

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

16<sup>th</sup> December 2015

### **DPP DROPS CRIMINAL TRESPASS CASE**

1. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to inform its membership that the ruling by Justice Nyanzi has been misrepresented to the public by Olara Otunnu and those coalesced around him. It was clear and the Party would like to make its position clear as per the ruling:
  - (a) That the District Conference elections of 30<sup>th</sup> May 2015 stand as they were deemed to have been constitutionally held and that as far as the court is concerned, the Delegates Conference has yet to be convened.
  - (b) That the UPC Party Leadership remains at the Party Headquarters Building, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Uganda House, Plot 10 Kampala Road.
  - (c) That costs were not awarded against the Party as prayed for by the plaintiffs on account of it being untenable that Party members should seek to financially incapacitate one another.
2. Uganda Peoples Congress Party was dissatisfied with the judgment and is appealing. Therefore the *status quo* remains.
3. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to applaud the decision of the Buganda Road Chief Magistrate Court for dropping charges of criminal trespass against the UPC President, Hon. J. Akena, members of his cabinet and the named members. The file on the case has been closed and all the charges have been dropped.
4. Uganda Peoples Congress encourages all her flag bearers to concentrate on their campaigns and ensure that the National Council decision of rebuilding the Party from the grassroots remains the focus.

5. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to make it clear that Olara Otunnu's term of office ended on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015. He had earlier stated that he had no intention of competing for the presidency of the Party although he had made no constitutional efforts to ensure that a smooth transition arrangement was put in place. These should have been put in place a year earlier as happened when Mama Miria, the last UPC President announced that she was not going to offer herself for another term via election. It is therefore no surprise that the current turmoil is taking place and is of great embarrassment to UPC.
  
6. Currently Olara Otunnu is again announcing that he is going to hold a Delegates' Conference. The Constitution is clear that one should take place at least twice every five years. His term expired without his ever having called a single one and he indefinitely postponed the last one having also postponed the one announced a month prior to that. The Party calls upon Otunnu to stop making a mockery of the Party Constitution and bow out with whatever dignity his behavior has left him, and leave the Party to concentrate on the business of the forthcoming elections.
  
7. Uganda Peoples Congress joins in solidarity with C.C.M. (Chama Cha Mapinduzi), the Government and people of Tanzania for the 54<sup>th</sup> independence celebrations that were held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

**FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY**

**EDWARD SEGGANYI**

**SECRETARY GENERAL**