experiences of torture and requested our assistance in reporting and documenting them. We aim to

educate more people on their rights and how they can demand justice.

We also encouraged the audience to download the RIPOTI Mobile Application, through which cases of torture and ill-treatment can be reported for our intervention.

The twitter chat provided us a great opportunity to interact with the public and most importantly, discuss a critical issue in society.

IMLU Media Mentions

Don't feel left out if you did not join our activities, see links to the events you missed

- <https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/ktnnews/video/2000191867/victims-of-torture-international-day-in-support-of-torture-victims>
- <https://t.co/XEOhRsnFQ5?amp=1>
- https://twitter.com/IMLU_org/status/1276584083334877186
- https://twitter.com/IMLU_org/status/1276368887202951170

We conducted three radio talk shows in Nairobi, Nakuru and Isiolo counties reaching over 400000 listeners, and KTN TV talks show reaching 2.6 million viewers covering the subject of Human Rights Awareness during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Speak Up, Report Torture, Demand Justice

Have you or someone you know experienced torture, ill-treatment or police brutality?

You can now report such cases on the IMLU Ripoti App. Download the App on Google Play Store today and Demand Justice for yourself or someone you know.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS GLOBALLY WHO MADE THIS A SUCCESS!



REPORT CASES OF TORTURE

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Independent Medico-Legal Unit
A World of Free Torture, Violence and Discrimination

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