



ODPP

E - NEWSLETTER

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FOREWORD



Mr. Lino Anguzu
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

It is my pleasure to present this edition of our quarterly newsletter, which highlights our Office's work, achievements, and continued commitment over the past quarter.

The quarter saw significant progress across our core areas of work. We achieved notable successes in major prosecutions while maintaining our commitment to timely, evidence-based, and ethical decision-making. Equally important was our investment in our staff's professional development through specialised training

and capacity-building initiatives designed to enhance the quality and effectiveness of prosecution services.

Our collaboration with justice sector institutions, development partners, and community stakeholders continued to grow. These partnerships remain essential for addressing increasingly complex forms of crime and for ensuring that justice is delivered in a coordinated, transparent, and responsive manner.

As we celebrate these achievements, we remain mindful that the pursuit of justice is an ongoing responsibility. We will continue to embrace innovation, strengthen institutional excellence and uphold the highest standards of accountability in serving the public interest.

With great responsibility, I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Top Management and on my own, to express my deepest thanks to each of my staff at

the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and to all Prosecutors under the delegated agencies who act on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for the work we have done together over the past quarter to uphold the rule of law, promote justice, and fight crime in our society.

As an institution, the ODPP delivers prosecution services through the Directorates, Departments, Divisions, Sections and Units at the head office (both legal and non-legal), the Regional Offices, the Resident State Attorney and Resident State Prosecutor Stations, and delegated agencies that conduct prosecution on behalf of the ODPP.

The countless hours,

resilience, hard work, and team effort each person puts into their work do not go unnoticed or unappreciated. I encourage all my staff to remain dedicated and steadfast in delivering prosecution services as we work together to scale new heights and achieve what may seem impossible.

To the 38 newly recruited State Attorneys, welcome to the institution, and congratulations on earning a place in the public service. This is the beginning of a journey defined by service, integrity, and the pursuit of justice. Remember to anchor your work in three guiding principles: Devotion to the cause, Dedication to your duties, and Discipline in your work.

Finally, I would like to

express my gratitude to the Government of Uganda for its funding and to all our partners who continue to ensure the seamless delivery of prosecution services.

For God and My Country.

CHIEF EDITOR'S NOTE



Jacquelyn Okui
CHIEF STATE ATTORNEY/PUBLIC RELATIONS
OFFICER

Dear Readers,
Welcome to this edition of our quarterly newsletter, where we reflect on the significant milestones, achievements, and experiences that have shaped our work over the past quarter.

As you read this edition, you will find stories that celebrate our achievements, highlight innovative initiatives, and recognise the

dedication of the people who make our Office's work possible. We hope these pages provide insight into our ongoing efforts to deliver justice fairly, efficiently, and with compassion.

Thank you for your continued interest in our work. I trust you will find this edition informative and inspiring.

From the Public Relations Office, we extend our prayers for God's blessings to all ODPP stakeholders.

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PROSECUTION HIGHLIGHTS

1. FIRST CONVICTION IN THE KARAMOJA IRON SHEETS CASE: HON. AGNESS NANDUTU CONVICTED AND SENTENCED TO FOUR YEARS' IMPRISONMENT

On April 8, 2026, the ODPP received a judgment in one of the Karamoja iron sheets cases. The Anti-Corruption Court, presided over by Hon. Lady Justice Jane Okuo Kajuga, delivered its decision in the Karamoja iron sheets case, convicting Hon. Agness Nandutu, Woman Member of Parliament for Bududa District and former Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs, of dealing with suspect property.

On April 10, 2026, the Anti-Corruption Court sentenced Hon. Agness Nandutu to four years' imprisonment. In addition to the custodial sentence, the Court barred her from holding public office for ten years. The

Court also ordered that the recovered iron sheets be returned to the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), thereby restoring them to their intended public purpose.

The Prosecution alleged, and the Court found, that between June and July 2022, Hon. Agness Nandutu dealt with government property consisting of 2,000 pre-painted iron sheets of gauge 28 marked "Office of the Prime Minister." She received and retained the iron sheets at the OPM stores in Namanve and later at her residence in Mukono District, under circumstances in which she had reason to believe the property had been irregularly obtained as a result of the loss of public

property.

At the material time, Hon. Agness Nandutu served as the Woman Member of Parliament for Bududa District and as Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs under the OPM. The Ministry for Karamoja Affairs was implementing a government programme funded by a supplementary budget of approximately 39.94 billion shillings for the 2021/2022 financial year. The programme was intended to support disarmament and community empowerment in the Karamoja Sub-region by distributing relief items, including iron sheets, to vulnerable groups.

In execution of this programme, the OPM

procured a total of 95,044 pre-painted iron sheets. These iron sheets were delivered to and stored at the OPM stores in Namanve for official distribution.

In June 2022, a requisition for 10,000 iron sheets was submitted to support the presidential launch of the distribution exercise in Moroto District. Although the requisition was approved, only 1,000 iron sheets were issued, leaving a balance of 9,000 iron sheets in the stores. The launch event took place on June 13, 2022, and was attended by Hon. Agness Nandutu.

The evidence at trial showed that shortly thereafter, the Minister for Karamoja Affairs informed Hon. Agness Nandutu that 2,000 iron sheets had been allocated to her from the remaining stock, purportedly for landslide victims. Hon. Agness Nandutu accepted the allocation and arranged for the collection of the iron sheets. On June 23, 2022, she provided funds for transportation and

instructed her political assistant to collect the iron sheets from the OPM stores. The assistant collected the 2,000 iron sheets.

The iron sheets were first transported to a private residence in Wakiso District, where Hon. Agness Nandutu personally verified their quantity. They were then, on her instructions, transferred to her residence in Seeta, Mukono District, where they were received and stored under her authority.

During investigations in March 2023, Hon. Agness Nandutu recorded a statement with the Police confirming these events and led investigators to her farm. A search by the Evidence Response Team recovered 1,617 iron sheets from the premises. Hon. Agness Nandutu failed to account for the remaining 383 iron sheets.

At the sentencing stage, the Prosecution highlighted the breach of trust. The offender held high public office and was expected to safeguard

public resources, yet engaged in conduct that deprived a needy community of essential support. The Prosecution further underscored the broader harm, particularly the erosion of public confidence in government institutions.

The Court carefully weighed both the aggravating and mitigating factors of the case before imposing the sentence. The sentence was both just and proportionate. It reflected the seriousness of the offence, the responsibility attached to the office held, and the need to deter similar conduct.

Beyond the individual case, the judgment and sentence speak to a larger principle. Public office is a duty owed to the people. When that duty is abused, the law must respond firmly. This sentence makes it clear that no position of authority places one above accountability.

The Prosecution welcomed the decision as strengthening integrity in public service and reaffirming the principle that all persons are equal

before the law.

The matter was prosecuted by Mr. David Bisamunyu, Chief State Attorney, and

Ms. Innocent Aleto, Senior State Attorney, both from the ODPP.

2. MUGERWA PAUL PLEADS GUILTY TO THE MURDER OF DR. OLILA WILFRED AND IS SENTENCED TO 40 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT

On April 13, 2026, Mugerwa Paul pleaded guilty in the High Court to the murder of Dr. Olila Wilfred, a retired medical doctor, marking a solemn close to a case that deeply shook the Lango Region.

The High Court, presided over by Hon. Lady Justice Sarah Birungi Kalibala, sentenced him to 40 years' imprisonment for the offence of murder. He was further sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment on a second count of aggravated robbery.

The offence, committed in January 2025, was both calculated and

disturbing. Mugerwa Paul, an employee of a health insurance company based in Mbale, orchestrated the kidnapping of Dr. Olila Wilfred from Lira Hotel. He subsequently killed him and disposed of his body in Kalaki District.

