



**JUSTICE
RAPID
RESPONSE**



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women



Institute for International
Criminal Investigations

Dear Colleagues,

Justice Rapid Response (JRR), UN Women and the Institute for International Criminal Investigations (IIIC) are pleased to inform you of our Call for Nominations for the upcoming JRR Course for criminal justice, gender and related experts on *Investigating Cases of Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) as International Crimes* which will be held from 17 to 27 April 2017 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

JRR courses are an integral part of the recruitment process for the JRR Roster. The goal of this course is to increase the pool of experts that can be deployed rapidly to participate in transitional justice processes and investigations of conflict-related sexual and gender-based crimes, as well as in projects aiming at enhancing the capacity of humanitarian workers to address SGBV cases and manage referrals to accountability mechanisms. It is made possible thanks to a generous contribution from the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

This 10-day SGBV training course is specifically tailored for criminal justice and related professionals with experience in dealing with SGBV, to prepare these professionals for investigations of SGBV crimes involving multi-disciplinary, diverse monitoring and investigative teams that can be deployed rapidly and with short reporting deadlines.

Candidates who successfully complete the training course become eligible for certification onto the JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster, within the broader JRR Roster, in order to be available to assist States, the United Nations and other international institutions with the jurisdiction to carry out investigations into such crimes, as well as humanitarian responders working with survivors of conflict-related SGBV. **Please note that attendance in all sessions of the training course is a requirement to be considered for certification to the JRR – UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster.**

The deadline for nominations is 6th of February 2017.

We will focus our selection on professionals with the relevant expertise specified in **section II**, which includes experts who have knowledge and/or experience in dealing with SGBV crimes, and who are willing and could be made available for mainly short-term international deployments at short notice. Please find below relevant information on JRR, the training course, and the selection process.

Sincerely,


Andras Vamos-Goldman
Executive Director
Justice Rapid Response


Nahla Valji
Deputy Chief and Officer-in-Charge
Peace and Security Section
UN Women

I - Securing Accountability for Sexual and 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 600 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 course - The purpose of this course is to recruit, train, vet, and certify experts to the JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster. 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 SGBV 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 SGBV 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 SGBV professionals in investigating and properly documenting SGBV 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 seven SGBV investigations courses in The Hague, Netherlands (September 2012; December 2014); Pretoria, South Africa (January 2013); Doha, Qatar (September 2013); Bogota, Colombia (January 2014); Amman, Jordan (August 2015) and Dakar, Senegal (November 2015). One is being held this winter in Thailand.

The JRR - UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster - The JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster of 170 experts is established and maintained within the broader JRR Roster. Participants who successfully complete the SGBV investigation training and are certified to the roster come with a broad range of technical capacity. This includes expertise in investigations, prosecution, and documentation of human rights violations, witness protection, military justice, interpretation, psychosocial support and forensics. Currently 80% of the experts are women and 49% are from the Global South. The roster counts 62 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), and other institutions with jurisdiction, as well as humanitarian responders working with survivors of conflict-related violence. 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.

Achievements - As a result of the JRR-UN Women partnership, since 2009, every UN Commission of Inquiry (COI) has had a gender adviser/ SGBV investigator on its team of experts. As knowledge and visibility of this specific facility and partnership has increased, requests for deployments have similarly grown, expanding UN Women's use of the roster beyond COIs to a range of different mechanisms. To date, 66 experts from the JRR-UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster have been deployed to 61 missions.

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 International Criminal Court; UN Fact-Finding Missions to CAR and Iraq, Libya, Boko Haram and South Sudan; the African Union Commission of Inquiry for South Sudan, internal investigations and national accountability processes.

Recognizing that humanitarian workers can often reach victims of violations before investigators, UN women and JRR are mentoring humanitarian responders who are working with survivors of conflict-related violence. The mentoring includes support to better understand how their work can further justice efforts. Over the past year, a total of 4 experts have been deployed to 7 missions by UN Women and JRR to mentor civil society organizations providing medical and psychosocial services to SGBV survivors. The JRR – UN Women SGBV Justice Experts Roster has gained international recognition. 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. Member States and international criminal justice personnel cited the JRR-UN Women Roster as a best practice at the UK Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in June 2014.

