



Unfortunately, I was not Jammeh's only sexual victim. Another woman testified that Jammeh hired her as a "protocol girl" and promised her a scholarship, but when she refused sex, he fired her and withdrew the scholarship. Insider witnesses, including Jammeh's former protocol chief, provided further evidence of a system, first revealed by Human Rights Watch and TRIAL International, in which Jammeh's aides regularly pressured women to visit or work for Jammeh, who then sexually abused many of them.

The TRRC is uncovering evidence of Jammeh's participation in many other crimes as well. These include ordering the killing and torture of political opponents, the murder of 56 West African migrants, and "witch hunts" in which hundreds of women were arbitrarily detained. In each case, the perpetrators themselves confessed to the TRRC that they committed the crimes on the orders of Yahya Jammeh.

In the case of the migrants for instance, poor men and women who were only trying to get to Europe, including 44 from Ghana, as well Nigeria, Cote d'Ivoire, Togo and Senegal, two gunmen from the "Junglers," Jammeh's elite hit-squad, testified at the TRRC that the operation's leader told the men that (and I quote) "the order from Jammeh is that they are all to be executed." Martin Kyere, the sole survivor of the West African migrant massacre will join us tomorrow.

The TRRC will soon take up Jammeh's "presidential treatment program," in which HIV-positive Gambians were forced to give up their medicine and put themselves in Jammeh's personal care, with deadly results.

To build on my own difficult experience, I have created the Toufah Foundation to assist women and girls in Gambia to fight against sexual abuse, because the problem of sexual violence in my country goes well beyond Yahya Jammeh. But I am also part of the "Jammeh2Justice" campaign, which seeks to hold accountable the former dictator and his worst henchmen. The TRRC has the power to recommend prosecutions and we hope and expect that the TRRC will recommend, and the Gambian government will request, Jammeh's extradition. Getting him back will not be easy, of course, as we have seen Jammeh on video cavorting like a celebrity with Equatorial Guinea's own president.

In the spirit of complementarity, we look to The Gambia and the states of West Africa (indeed ECOWAS played a decisive role in Jammeh's departure from the Gambia) to press for his extradition and trial and to devise a system to prosecute the crimes I have described, including crimes of sexual violence. That process could take place in The Gambia or in the region, and with the support of the ICC.

Mr Chairman, I want to be in the same room with Yahya Jammeh again - a courtroom this time.

Thank you