



**CLOSING REMARKS BY HON. PETER NYOMBI, ATTORNEY GENERAL; AT A  
STAKEHOLDER CONSENSUS BUILDING WORKSHOP ON THE DRAFT TRANSITIONAL  
JUSTICE POLICY.**

**21 May 2013**

**Venue: Imperial Royale Hotel, Kampala**

My Lord, the Hon. the Chief Justice of the Republic of Uganda,  
My Lords, Judges and Justices of the Courts of Judicature,  
Honorable Ministers,  
Honorable members of Parliament,  
Your Excellency the Ambassador of Ireland to Uganda,  
Members of the Diplomatic Corp,  
Members of the Justice Law and Order Sector,  
Civil Society,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

I thank you all for the commitment and patience you have exuded leading up to the end of a full day of presentations, discussions and agreement on a way forward.

I thank the Sector and in particular the Transitional Justice Working group for supporting this very brilliant proposal of designing a framework to address our Country's past, which as an individual I must say I have experienced.

I have heard with great interest all the deliberations, pertaining to the draft transitional justice policy which is a framework to guide the implementation of Transitional Justice, it provides a legitimate point of reference for addressing all matters of Transitional Justice, assigns specific responsibilities to various actors to facilitate its implementation, and sets priority areas of action at the various levels by stakeholders. The policy adopts a victim centered approach based on the fact that victims need to access and participate in the process of justice and reconciliation in order to heal, reconcile and find justice.

It is proposed that a multiplicity of justice mechanisms including formal criminal justice, traditional justice, truth telling, reparations and amnesty be explored to deal with the of past human rights violations and abuses.

I have learned that in times of conflict, due to the actions of the opposing forces, acts and omissions occur which impact greatly on both sides and most important, the innocent bystanders who are the community members.

In cognizance of this fact, my chambers after an amicable settlement with a section of the community in the North, The Acholi War debt claimants, is in the process of warding monetary compensation for property lost by these communities during the NRA bush war. This is just one situation where Government acknowledges that wrongs were committed and remedies need to be sought.

I would like to assure you that Government is committed and willing to find a lasting solution to problems of the people. Options acceptable by all parties seem to be more suitable than those pursued single handed; since they go a long way in mitigating future and current conflict.

After careful consideration I note that the options in the policy are well aligned to our Constitution, which offers authoritative action for the implementation of these processes. Therefore it is critical that the justice options adopted are implemented while taking into consideration key concerns articulated by the Constitution like human rights observance, fairness and equality.

Finally, the amount of time, effort and resources that were invested in this project is commendable. Please join me in congratulating the team that worked tirelessly on putting this policy together and to all of you who have committed to making it a better draft. It is indeed a significant contribution to the policymaking process and I sincerely thank you for this work well done.

On behalf of the Justice Law and Order Sector, I wish to thank you for your active participation and interest in this policymaking process, and I hereby declare this workshop closed.

**HON. Peter Nyombi (MP)**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**