Dr. Olila Wilfred was a respected member of the community. He operated New Moroto Nursing Home in Lira, specializing in ear, nose, and throat care. His violent death sent shockwaves across the region and left a lasting scar on the community he had served so devotedly.

This conviction and sentence reaffirm the justice system's

commitment to the sanctity of human life. They serve as a clear warning that those who unlawfully take life will be held accountable, firmly and without exception.

The prosecution was led by Mr. Jonathan Okello, Chief State Attorney/Regional Officer, Lira, ODPP.

3. UPDF OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO MURDER, IS CONVICTED, AND SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN PRISON

Pprivate Okello Ronald, a Uganda Peoples Defence Forces (UPDF) officer attached to the 5th Division Engineering Regiment, pleaded guilty to murder on April 16, 2026. He was convicted and sentenced by the High Court, presided over by Hon. Lady Justice Sarah Birungi, to 30 years' imprisonment.

The murder was committed violently in June 2024 in Abolonyero Village, Kole District. On June 29, 2024, Private Okello instructed his

wife, Ejang Doris, whom he suspected of being in love with Opio Geoffrey, to lure Opio Geoffrey to their home. There, Okello violently killed him, dumped his body about 100 meters away, and fled to Pader District, where he was arrested by the Police.

Private Okello Ronald was a serving member of the armed forces, entrusted with discipline, responsibility, and the lawful use of force strictly within the bounds of duty. Instead, he grossly abused that position of trust.

The 30-year sentence of imprisonment serves the purposes of punishment, deterrence, and denunciation. It reinforces the principle that no individual, regardless of rank or position, is above the law.

The prosecution was led by Mr. Jonathan Okello, Chief State Attorney / Regional Officer, Lira, ODPP.

4. TUMWESIGYE VINCENT CONVICTED OF AGGRAVATED HOMOSEXUALITY; SENTENCED TO 18 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT UNDER A PLEA BARGAIN

On April 23, 2026, the ODPP secured a successful prosecution of Tumwesigye Vincent for aggravated homosexuality. The High Court of Uganda at Kampala, presided over by Hon. Justice Isaac Muwata, convicted Vincent Tumwesigye of aggravated homosexuality and sentenced him to 18 years' imprisonment. This followed the accused's voluntary guilty plea under a plea bargain.

The evidence presented in Court revealed that the 30-year-old accused person was a security guard at the residence of the victim's parents and that the accused had inflicted patterns of sexual abuse upon a six-year-old child, BT, by relentlessly stimulating him.

The child's complaints of

pain, the mother's discovery of physical injuries, and the subsequent medical findings of trauma and wounds to the victim's genital area formed a strong evidentiary backbone. The Prosecution's evidence also showed that the Vincent Tumwesigye had repeatedly manipulated, intimidated, and abused the victim. The threats allegedly issued by the accused ranged from death threats to fantastical fears of monsters. The accused's acts caused emotional and psychological distress to the victim.

At the pretrial stage, the accused sought release on bail. However, the Court, exercising sound judicial discretion, denied the application. The matter was thus set for trial.

When the case came up for hearing on April 23, 2026, the Prosecution, led by Mr.

Timothy Amerit, Senior State Attorney in the ODPP, was fully prepared to proceed. Four witnesses were assembled and presented in Court to testify. However, in a decisive and strategic shift, the accused opted to enter into a plea bargain at the very commencement of the trial.

After an unequivocal plea and acceptance of the plea bargain agreement, Hon. Justice Isaac Muwata convicted Tumwesigye Vincent and sentenced him to 18 years' imprisonment, as agreed.

The accused's voluntary acceptance of the sentence not only expedited the conclusion of proceedings but also spared the young victim the [re-]trauma of testifying in Court.

5. JUSTICE FOR THE MURDER OF NATIONAL WATER AND SEWERAGE CORPORATION EMPLOYEE

The prosecution of Mr. Otim Innocent for the murder of Mr. Alaru Natal, an employee of National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC), concluded successfully on April 28, 2026, when the Resident Judge of the Lira High Court, Hon. Justice Sarah Birungi Kalibala, sentenced Otim Innocent to 35 years' imprisonment following a guilty plea.

The murder occurred on April 2, 2025, at 3:00 am at Obutowelo B Cell in Lira City West Division, as Mr. Alaru Natal was traveling to Lira Bus Park to board a taxi back to Moyo District.

Mr. Alaru Natal met Mr. Otim Innocent on the way, and Mr. Otim Innocent cut him severely on the head with a panga, leaving him in severe pain. Mr. Alaru Natal

was rushed to Lira Regional Referral Hospital by his neighbors, where he died shortly after arrival.

Following a search by the Police, a panga with bloodstains was recovered from Mr. Otim's house. The Government Analytical Laboratory Report confirmed that Mr. Otim used the panga to inflict injuries on the deceased.

Two backpacks containing the deceased's clothes, national identity card, driver's license, and ATM cards were also recovered from an incomplete house near Mr. Otim Innocent's house.

After the Prosecution had led evidence from 10 witnesses and after the Court had put Mr. Otim Innocent on his defence, he changed his plea and tendered a guilty plea.

Before his death, Mr. Alaru Natal had just started his job with NWSC in Lira. He left behind a young widow, whom he had just married, and a son who was one and a half years old. The violent murder of Natal was a great shock to his family, fellow workers, and the community in which he lived in Lira.

Justice, when it finally arrives in a case like this, carries a weight words can barely hold. It doesn't undo the loss or erase the pain, but it restores a measure of balance, affirming that accountability matters and that a life taken is neither forgotten nor dismissed.

Mr. Jonathan Okello, Chief State Attorney/Regional Officer, Lira, ODPP, prosecuted the case.

6. ODPP SECURES DEATH SENTENCE AGAINST CHRISTOPHER OKELLO ONYUM FOR THE MURDER OF FOUR (4) CHILDREN AT A GGABA DAYCARE CENTRE

On April 30, 2026, Chief Justice David Maraga, in a landmark judgment, sentenced Christopher Okello Onyum to death for the murder of four children at a daycare center in Ggaba. The victims' families, State Attorneys Jonathan Mwangi and Anna Kiiza, and the broader public prayed for a death sentence to be imposed on Christopher Okello Onyum, who was convicted of murdering four children at a daycare center in Ggaba.

Onyum Okello, who was convicted of murdering four children at a daycare center in Ggaba.

Hon. Justice Alice Komuhangi Khaukha considered the case to be one of the rarest of the rare and proceeded to hand down the death sentence, which was greatly appreciated by the community.

malice aforethought, the victims' families unlawfully caused the deaths of Eteku Gideon, Keisha Agenorwoth Otim, Sseruyange Ignitius, and Odeke Ryan.

The ODPP opened its case and presented the testimony of five prosecution witnesses, marking the start of what was expected to be a closely followed trial, a specially convened mobile sitting of the High Court at Ggaba, the very community where the tragic events unfolded.

The decision to hold the proceedings via a mobile Court reflected a deliberate effort to bring justice closer to the affected community. It improved access to justice, strengthened public confidence, and enabled

the victims' families to witness the judicial process firsthand. This case touched the nation's conscience deeply.

At trial, the Prosecution presented evidence of a deliberate, calculated sequence of actions preceding the attack. Evidence gathered during the investigation showed that the accused had carefully planned the offence over several days before launching a violent, sustained attack on the children at the facility.

A medical assessment confirmed that the accused was mentally fit to stand trial. At trial, the ODPP presented evidence showing that

the accused acted with malice aforethought, as evidenced by his prior planning, procurement of weapons, and the manner in which the attack was executed.

