



JUSTICE, LAW AND ORDER SECTOR

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FRIDAY MARCH 4, 2011

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Issue N^o JPR (01)03042011

**PRESS RELEASE FROM THE JUSTICE, LAW AND ORDER SECTOR (JLOS) ON
HANDLING ELECTORAL DISPUTES**

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Good morning ladies and gentlemen.

Once again we are honored to be with you and bring greetings from the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS). We congratulate the people of Uganda for exercising their democratic right of choosing their leaders in the just concluded Presidential, Parliamentary elections and the ongoing Local Council Elections.

The Justice Law and Order Sector is mandated by the Constitution to ensure free and fair elections before, during and after elections through maintenance of law and order, respect and enforcement of fundamental freedoms and providing effective remedies for electoral disputes.

In fulfillment of this noble obligation, JLOS institutions have set up a framework which will promptly and expeditiously handle electoral disputes.

In particular:

The Uganda Police Force through the Election Management Unit will at all times provide adequate security to all manner of people without discrimination and promptly investigate all offences committed and hand over the perpetrators for prosecution. The Uganda Police Force further assures the general public of its commitment to maintain peace and public order in accordance with the law.

The Directorate for Public Prosecutions will enforce the law and speedily prosecute all suspects who commit electoral offences to uphold the rule law and sustain democracy.

The Judiciary undertakes, in as far as it is possible, to resolve Election Petitions in less than three months. The Judiciary has therefore, set aside 25 judges and 43 Chief Magistrates to hear election petitions. Likewise, the Court of Appeal will promptly dispose of appeals arising out of election petitions within six months.

The Justice, Law and Order Sector therefore, appeals to the public to make full use of the legal and judicial framework to peacefully resolve electoral disputes in accordance with the law.

Thank you.