



**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR FOR THE JLOS JOINT GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS SEMI ANNUAL REVIEW HELD AT PROTEA HOTEL ON 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2011 AT 12.30PM**

All Members of the Technical Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen

I welcome you to the Semi Annual Review of the Justice Law and Order Sector for the Financial Year 2010/2011, which is part of the two reviews JLOS holds every year.

The Semi Annual Review is meant to give the sector an opportunity to review progress on the implementation of the JLOS Work Plan, undertakings and generally the implementation of the National Budget in as far as the sector is concerned.

The Semi Annual Review also gives the Sector an opportunity to account and engage with the Development Partners regarding their support to the sector.

According to the Government's Semi Annual Performance Report 2010, the Justice Law and Order Sector is likely . Our own progress report, which we shall discuss this afternoon, indicates that we are on course to achieve a majority of our targets and undertakings.

I would like therefore, to take this opportunity to thank the institutions for the hard work done over the last six months. I would like also to thank the Development Partners for their continued support to the sector, which has made it possible to achieve these milestones. I thank the JLOS Secretariat for the good work they are doing. Last but not least, I want to thank the tax payers of this country for funding the operations of the sector.

I am happy to report that with your support, we have achieved the following miles stones:

- JLOS increased the holding capacity of Uganda Prisons Services from 13,670 to 14,334 places.
- Through the case backlog reduction programme, we reduced the average length of stay on remand for capital offenders from 27.1 months to 15 months.
- The disposal rate of cases in the Judiciary stood at 90.1% of all registered cases- just 9% shy of reaching the 100% mark required for sustainable case backlog reduction.
- Case backlog cases in the courts have reduced from an average of 40,000 cases to 25,000 cases
- The CID strength was increased significantly in the last year and the CID ratio to case ratio now stands at 1 CID officer to 18 cases, down from 1:23
- We commissioned four Community Justice Centres at Pader, Patongo, Otuke and Kiryadongo and a High Court at Lira, all built within less than one year.
- The sector had by midyear collected 32 billion shillings in Non Tax Revenue, which interestingly, is more than our SWAp budget. I hope that Government in the future will give the sector authority to spend part of the NTR to finance sector programmes.

Despite the milestones registered, we still face daunting tasks in the realization of key targets particularly in the disposal of criminal cases which is at 93% of the registered cases, mounting

case backlog of land cases, poor investigation of cases, prison congestion, real and perceived corruption at various JLOS points, limited training for 80% of JLOS staff, poor physical presence of JLOS institutions in the newly created districts, an inadequate juvenile justice system and very dismal performance of the quasi Judicial Institutions such as the Law Council, which is performing at less than 10%. I cannot afford to mention that we have not handled public order situations within the prism of the bill of rights in the constitution.

This Semi Annual review should therefore serve as a platform for self-discovery and constructive criticism in identifying the constraints to our success and the solutions to the challenges that face the sector. I have no doubt that sector institutions will pay particular attentions to the reasons curtailing performance in the sector and address them promptly.

For the Uganda Police Force, it will be crucially important to find solutions to slow implementation of construction and poor funding of the criminal investigation department, which is negatively affecting the image of the police. Other institutions, may well also wish to find solutions to the persistent problem of delays in the discharge of their mandates.

I urge our Development Partners and Government to continue supporting JLOS to create a country , where all can enjoy safety of the person and security of property.

For God and My Country

Henry Peter A Adonyo

**CHAIRPERSON, JLOS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**