

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



THE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
AND GOOD GOVERNANCE



**REPORT ON THE REGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON
STRENGTHENING OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY:
ENHANCING THE ROLE OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
INSTITUTIONS (NHRIs) IN MAINSTREAMING A HUMAN RIGHTS-
BASED APPROACH (HRBA) IN COUNTER-TERRORISM
OPERATIONS IN AFRICA, HELD IN NAIROBI, KENYA, FROM 27 TO
28 JULY 2026**



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on Strengthening Oversight and Accountability, focused on enhancing the role of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) in mainstreaming a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) within counter-terrorism operations in Africa.

Besides the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), the Workshop was attended by representatives from twelve other National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) from Uganda, Cameroon, Kenya, Malawi, South Sudan, Nigeria, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Ghana and other participating African countries. The CHRAGG was represented by Mr. Said Zuberi, Principal Investigation Officer from the Criminal Justice Institutions Unit.



A section of representatives from NHRIs translating the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Counter-Terrorism in Africa into actionable strategies for NHRIs during the Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on *Strengthening Oversight and Accountability: The Role of NHRIs in Mainstreaming a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in Counter-Terrorism Operations in Africa*, held at the Movenpick Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, on 27–28 July 2026.

The workshop examined the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism, with particular emphasis on the integration of a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) into counter-terrorism frameworks in accordance with relevant African Union (AU) human rights instruments.

The workshop was co-organised by the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IJJ) through its Counter-Terrorism Platform for Human Rights Engagement (CT PHARE), in collaboration with the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) and Article 19. The principal reference frameworks guiding the discussions were the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism and the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism.

The workshop formed part of a two-phase capacity-building initiative designed for African National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs). The first phase consisted of an online introductory session conducted on 19 June, 2026, which provided participants with an overview of the key thematic areas and objectives of the programme. The second phase comprised a two-day in-person technical workshop held at the Movenpick Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, from 27 to 28 July 2026, focusing on practical approaches to strengthening oversight, accountability, and the effective application of human rights standards in counter-terrorism measures across Africa.

1.1. Opening Remarks

The workshop was officially opened by Mr. Ondrej Simek, Deputy Head of Delegation and Deputy Ambassador of the European Union to Kenya (subject to confirmation); Mr. Paul Madden, CT PHARE Project Lead at the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ); Mr. Gilbert Sebihogo, Executive Director of the Network of NANHRI; and Ms. Catherine Mbui, Civic Space Advocate at the Article 19 Eastern Africa Regional Office.

The opening remarks highlighted the importance of strengthening institutional oversight, accountability, and cooperation among National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and other relevant stakeholders in ensuring that counter-terrorism measures are implemented in compliance with international, regional, and national human rights standards. The speakers underscored the need for a balanced approach that effectively addresses security threats while safeguarding fundamental rights, the rule of law, and democratic principles.

1.2 Closing Remarks

The workshop was officially closed by Mr. Paul Madden, and Ms. Catherine Mbui. In their closing remarks, they expressed appreciation to all participants for their active engagement and valuable contributions throughout the workshop. They reiterated the importance of continued collaboration among National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), regional human rights networks, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders in strengthening oversight and accountability mechanisms in counter-terrorism operations. They further emphasized the need to sustain efforts aimed at ensuring that counter-terrorism measures are effectively implemented in accordance with human rights principles, the rule of law, and international and regional human rights standards.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

2.1 General Objective

The general objective of the workshop was to strengthen the engagement and capacity of NHRIs in Africa to effectively contribute to oversight and accountability mechanisms in counter-terrorism operations, while ensuring that counter-terrorism measures are implemented in accordance with human rights standards, the rule of law, and applicable regional and international legal frameworks.

