JUSTICE, LAW AND ORDER SECTOR



Welcome Remarks

By

The Hon. Frederick Ruhindi

Attorney General

At the 20th Joint GoU-Development Partners' JLOS Annual Review

Speke Resort Munyonyo

Thursday 15th October 2015

The Honourable Chief Justice of Uganda

The Honourable Deputy Chief Justice of Uganda

The Honorable Principal Judge

Honourable Ministers

My Lords, Justices and Judges of the Courts of Judicature

Your Excellency, the Ambassador of Ireland and Chairperson of the JLOS Development Partners' Group

Your Excellences, Heads of Diplomatic Missions to Uganda

Honourable Members of Parliament

Heads of JLOS Institutions

Members of the JLOS Steering and Technical Committees

Members of the District Coordination Committees

Distinguished invited guests in your respective capacities

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning! I welcome you all to the 20th Joint JLOS GoU Development Partners' Annual Review. On behalf of the Justice, Law and Order Sector, I thank you for finding time within your busy schedules to participate in this Annual Review for the Financial Year 2014/2015.

I start on a sad note with what all of you in this room must have heard concerning the sudden and tragic loss of one of our pillars in the sector, the Honourable Aronda Nyakairima, Minister of Internal Affairs. I call on all members to observe a minute of silence in his honour and pray that his Soul rests in eternal peace.

Today's meeting will specifically look at the Annual Performance Report for the year 2014/15, which highlights how the sector performed in the past financial year. It has been a very challenging year but I am happy to report that the sector did not flinch under the burden of the less than optimum resources that it had to operate with as a result of non-release of funds by several of our partners.

Since 1999, the Sector has taken great strides in enhancing access to justice for the vulnerable. The Third Strategic Investment Plan of the sector is now in the third year of implementation. Under SIPIII the sector undertook to address the issue of vulnerability under outcome 2 to enhance access to justice for the marginalized and eliminate all forms of bias in accessing JLOS service. It is in that respect that the theme for this Annual Review is "A Pro- People Justice System: Profiling Vulnerability. Vulnerability poses a major hindrance is accessing timely and holistic justice services. In this regard the sector prioritised a number of activities and programmes ranging from improving access to the sector institutions, case disposal, innovations like small claims and plea bargaining, juvenile justice programmes, service delivery standards

and many others that you will hear as we share with you our annual report.

I take this opportunity to thank all JLOS institutions for the effort made over the past financial year. Although we registered successes, we also encountered challenges that we are positive will be addressed in the present financial year. Today's report will also be unique. We are now mid-way through the process of implementing the SIPIII and found it fitting to look back and highlight our successes from the commencement of the SIPIII to the last financial year.

To our Development Partners, thank you for your steadfast engagement with the Sector. Your support has strengthened the collaborative partnership with the Government of Uganda institutions involved in the dispensation of justice. I thank the JLOS Secretariat and sector Policy and Planning Units for compiling this report which we are about to review.

I trust that from this Annual Review, JLOS institutions will receive feedback that will enable them to strengthen their services. I specifically encourage institutions to ensure that they use a pro-people lense in the dispensation of justice so that the work that we do can have a true and lasting impact on people of all walks of life. It is in this way that we can achieve a Sector that lives up to its goal of providing Justice for All.

Once again I thank each and every one of you for graciously honouring

our invitation and look forward to your active participation in this

years' review. We value your comments, your ideas, your contributions

as well as your suggestions. The feedback and valuable input from all of

you will enable us build a sector is responsive to and will better serve

the needs of the end-user.

I now take this opportunity to invite H.E Ambassador Donal Cronin of

the Embassy of Ireland to make his remarks.

For God and My Country.

Hon. Frederick Ruhindi, MP

ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 15th, 2015

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