



## **BELFAST ASSEMBLY 2022**

### **JUSTICE COMMISSION ADOPTED RESOLUTION**

#### **VICTIMS BILL OF RIGHTS**

##### **Article 1 – Definitions**

“Victim” or “Survivor” means a person who individually or collectively suffers or suffered direct or threatened physical, psychological, or financial harm as a result of the commission or attempt to commit any crime defined in The International Peoples Crimes Treaty.

“Perpetrator” is a person who is accused of committing a crime or being involved in the complicity, conspiracy, or supporting or assisting in the commission of any crime defined in The International Peoples Crimes Treaty.

“CNS Justice Mechanism” is the Mechanism that is utilized to give effect to the International Peoples Crimes Treaty, outlined in the CNS Charter.

“Judicial Secretariat” is the administrative arm of CNS, whose roles and functions are outlined in the CNS Charter.

##### **Article 2 - Rights**

- I. If a matter is rejected by the Circle of Elders, Victims or Survivors must be given an explanation verbally or in writing from the Circle of Elders.
- II. If a matter has been sent to a Chamber by the Circle of Elders, Victims or Survivors enjoy the following rights within the CNS Justice Mechanism:
  - a. To be treated with dignity and fairness at all times throughout the process.
  - b. To be free from any intimidation or harassment regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, class, or socioeconomic status.
  - c. To be provided a case sheet indicating the nature and scope of the inquiry that the Chambers will be examining.
    - i. The case sheet should be provided in one of the main CNS working languages.

- d. To be provided information regarding the potential remedies and outcomes that may result from the inquiry and avenues for the Victim or Survivor to seek outside the CNS Mechanism.
- e. To provide the Victim or Survivor the opportunity to participate in the proceedings by either submitting oral or written evidence to the Chamber.
- f. To provide reasonable security precautions, including protecting personal data, during participation in the CNS Justice Mechanism.
- g. A choice to determine whether the findings shall be made public by CNS Justice Mechanism.
- h. To have CNS Justice Mechanism sessions run promptly to conclude the case.
- i. To be provided with appropriate guidance on how to obtain and collect evidence for the Chamber if the Victim and Survivor wishes to submit their own evidence.
- j. The right to represent themselves and their matter before the Chamber. No Victim or Survivor is required to be present with legal counsel; however, if a Victim or Survivor wishes to bring a lawyer, the professional qualification must be scrutinized (vetted) by the Judicial Secretariat prior to coming before any Chamber.
- k. The right to an interpreter in a language they are comfortable speaking and can understand.

### **Article 3 – Responsibilities of Victims and Survivors**

- a. All Participants will abide by the Code of Conduct outlined in the CNS Charter, regardless of their status as a member of the organization.
- b. CNS and its entities have zero tolerance for any form of corruption or bribery.
- c. All conflicts of interest must be disclosed immediately to the Judicial Secretariat.
- d. Participants must not cause any unnecessary delay or use stalling tactics in the proceeding.
- e. Participants must always be truthful and candor to the members of the Justice Mechanism.

### **Commissioners**

**Jeeva Niriella, S. Rama Rao, Lina Aksu, Ronald Rogo, Marylse Sime**