2.2 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the workshop were to:

- i. Integrate a HRBA within the context of African Union (AU) frameworks for counter-terrorism operations;
- ii. Examine and translate the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism into practical and actionable strategies for NHRIs;
- iii. Promote the application and integration of the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism;
- iv. Equip NHRIs with practical tools, methodologies, and specialized technical expertise to enhance their oversight and accountability functions in counter-terrorism contexts;
- v. Strengthen the capacity of NHRIs and relevant state institutions to ensure that national security imperatives and human rights protection operate as complementary, rather than competing, objectives;

- vi. Enhance the capacity of NHRI staff on counter-terrorism and human rights standards, including the GCTF Brussels Memorandum, the AU Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism, and the practical implementation of the Brussels Memorandum;
- vii. Increase knowledge and understanding of constitutional and international human rights standards, including fair trial guarantees, due process rights, and protection against torture and other forms of ill-treatment;
- viii. Develop practical skills among participants in complaint handling, evidence collection, analysis, documentation, inspection, monitoring, and reporting in relation to counter-terrorism and human rights oversight; and
- ix. Strengthen cooperation, coordination, and experience-sharing between the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) and other National Human Rights Institutions across Africa.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

The workshop adopted a participatory, practical, and interactive approach that combined theoretical knowledge with practical applications to facilitate effective knowledge transfer, experience-sharing, and skills development among participants. The methodology was structured around the following approaches:

3.1. Interactive Presentations:

The workshop featured presentations by NHRIs on their experiences, practices, and approaches in implementing the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability

Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism. These sessions provided participants with an opportunity to share institutional experiences, challenges, lessons learned, and good practices.

3.2. Group Discussions:

Participants engaged in collaborative group discussions aimed at problem-solving, peer learning, and practical application of the workshop themes. The discussions focused on translating the GCTF Brussels Memorandum from principles into practical and actionable strategies for NHRIs in strengthening counter-terrorism oversight and accountability mechanisms.

3.3. Experience Sharing:

The workshop facilitated the exchange of knowledge and perspectives among senior staff from NHRIs, regional human rights networks, and external experts. These sessions enabled participants to benefit from practical insights, comparative experiences, and emerging practices in integrating human rights standards into counter-terrorism frameworks.

3.4. Assessment and Evaluation:

The workshop concluded with knowledge checks, skills assessments, and participant feedback sessions through evaluation questionnaires. The assessment process provided an opportunity to measure the effectiveness of the capacity-building intervention, identify areas for further improvement, and gather participants' views on the relevance and applicability of the knowledge and skills acquired.

6.0 PRESENTATIONS

The Workshop featured technical presentations from experts in human rights, counter-terrorism and institutional oversight, focusing on strengthening the capacity of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) to mainstream a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in counter-terrorism operations.

The presentations examined the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism and the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism, highlighting the importance of effective oversight, accountability, judicial safeguards and respect for human rights in counter-terrorism measures.



Mr Said Zuberi, Principal Investigation Officer of the Criminal Justice Institutions Unit (CJIU) of the CHRAGG, delivering a presentation on experience-sharing and the implementation of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Counter-Terrorism in Africa during the Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on *Strengthening National Human Rights Institutions' Engagement on Counter-Terrorism Oversight in Africa*, held at the Movenpick Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya, on 27–28 July 2026.

The sessions also addressed the role of NHRIs in monitoring counter-terrorism activities, preventing human rights violations, promoting the rule of law and ensuring that national security measures are implemented in compliance with international and regional human rights standards. Through discussions and experience-sharing, participants identified practical approaches for enhancing institutional cooperation, accountability mechanisms and human rights-compliant counter-terrorism frameworks in Africa.

6.1. Counter-terrorism and Human Rights: Unpacking the GCTF Brussels Memorandum through the lens of NHRIs.

The session was presented by Ms Francesca Amerio from the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IJ) Counter-Terrorism Platform for Human Rights Engagement (CT PHARE). The session provided participants with an in-depth understanding of the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism, examined from the perspective of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs).

The interactive session adopted a participatory and practice-oriented approach, enabling participants to explore the key principles, standards, and good practices outlined in the Brussels Memorandum. It focused on enhancing awareness of the Memorandum's relevance to NHRI mandates, particularly in promoting oversight, accountability, and human rights compliance within counter-terrorism frameworks.

