

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE GAMBIA



IMPUNITY

- Implementation of previous recommendation made by Germany: **Development of law enforcement capacities to fight impunity**
- New developments: ECOWAS court judgements
- New needs: Establish mechanisms to bring justice and national healing

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Seek international support to start working on prosecution strategy of alleged human rights violators
- Dismiss or suspend accused perpetrators and enablers still working within the government, civil and security services
- Create a vetting mechanism for both civil and security sectors
- Engage proactively with the Ghanaian government to investigate the murder of more than 50 migrants in 2005

ADVANCED QUESTIONS TO THE STATE

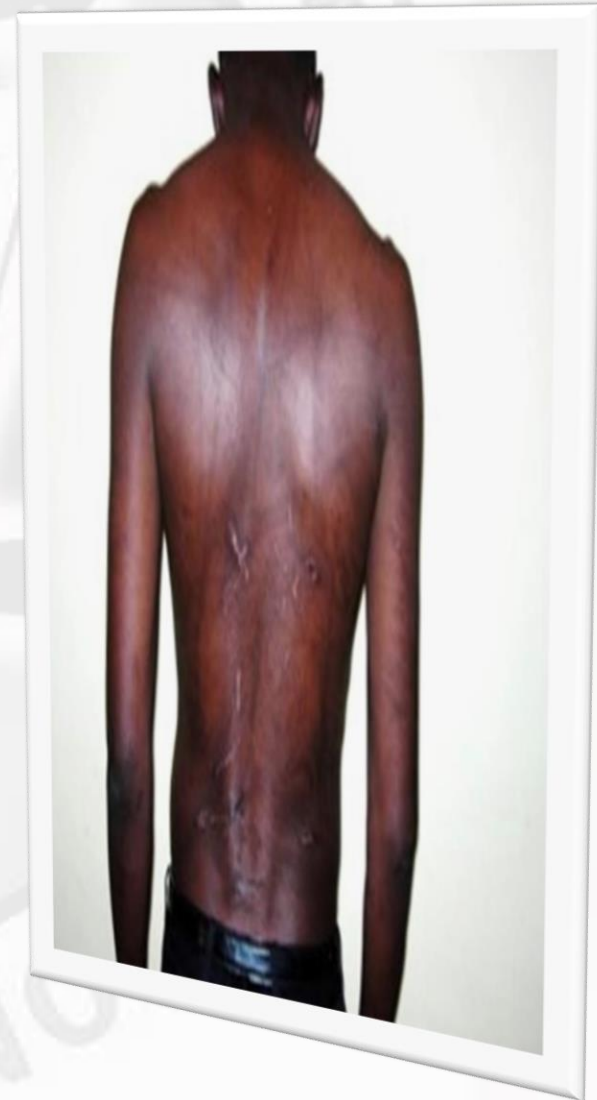
- Please explain why victims were not consulted on the recent decision to set free self-confessed killers who admitted having killed more than 80 persons?
- Please explain what type of reconciliation is needed in a country where only a small number of individuals (Junglers/Hit Squad) are responsible for most of the killings?

HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS

- Implementation of previous recommendations made by Slovakia, Argentina, Spain, Chile, DRC: **Respect for Human Rights Standards**
- New Developments: Establishment of a National Human Rights Commission and a Truth Reconciliation and Reparations Commission (TRRC)
- New needs: Effective implementation of adopted Transitional Justice mechanisms

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Investigate all allegations of torture in detention
- Domesticating the UN Torture Convention
- Comply with international standards regarding prison conditions
- Support victims of human rights violations



ADVANCED QUESTIONS TO THE STATE

- Are you adequately honoring promises made to the Gambians that human rights standards would be upheld?
- Please explain what steps are being taken to address on-going practices of police brutality?

INDEPENDENT AND IMPARTIAL JUDICIARY

- Implementation of previous recommendations made by India, Senegal, Netherlands, Maldives: **Independence and impartiality of the Judiciary.**
- New developments: Establishment of a Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) and Security Sector Reforms (SSR)
- New needs: Effective judicial reform, refrain from applying selective justice

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Build the capacity of the justice system with adequate funding and expert support.
- Refrain from applying selective justice and releasing or dropping charges against security officers accused of human rights violations

ADVANCED QUESTIONS TO THE STATE

- Please explain what steps have been taken to prepare for post Truth seeking process in terms of prosecution of self-confessed and alleged perpetrators?
- Please explain the differences in treatment of persons who have lied under oath at the TRRC (some were charged with murder while others were released from prison)?

THANK YOU



**On behalf of all Victims of Human Rights
Violations in The Gambia**