This case demonstrated the ODPP's continued commitment to ensuring that serious offences, particularly those involving the most vulnerable members of society, are prosecuted

with unmatched diligence, precision, and unwavering resolve.

7. GALIWANGO MUSA SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTED FOR MURDER AND AGGRAVATED ROBBERY DURING THE SPATE OF MASAKA MURDERS (BIJAMBIYA MURDERS) IN 2017

The prosecution of Galiwango Musa, alias Kawesi Dauda, a resident of Ntuuma Village, Kitanda Sub-county, Bukomansibi District, concluded successfully on May 21, 2026, at the High Court of Uganda in Masaka, with the presiding Judge, His Lordship Charles Kasibayo, sentencing Galiwango Musa to 45 years' imprisonment for each of the two counts of murder he was indicted for and 25

years' imprisonment for aggravated robbery.

The evidence presented in Court by the Prosecution revealed that on January 1, 2018, Galiwango Musa and Kidawalime Muhammed (now deceased), with others still at large, invaded Kyabagoma Village in Bukomansimbi District armed with sticks.

They went to the home of Ssebugwawo Denis Lumala, a retired police officer, banged on the

door, and forced entry. Galiwango found Ssebugwawo and his wife in their room and demanded money, threatening to kill him if he did not comply. Ssebugwawo asked them to check the pocket of his trousers; they found only 38,000/=-, which they took.

Ssebugwawo, unaware that Galiwango's colleagues were outside, surrounding his home, grabbed the accused, who raised an alarm. His

colleagues rushed to the bedroom and, together with Galiwango, severely assaulted Ssebugwawo while demanding more money, until he became unconscious in a pool of blood. Galiwango then asked family members for Ssebugwawo's phone, which was handed to him, and they left. Ssebugwawo was rushed to the hospital, where he died shortly after arrival.

During the scuffle, one Nabifo Nancy, a granddaughter of Ssebugwawo, was

severely assaulted by the attackers. Nabifo sustained severe injuries and was rushed to Masaka Hospital, where she died a week later.

Galiwango and Kiddawalime were arrested by the Police, confessed to committing these and many other offences in Masaka Region, and were charged in Court. However, Kiddawalime escaped from Court and was killed during another robbery, leaving only Galiwango in the case. Mr. Brian Kalinaki, Assistant

DPP/Regional Officer, Masaka, prosecuted the case.

Justice demands accountability for such deliberate criminal acts. The successful prosecution of this case has not only secured justice for the victims and their families but also reaffirmed the rule of law.

8. FOUR SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTED FOR THE 2017 MASAKA (BIJAMBIYA) MURDERS

On May 21, 2026, the ODPP registered success in the prosecution of Nakabale Innocent, Terutesa Joseph alias Lafair, Lubega Geoffrey alias Mr. O, and Galiwango Musa alias Kawesi Dauda, for the spate of murders and aggravated robbery that occurred in Masaka in 2017.

The High Court of Uganda at Masaka, presided over by His Lordship Charles Kasibayo, convicted the four accused persons of two counts of murder and one count of aggravated robbery, and sentenced them to 35 years' imprisonment on each count to run concurrently.

The Prosecution's evidence

in Court established that on the night of September 4, 2017, at Kabonera Trading Centre, the assailants attacked Geoffrey Kulabako at his music and video library, where he also operated a slot machine gaming business, and stole UGX 700,000. Armed with pangas, the attackers broke into the premises, damaged property, and assaulted him.

During the incident, Geoffrey Kulabako managed to escape and raise an alarm. Mujjumba Godfrey, who responded to the distress call, was killed at the scene, while Kulabako Ibrahim was assaulted and left in critical condition. He later died upon admission to Masaka Regional Referral Hospital.

Nakabale Innocent, Terutesa Joseph alias Lafair, Lubega Geoffrey alias Mr. O, and Galiwango Musa alias Kawesi Dauda, who were identified during the attack, were arrested by the Police and charged in Court.

Mr. Brian Kalinaki, Assistant DPP/Regional Officer, Masaka, prosecuted the case.

The successful prosecution highlights the ODPP's commitment to accountability for crimes and to delivering justice to victims and affected communities.

9. BAGABO BONIFACE CONVICTED OF MURDERING HIS WIFE, SENTENCED TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

The ODPD successfully prosecuted Bagabo Boniface (BB) for killing his wife, Ngabire Shalot. The High Court of Uganda at Wakiso sentenced him to life imprisonment on May 21, 2026.

While imposing the sentence, Hon. Lady Justice Sarah Langa Siu highlighted the importance of the rule of law in safeguarding the sanctity of the home and family, noting that the family setting is one of the foundations upon which our society rests. Such a foundation should not be turned into a trap for spouses who end up being victimized.

On the night of January 10, 2021, BB was at home with Ngabire Shalot and their two children. BB's daughter was awakened by her mother's cries for help, begging for forgiveness, before she went silent.

BB called the neighbours to come and help him, claiming that his wife had slipped in the bathroom and fallen. The neighbors arrived with the Police and found Ngabire on the bathroom floor, severely bruised and with a distinct mark around her neck.

The Prosecution presented circumstantial evidence showing that Ngabire was strangled to death, that BB was violent toward his wife, Ngabire, and that BB killed his wife.

The foundation of this conviction rested on the meticulous work of the investigators, who promptly documented the scene, secured DNA evidence and exhibits, and gathered witness testimony that reconstructed the events leading up to the offence.

The Prosecution prayed for a sentence of life imprisonment, highlighting aggravating factors such as the gruesome manner in which the offence was committed, BB's commission of the offence in the presence of his children, the premeditation of the crime, BB's attempt to conceal evidence, previous incidents of

violence against the victim, the impact of the crime on the children and extended family, and breach of marital trust, among others.

After considering both the aggravating and mitigating factors of the case, the Court upheld the Prosecution's prayer and

imposed a sentence of life imprisonment.

The ODPP continues to play a central role in upholding the rule of law, protecting vulnerable victims, ensuring the sanctity of societal relations and units, and ensuring that those who commit grave offences are

brought to justice.

Mr. Wamibu Anthony, Senior State Attorney, and Ms. Precious Atuhire, State Attorney at the ODPP, prosecuted the matter.

10. BANK OFFICIAL SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTED FOR CORRUPTION

The prosecution of Ijuka Marvin, a Credit Officer at Equity Bank, for corruption concluded on June 16, 2026, when His Worship Mujuni Paul of the Anti-Corruption Court convicted Ijuka Marvin and sentenced him to 12 months' imprisonment.

Between June and October 2019, Ijuka Marvin and Kamwebaze Caroline used their offices to irregularly process several transfers from bank accounts, including the account of Kobusingye Mercy, the owner of Victory Junior Primary and Nursery School, who lost UGX 52,750,000 in this fraud. The funds were transferred to the account of one Tumwine

Micheal using journal vouchers that facilitate inter-account transfers. The duo used these vouchers, purporting that they had been authorized by the bank customer, when they were not.

When Kobusingye Mercy checked her account, she noticed suspicious activity, including several unauthorized debits, and reported it to the bank management.

Investigations and audits revealed that both Ijuka Marvin and Kamwebaze Caroline had irregularly processed transfers to the account of Tumwine Michael without the necessary authorization.

The Police arrested Ijuka

Martin and Kamwebaze Caroline, and the ODPP charged them with causing financial loss. At the start of the trial, Caroline Kamwebaze entered into a plea bargain agreement and was convicted accordingly.