II -Expertise sought for the Course

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

PROFILES AND SPECIFIC EXPERTISE	LANGUAGES PREFERRED (in addition to proficient English)
Mental Health and Psycho-Social Experts	
Experience working with survivors of conflict-related SGBV, trauma, children	Arabic, French, Russian
Sexual and Gender based Violence Investigators	
Experience working with children survivors and witnesses	French, Arabic
Experience in Human Rights investigations	Arabic, Russian
With military background, or military expert with strong experience of addressing SGBV	Arabic, Russian
Internal Investigations Experts	
Experience investigating Sexual Abuse and Exploitation (SEA)	Arabic, French, Russian
Transitional Justice Experts	
Gender Advisors with experience working in transitional justice processes Including with gender-sensitive and transformative reparations	Arabic, French, Spanish
Interpreters & Translators ideally with experience in working on topics related to international law	ENG-RUS-ENG

Requirements:

- MA +5 years, BA +7 years of relevant experience in desired areas of expertise (see list above) – OR – professionally trained investigators who can show proof of training from recognized institutions/organizations 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 context of international investigations;
- Demonstrated openness to different cultures, experience in working in multicultural environments and professionalism

The course will be held in English, accordingly fluency in English is a requirement for participation. Working knowledge of additional JRR languages such as Russian, Spanish, French and Arabic, will also be considered an asset (see table above for more specific)

Eligibility criteria: The primary purpose of this training is to certify successful participants to the JRR Roster. These experts should be available for short-term deployments, upon release by their employers. As a facility that provides surge capacity to the international community, JRR has always aimed to avoid placing on the roster staff from organizations that are current or potential users of its roster. This is to ensure that JRR does not negatively impact the ability of these organizations to carry out their mandates on account of losing vital human resources. For this reason, JRR will not be in a position to accept nominations of regular staff members from some organizations as, for example, OHCHR. Please note that professionals working as consultants to such organizations remain eligible for nomination.

Reminder: While the participation in the full course is a requirement for the certification onto the JRR Roster, certification is not automatic. Please be aware that this course is a tool for recruitment onto the JRR Roster and JRR will take the decision on certification of the participants after the course is completed, based on the evaluation of participants during the course and the need for their expertise on the JRR Roster.

We would be very grateful if you could **ensure the distribution of this Call for Nominations to your network and more specifically to any relevant departments, agencies, associated institutions and/or individuals with the expertise listed above.** Our aim is to ensure that the Call for Nominations reaches these experts and their direct supervisors.

III - Course Modalities

Course structure - The 10-day training course will include modules on JRR and the types of missions that can be expected through JRR deployments; SGBV in the context of international humanitarian law; SGBV as part of investigation planning; sexual violence against men and boys; gender aspects of international investigations; modes of liability for SGBV crimes; investigations for truth and reconciliation commissions; forensic aids to SGBV investigations; witness trauma and psychosocial support; and witness management and protection; interviewing skills and exercises; and security and risk management in the field.

Course costs - While the 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 submit 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 the organization he/she works for.**

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>

IV -Nomination Process

Nomination – Experts with the 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) are invited to apply and be nominated for the JRR training course. Selected applicants who complete the training successfully will be considered for certification to the JRR roster. This consideration is based on demonstrated knowledge, skills, and competencies during the training course, and the needs of the JRR roster.

Nomination Package – In the Call for Nominations e-mail you will find the link to the JRR Personal History Webform where you can apply for the course. You will also find therein the necessary documents listed below.

In order to submit their application, experts will be required to scan and upload online the following documents duly signed and completed:

- 1) **Nomination Form:** completed and hand-signed by the employer. As rapid deployability of JRR experts in practice requires the agreement of the expert's employer, the Nomination Form has to be completed by the employer of the expert, and more specifically by the person who has the authority to release of the expert for potential short-term international deployments (generally for up to 3 months).
- 2) **Supervisor Recommendation Form:** completed and signed by the supervisor of the expert.
- 3) **Agreement Form:** completed and signed by the expert.

Incomplete applications cannot be submitted and applications not submitted through the web form link will not be accepted!

All application materials are attached and can also be downloaded from the JRR website at: www.justicerapidresponse.org.

Deadline for all submissions of nomination materials: 6th of February 2017
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 and its training partners. 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 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 Further Information – Should you have any additional questions please first refer to our [FAQ](#) on our website www.justicerapidresponse.org. Should you still have a query after consulting the FAQ, please do not hesitate to contact us directly at training@justicerapidresponse.org or at +41 22 544 29 07.