

**Speech by Urban Andersson, Ambassador of Sweden,  
Chair JLOS Development Partners Group, at the Opening of  
Moroto Mini JLOS**

**February 14th 2014**

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Your Lordship the Honourable Acting Chief Justice - **Justice Stephen Kavuma,**

Honourable Minister of Internal Affairs - **General Aronda Nyakayirima,**

Honourable Minister of State, Ministry Justice and Constitutional Affairs -**Hon. Fred Ruhindi,**

The Attorney General - **Hon. Peter Nyombi,**

Heads of JLOS institutions and their representatives,

Your Excellences Fellow Ambassadors,

Honourable Members of Parliament present,

The District Leadership of Moroto,

The wider JLOS Family,

Representatives from the media,

All protocol observed,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Today, we witness the official opening and handover of the Moroto Mini JLOS and staff quarters. I would like to begin by expressing my appreciation for the continued strong partnership between the Sector and development partners and to commend you for the enormous amounts of work that have been taken on by the Sector and its institutions to scale up and improve infrastructure to enhance access to justice in the Karamoja region. In particular, I would like to commend the efforts JLOS has undertaken in bringing JLOS services nearer to the people, especially for people in the post- conflict affected areas of Karamoja.

We are conscious that there has been a delay in the procurement and commencement of this infrastructure due to the unavailability of land. This is something that local governments and JLOS need to work together strongly on, and we commend the district leadership of Moroto for providing the land for the facilities we see here today.

Improvements in physical infrastructure is one of the main outcome areas of JLOS SIPIII and this is a testimony to the sector on how services can be brought closer to the public. These kinds of infrastructures are very critical for the sector, and hope that this will in turn increase the “supply” side of JLOS services. We still need to

strengthen the supply side so that we can be able to address the high demand from the public that critically need these services.

Last year, I was privileged to be part of the JLOS leadership Monitoring and evaluation trip in which we were able to interact with the public and users of JLOS services as well as being able to see the challenges on the ground. During this trip, we were able to witness a number of challenges that face both the sector and the public. I was particularly concerned about the numbers of people who have overstayed on remand and the case backlog within the sector. As I understand these are some of the priority areas for the sector to address in the current SIPIII. As the saying goes, “justice delayed is justice denied”. I hope that the multi-institutional approach that JLOS has adopted which we also witness here will address the issue of institutional functionality so that the sector not only closes the physical distance between the institutions and the poor, but that access to justice for the poor will be enhanced which will in turn increase respect for human rights.

With these few remarks, I would like to once again congratulate JLOS for this achievement and on behalf of all JLOS Development Partners express our continued support to the sector as we endeavour to improve access to justice for all, and the lives of Ugandans.

Thank you