



THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE PRESIDENT



PANEL OF EXPERTS ON
COMPENSATION OF VICTIMS
OF PROTESTS AND RIOTS.
JUSTICE . REPARATIONS . ACCOUNTABILITY.

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 4, 2025

Advancing Justice, Reconciliation, and National Healing through the Compensation Framework for Victims of Demonstrations, Public Protests, and Riots

NAIROBI, Kenya — The Panel of Experts on Compensation of Victims of Demonstrations, Public Protests, and Riots was today sworn in by the Chief Registrar of the Judiciary (CRJ), **Hon. Winfridah B. Mokaya, CBS** (Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear), at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC).

The Panel was gazetted on **August 25, 2025**, following the **Presidential Proclamation of August 6, 2025**, which established a national framework for the reparation and compensation of victims of demonstrations, public protests, and riots.

Composition

The **18-member Panel**, drawn from government, the private sector, human rights organisations, civil society, and other stakeholders, is mandated to oversee and guide implementation of the compensation framework. Members are: **Makau Mutua (Prof.)**, Principal Coordinator and Chairperson; **Faith Odhiambo Mony**, Vice-Chairperson; **Kennedy N. Ogeto**; **Irungu Houghton**; **John Olukuru (Dr.)**; **Rev. Fr. Kennedy Barasa Simiyu**; **Linda Musumba (Dr.)**; **Duncan Ojwang' (Dr.)**; **Naini Lankas**; **Francis Muraya (Dr.)**; **Juliet Chepkemei**; **Pius Metto**; **Fatuma Kinsi Abass**; **Raphael Anampiu**; and **John Maina**.

Richard Barno serves as Technical Lead and **Duncan A. Okelo Ndeda (Dr.)** as Co-Technical Lead. **Jerusah Mwaathime Michael**, **Raphael Ng'etich (Dr.)**, and **Daki Guyo** serve as Joint Secretaries.



At the inaugural meeting held immediately after the Panel's oath, the **Technical Team of Experts** was also sworn in. The team comprises: **Jonah Wala** and **Peter Wachira** (The National Treasury); **Clinton Mwita** (Office of the Attorney-General); **Geoffrey Obiri** (Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, ODPP); **Veronica Mwangi** (Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, KNCHR); **Emmanuel Lagat** (Independent Policing Oversight Authority, IPOA); **Allan Onyango Sangoro** (National Police Service, NPS); **Florence Karimi Gachovia** (Directorate of Criminal Investigations, DCI); **Fredrick Okango** (Public Communication); **Sonia Rasugu** (Private Sector); **Daniel Bundi** (Technology/Youth Representative); **Paul Achar** (Private Sector/Communications); and **Suba Churchill** (Civil Society).

Mandate

The Panel will:

- **Design and operationalise** a framework to verify, categorise, and compensate eligible victims.
- **Engage** families of victims and key institutions—including State agencies mandated to address human rights issues, civil society organisations, and religious institutions—to ensure inclusivity and fairness.
- **Access and authenticate** information from State organs and public offices (subject to the law), including from IPOA, KNCHR, NPS, the Ministry of Health, and civil society.
- **Recommend** reparations, prosecutions, or other accountability measures to the ODPP and relevant oversight bodies where evidence so warrants.
- **Summon** any person or institution to provide information or documents necessary to discharge its mandate.
- **Co-opt** technical experts and constitute working groups to enhance inclusivity and technical depth.
- **Propose** legislative and institutional reforms to address protests and the culture of policing.
- **Report** progress periodically to the President and deliver a **final report** at the end of its **120-day** mandate.

Recognising Kenya's historical context, the Panel is committed to an inclusive process grounded in human rights and the rule of law. Its work will address legal obligations and the social, economic, and cultural impacts borne by victims and their families—aimed at restoring dignity, promoting reconciliation, and supporting long-term societal healing.



During the inaugural meeting, families of victims urged the Panel to be transparent, consultative, and fair in determining compensation, and requested psychosocial support to address trauma, stress, and related pressures.

Statements

The **Chief Registrar of the Judiciary, Hon. Winfridah B. Mokaya, CBS**, called on the Panel to act with courage, fairness, and integrity. She noted that while no amount of compensation can replace lost lives, the process solemnly recognises dignity and accountability and reaffirms the living spirit of Kenya's Constitution (Katiba). Commending **H.E. President William Ruto** for establishing the Panel, she urged members to anchor their work in legislation and propose sustainable reforms that address the root causes of violent protests, assuring Kenyans that their pain will not be ignored and that the promise of the **Katiba** remains alive and enforceable.

Reaffirming the Panel's commitment to an open and participatory process that respects the voices and rights of affected individuals, families, and communities, the **Principal Coordinator and Chairperson, Prof. Makau Mutua**, stated:

“His Excellency the President has taken a historic, unprecedented, and bold step to lead in the healing of our country by charging us with bringing justice to the victims, their families, and loved ones. I firmly believe that this action opens the door for a true renaissance of Kenya's human rights culture. On behalf of the entire team, I promise H.E. the President and our fellow citizens that we shall execute our mandate with honour, rigour, and integrity.”

On her part, the Vice Chairperson reaffirmed her commitment to the process, emphasizing that the Panel has an unprecedented but overdue duty to transform Kenya's victims' reparations framework. She added that her first hand encounters with victims and their families has pointed out that while prosecution of perpetrators is critical and must be pursued, holistic justice requires that the plight of victims and their families is not forgotten.

Public Communication — Panel of Experts on Compensation of Victims of Demonstrations, Public Protests, and Riots