



PERFORMANCE OF THE HIGH COURT, 2021

A presentation by Hon. Justice Dr. Flavian Zeija at the 23rd Annual Judges conference held from January 31 to February 03, 2022, at Mestil Hotel, Kampala

Introduction

- I thank the Hon. Deputy Chief Justice and the Hon. Justice Stella Arach Amoko for your presentations on the performance of the Court of Appeal & Supreme Court respectively.
- Thank you all for your participation and I am privileged to serve you as your Principal Judge.
- The High Court being with unlimited original jurisdiction in all matters is faced with an extremely great responsibility. The quality of work delivered at this level determines the burden that appellate courts eventually carry.
- The more successful appeals registered, the greater the indictment on the High Court! Let's therefore, strive to do excellent work.

Table 1: Overall Performance of High Court (Divisions and Circuits) for the Year 2021

| Case Type | Bought-Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending | Backlog |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cases of Civil Nature | | | | | |
| Civil | 15,427 | 10,839 | 8,346 | 17,920 | 9,742 |
| Commercial | 4,963 | 4,371 | 2,722 | 6,612 | 2,219 |
| Family | 6,568 | 4,297 | 4,045 | 6,820 | 2,794 |
| Land | 16,729 | 9,957 | 7,651 | 19,035 | 8,504 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Civil Nature</i> | <i>43,687</i> | <i>29,464</i> | <i>22,764</i> | <i>50,387</i> | <i>23,259</i> |
| Cases of Criminal Nature | | | | | |
| Anti-Corruption | 248 | 183 | 196 | 235 | 87 |
| Criminal | 8,284 | 6,258 | 4,584 | 9,958 | 5,743 |
| International Crimes | 54 | 29 | 14 | 69 | 27 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Criminal Nature</i> | <i>8,586</i> | <i>6,470</i> | <i>4,794</i> | <i>10,262</i> | <i>5,857</i> |
| Executions and Bailiffs Cases | | | | | |
| Executions And Bailiffs | 52 | 12 | 0 | 64 | |
| <i>Sub Total - Executions and Bailiffs Cases</i> | <i>52</i> | <i>12</i> | <i>0</i> | <i>64</i> | |
| Total | 52,325 | 35,946 | 27,558 | 60,713 | 29,116 |

Reference is made to Table 1 above;

- a) For the year 2021, the High Court Brought Forward **52,325** cases from 2020; Registered **35,946** cases; Completed **27,558** cases and concluded the year with **60,713** Pending cases.
- b) The total number of pending cases of a civil nature was 50,387.
- c) The total number of pending cases of a Criminal nature was 10,262 cases.
- d) The total number of pending Executions and Bailiffs cases was **64** cases.
- e) The total Civil backlog was 23,259 cases.
- f) The total Criminal backlog was 5,857 Cases

Note however;

The 64 Executions and Bailiffs Cases which are still pending are cases which were sent to Mpigi High Court for handling after the Bailiffs & Executions Division was disbanded. Mpigi High Court registered them as such. It was therefore, an error to have them registered as Execution and Bailiffs cases. This error will be corrected.

Table 2: Performance of High Court Divisions for the Year 2021

| S/No | High Court Division | Bought-Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cases of Civil Nature | | | | | |
| 1 | Commercial | 4,939 | 4,236 | 2,644 | 6,531 |
| 2 | Civil | 4,403 | 2,358 | 1,814 | 4,947 |
| 3 | Family | 6,154 | 3,626 | 3,421 | 6,359 |
| 4 | Land | 10,996 | 4,920 | 4,997 | 10,919 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Civil Nature</i> | | <i>26,492</i> | <i>15,140</i> | <i>12,876</i> | <i>28,756</i> |
| Cases of Criminal Nature | | | | | |
| 1 | Anti-corruption | 248 | 183 | 196 | 235 |
| 2 | Criminal | 2,012 | 1,013 | 1,222 | 1,803 |
| 3 | International Crimes | 54 | 29 | 14 | 69 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Criminal Nature</i> | | <i>2,314</i> | <i>1,225</i> | <i>1,432</i> | <i>2,107</i> |
| | Total | 28,806 | 16,365 | 14,308 | 30,863 |

Reference is made to Table 2 above;

- a) For the year 2021, the High Court Divisions brought forward **28,806** cases from the year 2020; Registered **16,365** cases; Completed **14,308** cases and concluded the year with **30,863** Pending cases.
- b) The total number of pending cases of a Civil nature are **28,756** cases.
- c) The total number of pending cases of a Criminal nature are **2,107**cases.
- d) The Land Division has the highest number of cases with **10,919** pending cases as at 31st December, 2021.
- e) The International Crimes Division had the least number of cases with **69** pending cases as at 31st December 2021.
- f) The Land Division disposed of the highest number of cases at **4,997** cases.
- g) The International Crimes Division disposed of the least number of cases at **14** cases.
- h) Land Division completed the highest number of Civil matters disposing of 4,997 cases in 2021.
- i) Criminal Division completed the highest number of Criminal cases disposing of **1,222** cases in 2021.

