

DEMANDS FROM MEDIA

- 1. **Direct Contact and Authentic Promotion:** Survivors expect the media to contact them directly to obtain first-hand information. They suggest that the media should invite survivors to express their views and share their experiences related to the incidents that have happened to them. This can help the public understand the survivors' situation and provide support. They believe that this will enable the media to authentically promote their stories and experiences.
- 2. **Community Engagement and Interviews:** They suggest that the media should go to the communities or locations where survivors are present, such as Hajj camps, and conduct interviews. They express frustration with reaching the media through hotlines and not having their issues addressed. They also recommend the media reaching out through local leaders (Bulama) for coordination
- 3. **Support in Advocating to Authorities:** Survivors expect the media to support them in promoting their complaints and concerns to relevant authorities. This support can help ensure that their issues are heard and addressed at the governmental level.
- 4. **Frequent Updates of Survivor Conditions and Challenges:** They request that the media announce valuable information and support services for survivors, including issues such as sexual abuse, support for children out of school, and whereabouts of missing/unaccompanied children. This dissemination of information is crucial for survivors to stay informed about the situation of their children. Survivors mention that the Red Cross collected their contact information and the names of their children, but they have not received updates about these children. They express the need for information and updates about the whereabouts and well-being of their children.
- 5. **Specific Advocacy Against Stigmatization:** The survivors expect the media to advocate against stigmatization. They believe that media support can help reduce the stigmatization faced by survivors in the community. Survivors also request that the media call the attention of parents to refrain from stigmatizing and abusing their children who were abducted and gave birth as a result of the conflict with Boko Haram. This aims to raise awareness and change perceptions within the community.

DEMANDS FROM SURVIVORS AND SURVIVOR NETWORKS

- 1. **Raising Awareness in Gatherings:** Survivors expect other survivors to speak about the effects of stigma and abuse in various gatherings, such as Islamic religious gatherings, church events, and ceremonial occasions. They believe that this can help raise awareness and educate the community about the challenges they face. They also suggest that survivor networks or NGOs should establish committees that raise awareness about the effects of stigma and abuse on survivors. These committees can play a role in educating the public and advocating for the rights and well-being of survivors.
- 2. **Using Social Media:** They suggest that survivors can express the effects of abuse and stigma through social media. This platform

- can provide a wider reach and help share their experiences with a broader audience.
- 3. **Continued Expression:** Survivors encourage each other to continue expressing the challenges they face. They emphasize the importance of perseverance and sharing their experiences with others in various gatherings.
 - 4. **Collaboration with Community Leaders:** Survivors recommend that NGOs collaborate with community leaders like Bulama's to announce the effects of stigma against survivors. This collaboration can help ensure that their message reaches the wider community.

CONCLUSION

The Charter of Demands derived from the narratives and needs of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) survivors stands as a pivotal document in fostering sustainable and meaningful change within conflict-affected communities. It echoes the voices of those who have endured immense suffering and serves as an advocacy tool for Allamin Foundation in driving evidence-based policy engagements. This charter encapsulates the aspirations and immediate necessities of survivors, encompassing multifaceted dimensions ranging from healthcare, legal support, psychological rehabilitation, to social and economic reintegration. By outlining these comprehensive needs, the charter becomes a roadmap for policymakers and stakeholders, shedding light on the urgent requirements of survivors and laying the groundwork for transformative actions.

Through the Charter of Demands, Allamin Foundation aims to advocate for substantive changes within the policy landscape, pushing for initiatives that prioritize the holistic well-being of CRSV survivors. It serves as a potent instrument to advocate for justice, redress, and the elimination of social stigmatization and discrimination faced by survivors. By leveraging this advocacy tool, the Foundation endeavours to engage in collaborative, evidence-based policy dialogues with key stakeholders, including governmental bodies, NGOs, and international agencies. These engagements are essential in urging the formulation and implementation of policies that align with the demands outlined by the survivors, ensuring that their voices and experiences are integrated into the decision-making processes.



