



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE HON CHIEF JUSTICE OF UGANDA,
BENJAMIN J ODOKI AND CHAIR JLOS LEADERSHIP
COMMITTEE AT THE COMMISSIONING OF BUNDIBUGYO
COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTRE**

Hon Ministers

Your Excellencies the Ambassadors

Members of the JLOS Leadership Committee

Members of the JLOS Steering Committee

The Resident District Commissioner

The LC V Chairperson

Your Worships

Members of the District Chain-linked Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a pleasure for me and the entire JLOS Leadership to join the people of Bundibugyo on this historic commissioning of the Community Justice Centre.

It is indeed a historical milestone in the history of the Sector, because this is the first time a combined team of the JLOS Leadership and

Steering Committee and the JLOS Development Partners is out in the field to have an onsite assessment of the status of implementation of JLOS Development projects.

Our presence here today is part of our deeper shared vision to serve all the people of Uganda without discrimination. Many years ago, Bundibugyo was a hard to reach, hard to stay, but controversially, a hard to leave area. I wish to congratulate you the people of this area for making Bundibugyo accessible.

It is and has always been our desire to ensure that we deepen the rule of law and reach out to the under-served in our society. I wish to assure you that today we are not merely commissioning brick and mortar, but effective and efficient justice service delivery in this region.

I wish to assure you that we shall use these buildings to fight crime and lawlessness, enhance the disposal of cases and promote community involvement in the administration of justice.

The Justice law and Order Sector (JLOS) which I lead is committed to ensuring that these buildings are used for the benefit of the down trodden of our society. We shall therefore ensure that the investments are well equipped and staffed to provide quality Judicial, prosecution and policing services to the people of Bundibugyo and the neighboring districts.

These buildings are going to house some of the frontline JLOS service and soon we shall embark on the construction of a Prison Reception Centre as soon as you provide us land nearby to have a complete chain of justice.

I wish on behalf of the Sector to thank our valued JLOS Development Partners Group in general, chaired by Denmark, for supporting the Sector and in a special way extend our gratitude to the Netherlands Government who provided the bulk of the funding for these constructions.

I also thank the leadership of this district for the strong partnership you have exhibited during the preparation and execution of this project. I thank you for allocating JLOS land where the constructions have been put up and also for undertaking regular supervision of the constructions as well as providing an enabling environment for our contractors and staff to implement the project.

Allow me to thank the JLOS construction committee for the oversight role and the contractor M/s Zawadi Hotel for executing this quality construction in a record time.

I implore JLOS staff in the region in general and the district in particular to remain focused in service to the people, stay clear of unethical conduct and ensure efficiency, effectiveness, fairness and equity in the administration of justice and maintenance of law and order in this region.

Finally, I urge our valued stakeholders to use our services for peaceful coexistence and not to foment trouble. I advise you not to tempt our staff in acts of corruption but continue to support the JLOS philosophy of Justice for all.

I once again thank you for blessing this occasion with your personal presence as we work to ensuring justice for all.

It is now my singular honor to declare the Bundibugyo Community Justice Centre officially commissioned.

For God and My Country!