

PRESS STATEMENT

9th December 2015

UPC CONGRATULATES HER FLAG BEARERS FOR 2016 ELECTIONS.

UPC WELCOMES THE DPP DECISION TO DROP TRES PASS CHARGES.

1. Following the decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions to drop charges that had been brought up by Milton Obote Foundation (MOF) accusing the Party President, Cabinet Members and Party Civil Servants for Trespass at Party Headquarters' Building Plot 8-10 Uganda House, Kampala Road, Uganda Peoples Congress welcomes such an important decision by the DPP. Such a decision simply shows the level of trust and confidence in the administration of the Party. It should be the rallying point to move the Party to the next level in her re-building process. These charges for trespass is like charging the Pope and members of the catholic church for trespass in St Peter's Basilica Vatican.
2. On the 4 November 2015, the Uganda Peoples Congress Press Statement featured the headline **"UPC EXTENDS AN OLIVE BRANCH TO ITS MEMBERS FOR NOMINATIONS"**. Following the recently concluded Nominations exercise for electoral candidates, the Party still maintains and extends an olive branch to those caught up in the confusion that led up to the exercise. In line with the Resolution passed at the last National Council meeting, we urge all members to focus on the Party's efforts to rebuild and strengthen its grass roots. The Party wishes all her flag bearers the best and reminds them to confirm their campaign schedules with the Electoral Commission so as to avoid clashes and inconvenience.
3. On 2nd Wednesday 2015, the New Vision carried a story in which a candidate standing as an independent claimed to have crossed to FDC alleging the Party President had urged her to stand down in favour of an NRM candidate in the forthcoming elections. This lady successfully stood for the Local Council District Election in 2011 as, an **independent**

candidate! UPC would like to remind her and the New Vision that the selection of candidates is a transparent process organised at the District Conferences and through Party Primaries, not by appointment of the Party President.

Article 11.2(4) of the UPC Constitution that states: “The District Conference shall elect the Party candidate for the election of Woman Member of Parliament for the District and the Party Candidate for the Election of District Chairperson. Though she has not been subject to any disciplinary proceedings as per Article 3.6(2), which prohibits “Standing for election or acting as agent or campaigning for or financing an independent candidate”, maligning the Party President in such a manner as she did, indicates a scant appreciation of the UPC Constitution and basic good manners.

4. The UPC Party strongly urges the government make good on its pledge to re-introduce the recently announced commuter train services for Kampala. Transport is a key component of the economy and the Party would like the government to also tackle the outstanding pressing need for a public bus service, along with better and more water-borne services. If there is enough political will, the re-introduction of a National airline carrier is of utmost necessity as well.
5. The Climate Change Conference being held in Paris, France, provides an opportunity for member states to critically examine issues and demand strategies that enhance food security while protecting the environment through sustainable development and measures to mitigate against the impact of climate change. UPC urges the government to act upon all the resolutions of the Conference.
6. Uganda Peoples Congress joins the Government and the people of Kenya to celebrate the 52nd Independence anniversary. Your Independence struggle was indeed a very difficult and protracted one. Dr A. M. Obote worked closely with KAU (Kenya African Union) and was closely associated with its activities. When KAU was banned Dr A. M. Obote joined the Trade Union Movement in Kenya. He later rose to become the

Chairperson of the Kololani Social Club, and was instrumental in the formation of the Rent Payers Association. With the ban on political activities lifted, Dr A. M. Obote joined NDAC (Nairobi District African Congress) of which he was later elected its Chairperson. This organisation was a fore runner of KANU. That great experience in Kenya brought Dr A. M. Obote into close friendship and solidarity with Kenyan nationals in the struggle for Uhuru, Dedani Kimathi, Walter Odede, Tom Mbuya, C. M. G Arwings –Kodhek, Oginga Odinga, Paul Ngei and others.

7. 5th December 2015 was exactly two years since the passing on of Africa's illustrious son, Comrade Nelson Mandela. UPC Joins ANC, the people of South Africa and rest of the World in commemorating the Legacy of Comrade Nelson Mandela, whose party, the ANC, worked closely with members and leaders of the Mulungushi Club, Comrades Dr Kenneth Kaunda, Dr Julius Nyerere and Dr A. M. Obote in waging the anti-apartheid Struggle .
8. UPC wishes the visiting Barcelona veterans a great stay in Uganda, but would also like to remind FUFA of the need for it to play its part in focusing on grass roots structures as well as the government's participation through schools and making sure that the facilities are there, as happens in Ghana which has enjoyed considerable success as a result. The protection of playing grounds etc.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

EDWARD SEGGANYI

SECRETARY-GENERAL