PURPOSE OF THE CHARTER OF DEMANDS

This Charter of Demands for the Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) is a foundational document that aims to:

- 1. Advocate for the rights and needs of this vulnerable groups who have endured significant trauma and human rights violations.
- 2. Promote the principles of human rights, gender equality, and non-discrimination.
- 3. Call for accountability, justice, and the establishment of mechanisms for redress.
- 4. Provide a roadmap for governments, and other key stakeholders to support these individuals on their journey towards healing, reintegration, and rehabilitation.
- 5. Facilitate the establishment of programs and policies that uphold the rights and dignity of survivors of CRSV.
- 6. Foster a culture of inclusivity and community involvement in the process of reintegration and rehabilitation, recognizing the importance of social cohesion and reconciliation.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE OF THE CHARTER OF DEMANDS

- The charter aims to cater to their immediate and long-term requirements, including healthcare, psychological aid, legal support, and assistance for their social and economic reintegration.
- Its objective is to eradicate the stigma and biases associated with these survivors and to guarantee their access to justice and remedies.

SCOPE AND BACKGROUND

The scope of this charter involves the perspectives and priorities of Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) in the following areas:

- It specifically pertains to individuals, predominantly women and girls, who have encountered sexual violence within the context of armed conflict.

In the midst of the Boko Haram insurgency, women and girls have borne the brunt of sexual violence as a weapon of terror. Many have faced abduction, rape, and forced marriages, leading to severe physical and psychological trauma. These survivors often endured unimaginable horrors, living in constant fear for their lives. Their resilience, however, has been remarkable. They have shown remarkable courage in their pursuit of justice and healing.

IMPORTANCE OF THE CHARTER OF DEMANDS

In North East Nigeria, where the Boko Haram insurgency has inflicted untold suffering, this Charter of Demands serves as a beacon of hope, a roadmap towards recovery, and a clarion call for justice towards:

- 1. **Advocating for Vulnerable Voices:** This charter serves as a powerful advocacy tool for the most vulnerable members of our society - women and girls who have survived the horrors of sexual violence. It brings their voices to the forefront, ensuring that their unique needs and experiences are acknowledged and addressed.
- 2. **Upholding Human Rights:** The charter stands as a highlight of human rights. In a region where these rights have been repeatedly violated, it reaffirms the principles of dignity, equality, and justice. It emphasizes the right of CRSV survivors to live a life free from fear, oppression, and discrimination.
- 3. **Fostering Gender Equality:** In a society where gender-based violence has been used as a tool of terror, the charter champions gender equality as an imperative. It recognizes the inherent strength and resilience of women and girls and seeks to provide them with the support and opportunities they need to reclaim their lives and fulfil their potential.
- 4. **Promoting Reconciliation and Healing:** The charter recognizes that the path to lasting peace must include reconciliation and healing.

- Through its advocacy for justice, redress, and comprehensive support, the charter becomes a cornerstone in the path towards reconciliation, empowering survivors to reclaim agency and fostering a society that acknowledges their experiences while endeavouring to heal past wounds.
- Accountability and Justice:** It is a call for accountability. It demands that those who have committed atrocities be held responsible for their actions. By doing so, it seeks to break the cycle of impunity and lay the foundation for a just and equitable society.
 - International Support and Collaboration:** The charter recognizes that the challenges faced in North East Nigeria are not isolated. It calls for international collaboration and support in tackling these issues. It acknowledges that the international community has a role to play in ensuring that the rights and needs of this affected group are met.

METHODOLOGY FOR DEVELOPING THE CHARTER OF DEMANDS

- This methodology centred around the active engagement of women and girls affected by radicalisation in Borno State.
- Focus Group Discussions (FGDs):** The cornerstone of the methodology was the conduct of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) involving 10 representatives from the group of radicalised women and girls.
 - Informed Consent:** In line with ethical research principles, informed consent was diligently obtained from all participants prior to their involvement in the FGDs.
 - Data Transcription:** All audio recordings and handwritten notes were meticulously transformed into text-based transcripts.
 - Anonymity and Confidentiality:** All personal and potentially identifying details were omitted from the transcripts to uphold the principle of anonymity.
 - Non-Recording of Visual Content:** No visual content, such as photographs or videos, was captured during the interviews or FGDs.
 - Data Analysis:** Data analysis was done to identify common themes, concerns, and expectations expressed by de-radicalized women and girls.

