



## JOINT STATEMENT BY VICTIMS OF CONFLICTS FROM NORTHERN AND RWENZORI REGIONS OF UGANDA, PRESENTED TO THE STATE MINISTER FOR NORTHERN UGANDA ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> OF MAY, 2023 AT THE LUKODI MEMORIAL EVENT IN GULU CITY

Supported by Rwenzori Forum for Peace and Justice (RFPJ) and Foundation for Justice and Development Initiative (FJDI), we, the undersigned victims of different wars and conflicts from the Northern Uganda and Rwenzoriregions, gathered at LukodiMemorial Centre, under the theme: "Transparency Matters for Victims' Reparation and Recovery Process";

Being representatives of millions of other victims of the different wars and violent conflicts in Uganda;

Gathered tomemorializeour loved oneswho bore the brunt of past and recent violent conflicts characterized by extreme radicalization, indiscriminate killings and destruction of livelihood and property;

We herebyappreciate that victims suffered unspeakable human rights abuses and violations at the hands of LRA, ADF and several other local, regional and transnational actors in the Northern and Rwenzoriregions of Uganda;

We also appreciate that issues of victims are a national concern, and recognize that the Government of Uganda has taken some steps to address them by passing the 2019 National Transitional Justice Policy, and providing amnesty to fighters and former fighters;

Through you Honourable Minister, we implore the Government of Uganda to;

Work with relevant stakeholders and hasten the process of enacting the
 Transitional Justice Lawand consequently, give victims more support and
 attention;
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Fulfillall the promises made to amnesty recipients as one way of giving them hope and fostering healing, reconciliation, and resilience;

- Work outmechanisms of ensuring that thousands of our brothers and sisters still trapped in the enemy territories are brought back to rejoin their families in the Northern and Rwenzori regions;
- Ensure that victims be incorporated in committees of Government under the Ministry of Disaşter Preparedness and Management, and Amnesty Commission, to give victims representation inthese bodiesto enable victim-centered response, especially in times of crises;
- Roll out a national survey on victims of different atrocities to know where they are, what they are doing, and the kind of livelihoods they live when they returned to their communities;
- Work out modalities with the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA)and local leaders to provide for the identification of children born in captivity;
- Support the organization of memorial events in all affected regions to promote healing, reconciliation, and peace;
- And, guarantee security to victims, as well astransparency in addressing issues of victims in Uganda.

END

Signed;

Bira Sylvice Kasese of

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Agens Manay Half Acay Poul Wall Gella Evetine Saverio and

Witherdo Wassim BWAMBALE. SEORACK B A Laka AMON MWerge Awest. La. BUSAN BOULE VINCENT Kitchiana Abel MUHANDO MURTUMA Muthalings Ben OKIZIA SEEPHELLS DLABORO JULIUS AISU JOHN MICHAEL ChisiPoliciante Cel ODIA RAY-ABIA Mambasa Erica & EMP OPO ALEX EMP Mukin 8mien Gr. ass. AUTURA MORIS CHRIS Orlam Change John Bosco Chanteya. Neemer RicHARD Hyakalwing land lingume AFU Masika Fiona OPILO GEOFFREY Irene oyik Thembo stephen Drung Pluya monies Aldath A Asavain ANalh AMAL AUMA STELLA

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