Ijuka Marvin went through the full trial and, in February 2026, absconded from appearing in Court during his defence. The Court issued a warrant for his arrest, but he disappeared. Because his conduct made it impracticable for the trial to proceed in his presence, the Court dispensed with his appearance and set the matter for judgment.

Ijuka Marvin was convicted in absentia and

sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment. Under the Anti-Corruption Act, he is disqualified from holding any public office for 10 years from the date of his conviction.

Although the convict has not yet been apprehended and remains the subject of an arrest warrant, his conviction and

sentence make clear that individuals cannot evade responsibility for criminal conduct by avoiding the judicial process. The ODPP will continue to work closely with law enforcement agencies to ensure that the convict is arrested and brought before the Court to serve his sentence.

This case was prosecuted by Ms. Abigail Agaba, Chief State Attorney, Anti-Corruption Department, ODPP.

DPP UGANDA, MR. LINO ANGUZU ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE EASTERN AFRICA ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTORS



Mr. Lino Anguzu, the DPP of Uganda, was elected President of the Eastern Africa Association of Prosecutors at the Association's 11th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference, held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The Association, which brings together heads of national prosecution authorities from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, DRC, South Sudan, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, Somalia, Sudan, and Seychelles, held its AGM and Conference from May 4 to May 5, 2026, under the theme: **"Leveraging Technology in Combating Wildlife and Transnational Organized Crime."** The AGM was marked by the election of a new Executive Committee, during which the DPP of Uganda, Mr. Lino Anguzu,

was elected as the Association's President, taking over the leadership mantle from Mr. Renson M. Ingonga, the DPP of Kenya, who assumed the role of Secretary General of the Association.

The other Executive Committee members include: Ms. Angelique Habyarimana, the Prosecutor General of Rwanda, and Mr. Firmin Mvonde Mambu, the Prosecutor General of DRC, as Vice Presidents;

Mr. Sylvester Mwakitalu, DPP of Tanzania, as Treasurer; Mr. America Letela, Attorney General of Mozambique, as General Counsel; and Mr. Gilbert A. Phiri, DPP of Zambia, as an Executive Committee member.

At the same AGM, Zanzibar was admitted to the Association as a Member.

In his remarks, the new EAAP President, Mr. Lino Anguzu, thanked the

outgoing committee for making significant strides in steering the Association, pledged to build on its achievements to advance the Association, and called for members' increased commitment, support, and participation in Association activities.

ANNUAL PROSECUTORS' SYMPOSIUM 2026



The ODPP convened the Annual Prosecutors' Symposium (APS) 2026 on May 25, 26, and 28 at Hotel Africana in Kampala under the theme: **"Enhancing Professionalism for Responsive Prosecution Services."**

The DPP, Mr. Lino Anguzu, welcomed the Chief Guest, Ms. Lucy Nakyobe Mbonye, Head of Public Service/Secretary to Cabinet and thanked her for officiating at the Symposium, noting that her presence reflected the importance of prosecution in Uganda's governance framework.

He also recognized the participation of a delegation from the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation, highlighting the value of international cooperation and shared learning.

The DPP expressed appreciation to development partners, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), International Development Law Organization (IDLO), International Justice Mission (IJM), Redeem International, and the Human Trafficking Institute (HTI), for their continued support in strengthening prosecutorial capacity.

Mr. Anguzu further urged Prosecutors to be responsive, emphasizing timely decision-making, effective communication, and sensitivity to victims and communities. He reminded Prosecutors

and urged Prosecutors to continually build capacity in areas such as cybercrime, financial investigations, and victim-centered approaches.

The Symposium was



Mr. Lino Anguzu, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

In his remarks, Mr. Anguzu emphasized that the theme, **"Enhancing Professionalism for Responsive Prosecution Services,"** directly addressed public expectations of justice. He called on Prosecutors to uphold professionalism by demonstrating independence, fairness, integrity, accountability, and a commitment to the public interest.

that behind every case file is a human being and called for a justice system that is both firm and humane. The DPP cautioned that a lack of professionalism undermines justice, erodes public trust, and weakens the credibility of institutions.

He also highlighted the evolving nature of crime

officially opened by the Head of Public Service and Secretary to Cabinet, Ms. Lucy Nakyobe Mbonye, whose presence underscored the critical role of prosecution in national development and governance.

Ms. Nakyobe commended Prosecutors for their professionalism, smartness, and for



***Ms. Lucy Nakyobe Mbonye,
HEAD OF PUBLIC
SERVICE/SECRETARY
TO CABINET***

portraying the true image of what a Prosecutor should represent in society. She reminded Prosecutors that the office they hold carries immense power and responsibility, particularly in determining matters that greatly impact people's lives and liberty. She emphasized that such authority must always be exercised with fairness, caution, and integrity, and in the

interest of justice.

Ms. Nakyobe further urged Prosecutors to shun corruption, uphold the highest ethical standards, and remain committed to delivering justice for the people of Uganda.

The 2026 APS brought together Prosecutors from across Uganda, justice sector actors, and international partners to reflect, learn, and strengthen collaboration in delivering justice.

Ms. Winnie Jeptum Bargoria, Head of Office,

UNODC Uganda, commended the ODPP for convening one of the most substantive platforms on Uganda's justice calendar, which creates space for candid, practitioner-level exchange that directly shapes how prosecution evolves in practice.

At her first Symposium as Head of Office, Ms. Bargoria congratulated DPP Lino Anguzu on his appointment and reaffirmed UNODC's commitment to deepening its long-standing partnership with

the ODPP.

Ms. Bargarioria emphasized UNODC's global mandate: supporting fair, effective, and accountable justice systems through technical assistance and international standards.

Ms. Barbara Kilei, Country Manager, IDLO, noted that the theme highlighted the fundamental role Prosecutors play in ensuring that victims' voices and stories are presented clearly, accurately, and fairly in Court.



Ms. Winnie Bargarioria Jeptum, HEAD OF OFFICE, UNODC

She further applauded the collaboration between IDLO and the ODPP, particularly in implementing community barazas to engage citizens on criminal justice issues, promote public awareness, and strengthen confidence in the justice system.

She emphasized that professionalism extends beyond technical competence. She noted that true professionalism is rooted in fairness, integrity, accountability, and responsiveness to the needs of the people the justice system serves.

Ms. Wamaitha Kimani, Country Manager, IJM, highlighted the urgent need to strengthen justice for survivors of violence against women and children.

"Since 2022, ODPP and IJM have partnered to enhance the prosecution of Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) cases by building



Ms. Barbara Kilei, COUNTRY MANAGER, IDLO

Prosecutors' capacity, improving coordination, and increasing public confidence in the justice system. This partnership focuses on delivering trauma-informed, survivor-centered justice and ensuring dignity, professionalism, and accountability at every stage of the process," she said.

Ms. Gabby Massey, Country Director of the HTI, commended the ODPP for its steadfast commitment to justice and for its partnership in



Ms. Wamaitha Kimani, COUNTRY MANAGER, IJM

combating trafficking in persons. She expressed gratitude to the ODPP leadership under Mr. Lino Anguzu, highlighting the Office's professionalism and dedication to strengthening prosecution services throughout the justice system.

Ms. Massey also underscored the importance of collaboration, noting the role of Regional Response Teams in Mbale, Gulu, Mbarara, and Kampala in strengthening case coordination and survivor support. She concluded by encouraging participants to use the Symposium as a platform for learning and collaboration, urging continued commitment to professional, responsive,



Ms. Gabby Massey, COUNTRY DIRECTOR, HTI

and effective prosecution services.

