

**DRAFT STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
AT THE 35TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME
PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

1ST TO 5TH JUNE 2026

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

DELIVERED ON AGENDA ITEM: 6

BY

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Mr/Madam Chair,

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

My delegation joins other delegations in congratulating you and the Bureau on stewardship of the meeting and assures you of our full cooperation and support.

Chair, Uganda is a State Party to the principal international conventions on crime prevention and criminal justice and reaffirms its strong commitment to their full and effective implementation.

On UNTOC, Uganda has progressively strengthened its legislative and institutional architecture, including reform of criminal procedure and mutual legal assistance mechanisms, the establishment of specialised units in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for international crimes, international cooperation, cybercrime, anti-corruption and asset recovery, and investment in investigative and forensic capabilities.

We call on UNODC to ensure that capacity-building under UNTOC addresses the full spectrum of criminal justice functions, from detection through conviction and recovery of criminal proceeds.

On UNCAC, Uganda has engaged actively in the review mechanism and recognises that corruption is a core criminal justice challenge. We are strengthening specialised anti-corruption and asset recovery functions, promoting prosecution-guided investigations and close coordination between law enforcement, prosecution, the judiciary and financial intelligence and using digital tools to reduce opportunities for interference with case files.

Uganda supports the further operationalisation of the GlobE Network and encourages its use for asset tracing and cross-border cooperation. The Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA) plays a central role in preventing the abuse of the financial system and generating actionable financial intelligence on money laundering, terrorist financing, proliferation financing and other proceeds of crime.

Chair, Uganda also remains committed to the counter-terrorism instruments, and continues to develop capacity to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate terrorism-related offences, including through training on complex and digital evidence, secure electronic case management, and enhanced judicial training on admissibility and evaluation of technical material. We call on UNODC to expand technical assistance to African States in this area.

Uganda welcomes the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime and was among the first to sign it in Hanoi in October 2025. Cybercrime is a growing feature of our criminal landscape. Uganda is reviewing its domestic legislation to align with the Convention, has established a Cybercrime Division within the ODPP working closely with other specialised units and the Police Forensic Directorate, and has invested in digital evidence capabilities and visual-audio link technology.

We underscore that effective implementation of the Convention requires not only ratification but also sustained investment in investigative, prosecutorial, and judicial capacity, and we urge UNODC to place these dimensions at the centre of its assistance as Uganda advances ratification domestically.

Chair, we believe that, in implementing conventions, digital transformation and multi-sectoral cooperation must move together if we are to deliver an effective, rights-compliant and people-centred criminal justice response.

Uganda will continue to advocate for the interests of low- and middle-income countries, whose systems bear a disproportionate crime burden yet receive limited assistance.

I thank you.