DEMANDS FROM SURVIVORS OF CRSV

DEMANDS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

- Acknowledgment of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence:** Acknowledge the human rights violations and abuses that rendered women and girls as survivors and implement policies to end violence against women and girls
- Enhanced Security and Protection:** The survivors are calling for increased security measures to protect their lives and properties, highlighting the importance of feeling safe and secure in their communities.
- Economic Empowerment, Vocational Skills Training and Employment Opportunities:** They are asking for government support in providing employment opportunities for those who have completed their education and are now graduates. Survivors are also seeking support from the government with vocational skills training and financial support to start their own businesses, enabling them to become financially

- Education Support for survivors:** They are asking government for education support to go back to school and continue their education such as scholarship programs.
- Education Support for Children Born from Abduction, Rape and Forced Marriages:** The survivors are pleading for government support to enrol these children in schools, recognizing the importance of education in their children's future.
- Housing and Shelter:** The survivors request that the government assist in repairing their houses that were damaged by the Boko Haram conflict, allowing them to return to a safe and stable living environment. They also suggested that the government could make them happy by providing shelters for those without houses, which is crucial for their well-being and stability.
- Laws Prohibiting Stigmatization :** The survivors are calling for the implementation of laws that protect them from stigmatization, particularly for their children who may face discrimination based on their background. They expressed the need for protection against discrimination and stigmatization, especially from local leaders known as Bulamas.
- Healthcare Access and Psychological Support:** The survivors requested free and proper medical check-ups for girls who were victims of abuse or rape. They emphasized the importance of enrolling these survivors in schools and providing psychological support to help them recover and reintegrate into society.
- Release of Detained Relatives:** The survivors are requesting the government to release their family members who have been detained for a significant period of time. This includes their husbands and children. They emphasize that the release of their loved ones is essential for peace of mind and to enable their children to go to school.

DEMANDS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- Financial Support for Business:** Survivors are seeking support from community members with capital to start businesses. They view this as a way to demonstrate support and suggest that NGOs can help facilitate this. The survivors cited lack of employment opportunities as a major challenge for them. They reported being open to providing services such as cooking for occasional events in communities to support themselves and their children.
- Protection Against Stigmatization:** The survivors are seeking protection against stigmatization and discrimination within communities. They suggest various approaches to address stigmatization. Some propose that traditional rulers like the Bulamas should advocate against stigmatization, while others believe that security forces can take action to prevent it. In general, they believed that awareness creation in communities can help address stigmatization.
- Legal Support for Human Rights Abuses:** They requested legal support, with some community members referring to cases of domestic violence and the need for legal action. They also mention the role of human rights organizations in advocating for their rights.
- Public Solidarity:** The survivors expressed a desire for peaceful coexistence with the public. They appreciate the support received from the public, including food and shelter assistance, and hope to live harmoniously with others.

DEMANDS FROM FAMILY MEMBERS

- Financial Support:** Survivors expect their families to provide them with capital to start a business. According to them, this financial support is essential for their economic independence and well-being.
- Emotional Support through Family Unity:** They desire emotional support through counselling to help them find peace of mind. Survivors emphasize the importance of family unity, which fosters a sense of belonging and emotional support. A united family can provide a stable and supportive environment for the survivors.
- Support Against Stigmatization:** According to survivors, families are expected to stand up against any form of stigmatization or abuse directed towards survivors. Families should be willing to report such incidents to the relevant authorities to seek justice.
- Vocational Skills Support:** The survivors requested that families should introduce them to various skills that can help them meet their daily needs. This skill development can empower survivors to become more self-sufficient.
- Education Support for Children:** Survivors hope their families will support them in enrolling their children in school. This support is crucial for both the survivors' economic well-being and their children's education.
- Inclusion in Decision-Making:** They expect to be included in family decision-making processes. Inclusion provides a sense of hope and belonging, reinforcing their status as integral members of the family.

