

MULTI-STAKEHOLDER STATEMENT ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE IN THE RWENZORI REGION AT NEW FORT VIEW HOTEL IN FORT PORTAL CITY ON SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2021

GLOBAL THEME: "RECOVERING BETTER FOR AN EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD"

We the undersigned stakeholders in the Rwenzori region gathered at New Fort View Hotel in Fort Portal City to join the rest of the world to commemorate the International Day of Peace under the auspices of Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ);

In domesticating the global theme, we have anchored our discussions today on the subject of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in appreciation of the eruption of GBV across the region as a result of covid-19 pandemic and associated prevention measures instituted by Government;

Aware that women and the girl-child continue to bear the brunt of GBV the most in our region and that an urgent effort is needed to accelerate healing and recovery among these victims and also, foster victims' access to justice;

Cognizant of the critical role of different stakeholders including security agencies, political leaders, religious leaders, cultural leaders, Civil Society Organizations (CSO), health workers, judicial officers and the media in the fight against GBV;

We acknowledge the shrinking space of CSOs manifested among others in the suspension of some donor agencies and CSOs in the Rwenzori region and at national level;

We acknowledge the good intensions of government in instituting covid-19 prevention measures the effect of these measures on GBV notwithstanding.

We implore;

- All elected leaders and cultural leaders in the region to mainstream within their mandates, the fight against GBV at all times.
- Religious leaders to use their evangelization and other spaces to preach against GBV.
- The police and the judiciary to give utmost priority to GBV cases, undertake and complete investigations and dispense justice on time.
- The central government to initiate affirmative actions that allow victims of GBV to access health care services on time.
- The central government, within existing programs, to initiate relief and other mechanisms to support victims of GBV across the region.
- At different levels of local and central government, district councils and parliament to cause local and national discussions on the subject of GBV and explore ways of reversing its course and negative effects on women, the girl child and the whole society.

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[Vertical handwritten notes in blue ink on the left margin, including the word 'Attorneys' and other illegible scribbles.]

[Vertical handwritten note in blue ink on the right margin: 'The Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice']

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- The central government to ease space and allow CSOs to operate and also, invest in and expedite dialogue with CSOs and donor agencies to facilitate NGO operations in the region and country as direct and indirect critical actors in the fight against GBV.
- The central government to quicken the vaccination of citizens as one way of containing the spread of covid-19 and eventually opening up the country.
- The central government to strengthen formal and informal justice mechanisms of addressing GBV in the country.
- Members of Parliament in the Rwenzori region to use their caucus as an advocacy and legislative space to confront the challenge of GBV.
- The media to remain factual, balanced and sensitive in timely reporting any information about the vice of GBV as one way of triggering multi-stakeholder initiatives in addressing the vice.
- All stakeholders to complement each other in the fight against GBV and also, use all available platforms to amplify voices and actions against GBV and all injustices that cause it.
- Cultural institutions in the Rwenzori region to initiate programs that address GBV and be supported.

END

Signed by:



Rt. Hon. Mubulya Wilson
Prime Minister DRB
Director RFPJ
0772981866



1. Muhate Francis Executive Director RFPJ 0772981866
2. Gerald Twesare Boatman RFPJ
3. Kateeba Reuben DRAC Kamwenge Dist
4. Mbambu Naome OBR leader
5. ASP Mheela Patricia (CL) Community Liaison Officer Kabare / Fort Portal City Municipality
6. Banderba Festus B. DRAC Fort Portal
7. Kyomuhendo Davis (SCDD - Ntenko)
8. Bagume James, Dist. speaker Kitegwiro
9. Asasiira Annet Mwanalio Kabende &c 0776876729
10. Nyangoma Keziah DeDO Bunyangabu 0772693251
11. Kule Mwangi Joseph PM OBR 0772-451218
12. KEMIGISA RHODA B RFPJ BOARD TREASURER 0772861163
13. BWAMBALE WILSON AMNET-12 VChair RFPJ 0772357330
14. KYOBUTUNGI MORJEN FID (KWHSI) Kabare 0776646308
15. Ruth ONGOM ADVOCATE HLB ADVOCATE 0776688554

(16) His Royal Majesty Seebanteo Chisho Githo

16. FR. CAMFOR - AGELEGE 0772688410 ~~Jack~~
17. ARIYITA PATRICK 0702193966 ~~minim~~
18. KUKUNDAKWE VICTOR 0784550242 ~~Jim~~
19. MUSA POLITE 0785309561 ~~Jim~~
20. GFA. Kefigon Sander (0772332245) ~~Jim~~
 ADD - NTOROKO.
21. KESUME PEACE 0776041467 ~~Jim~~
22. MAKIBI GRAE MICHAEL 0784343512 ~~Jim~~
23. MAHE STEPHEN AMNER D. 0783870057 ~~Jim~~
24. DONALD KATALIWA (MP) 0772920709 / 0775706036 (whatsapp) ~~Jim~~
25. RUKUNDA ALEX (MP) 0772704824 ~~Jim~~
26. KIAMPAIRE KELLEN 0779990676 #Jampank