

Usman Alkali Baba
Inspector General of Police
Force Headquarters
Louis Edet House
Shehu Shagari Way, Area 11
Garki Abuja

PETITION 2022

JUSTICE FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Dear Sir,

In the report Nigeria: A harrowing journey: Access to justice for women and girls survivors of rape, Amnesty International documents cases of human rights violations by police officers against survivors of sexual violence.

Amnesty International's research has revealed that since the pandemic lockdown, the number of rapes in Nigeria has increased dramatically. Survivors who report rape face victim-blaming, dismissive treatment, financial extortion and stigmatisation. The training of police officers in dealing with survivors of sexual violence is inadequate as is the resourcing of police stations. The stations often neither have the spaces to protect the privacy of survivors nor the necessary transport nor financial resources to enable survivors to access forensic medical examinations, for example. Survivors and their families are often advised to seek an out-of-court settlement with the perpetrators and refrain from pressing charges.

The above experiences and the resulting lack of trust in the police mean that the majority of cases of sexual violence are not reported and the prevailing culture of impunity and stigmatisation of survivors persists.

I therefore call on you to ensure

- that police officers be specially trained and police stations be equipped financially and logistically to take up reports of sexual violence and to initiate investigations against the perpetrators
- That the police deal with survivors of sexual violence in a gender-sensitive manner, provide them with all the support they need, protect their privacy and inform them about the possibilities of available medical, psychological and legal support.
- allegations of corruption and breaches of the Police Act and the Police Code of Conduct are investigated, and police officers found liable are subjected to disciplinary action and punished as relevant

Hochachtungsvoll,

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Bitte senden Sie diese Petitionsliste bis 31.12.2022 an Lisa Nöth, Freienwalder Strasse 34, 13359 Berlin.

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