

Press Release

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Launch of Transitional Justice Public Consultations in Southern Ethiopia Regions

Ethiopia needs to deal with unaddressed legacies of its repressive past - including the pervasive and multifaceted grievances, challenges, conflicts and grave violations of rights of its citizens - and ensure a comprehensive justice and non-recurrence. It must organize its future based on the pillars of peace, reconciliation, justice and rule of law.

The Government of Ethiopia is convinced that implementing transitional justice will be critical to sustain peace, democracy and development in the country. In this light, the Government has embarked on various intertwined measures to ensure that the transitional justice process is implemented in a comprehensive and integrated manner. To this end, the Ministry of Justice of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia has brought on-board seasoned professionals and established the 'Transitional Justice Working Group of Experts' - which had since developed the 'Policy Options for Transitional Justice in Ethiopia'. The document will be used as a basis for the public consultations and gathering of inputs.

The inaugural event of the national public consultations process was colorfully organized in Addis Ababa on March 6, 2023 - in the presence of ministers, regional presidents, federal and regional police commissioners, security officials, presidents of the federal court structures, regional justice bureau heads, eminent personalities, and heads of the various UN country representations.

A follow up, a roadmap is designed to guide the regional consultations which shall be held in more than fifty-eight towns across the country - from April-August 2023. The first chapter of the regional workshops was successfully conducted in twelve towns of the Oromia region from April-May 2023.

The second leg has kicked off today - covering twelve towns in the Sidama Region, South West Ethiopia Region, and Southern Nations, Nationalities and People Region. The consultations will run from 31 May-17 June, 2023.

For these events, consultation participants - carefully identified, selected and invited through an impartial screening process - will be drawn from various clusters of the community and stakeholders. The participants are expected to freely and proactively engage in the policy debates and further develop the basic ideas proposed by the Working Group under the transitional justice policy options document.

Transitional Justice Working Group of Experts

Ministry of Justice