

## CIVIL DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT – 2012

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Civil Division is currently located at TWED TOWERS PLAZA, Plot 10 Kafu Road, Nakasero. We are specifically situated on the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor of the said building.

The Judges in the Division are:

- Hon Justice Eldad Mwangusya – Head of the Division
- Hon. Justice Vincent Tiwangye Zehurikize – Deputy Head
- Hon. Justice Elizabeth Musoke
- Hon. Justice Benjamin Kabiito

The Deputy Registrar is His Worship John Eudes Keitirima.

We also have about 30 support staff.

### 2. CASELOAD

Cases brought forward from the previous year (2011) were **2,133**.

Cases registered in the reporting year were **1,284**.

Cases disposed of in the reporting year were **1,370**.

Cases pending in the reporting year are **2,203**.

The Judges within the Division also assisted in reducing the backlog in other various circuits of the High Court by participating in both civil and criminal sessions.

#### **4. TRAININGS**

The Judges and Registrar of the Division underwent a training course in oil and gas contracting which was conducted in Dubai U.A.E. by the International Law Institute from 14<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2012. We are grateful to the Hon. The Chief Justice who granted us the permission to attend and the Secretary to the Judiciary who facilitated the training.

#### **5. JUDICIAL REVIEW**

About 20% of the workload within the Division is instituted by way of Judicial Review. There are **381 cases** pending in this category. We feel this is an area where the capacities of the Judges have to be enhanced so that the jurisprudence evolved in this area is harmonious and clear to the Executive and the general public. We wish to propose that a Division of the High Court be created to exclusively deal with these matters. This is because matters to be dealt within this area are either of great public importance that require the urgency they deserve or decisions to be made are of utmost urgency and hence should not be handled in the normal

they are not yet operational. We require a section within the Division to exclusively deal with this function with accredited mediators. There is also need for continued logistical support for this function. I would wish to propose that this is an area where retired judicial officers could be utilized.

## **8. WORKING ENVIRONMENT**

We are grateful that the Division was relocated to a much spacious accommodation but the challenge is that the building was not exclusively taken and hence exclusively utilized by the Judiciary which now poses a lot of challenges. There is a lot of interference from other occupants by way of incessant noises, music, drillings, frying etc. especially from the bars and restaurants. Administration should aim at either having exclusive use of the premises or relocating the division to a quieter environment for it to operate smoothly. We also pray that electricity bills be settled promptly to avoid power cuts which have been common in the reporting period.

## **9. COURT RECORDING**

We request administration to install court recording equipment in the division as it has been done in other divisions. We are informed that funds were availed for this equipment and we pray that the process be expedited to install the equipment we also pray that the

seriously affecting our performance and needs to be addressed with the utmost urgency it deserves.

### **CONCLUSION**

We hope that the issues raised and proposed solutions will go a long way in making the division perform even better than it did in the reporting period. We shall do our part as we also await others to complement our efforts.

I thank you for listening to me.



**HON. JUSTICE ELDAD MWANGUSYA**

**HEAD CIVIL DIVISION**