The session further facilitated discussions on the opportunities and challenges faced by NHRIs in strengthening their engagement in counter-terrorism oversight. Participants reflected on practical approaches for translating the principles of the GCTF Brussels

Memorandum into institutional strategies, policies, and operational practices that promote a balanced approach between national security objectives and the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

6.2. Counter-Terrorism and Human Rights: Unpacking the GCTF Brussels Memorandum through the Lens of NHRIs

The session was presented by Ms. Catherine Mbui, Civic Space Advocate at ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa Office. It focused on examining the relationship and synergies between the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism and relevant African Union (AU) human rights frameworks, including the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism.

The session provided participants with an opportunity to explore how the principles and good practices contained in the Brussels Memorandum could be aligned with regional human rights standards and applied within the African context. It emphasized the complementary role of international and regional frameworks in promoting effective oversight, accountability, and respect for human rights in counter-terrorism policies and operations.

Furthermore, the session strengthened participants' practical capacity to utilize both the GCTF Brussels Memorandum and AU frameworks as tools for enhancing the role of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) in safeguarding human rights, promoting the rule of law, and ensuring accountability in counter-terrorism measures. The discussions also highlighted the importance of maintaining a balanced approach in

which national security responses are implemented consistently with constitutional obligations and international human rights standards.

6.3. NHRI Presentations on Experience Sharing and Implementation of the Brussels Memorandum

The session was presented by representatives from National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and moderated by Dr. Ojot Miru Ojulu, Chair of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum NHRIs Working Group.

The session provided a platform for NHRIs to introduce their institutions, share national experiences, and exchange good practices in overseeing counter-terrorism measures from a human rights perspective. Participants discussed practical approaches for implementing the GCTF Brussels Memorandum at the national level, with emphasis on strengthening oversight, accountability, and human rights compliance in counter-terrorism operations.

The presentations covered NHRI mandates, legal frameworks, institutional independence, and core functions related to monitoring security and counter-terrorism measures. Participants also shared experiences on complaint handling, investigations, detention monitoring, reporting, policy advice, legislative review, and cooperation with government institutions, parliaments, judiciaries, civil society organizations, and regional and international partners.

The session further examined common challenges faced by NHRIs in counter-terrorism contexts, including difficulties in balancing national security priorities with human rights obligations, institutional capacity constraints, and operational challenges. Participants exchanged good practices, innovative approaches, and lessons learned, while identifying

opportunities for enhanced regional cooperation, peer learning, and technical support.

The discussions were guided by key questions relating to the role of NHRIs in ensuring that counter-terrorism measures comply with international human rights standards, existing oversight mechanisms, challenges in reconciling security and human rights objectives, the relevance of the Brussels Memorandum recommendations to national contexts, and the support required to strengthen NHRI engagement in counter-terrorism oversight.

6.4. Civil Society Engagement and Community-Based Approaches

The session was moderated by Ms. Francesca Amerio from the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IJ) Counter-Terrorism Platform for Human Rights Engagement (CT PHARE) and presented by Ms Catherine Mbui, Civic Space Advocate at ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa Office.

The session explored the role of civil society organizations in complementing the oversight mandate of NHRIs in promoting and protecting human rights within counter-terrorism contexts. Drawing on practical examples and experiences from across Africa, participants examined how civil society actors contribute to community engagement, human rights awareness, accountability mechanisms, and the development of sustainable human rights protection strategies.

The discussions highlighted the importance of community-based approaches in strengthening trust between state institutions and communities, enhancing early identification of human rights concerns, and ensuring that counter-terrorism measures are responsive to the needs and rights of affected populations. Participants further

emphasized the value of collaboration between NHRIs, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders in advancing human rights-based approaches to counter-terrorism and promoting inclusive, accountable, and effective security responses.

