



COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR FOR THE JLOS SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW FOR 2012/13 HELD AT KABIRA COUNTRY CLUB ON APRIL 17TH 2013 STARTING AT 9.00AM

The Chair and Co-Chair of the JLOS Development Partners

The Members of the Technical Committee

Development Partners

Members of the Working Groups

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning!

It is my pleasure and singular honour to welcome you to the Semi Annual Review of the Justice Law and Order Sector for 2012/2013. I am grateful that you have honoured our invitation to attend the Review because your presence gives legitimacy and mileage the sector needs to implement the third strategic investment plan.

I would like to recognize our Development Partners for standing with us and for their support in the last fourteen years. We specially thank the Kingdom of Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, Austria, United Kingdom, UNICEF and UN Women for their generous support. Your support has transformed the sector from despair to hope; the greatest gift humanity can give to those in need. Hope inspires and convicts us to perform better even when we meet challenges.

On behalf of the Government of Uganda, I pledge our commitment to promote the ideals of the partnership with our Development Partners. We shall continue to be vehicles of change to improve the lives of in Uganda. We say this because the ultimate

responsibility to develop Uganda primarily rests on our hands. Our partners can only give us a push!

Ladies and gentlemen, the semiannual review gives an opportunity to assess progress of the sector mid-way through the year on commitments in the work plan, the undertakings and in the Government of Uganda Budget. The assessment enables us to establish whether we are making progress and even where we are making progress, to establish whether the progress is sufficient to address the needs of the public. The review also gives an opportunity to reflect on our actions, on one part as implementers and on other part as funders of the programmes.

The year under review was a challenging one from two perspectives. First, it is the first year of implementation of the third sector strategic investment plan. SIPIII lays out very elaborate and ambitious strategies and targets and rightly so, because of the immense challenges that the sector must overcome. Viewed against this background, the desire for results cannot be over emphasized. But as we seek for results, we must give time to SIPIII to incubate and produce the necessary changes. We must give time for adjustments and factors that are beyond the sector's control. And in this respect therefore, we must be prepared to accept the progressive realization of commitments in SIPIII.

The second challenge arose from withdraw of financing from development partners which affected inflows from Government of Uganda into the sector. Several JLOS institutions were victims of secondary damage caused by general liquidity inflows in government. Our Partners must take these challenges into account in arriving at a factual assessment of the sector.

Having said, that let me emphasize that as a sector we are committed to building a robust and efficient justice system as part of the overall government policy of making public institutions effective and efficient. We are determined to abandon habits and practices that do not work including things that have outlived their usefulness. We are committed to enhancing individual accountability so that staff are not rule led but are driven by results to deliver services.

We shall continue to prioritize re-engineering of processes to reduce redundancy, time wastage and inefficiencies. For example the Civil Procedure Regime is undergoing extensive reforms to remove unnecessary steps, shorten time and make the civil justice system more transparent, predictable and cost effective.

We are also continuing to improve the climate for doing business in Uganda through reforms in the Uganda Registration Service Bureau. With support from the sector and

other external funders, we shall automate all business processes to cut down the time of seeking business support services. On immigration , we are committed to promoting safe and open borders to deepen integration the East African Community and promote fair trade in the region and with our partners in the northern hemisphere.

To drive these reforms forward, we shall be sponsoring Civil Justice Competitive Strategy and Criminal Justice Strategy to deliver pointed reforms and give direction to working groups and institutions in managing transformation across the chain of justice. We shall also roll out the monitoring and evaluation framework to institutions to deepen results based culture as well as providing a timely tool for prompt assessment of progress or lack of it. We shall also engage the private sector to deliver services were they have a comparative advantage over Government.

These reforms, however, require the support of Government of Uganda, the civil service bureaucracy, the Development Partners and the public who are our biggest client. I would like to urge each of us to do our part because of the indivisible nature and interconnectedness of our actions.

Success in the sector will not be measured by the money spent. Success will be judged by results achieved and that is where the future of the sector must lie.

I wish you fruitful deliberations.

Josephine Onya Wasike

CHAIRPERSON, JLOS STEERING COMMITTEE