Mr. Woniaye Paul, Director of Program Management at Redeem International, delivered remarks emphasizing

the importance of orphans from land grabbing professionalism in and related injustices. prosecution. Drawing on He noted that each Redeem International's successful prosecution and work, Mr. Paul every act of diligence by underscored the critical Prosecutors strengthens role Prosecutors' play in public confidence in the protecting widows and justice system and restores



Mr. Paul Woniaye, DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM MANAGEMENT, REDEEM INTERNATIONAL

He also commended the ODPP for strengthening professionalism through tools and learning, which promotes consistency and quality in prosecutorial practice.

As the Symposium

officially closed, the Deputy Solicitor General, Mr. Charles Ouma, congratulated the ODPP on successfully organizing the event. He reminded Prosecutors that their decisions greatly affect the lives of ordinary citizens

and emphasized the need for fairness, justice and professionalism in carrying out their duties.

8TH JOAN KAGEZI MEMORIAL LECTURE



The ODPP held its 8th Joan Kagezi Memorial Lecture at

Speke Resort Munyonyo, in honour of the late Joan Kagezi, a respected and dedicated Prosecutor who lost her life in the line of duty. The event was held under the theme: **"Prosecution as**

a Catalyst for Economic Transformation, Safety and Public Trust."

In a message delivered on his behalf by the Chief Justice, Hon. Justice Dr. Flavian Zeija, H.E. the President of Uganda, Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, described Joan Kagezi as a patriot who

courageously defended society against criminals, terrorists, corrupt actors, and enemies of peace.

"When Prosecutors stand firm against terrorism, organized crime, corruption, money laundering, human trafficking, and impunity, they are not merely enforcing the law—they



are defending Uganda itself. That is why criminals feared Joan Kagezi. They believed they could intimidate the criminal justice system through violence and fear," the President's message noted.

The President further observed that while her assassination was intended to instil fear within the justice system, it instead strengthened the resolve of Prosecutors and justice actors. He commended the officers involved in the

investigation, prosecution and trial of the suspects in the Kagezi murder, noting that tangible progress had been achieved.

"Criminal investigations are not like fiction. You do not wake up and

manufacture evidence. Serious investigations require public cooperation, intelligence, patience, professionalism, and persistence. Eventually, the truth comes out," he added.



Hon. Justice Dr. Flavian Zeija, Chief Justice



Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo, PRINCIPAL JUDGE

The Keynote Speaker, the Principal Judge, Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo, emphasized that professional, diligent prosecution is critical to promoting peace, security, and economic growth. She noted that effective prosecution builds investor confidence and strengthens the social contract between government and citizens. "Crimes such as corruption, terrorism financing, and financial crimes drain the national budget, deter investors, and undermine trust in governance. Investors

assess several factors before committing resources, including the effectiveness of justice systems in prosecuting and punishing wrongdoing," she remarked.

She urged the ODPP to strengthen Prosecution-

Guided Investigations, embrace technology, and invest in continuous professional development to effectively respond to emerging crime trends.

The DPP, Mr. Lino Anguzu, paid tribute to Joan Kagezi, describing her as a fearless servant of justice whose legacy continues to inspire Prosecutors across Uganda and beyond.

"If her assassination on March 30, 2015, was intended to instil fear in the justice system and silence those who defend the rule of law, then it failed. More than a decade later, her



Mr. Lino Anguzu, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS



Mr. Phillip Kagezi

legacy has only grown stronger," he said.

He noted that the ongoing trials and conviction of her assailants represent a significant breakthrough in a case that had remained unresolved for nearly a decade.

"It communicates a strong message to the public: that justice may be delayed, but it can never be denied," he added.

Mr. Anguzu also expressed appreciation to H.E. the President for

the continued support extended to the ODPP, including support to staff SACCO initiatives, salary enhancements, and tax exemptions. He, however, called for increased government support to enable the recruitment of more

Prosecutors, particularly in underserved areas, to support the Judiciary in addressing case backlog and delays.

Speaking on behalf of the family, Mr. Philip Kagezi commended the ODPP and the Government for sustaining the memorial lecture.

"The people who occupy offices also occupy history. We thank you for continuing this memorial lecture, as it stands as a living testimony to her outstanding service to the nation," he said.

In his remarks, he emphasized that justice is not separate from



development but rather a foundation upon which development is built.

"A trustworthy justice system creates

who organized and participated in the event. They described Joan Kagezi not only as a Prosecutor but also

Three panellists, including Hon. Justice Vincent Wagana, Judge of the High Court; Mr. Lino Anguzu, DPP; and Mr. Moses Bekabye, Technical Advisor for Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development discussed the theme of the lecture, expounding on the keynote speech.



confidence, allowing businesses to flourish and citizens to believe once again in the promise of their country," he noted. The Kagezi family expressed heartfelt appreciation to the ODPP and all stakeholders

as a compassionate advocate for migrants' rights, working tirelessly to ensure justice for vulnerable communities. They noted that her untimely passing was a profound loss to both her family and the nation.

Hon. Lady Justice Jane Frances Abodo received an award from H.E. the President in recognition of her exceptional leadership and transformative impact on the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the administration of Criminal Justice in Uganda.







STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS AND COLLABORATIONS

1. ODPP AND IJM ENGAGE TO STRENGTHEN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM'S PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN UGANDA



On April 7, 2026, a productive engagement was held between the ODPP and IJM to discuss key challenges in investigating and prosecuting cases of Gender-Based Violence against women and children. The focus was on improving case management, ensuring survivor-centered, trauma-informed approaches, and strengthening the criminal justice system to better respond to crime, with a focus on protecting women and children. The meeting provided a platform to collaboration among justice actors throughout the criminal justice process.

Ms. Wamaitha Kimani, the Country Director of IJM, noted that IJM's collaboration with the ODPP aims to strengthen the criminal justice system to better respond to crime, with a focus on protecting women and children. The meeting provided a platform to collaboration among justice actors throughout the criminal justice process.

violence against women and children; reduce the prevalence of these crimes; improve the ODPP's performance; and increase public confidence and reliance on the ODPP.

Mr. Lino Anguzu, the DPP, highlighted his plan to develop a more professional and responsive prosecution service that fosters public trust. He stressed the importance of prioritizing efforts against Gender-Based Violence, which

accounts for the majority of cases in the criminal justice system.

Both parties reaffirmed their commitment to promoting accountability, expanding access to justice for vulnerable populations, and building a more responsive and effective justice system in Uganda.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Odumbi James Owere, Deputy DPP; Ms. Samali Wakooli,

Assistant DPP/Head of the Department of Gender, Children and Sexual Offences; Ms. Vicky Nabisenke, Assistant DPP; Dr. Lillian Ayebare, Program Measurement Manager, IJM; and Mr. Byron Mwanje, Justice System Program Manager, IJM.

Together, we work toward a safer society where women and children are protected and justice is upheld.



2. ODPD ADVANCES DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AGENDA



On April 8, 2026, Tucungwire, the Principal the Office. the ODPD Policy Analyst, among held a high-level strategic

meeting to review progress on ongoing digital transformation initiatives to strengthen institutional efficiency and service delivery. The engagement reaffirmed a shared commitment to modernizing prosecutorial processes by adopting technology-driven solutions to enhance accountability, coordination, and overall performance. Central to the discussions was the continued implementation of an integrated case management system to streamline workflows and support more effective handling of matters across the Office.

While significant strides have been made toward this vision, discussions acknowledged that the transition to a fully digital environment is complex and requires deliberate, sustained effort. It was observed that, as with any large-scale institutional reform, implementation is being undertaken in phases, with ongoing efforts to align systems, processes, and user capacity.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Lino Anguzu, the DPP; Ms. Aminah Zawedde, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of ICT and National Guidance; Ms. Agnes Kainza Nzogi, the Permanent Secretary, ODPD; Mr. Odumbi James Owere, the Deputy DPP; and Ms. Viola The engagement

further underscored the importance of continuous capacity development and user support to ensure



were identified as key and service excellence.

