



**JUSTICE
RAPID
RESPONSE**



Dear Colleagues,

The purpose of this call for nominations is to cordially invite you to nominate experts for the Justice Rapid Response (JRR) - UN Women training course on "Investigating Cases of Gender-based Violence (GBV) as International Crimes". The course is held in partnership with JRR's training partner, the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI), and at the kind invitation of the Judicial Institute of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (JIJ). The course will be six days in length and will be held from 14 to 20 August 2015 in Amman, Jordan. The course is made possible thanks to the contributions of the governments of Canada and Denmark as well as in-kind contributions from the Judicial Institute of Jordan (JIJ).

The goal of this training course is to increase the pool of experts that can be deployed rapidly to participate in investigations into conflict-related gender-based crimes. This GBV investigation course is specifically tailored for criminal justice professionals with experience in dealing with GBV, mainly from the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, with a view to help prepare these professionals for investigations involving multi-disciplinary, diverse investigative teams that would be deployed rapidly and that most likely would have to report within a short period of time.

Successful course participants will become eligible for certification on the JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster, within the broader JRR roster, in order to be available to assist States, as well as the United Nations and other international institutions with the jurisdiction to carry out investigations into such crimes. **Please note that attendance at all sessions of the training course is a requirement to be considered for certification to the JRR – UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster.**

Deadline for nominations is **1 June 2015**. We encourage nominations from professionals with relevant expertise as specified in section II, including experts who have knowledge and/or experience in dealing with GBV, and who are willing and could be made available for mainly short-term international deployments at short notice. Please find below relevant information on the JRR and UN Women initiative, on the training course, and on the selection process.

Sincerely,

Andras Vamos-Goldman
Executive Director
Justice Rapid Response

Nahla Valji
Policy Adviser and Officer in Charge
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UN Women

I - SECURING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR GENDER-BASED CRIMES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW

Background on the JRR/UN Women initiative - As part of its mandate to strengthen women's access to justice, UN Women has been partnering with JRR in an effort to recruit, train, and create a dedicated pool of expertise; and to deploy these experts in investigating gender crimes to further ensure justice and accountability for these crimes under international law.

UN Women's mandate is to lead, coordinate and promote accountability of the UN system to deliver on gender equality and the empowerment of women with the primary objective to enhance country-level coherence, ensure coordinated interventions and secure positive impacts in the lives of women and girls. UN Women is also mandated to strengthen coherence between global and regional intergovernmental processes and operational activities in the field.

Created in 2009 by a group of States from both Global North and South, JRR is a multi-stakeholder mechanism that manages the rapid deployment of more than 500 criminal justice and related professionals from a stand-by roster. These professionals are ready for deployment by the international community to investigate, analyze, and report on situations where serious human rights and international criminal violations have been reported.

Purpose of the training - The partnership of JRR and UN Women has teamed up with the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IICI) and helped to refine a training curriculum for the investigation of GBV crimes in conflict situations. Using JRR's rapid deployment mechanism and UN Women's global mandate and reach, the partnership has created a mechanism which ensures that an increasing number of geographically diverse and trained GBV justice experts are available to the international community in a timely manner. This initiative is unique in that it seeks out the best qualified nominations of experts from every part of the world and then specifically trains these GBV professionals in investigating and properly documenting GBV as international crimes. Experts that successfully complete the training are eligible to apply for certification to the special, rapidly deployable JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster, a component of the broader JRR roster. Since 2012, the collaboration between JRR and UN Women, in partnership with the IICI, has held five GBV investigations courses in The Hague, Netherlands (September 2012; December 2014); Pretoria, South Africa (January 2013); Doha, Qatar (September 2013); and Bogota, Colombia (January 2014).

The JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster - The JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster of over 130 experts is established and maintained within the broader 500+ JRR Roster. Participants that successfully complete the GBV investigation training and are certified to the roster come with a broad range of technical capacity in demand. This includes expertise in investigations, prosecution, criminal and procedural law reform, justice and security sector oversight, military justice, interpretation, psychosocial

support and forensics. Currently 79% of the experts are women and 48% are from the Global South. The roster counts 55 nationalities, from: Asia, North and South America, Africa, Europe and Oceania. These experts are available for rapid deployment to assist States (national courts and other accountability mechanisms), as well as other institutions with jurisdiction. These include providing surge capacity support to UN entities and other international institutions, such as: the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; UN Commissions of Inquiry and Fact-Finding Missions; the International Criminal Court (ICC); international and hybrid courts; and truth commissions.

Deployments and International Recognition - To date, 26 experts have been deployed through the roster. UN Women and JRR have deployed SGBV experts to UN Commissions of Inquiry on Guinea-Conakry, Côte d'Ivoire, Libya, Syria, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Central African Republic (CAR), Eritrea, and the 2014 Gaza conflict. Other deployments include the Panel of Experts for Sri Lanka; the International Criminal Court; UN Fact-Finding Missions to CAR and Iraq; the African Union Commission of Inquiry for South Sudan and national accountability processes.

The JRR – UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster is gaining international recognition. For example, Human Rights Council Resolution A/HRC/RES/23/25, 14 June 2013, specifically calls for the use of rosters such as the JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster to ensure the rapid deployment of expertise to investigate allegations of mass rape or systematic sexual violence.

The future development of international criminal justice lies in strengthening the capacity of States to effectively investigate and prosecute international crimes in conformity with the complementarity principle outlined in the Rome Statute. This includes enabling States that are willing but not able to exercise their primary responsibility to investigate and prosecute sexual and gender-based violence under international law. We anticipate, therefore, a rapid increase in demand for this capacity to assist national institutions in the appropriate investigation and prosecution of SGBV crimes.

II – EXPERTISE SOUGHT FOR THE TRAINING COURSE ON “INVESTIGATING CASES OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AS INTERNATIONAL CRIMES”

We are looking for candidates with expertise in at least one of the following areas, preferably with some international experience:

- GBV Criminal investigation (national or international level) – criminal investigation expertise, crime scene investigation, analysis, experience in the investigation of GBV crimes, and/or experience in mentoring the investigation of GBV crimes.
- Human rights investigation of GBV related abuses – monitoring and documentation, investigation, analysis, experience with justice mechanisms and GBV crimes.

- Protection and support of victims and witnesses – protection and security, witness support, vulnerable witnesses (such as children or sexual violence victims), interviewing techniques.
- Psycho-social support expertise – mental health specialists providing counselling and psycho-social support, including to victims and witnesses of conflict-related GBV, including in the context of national or international investigations
- Prosecution – documentation, investigation and prosecution of GBV crimes.
- Forensic techniques – all areas of forensics (including documentation of crime scenes) and especially those with experience in working with situations of sexual violence and GBV investigation.
- Gender mainstreaming and rule of law programming – expertise in providing advice and strengthening international organizations and national institutions on how to address GBV in conflict, experience in implementing development strategies on reducing GBV.
- Military expertise – experience with command structures, codes of conduct, military justice and military law, including on GBV related issues
- Security management – risk and threat assessments, security management in the field;
- Criminal law and procedural law reform experts – including experience with justice sector capacity building programs, and experience with relevant legislative drafting, including on GBV related issues.
- Interpretation and translation – ability to work in English and one or more of the following languages: Arabic, Kurdish, Turkish or languages and dialects used in the MENA region.

Requirements:

- MA +5 years, BA +7 years of relevant experience in desired areas of expertise (see list above) – OR – professionally trained investigators or interpreters/translators who can show proof of training from recognized institution/organization in lieu of degrees and relevant professional experience.

Other desired requirements:

- Training course or studies in international criminal law – OR – 1 year of experience in international criminal law or transitional justice.
- Work experience in conflict or post-conflict countries and/or in an international setting.
- Work experience in the MENA region, in one of the areas listed above.
- Work experience in the context of international investigations.

The course is primarily aimed at Arabic-speaking experts, however the course will be held in English, accordingly fluency in English is a requirement for participation. Working knowledge of additional official languages of the United Nations, especially French, Spanish, and Russian, or languages and dialects used in the MENA region is also an asset.