DEMANDS FROM TRADITIONAL AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS

- Non-Discrimination:** Survivors emphasized that traditional rulers should not discriminate against them in the distribution of food items or the enrolment of children in school, particularly in cases where discrimination by local leaders (Bulama's) has been experienced.
- Advocacy to Communities Against Stigmatization:** Religious leaders are called upon by survivors to advocate against stigmatization, promote unity, and work to reduce discrimination within the community. They are expected to address these issues during religious gatherings in mosques and churches.
- Advocacy to Government, NGOs and Other Stakeholders:** Traditional rulers and religious leaders are expected to use their influence to invite government, NGOs, and individuals to provide support to the survivors. This support may include food distribution and the enrolment of survivors' children in schools.
- Inclusive Counselling:** Religious leaders are encouraged to make survivors feel like part of the community through preaching, advice, and counselling. This inclusive approach can help survivors reintegrate into society and provide them with a sense of belonging.
- Positive Preaching:** Survivors expect traditional and religious leaders to preach messages of hope and encourage the survivors not to lose hope in life. This can solutions to their problems. be achieved by explaining that the challenges survivors have faced were not their fault but the result of broader circumstances.
- Prayers and Advocacy for Combatants:** Survivors expect traditional rulers and religious leaders to provide prayers and advocate for the reintegration and repentance of

individuals who have been involved in the conflict. They believe that such efforts can contribute to restoring peace in the community.

DEMANDS FROM SECURITY AGENCIES

- Fair and Respectful Conduct:** Survivors expect security personnel to refrain from using their weapons to abuse people and to treat individuals with respect. Security personnel are expected to stand by their duties and protect the integrity of the nation, rather than engaging in unprofessional behaviour such as harassing or chasing women in the community. They emphasize the importance of fair and ethical behaviour and suggest that security personnel should fear God.
- Protection of Lives and Properties:** Survivors call upon security agencies to improve their services in protecting the lives and properties of the public. They should commit themselves to their duty of safeguarding the nation, and not engage in maltreatment, sexual abuse, or negligence of their duties.
- Diligence and Responsiveness:** Security agencies are expected to carry out their duties diligently and not neglect their duty posts. They should respond promptly to security challenges, prevent theft, and protect people and their properties.
- Improvement of Security Apparatus:** Survivors recommend that the government take significant measures to enhance the capabilities of security agencies. They express concern about crimes continuing despite the presence of security forces and suggest that improvements are needed to reduce criminal activities.
- Accountability and Investigation:** Survivors propose that security agencies hold members accountable for their actions and investigate before punishing people. They emphasize that the security personnel who abuse individuals should be punished in accordance with the laws of the nation. Survivors also expect security personnel to follow the rules and regulations governing their conduct. They suggest that any personnel who violate these rules should be punished as a deterrent to others.

DEMANDS FROM NGOs

- Financial Support and Education:** Survivors expect NGOs to provide them with capital for businesses and to support the enrolment of their children in schools. They believe that this support will bring them peace of mind and financial stability.
- Empowerment and Vocational Skills Training:** Survivors anticipate that NGOs will empower them with vocational skills such as cattle fattening, trading and other petty businesses.
- Formal Employment Opportunities:** They desire formal employment opportunities or empowerment programs from NGOs, as this would make them feel like part of the organization. These could be as low as sweeping or cleaning jobs.
- Community Engagement:** Survivors suggest that NGOs should engage with the community and organize volunteer committees to inform the public about their challenges and issues such as stigmatization. They also want NGOs to assist by conveying their challenges to the media and also advocate to higher authorities to find