It was recognized that sustainable transformation will be achieved through continuous improvement, institutional ownership, and a collective commitment to delivering a modern, responsive, and effective prosecution service.

that all staff are adequately equipped to use digital tools effectively. Enhancing institutional awareness of digital solutions, guided and fostering a culture of adaptability and innovation

The Office reiterated its commitment to a phased, strategic implementation of digital solutions, guided by the principles of efficiency, accountability,

3. THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS HOSTS ED-UCC FOR HIGH-LEVEL ENGAGEMENT ON CYBERCRIME



On May 15, 2026, the DPP, Mr. Lino Anguzu, hosted the Executive Director of Uganda Communications Commission (UCC), Mr. Nyombi Thembo, for a high-level engagement to strengthen collaboration in addressing cybercrime and communication-related offences in Uganda.

During the meeting, both the ODPP and UCC reaffirmed their commitment to joint efforts in enforcement, digital forensics, capacity building, and the prosecution of cybercrime. With over 50 million SIM cards in use across Uganda, the communications sector remains central to national development and security. The ODPP and the UCC are strengthening their cooperation to combat misinformation, disinformation, and cybercrime. The DPP commended UCC for its continued support for the enforcement of communication laws and emphasized the importance of technology and innovation in modern criminal justice systems.

Since UCC lawyers were licensed in 2018, more than 100 communication-related cases have been successfully prosecuted, with most resulting in convictions. This milestone reflects growing institutional collaboration to safeguard Uganda's digital space.

to deepen cooperation enforcement mechanisms
 The meeting concluded to tackle emerging cyber across Uganda.
 with a shared commitment threats and to strengthen



4. ODPP STRENGTHENS COOPERATION WITH THE PROSECUTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION



On May 26, 2026, the ODPP hosted a delegation from the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation, for a dinner, where the DPP, Mr. Lino Anguzu, expressed appreciation for the delegation's engagement and their willingness to share expertise. He noted that the visit had significantly strengthened ties between the two offices and underscored the importance of international cooperation in combating transnational crimes, including cybercrime, terrorism, and financial fraud. The DPP concluded by proposing a toast to a strong and enduring partnership between Uganda and the Russian Federation.

The delegation, led by Tatyana Pankova, Senior Prosecutor, had earlier in the day facilitated a session at the Annual Prosecutors' Symposium

2026 at Hotel Africana, where they shared insights into the Organisation and operations of the Prosecutor General's Office of the Russian Federation. The session provided a valuable platform for exchanging experiences and prosecution practices, enhancing professional knowledge and fostering mutual learning between the two institutions.

As a significant milestone in this engagement, Mr. Lino Anguzu, and the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation, Mr. Aleksandr Vladimirovich Gutsan, formally signed a Cooperation Agreement to

strengthen collaboration in the fight against crime.

The agreement marks a major step forward in joint efforts to combat serious and organised transnational crimes, including those involving digital currency and financial assets, terrorism, extremism, money laundering, and the trafficking of arms, drugs, and persons.

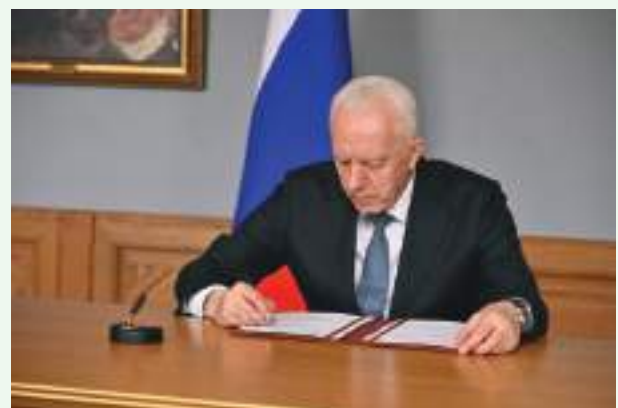
By establishing a framework for cooperation in areas such as extradition, mutual legal assistance, law enforcement collaboration, and information sharing,

the two prosecution authorities have laid a strong foundation for a stronger partnership. The agreement will facilitate the sharing of expertise, the exchange of evidence, and coordinated efforts to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice, thereby upholding the rule of law across jurisdictions.

This collaboration reflects the shared commitment of both Offices to strengthening global justice systems through cooperation, capacity building, and accountability in an increasingly interconnected world.



Mr. Lino Anguzu, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS, UGANDA



Mr. Aleksandr Vladimirovich, PROSECUTOR GENERAL, RUSSIAN FEDERATION

5. HUMAN TRAFFICKING INSTITUTE PAYS A COURTESY CALL ON THE DPP



The Vice of mutual interest and Mr. Lino Anguzu President of cooperation. appreciated the visit and Programs of the the goodwill extended to HTI, Mr. Tyler During the visit, Mr. Tyler the staff, reaffirming the Dunman, and the Country Dunman conveyed warm office's commitment to Director of the HTI, Ms. greetings to the ODPP collaboration in pursuit of Gabby Massey, on June staff and commended its mandate. 15, 2026, paid a courtesy their dedication and call on the DPP, Mr. Lino commitment to the Anguzu. They held cordial administration of justice. discussions on matters

6. DPP HOSTS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION



The DPP hosted The Commission further gender and equity a team from applauded the ODPP's challenges. They pledged the Equal ongoing efforts and to enhance inclusiveness, Opportunities operational commitment improve justice Commission (EOC), led by toadvancinginclusiveness. delivery, and promote EOC Secretary Dr. Shaft The Commission a fair, transparent, and Nasser Mukwaya, at the recognized the vital role responsive justice system ODPP headquarters on of the ODPP in promoting that ensures equal access May 15, 2026. During the access to justice and to justice for all Ugandans. meeting, Dr. Shaft Nasser delivering effective Mukwaya commended prosecution services the ODPP for its notable across the country. progress in integrating gender and equity Both the EOC and considerations into its the ODPP reaffirmed planning and budgeting their commitment to strengthening processes. to strengthening collaboration to address



ODPP COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

ODPP COMMUNITY BARAZAS STRENGTHEN PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ON JUSTICE



MBARARA COMMUNITY BARAZA

The ODPP, in partnership with IDLO and the Kingdom of the Netherlands organized a baraza in Mbarara Region on April 14, 2026, at Global High School, Mbarara City. The baraza was held under the theme: **"Tackling Gender-Based Violence, Land Crimes, and Refugee Protection."** The baraza served as a platform for the public to raise concerns and provide constructive feedback. The event aimed at highlighting a shared commitment to strengthening justice, protecting vulnerable communities, and promoting the rule of law. Regional Officer Martin Rukundo delivered remarks at the baraza, welcoming the community to a dialogue focused on justice, collaboration, and solutions. He appreciated



Mr. Martin Rukundo, Asst. DPP/REGIONAL OFFICER, MBARARA

the team from the ODPP and partners for organizing the engagement and highlighted the importance of bringing justice services closer to the people. Addressing rising concerns about Gender-Based Violence and land crimes, he called for collective action to promote peace and harmony in communities across Mbarara City.

Representing the IDLO Country Director, Mr. Samson Asiimwe, the Programme Manager at IDLO, highlighted the

Organisation's decade-long commitment to the rule of law in Uganda, urged stakeholders to pursue justice without

perpetuating injustice, and pledged to follow up on all concerns raised during the baraza. He also recognized and appreciated the Kingdom of the Netherlands for the enormous support that has enabled IDLO to foster the rule of law in Uganda through various partnerships.