We would be grateful if you could ensure the distribution of this Call for Nominations to departments and agencies within your government and associated institutions with the expertise listed above, e.g. police,

public prosecution, national forensic institutes, human rights units/public defender’s offices, the Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Defence, etc. Our aim is to ensure that the Call for Nominations reaches these experts and their direct supervisors.

III – COURSE STRUCTURE

The Training Course “Investigating Cases of Gender-based Violence as International Crimes” will be conducted by IICI. The duration of the course is six days. The modules of the course include: GBV in the context of international humanitarian law; GBV as part of investigation planning; psychology of conflict related violence; sexual violence against men and boys; gender aspects of international investigations; modes of liability for GBV crimes; investigations for truth and reconciliation commissions; forensic aids to GBV investigations; witness trauma and psychosocial support; and witness management and protection; interviewing skills; working with interpreters and translators in the context of international investigations; and security in the field.

Course costs – While the training course is itself free of charge, those nominating experts for the course are asked to cover the travel, accommodation and meal expenses of their candidates. Should you wish to make such a nomination but would require support to cover these expenses, please indicate this in the Nomination Form, and if the nominated expert is selected for the course, we will make every effort to find a sponsor. Please note, however, that JRR will only be able to provide sponsorship for participants who are nationals of countries which are on the DAC list of ODA recipients¹. **N.B. In exchange for the training, JRR requests the expert and his/her employer to favorably consider any request for deployment so long as the mission involved is in line with the objectives of the expert and of the organization he/she works for.**

IV – NOMINATION PROCESS

Nomination – You are invited to nominate relevant professionals with expertise and/or experience in the range of disciplines listed in section II, who are willing and could be made available for short-term international deployment (generally for up to 3 months). When an applicant completes the training, he/she will be considered for certification to the JRR – UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster, within the broader JRR roster. This consideration is based on his/her expertise, experience and demonstration of knowledge, skills, and competencies during the training course, and the needs of the JRR roster. When a particular expert who has been certified to the JRR – UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster through this

¹ For the DAC list for ODA recipients valid for 2014 – 2016 please refer to:

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf>

process is appropriate for a deployment, both the expert and his/her employer will be consulted with a view to having the expert released for the mission. **N.B. The final decision on the availability for deployment always rests with the expert and his/her employer.**

Nomination Package – All application materials are attached and can be downloaded from the JRR website at: www.justicerapidresponse.org. An application will be complete and considered for selection once JRR has received the following duly completed documents for each expert:

- 1) **JRR Personal History Form (PHF):** completed by the expert (submitted in two formats: 1. electronic/Excel; and, 2. hand-signed and scanned);
- 2) **JRR Nomination Form:** completed and hand-signed by the employer; this can be submitted by the applicant or directly by the nominating entity;
- 3) **Supervisor Recommendation Form:** completed, signed and sent to JRR directly by the supervisor of the expert.

Nominations and all application materials should be sent by email to
training@justicerapidresponse.org

As Justice Rapid Response will be hosting two training courses in Jordan **please specify in the subject line of your e-mail whether you are applying to the General Investigations Training course or the GBV Investigations Training course also indicating your full name.**

For example: “GBV Training Application – [Name of applicant]”

Please note that the **Supervisor Recommendation Form should be sent separately by the expert’s supervisor.**

The deadline for all submission of nomination materials: 1 June 2015

JRR will regretfully not be able to consider applications received after this date.

Selection criteria – There are 25 positions available. Course participants will be chosen on a competitive basis amongst the nominations submitted through a consultative process between JRR, UN Women and IICI. The selection will be made on the basis of the expertise identified for this course, the needs of the JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster and of the broader JRR roster, and the qualifications and experience of the nominees. The need to have a roster reflecting as broad a geographic representation as possible and gender balance will also be taken into consideration. For any details on the course or any additional information please contact the JRR Secretariat at training@justicerapidresponse.org (Geneva Office Phone: +41 22 544 29 07; New York Liaison Office Phone: +1 212 980 0193).