

**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: 8

BY

MR. JAMES OCAYA, DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE

Mr/Madam Chair,

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Uganda assures you of our full cooperation and support as you steer this 35th session of the Commission.

The Republic of Uganda aligns itself with the statements delivered on behalf of the African Group, the Group of 77 and China, and wishes to add the following in our national capacity.

Chair, Uganda, welcomes, in particular, the report on world crime trends and emerging issues. It provides an indispensable evidence base for informed policy and programming, especially for low- and middle-income countries whose systems bear a disproportionate crime burden. From our national and regional experience, we also underline four crime trends: the convergence of cybercrime and organised crime; persistent sexual and gender-based violence; trafficking in persons; and wildlife crime. Uganda is working to criminalise the full spectrum of conduct related to online child sexual abuse material and technology-facilitated sexual violence in line with the United Nations Convention against Cybercrime.

Chair, while crime trends and prison populations are evolving rapidly, the prison population is growing at about 6.5 per cent annually, leading to overcrowding at roughly 350 per cent of capacity, while limited vocational training and rehabilitation contribute to a recidivism rate of 13.2 per cent.

Uganda, therefore, wishes to acknowledge and commend UNODC's contribution to crime prevention and criminal justice in Uganda, including through the five-year Programme on Strengthening Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. With this support, the Uganda Prisons Service has developed management tools and systems, strengthened staff capacity, and acquired ICT equipment to enhance data management and access to justice.

Chair, there is a need for continued support in managing violent extremist prisoners and preventing radicalisation, expanding ICT systems (including virtual court attendance, electronic tracking and digital rehabilitation tools), strengthening rehabilitation and reintegration capacities and retooling prisons with vehicles, monitoring and office equipment.

Uganda stands ready to share its experience and to engage constructively with this Commission, UNODC and Member States.

I thank you, Chair.