



Seminar Report on Complementarity, the Habré Trial and the Evolution of Universal Jurisdiction

Dear Colleague,

Africa Legal Aid (AFLA) is pleased to publish the Report of the Seminar on Complementarity, the Hissène Habré Trial, and the Evolution of Universal Jurisdiction [here](#) and a French summary [here](#).

The Seminar was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 30 May - 1 June to coincide with the historic judgement of Hissène Habré, former President of Chad. The Extraordinary African Chambers (EAC) in the Senegalese court system sentenced Habré to life in prison finding him guilty of torture, war crimes and crimes against humanity. Habré was personally found guilty of rape.



Hissène Habré at his trial in Dakar, November 2015 © 2015 Radiodiffusion Télévision Sénégalaise (Source: Human Rights Watch).

It was a landmark judgement in international criminal justice. It is the first case of universal jurisdiction to be dealt with on the African continent, and Habré is the first former African leader to be tried by an African court.



Victims' lawyer Jacqueline Moudeina addresses the court during the opening day of the trial of Hissène Habré. (Source: © 2015 Human Rights Watch).

AFLA extends its gratitude to the Planethood Foundation, the Baltasar Garzon International Foundation, the Kenya Human Rights Commission, the Government of Senegal, the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swiss Embassy in Senegal, the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Trust Africa, Codesria, Access Partnership and Consortium de Sensibilisation sur les Chambres Africaines Extraordinaires for their cooperation. AFLA also thanks all the Seminar participants for their valuable input and for making the Seminar a Resounding Success.

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