6.5. From Principles to Practice—Translating the GCTF Brussels Memorandum into Actionable Strategies for NHRIs

The session was moderated by Dr Ojot Miru Ojulu, Chair of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum NHRIs Working Group.

Through interactive group discussions and practical exercises, the session focused on identifying feasible, innovative, and context-specific approaches for translating the good practices outlined in the GCTF Brussels Memorandum into concrete strategies and actions for National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs).

Participants explored practical measures that NHRIs could adopt to strengthen their engagement in counter-terrorism oversight, enhance accountability mechanisms, and ensure the effective integration of human rights standards into national counter-terrorism policies and operations. The discussions encouraged peer learning, experience-sharing, and the development of practical recommendations aimed at improving institutional capacity, coordination, monitoring, reporting, and advocacy on human rights-compliant counter-terrorism approaches.

6.6. Presentation of Group Work Reports and Discussion on the Way Forward

The session was moderated by Ms Catherine Mbui, Civic Space Advocate at ARTICLE 19 Eastern Africa Office, and featured presentations of group work reports by representatives from National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs).

The session focused on reviewing the outcomes of the group discussions and identifying practical, actionable recommendations at both national and regional levels. Participants highlighted key areas requiring further attention, including strengthening collaboration among NHRIs, enhancing institutional capacity, promoting policy engagement, improving monitoring and oversight mechanisms, and advancing advocacy initiatives.



Mr Said Zuberi, Principal Officer of the Criminal Justice Institution Unit of CHRAGG (Left), with fellow participants from a National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), engaging in discussions on the implementation of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Counter-Terrorism in Africa during the Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on *Strengthening Oversight and Accountability: The Role of NHRIs in Mainstreaming HRBA in Counter-Terrorism Operations in Africa*, held in Nairobi, Kenya, on 27–28 July 2026.

The discussions provided an opportunity for participants to agree on potential areas for continued cooperation, experience-sharing, and technical support aimed at strengthening the role of NHRIs in ensuring human rights-compliant counter-terrorism measures. The session concluded with reflections on the way forward and the importance of sustained partnerships in translating the principles of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum into effective institutional practices.

7.0 ACHIEVEMENTS

The workshop achieved the following key outcomes:

- i. Provided participants with an opportunity to exchange national experiences on overseeing counter-terrorism measures from a human rights perspective and to discuss practical approaches for implementing the GCTF Brussels Memorandum at the national level;
- ii. Strengthened collaboration and cooperation between the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), other National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ), and the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI);
- iii. Enhanced participants' understanding and application of human rights and governance standards, particularly the GCTF Brussels Memorandum on Good Practices for Oversight and Accountability Mechanisms in Counter-Terrorism and the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism;
- iv. Contributed to strengthening the efficiency, accountability, and credibility of CHRAGG in promoting and implementing human rights-based oversight mechanisms in counter-terrorism contexts;
- v. Increased knowledge and awareness among participants on the relationship between counter-terrorism and human rights, including the practical implementation of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum and AU human rights frameworks;
- vi. Facilitated high-level peer learning and knowledge exchange, enabling NHRIs to familiarize themselves with the 15 Good Practices outlined in the Brussels Memorandum and to

contextualize international standards within African operational realities;

- vii. Enhanced the technical capacity and expertise of NHRI representatives in mainstreaming Human Rights-Based Approaches (HRBA) throughout the counter-terrorism policy and operational cycle;
- viii. Promoted constructive dialogue and strengthened partnerships among African NHRIs, the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ), the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), and other relevant stakeholders;
- ix. Provided all participants with Certificates of Attendance upon completion of the Workshop on Strengthening Oversight and Accountability: The Role of NHRIs in Mainstreaming HRBA in Counter-Terrorism Operations in Africa; and
- x. Enhanced the visibility, institutional profile, and accessibility of CHRAGG through active participation in regional capacity-building initiatives and engagement with key human rights stakeholders.

