



**MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE TO THE FAMILY AND THE UGANDA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ON THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF NANHRI STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER AND CHAIRPERSON OF UGANDA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MR. MED KAGGWA**

On behalf of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI) Chairperson Mr. Mohamed Fayek, Members of the NANHRI, the Steering Committee and the Secretariat, I wish to express our profound sorrow and shock following the untimely and sudden demise of our good friend and the Chairperson of the Uganda Human Rights Commission Mr. Med Kaggwa.

Mr Kaggwa, who was the representative of the East African Subregion NHRIs to the Steering Committee of the Network of African NHRIs, made remarkable contributions to the cultivation and growth of a human rights culture in Uganda, Africa and beyond.

For the years he has served the Network of African NHRIs, Mr. Kaggwa has been vital in sound decision making processes at the Steering Committee and the General Assembly meeting. He has been very accommodative and supportive to new and weak NHRIs on the continent.

One of such occasions is his remarks during the General Assembly in Cairo, Egypt on November 4, 2019 where he urged other members of the Network of African NHRIs to admit the Gambia National Human Rights Commission to ensure the youngest NHRI in Africa learns from the others in the fraternity for the benefit of the Gambians.

As one of the strongest NHRIs in Africa, Mr Kaggwa has managed to keep UHRC on the list of the 21 out of 46 'A' status institutions, which are fully compliant with the Paris Principles.

At regional level, the impact of his work is remarkable. As the Special Rapporteur on Prisons, Conditions of Detention and Policing in Africa at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), he greatly contributed to the development of the ACHPR's Principles on the Decriminalisation of Petty Offences in Africa, which were launched in 2018.

Guided by the Principles on Decriminalisation of Petty Offence, NANHRI has been implementing Decriminalisation of Petty Offences project in which progress is being made in removing these punitive laws targeting vulnerable groups from the penal codes across Africa.

We also commit to continue supporting the Commission in its work, as well as implementing regional activities aimed at achieving the ideals Mr. Kaggwa stood for in his human rights career.

As we say fare thee well to the Chairperson of the UHRC, in a special way we deliver our heartfelt condolences to the family and the staff of the UHRC.

**Thank you!**

Mr. Mohamed Fayek

Chairperson, NANHRI