



**AFRICAN CENTRE FOR TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF TORTURE
VICTIMS (ACTV)**

**TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORS) FOR CONSULTANT TO REVIEW AND UPDATE
THE ACTV ADVOCACY STRATEGY INCLUDING ACTION POINTS FOR
ADVOCACY AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL**

Introduction:

ACTV was established in 1993 and is the pioneer provider of rehabilitation services to survivors and victims of torture in Uganda. Our vision is *a world free from torture* with a mission of *advocating against torture, gender based violence and other forms of violence and promote holistic care to survivors*. ACTV is currently the Chair of the Coalition Against Torture in Uganda and is also accredited to the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT), a grouping of 160 torture treatment centres in 76 countries around the world. ACTV does her advocacy work at the local, national, regional and international level to influence policy, law and practice among duty bearers and empowering the rights holders to utilise the available response structures to demand for access to justice and accountability for torture. ACTV will review and update her advocacy strategy so as to meet the advocacy needs in the current operating environment.

Background

ACTV has been operating with an advocacy strategy developed 10 years ago whose focus was on domesticating the United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT) and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights in 1986 and 1981 respectively which Uganda signed and ratified. With the current advocacy strategy, ACTV together with the Coalition Against Torture (CAT) and Uganda Human Rights Commission have successfully lobbied and advocated for acts of torture to be criminalised. Consequently, the Prevention and Prohibition of Torture ACTV, 2012 (PPTA) was enacted, in 2017, the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs passed the Regulations to operationalise the PPTA 2012 and subsequently the 2019 Human Rights Enforcement Act which lifts statutory limits when reporting rights and freedoms in Article 44 of the 1995 Constitution was also enacted. Uganda therefore, has in place a comprehensive legal framework for torture prevention and accountability.

Despite of the strong legal framework, torture has remained prevalent in Uganda and across the globe. ACTV has continued documenting a number of torture related complaints for treatment, rehabilitation and legal support with an average of 1000 complaints registered each year. In order to fit in an ever changing prevention and

response context, ACTV made advocacy to be an integral part of her work by making it a strategic pillar in the 2021 – 2025 strategic plan. “The strategic objective is to advocate for the prevention of torture and the effective implementation of the anti-torture laws”

With this background therefore, ACTV intends to review and update her advocacy strategy so as to continue to address the high prevalence of cases of torture, and also to incorporate the gender based violence and other forms of violence which are part of her new strategic plan. Additionally, ACTV wishes to strategically position and strengthen herself as a reference institution on advocacy against torture at the national, regional, and international level through the utilization of her transformative and constructive approach.

Purpose of the consultancy:

The purpose of the consultancy is to review and update the ACTV advocacy strategy in line with the current context so as to enable ACTV carry out systematic and coordinated advocacy interventions at local, national, regional and international level.

Specific objective

- To assess and identify gaps in the existing advocacy strategy.
- Update the existing advocacy strategy in place as per the identified gaps in the existing strategy.
- Identify and integrate the best practices at international, regional and national level into the ACTV advocacy strategy.

Scope of work

- Review the current ACTV advocacy strategy and highlight the gaps in relation to ACTV revised mission, context and other CSO advocacy strategies in a related field.
- Develop relevant data collection tools for the assessment.
- Review relevant literature on advocacy at international, regional and local
- Identify best practices on advocacy to be integrated in the strategy.
- Interview key stakeholders including ACTV staff, Management and the Board.
- Benchmark with relevant institutions on best practices in advocacy.
- Develop a revised ACTV advocacy strategy
- Present the draft with ACTV management for validation
- Share the final advocacy strategy for approval.

Methodology

- The consultant can develop a suitable methodology to undertake this task however participatory approaches are highly recommended.

Deliverables

- Inception report
- Assessment report for the current advocacy strategy
- Updated advocacy strategy: updated strategy with specific practical and workable advocacy strategies that ACTV can utilise, implementation plan and M and E plan.

Time frame

- The assignment is expected to take a period of 30days from the signing of the contract.

Qualifications and Experience required

- Degree in Human Rights, Law, Social Sciences, Mass Communication, international relations and diplomacy or any other relevant degree.
- A post graduate qualification relevant to the consultancy would be an added advantage.
- Good communication and written skills are essential.
- Proven experience of 5 years in either developing advocacy strategies for NGOs or international institutions or working around advocacy work in the area of human rights.
- Any other relevant qualifications.

Application process

- Interested candidates or people should send in their applications; CVs, technical and financial proposals to the Chief Executive Officer at ceo@actvuganda.org and actv@actvuganda.org not later than 27th October 2023