8.0 CHALLENGES

Despite the successful implementation of the workshop, several challenges were identified that may affect the effective mainstreaming of a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in counter-terrorism oversight by National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs). These challenges include:

- i. Some NHRIs continue to face challenges relating to limited technical expertise, specialized knowledge, and dedicated resources required to effectively monitor, investigate, and report on human rights issues arising from counter-terrorism operations.

- ii. Financial, human resource, and technological constraints may limit the ability of NHRIs to conduct regular monitoring visits, undertake investigations, engage communities, and implement comprehensive oversight mechanisms in counter-terrorism contexts.
- iii. NHRIs face the continuing challenge of ensuring that counter-terrorism measures effectively address security threats while remaining consistent with constitutional provisions, international human rights standards, and the rule of law.
- iv. The confidential nature of intelligence and counter-terrorism operations may create difficulties for NHRIs in accessing relevant information necessary for effective oversight, monitoring, and accountability.
- v. In some contexts, limited coordination among NHRIs, government security institutions, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders may affect the effectiveness of human rights-based oversight initiatives.
- vi. There remains a need for continuous sensitization and capacity-building among relevant stakeholders, including security and justice institutions, on the importance of integrating human rights standards into counter-terrorism policies and operations.
- vii. While frameworks such as the GCTF Brussels Memorandum and AU Principles and Guidelines provide important guidance, NHRIs may face difficulties in adapting these standards into practical institutional policies, procedures, and operational tools.
- viii. Although regional platforms provide valuable opportunities for experience-sharing, there is a need for stronger and more

consistent mechanisms for continued collaboration, technical assistance, and joint learning among African NHRIs.

- ix. The changing nature of terrorism, including the use of technology, online radicalization, cross-border networks, and new forms of violent extremism, requires NHRIs to continuously update their knowledge, skills, and oversight approaches.
- x. Ensuring meaningful participation of communities, particularly those affected by counter-terrorism measures, remains a challenge requiring enhanced partnerships between NHRIs, civil society organizations, and local actors.

9.0 CONCLUSION

The capacity-building workshop and peer-to-peer exchanges on operationalising the GCTF Brussels Memorandum provided an important platform for strengthening the capacity of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) to effectively contribute to counter-terrorism oversight and accountability mechanisms. The workshop ensured that global human rights standards are not only adopted but also adapted and contextualised to Africa's specific legal, institutional, cultural, and operational realities.

Through strategic engagement and collaboration with African human rights mechanisms, including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR), NHRIs can enhance regional cooperation, promote consistency in human rights protection, and strengthen accountability in counter-terrorism operations.

The workshop underscored the need for NHRIs to transition from reactive monitoring approaches to proactive and preventive models of institutional oversight. This requires the development and utilisation of specialised tools, strengthened technical expertise, and formalised cooperation frameworks that enable NHRIs to effectively address the complex relationship between national security imperatives and the protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms.

In the context of counter-terrorism, NHRIs play a strategic bridging role between state security obligations and international human rights commitments. Guided by the Paris Principles, NHRIs should continue to promote approaches that ensure counter-terrorism measures are lawful, proportionate, effective, and subject to democratic oversight. Their mandate should be strengthened around four key pillars:

- i. Comprehensive monitoring of the counter-terrorism lifecycle: including oversight of arrest, detention, investigation, prosecution processes, prison conditions, and the establishment of early warning and preventive mechanisms to identify potential human rights risks;
- ii. Strengthening legislative and policy review: by assessing national security and counter-terrorism laws, policies, and practices to ensure consistency with constitutional provisions, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, and other applicable international human rights standards;
- iii. Protection of civic space and fundamental freedoms: through monitoring the impact of counter-terrorism measures, including digital surveillance, restrictions on freedom of expression, association, and assembly, to ensure that security measures do not undermine democratic governance; and

- iv. Promotion of a Human Rights-Based Approach within the security sector: through capacity-building, dialogue, advisory services, and cooperation with law enforcement and security institutions to embed human rights principles throughout counter-terrorism planning and implementation.