Mr. George William Byansi, Deputy DPP, stated that the purpose of the baraza was to hear from people in the region and urged them to take advantage



Mr. Samson Asiimwe, PROGRAMME MANAGER, IDLO



Mr. George William Byansi, DEPUTY DPP

of the event. He educated attendees on the mandate and work of the ODPP. He also acknowledged Mbarara's rapid growth and the associated rise in crime rates, assured that ODPP offices are always open, and invited people to walk in with their concerns.

Representing the DPP, Deputy DPP John Baptist Asiimwe reaffirmed the ODPP's commitment to the public, pledging to address understaffing and case

backlogs. He clarified that the office prosecutes criminal land matters



Mr. John Baptist Asiimwe, DEPUTY DPP

and combats corruption through patriotism and integrity. He also educated the community about the ODPP's mandate, functions, and role.

Members of the public were able to raise concerns and grievances about legal disputes they face in the justice system. The concerns raised include land disputes, domestic violence, and prolonged case disposal, among others.

KALANGALA BARAZAS



On 28 and 29 April 2026, the ODPP, in partnership with the IDLO and the Kingdom of the Netherlands, held two community barazas in Kalangala District at Kibanga Playground and Kyagalanyi Landing Site.

The engagements, themed **“Tackling Gender-Based Violence, Land Crimes, and Refugee Protection,”** provided a platform for justice sector actors and the community to discuss access to justice, protection of vulnerable groups, and the rule of law.

Mr. Kalinaki Brian, Assistant DPP and ODPP Regional Officer for Masaka, noted that Kalangala's unique geographical setting presents challenges across the justice chain, affecting the timely and effective delivery of justice services.

Mr. Fred Badda, Resident District Commissioner (RDC) for Kalangala, welcomed the barazas as a demonstration of Government's commitment to bringing services closer to the people. He highlighted the relevance of the theme to Kalangala, particularly in view of the rising cases of Gender-Based Violence, land disputes, and the growing refugee population attracted partly by fishing opportunities. He called for greater guidance on alternative dispute resolution in land conflicts and noted that effective criminal justice delivery has strengthened public



Mr. Brian Kalinaki, ASST. DPP/REGIONAL OFFICER, MASAKA

confidence in justice sector institutions.

SP Hillary Nuhwereza, District Police Commander, commended the strong collaboration between the ODPP and Police, emphasizing that effective coordination between

witness protection.

Her Worship Alleluya Gloria, Chief Magistrate of Kalangala, observed that strong cooperation among criminal justice institutions has improved service delivery. She noted, however, that Kalangala's numerous islands make it difficult to secure witness attendance in Court. She commended the Judiciary for providing a speedboat, which has improved access to



Mr. Fred Badda, RDC KALANGALA

Investigators and Prosecutors is critical to the administration of justice. He also highlighted challenges relating to

communities by justice sector actors.

Mr. Samson Asiimwe, Programme Manager at IDLO, explained that IDLO's work focuses on the rule of law and promotion of justice. He commended the unity among justice sector actors in Kalangala and encouraged the community to use the baraza to deepen their understanding of the justice system.

Mr. Odumbi James Owere, representing the DPP, thanked IDLO and the Kingdom of the



Her Worship Alleluya Gloria, CHIEF MAGISTRATE, KALANGALA

Netherlands for supporting the engagements. He described the ODPP as a gatekeeper of justice and representative of crime victims, while emphasizing Prosecutors' duty to act fairly in the interests

of suspects and the wider community. He stressed the State's responsibility to protect innocent persons and ensure impartial and effective justice. He also urged complainants and witnesses to follow up their cases and attend Court, noting that their participation is essential to achieving justice. He highlighted the persistence of land-related crimes, called for greater stakeholder cooperation, and addressed concerns relating to refugees in



Mr. Odumbi James Owere, DEPUTY DPP

the district.

During the public plenary sessions, community members raised concerns about access to justice, the administration of criminal justice, and the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence. They called for sustained intervention and stronger enforcement by justice

more thorough ground-level inquiries to improve the quality and credibility of investigations.

The barazas provided an important platform for direct engagement between communities and justice sector actors, promoting transparency, legal awareness, accountability, and public confidence in the justice

Public Relations Officer of the ODPP, expressed appreciation to IDLO and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for their generous support and funding, which enabled the successful implementation of the community engagements.



sector actors and urged investigators to conduct

system.

Ms. Jacquelyn Okui,

Ms. Jacquelyn Okui, PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER

CAPACITY BUILDING

A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS AS STATE ATTORNEYS UNDERGO INDUCTION IN MBARARA



The ODPP successfully conducted a week-long induction programme for 38 newly recruited State Attorneys from 13–17 April 2026 at Las Vegas Hotel, Mbarara. The programme was designed to equip the new Prosecutors with the knowledge, skills and values required to

effectively discharge their constitutional mandate.

The induction was officially opened by the DPP, Mr. Lino Anguzu, who welcomed the new officers into public service and reminded them that prosecution demands not only legal competence but also unwavering integrity and

character. He urged them to embrace the guiding principles of devotion to the cause, dedication to duty and discipline in conduct.

Addressing the participants, Deputy DPP Mr. John Baptist Asiimwe encouraged the new Prosecutors to remain committed to continuous learning and to always remember that the victim of crime is their primary client.

Permanent Secretary management, quality Ms. Agnes Kainza assurance, appeals, asset Nzogi emphasised that recovery, environmental Prosecutors are ministers and wildlife crimes, land



of justice whose conduct reflects the values and reputation of the Office. She also acknowledged the support of the IDLO in making the induction possible.

Throughout the programme, participants received practical training from senior Prosecutors, judicial officers and development partners on a wide range of topics, including prosecution-guided investigations, criminal trial procedures, plea bargaining, complaints

crimes, anti-corruption, trafficking in persons, Sexual and Gender-Based violence, child justice, and the use of the Prosecution Case Management Information System (PROCAMIS).

These sessions reinforced the importance of evidence-based prosecution, professionalism, ethical decision-making, inter-agency collaboration and victim-centred justice.

The induction concluded with remarks delivered by Mr. James Odumbi Owere

on behalf of the DPP. He congratulated the newly appointed State Attorneys, commended their active participation throughout the programme and expressed appreciation to IDLO and the Kingdom of the Netherlands for supporting the initiative.

The programme ended with the award of certificates and a celebratory cake-cutting ceremony, marking the beginning of the new Prosecutors' journey in public service. As they assumed their responsibilities, they carried forward the ODPP's enduring commitment to integrity, professionalism and the fair administration of justice, guided by the principle that "suspicion, however strong, can never form the basis of a successful prosecution."

PROSECUTORS' CORNER

INSIDE THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS; HOW CASES BEGIN AND PROGRESS THROUGH COURT

An article by Kulu Idambi John Boniface
Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions
(Department of Appeals and Miscellaneous
Applications)



INTRODUCTION

The criminal justice system is a chain of institutions and actors who perform distinct but interconnected functions in the investigation, prosecution, adjudication, and enforcement of criminal offences.

KEY PLAYERS IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

The key players in the criminal justice system include, but are not limited to, the following:

- The Office of the Director of Public

Prosecutions .

- The Judiciary.
- The Uganda Police Force.
- The Uganda Prisons Service.
- The Uganda Law Society.
- Other institutions and persons involved in the administration of criminal justice.

The Police have a constitutional duty to arrest suspects and to prefer criminal charges against them. Police officers hand over police files to officers in the Office of the Director

of Public Prosecutions, commonly referred to as State Attorneys or State Prosecutors. These officers have delegated authority to sanction criminal charges and to provide legal guidance by directing the Police to carry out further inquiries or, where the evidence is insufficient, to close and put away files.