10. RESOLUTIONS AND WAY FORWARD

The Workshop resolved that strengthening human rights-compliant counter-terrorism frameworks in Africa requires sustained cooperation, institutional coordination and continuous engagement among National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ), civil society organizations, regional mechanisms and other relevant international stakeholders.

In this regard, the Workshop adopted the following resolutions and identified the key areas for future action:

- i. NHRIs should strengthen strategic partnerships and coordination with regional and international stakeholders engaged in counter-terrorism, human rights protection and the promotion of the rule of law through enhanced dialogue, information-sharing, joint initiatives and coordinated responses to emerging human rights challenges;
- ii. NHRIs should enhance specialized capacity-building programmes for their personnel on counter-terrorism, human rights standards, investigation techniques, oversight mechanisms and accountability frameworks, with particular emphasis on the practical application of the GCTF Brussels Memorandum, the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering

Terrorism, and other relevant regional and international instruments;

- iii. NHRIs should develop and operationalize practical monitoring and accountability tools to strengthen oversight of counter-terrorism operations, including frameworks for detention monitoring, early warning, complaints handling, evidence documentation, legislative review and institutional reporting;
- iv. NANHRI, in collaboration with IJ and other partners, should facilitate regular platforms for peer learning and exchange of good practices among African NHRIs to enable sharing of experiences, identification of common challenges and development of context-specific approaches to strengthening counter-terrorism oversight;
- v. NHRIs should strengthen constructive engagement with state security and justice institutions, including law enforcement agencies, intelligence services, prosecution authorities and judicial institutions, to promote the integration of human rights standards, accountability and professionalism in counter-terrorism policies and operations while recognizing legitimate national security interests;
- vi. NHRIs should continue providing advisory support and undertaking reviews of counter-terrorism laws, policies and practices to ensure compliance with constitutional provisions, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and applicable international human rights obligations;
- vii. NHRIs should enhance collaboration with civil society organizations, community-based organisations and other non-state actors to promote public awareness, community participation,

prevention of violent extremism and trust-building in counter-terrorism initiatives;

- viii. NHRIs should strengthen research, documentation and evidence-based advocacy on the human rights implications of counter-terrorism measures. Findings arising from monitoring, investigations, complaints handling and engagement with affected communities should inform policy recommendations and institutional interventions;
- ix. Regional and international partners should continue providing technical assistance, resources and specialized expertise to strengthen the institutional capacity of NHRIs and support innovative approaches to human rights monitoring in counter-terrorism contexts;
- x. NHRIs, through NANHRI and other regional platforms, should establish sustainable cooperation frameworks to promote collective advocacy, coordinated action and engagement with African Union human rights mechanisms, including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC), and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR);
- xi. NHRIs should promote the systematic integration of a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) throughout all stages of counter-terrorism interventions, including prevention, investigation, prosecution, detention, rehabilitation and reintegration, to ensure that such measures remain lawful, proportionate, accountable and consistent with human dignity and fundamental freedoms; and

xii. NHRIs should continue strengthening their institutional mandates as independent oversight bodies by enhancing their monitoring, investigative, advisory and advocacy functions in relation to counter-terrorism and human rights. Through active participation in national, regional and international initiatives, NHRIs should contribute to advancing human rights-compliant counter-terrorism practices and strengthening public confidence in their role of promoting and protecting human rights and good governance.

11. CHRAGG'S ACTIONS AND LESSONS FOLLOWING THE WORKSHOP ON COUNTER-TERRORISM OVERSIGHT

Following participation in the Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on Strengthening Oversight and Accountability: The Role of National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) in Mainstreaming a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) in Counter-Terrorism Operations in Africa, CHRAGG enhanced its understanding of its constitutional and statutory mandate as Tanzania's National Human Rights Institution and Ombudsman Office in relation to counter-terrorism oversight.

The Workshop provided valuable insights into international, regional and national standards governing counter-terrorism measures, particularly the importance of ensuring that national security responses are implemented in compliance with human rights principles, the rule of law, accountability and good governance. The knowledge and practical experiences acquired have strengthened CHRAGG's capacity to undertake its monitoring, investigative, advisory and oversight functions in addressing human rights concerns arising from counter-terrorism operations.

The Workshop further highlighted the need for CHRAGG to adopt a proactive and preventive oversight approach, strengthen institutional

partnerships with relevant stakeholders, enhance internal capacity on counter-terrorism and human rights, and develop practical mechanisms for monitoring, documenting and reporting human rights compliance in counter-terrorism interventions.

12. RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the officer's participation in the Regional Workshop, the following recommendations are proposed to enhance the CHRAGG's capacity to effectively discharge its constitutional and statutory mandate in relation to human rights protection, accountability and oversight of counter-terrorism measures:

- i. Continue utilising, developing and institutionalising the knowledge and expertise acquired by the officer to strengthen implementation of its constitutional and statutory mandate relating to human rights protection, administrative justice, accountability and good governance;
- ii. Facilitate internal knowledge-sharing through technical briefings, training sessions and professional discussions involving investigators, legal officers, monitoring officers and complaint-handling personnel to enhance institutional understanding and application of human rights-based counter-terrorism oversight;
- iii. Internal frameworks, guidelines, monitoring tools, complaint-handling procedures and reporting mechanisms should be strengthened to effectively address human rights concerns arising from counter-terrorism measures in accordance with the applicable legal framework;
- iv. Enhance its capacity to assess, analyse and investigate complaints involving national security, counter-terrorism and

related human rights concerns by applying a Human Rights-Based Approach that promotes legality, accountability, proportionality and access to effective remedies;

- v. Constructive engagement should be strengthened with law enforcement agencies, security institutions, prosecution authorities and other relevant stakeholders to promote compliance with constitutional safeguards, human rights obligations and accountability standards in counter-terrorism operations;
- vi. The Institution should promote research, documentation, policy analysis and preparation of thematic reports on human rights and counter-terrorism issues, including identification of emerging risks, good practices and recommendations for institutional improvement;
- vii. The acquired expertise should be utilised in relevant national, regional and international forums addressing human rights, counter-terrorism, accountability and the role of NHRIs, thereby enhancing the Institution's contribution to regional and global human rights initiatives;
- viii. Continued cooperation should be strengthened with NANHRI, IJJ through CT PHARE, African Union human rights mechanisms, civil society organisations and other relevant partners to promote knowledge exchange, technical cooperation and implementation of good practices;
- ix. Strategically utilise the expertise, extensive experience in human rights investigations and specialised knowledge acquired through the Workshop to strengthen counter-terrorism oversight, investigations, monitoring and advisory functions, thereby enhancing the Institution's capacity to promote human rights-

compliant counter-terrorism measures in accordance with constitutional principles, international obligations and the rule of law;

- x. Complaint handling and investigation mechanisms should be strengthened to effectively identify, document and address human rights violations arising from counter-terrorism measures, including unlawful detention, torture, denial of due process and abuse of authority;
- xi. Human rights monitoring and oversight should be enhanced through a proactive approach covering the entire counter-terrorism cycle, including arrest, detention, investigation, prosecution, rehabilitation and reintegration processes;
- xii. Advisory and legislative review functions should be strengthened through human rights-based analysis of counter-terrorism laws, policies and practices to ensure compliance with the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Union Principles and Guidelines on Human and Peoples' Rights while Countering Terrorism, and the GCTF Brussels Memorandum;
- xiii. Engagement with security and justice institutions should be enhanced to promote human rights-compliant counter-terrorism approaches, professionalism and effective accountability mechanisms;
- xiv. Institutional capacity should be improved through specialised training on counter-terrorism, human rights standards, evidence collection, investigations, monitoring, documentation and reporting;
- xv. Strengthen cooperation with civil society organisations, communities and regional/international partners, including

NANHRI, IIJ CT PHARE, Article 19 and African Union human rights mechanisms, to promote public awareness, knowledge exchange, technical assistance and effective human rights-compliant counter-terrorism oversight.