When the evidence is sufficient, a criminal charge or charges are sanctioned, and the suspect is taken to Court to answer the charges and enter a plea.

Judicial officers, including Magistrates, Registrars, and Judges, preside over criminal cases. Because they cannot hear all cases in a single day, the Court may, depending on the circumstances and the applicable law, remand an accused person to custody or consider an application for bail.

When accused persons are remanded to prison, prison officers have a duty to keep them in safe custody and produce them before the Court as and when required, including for mention, upon production warrants, or for trial.

WHAT ARE THE STAGES OF CRIMINAL PROSECUTION?

The following are the principal stages through which a criminal case may pass, from the initial complaint to its conclusion:

1. REPORTING OF A COMPLAINT AND POLICE INVESTIGATIONS

A complaint is reported to the Police by the complainant or victim and is registered. The Police investigate the complaint, prefer appropriate charges where the evidence supports them, and forward the police file to the officers in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, including Resident State Attorneys or Resident State Prosecutors at the district level.

Under Article 120 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, the DPP exercises

prosecutorial functions and may direct the Police to investigate information of a criminal nature. The State Attorney or State Prosecutor peruses the police file and may direct further investigations where necessary. If the evidence is sufficient, a charge or charges are sanctioned and the suspect is taken before a Court of competent jurisdiction to take plea.

2. THE CHARGE SHEET

An accused person who is alleged to have committed an offence is charged by the State and produced before a Court of law with jurisdiction. For example: UGANDA v. SAMUEL MOSES OBBO. The Police assign the file a Criminal Register Book (CRB) number. The charge sheet sets out the statement of the offence and the particulars of the

offence alleged to have been committed.

3. READING OF THE CHARGES

When an accused person first appears before a Court of law with jurisdiction, the Court reads and explains the charge or charges to him or her. The accused is required to plead to the charge or charges. The charge must be explained in a language that the accused person understands. Depending on the plea and the nature of the offence, the Court may proceed with the case or make appropriate orders concerning custody and bail.

4. PLEA TAKING

When the trial is before a Magistrate's Court with jurisdiction, the accused may plead guilty or not guilty. A guilty plea is

recorded when the accused admits the charge, while a not guilty

plea is recorded when the accused denies it.

When the offence is bailable, the Magistrate explains the accused's right to apply for bail. If the accused is not granted bail or the offence is not bailable under the applicable law, the accused may be remanded in custody.

If the accused pleads guilty, the Prosecution reads the brief facts of the case. The Court then asks the accused whether the facts are true. If the facts are admitted and show the charged offence, the Court may enter a conviction based on the accused's guilty plea. The Court then hears submissions on aggravating and mitigating factors before passing sentence.

5. THE PROSECUTION CASE

If the accused pleads not guilty or otherwise denies the charge, a hearing date is set and the trial begins. The Prosecution calls witnesses and presents evidence in support of the charges.

The accused person or their advocate has the right to cross-examine Prosecution witnesses. Witnesses may include victims or complainants, police officers who arrested the accused, Scene-of-Crime Officers (SoCO), investigating officers, medical practitioners, expert witnesses, dog handlers, and other relevant witnesses.

After cross-examination, the Prosecution may re-examine a witness on matters arising from cross-examination.

6. RULING ON A PRIMA

FACIE CASE — NO CASE TO ANSWER

After the Prosecution has concluded its case, the Court considers whether the Prosecution has established a prima facie case requiring the accused to be put on his or her defence.

If no prima facie case is established, the accused is acquitted in accordance with the applicable law. If a prima facie case is established, the accused is called upon to enter a defence.

7. THE DEFENCE CASE

An accused generally has options as to how to present a defence. The accused may give evidence on oath and be subject to cross-examination; may make an unsworn

statement, in which case the applicable law governs whether cross-examination follows; or may elect to remain silent.

The accused has the right to call witnesses in support of the defence. An accused may also be represented by an advocate of their choice or conduct the defence personally, subject to the law. Where legal representation is required or provided by the State, a lawyer may be assigned on State brief.

8. FILING OF SUBMISSIONS AND JUDGMENT

After the defence case, where the accused is represented by an advocate, the Court may direct the parties to file written submissions

within a specified period. Where the accused is unrepresented, the Court may proceed to consider the evidence and deliver judgment without written submissions.

The Court considers the evidence on record and determines whether the Prosecution has proved the case to the required standard. Depending on the evidence, the Court may acquit or convict the accused.

9. ALLOCUTUS — MITIGATION

When the Court convicts the accused, it considers aggravating and mitigating factors before sentencing. The Prosecution presents aggravating circumstances, while the accused or the accused's advocate may present mitigating circumstances.

Mitigating factors may include being a first offender, being the sole breadwinner, showing remorse, pleading guilty where appropriate, or saving the Court's time. The circumstances of each case determine the weight to be given to such factors.

10. SENTENCING AND OTHER ORDERS

After considering the aggravating and mitigating factors, the Court passes an appropriate sentence in accordance with the law. The Court may also make consequential orders, including compensation, restitution or return of stolen property, disposal of exhibits, or other lawful orders.

Where the Court imposes a custodial sentence, it issues the appropriate

order for the convict to be received by the Uganda Prisons Service for safe custody and to serve the sentence imposed by the Court.

11. RIGHT OF APPEAL

The right of appeal arises at the conclusion of the case for a party who is legally entitled to challenge the decision of the Court. The trial Court explains the applicable right and period for appeal. Depending on the Court from which the decision arises and the applicable law, an appeal may proceed to the Chief Magistrate, High Court, Court of Appeal, or Supreme Court.

The applicable statutory time limits and requirements for filing an appeal must be observed.

CONCLUSION

The Criminal Justice System is a chain involving different players who perform complementary functions. Courts do not ordinarily commence criminal proceedings on their own motion. The gateway to criminal proceedings is the State through the Prosecution, ordinarily acting through the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, subject to the law governing private prosecutions.

The chain may therefore be understood broadly as beginning with the reporting and investigation of an alleged offence by the Police, followed by legal review and prosecutorial direction or sanction, commencement of proceedings before a competent Court, plea taking, trial, determination

of whether there is a case to answer, defence, judgment, mitigation, sentencing and, where applicable, appeal.

Where a person is convicted and sentenced to imprisonment, the

Court directs that the convict be received into prison to serve the sentence. The effective administration of criminal justice therefore

depends on cooperation among the Police, the Office of the Director of

Public Prosecutions, the Judiciary, the Uganda Prisons Service, Defence Lawyers and other relevant actors.

PICTORIAL

ANNUAL PROSECUTORS' SYMPOSIUM







INDUCTION OF STATE ATTORNEYS IN MBARARA





ODPP COMMUNITY BARAZAS







THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS (ODPP) HAS RELOCATED ITS

HEADQUARTERS



JLOS TOWERS

TOWER 2, 4TH-6TH FLOOR

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) has relocated its headquarters from Plot 1, Pilkington Road, Workers' House, to JLOS Towers, **Tower 2, 4th-6th Floor**, Plot 98-102, Katalima Road, Naguru, Kampala.



0800112300



www.dpp.go.ug

#ODPPUGANDA



VISION

"A crime free society."

MISSION

To provide professional and responsive prosecution services that promote public trust and contribute to national transformation.

GOAL

To streamline prosecution services to foster delivery of justice and socio-economic development in the country.

MANDATE

The constitutional mandate of the ODPP is to prosecute all criminal cases in any court in Uganda except the court martial, and to direct police to investigate information of a criminal nature.

OUR PARTNERS