Table 3: Performance of High Court Circuits 2021

| S/NO | Court Name | Case Type | Brought Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending | Backlog |
|--|------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | Arua High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 196 | 332 | 360 | 168 | 68 |
| | | Civil | 289 | 793 | 634 | 448 | 357 |
| | | Land | 320 | 204 | 96 | 428 | 221 |
| Subtotal -Arua High Court | | | 805 | 1,329 | 1,090 | 1,044 | 646 |
| 2 | Fort Portal High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 208 | 565 | 376 | 397 | 333 |
| | | Civil | 300 | 662 | 377 | 585 | 359 |
| | | Land | 234 | 438 | 172 | 500 | 313 |
| Subtotal-Fort Portal High Court | | | 742 | 1,665 | 925 | 1,482 | 1,005 |

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| 3 | Gulu High Court | | B/F | REGISTERED | COMPLETE | PENDING | BACKLOG |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|-------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Criminal | | 781 | 619 | 303 | 1,097 | 860 |
| | Civil | | 715 | 378 | 226 | 867 | 821 |
| | Land | | 393 | 310 | 57 | 646 | 535 |
| Subtotal -Gulu High Court | | | 1889 | 1,307 | 586 | 2,610 | 2,216 |
| 4 | Jinja High Court | | | | | | |
| | Criminal | | 680 | 317 | 130 | 867 | 583 |
| | Civil | | 1552 | 693 | 529 | 1,716 | 1410 |
| | Land | | 47 | 55 | 23 | 79 | 50 |
| Subtotal -Jinja High Court | | | 2279 | 1,065 | 682 | 2,662 | 2043 |

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| | | | B/F | REGISTERED | COMPLETED | PENDING | BACKLOG |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
| 5 | Kabale High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 519 | 169 | 190 | 498 | 356 |
| | | Civil | 238 | 239 | 206 | 271 | 166 |
| | | Family | 8 | 10 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Land | 255 | 93 | 113 | 235 | 88 |
| Subtotal-Kabale High Court | | | 1020 | 511 | 527 | 1004 | 610 |
| 6 | Lira High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 735 | 236 | 62 | 909 | 631 |
| | | Civil | 512 | 247 | 88 | 671 | 554 |
| | | Land | 247 | 165 | 15 | 397 | 278 |
| Subtotal -Lira High Court | | | 1494 | 648 | 165 | 1977 | 1464 |
| 7 | Masaka High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 83 | 253 | 193 | 143 | 75 |
| | | Civil | 665 | 271 | 232 | 704 | 308 |
| | | Family | 239 | 284 | 240 | 283 | 79 |
| | | Land | 607 | 338 | 181 | 764 | 284 |
| Subtotal -Masaka High Court | | | 1594 | 1,146 | 846 | 1,894 | 745 |

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| | | | B/F | REGISTERED | COMPLETE | PENDING | BACKLOG |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 8 | Masindi High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 693 | 195 | 96 | 792 | 578 |
| | | Civil | 811 | 379 | 274 | 916 | 492 |
| | | Land | 350 | 194 | 137 | 407 | 231 |
| Subtotal -Masindi High Court | | | 1854 | 768 | 507 | 2115 | 578 |
| 9 | Mbale High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 75 | 353 | 306 | 122 | 82 |
| | | Commercial | 24 | 96 | 75 | 45 | 31 |
| | | Civil | 1478 | 1,525 | 1,583 | 1,420 | 741 |
| | | Family | 20 | 9 | 5 | 24 | 16 |
| | | Land | 192 | 171 | 147 | 216 | 131 |
| Subtotal -Mbale High Court | | | 1789 | 2,154 | 2,116 | 1,827 | 1002 |
| 10 | Mbarara High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 219 | 448 | 355 | 312 | 165 |
| | | Civil | 1664 | 1,282 | 1,111 | 1,835 | 804 |
| | | Family | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| | | Land | 389 | 180 | 123 | 446 | 153 |
| Subtotal -Mbarara High Court | | | 2274 | 1,910 | 1,590 | 2,594 | 1122 |

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| 11 | Mpigi High Court | | B/F | REGISTERED | COMPLETED | PENDING | BACKLOG |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| | | Criminal | 259 | 127 | 51 | 335 | 105 |
| | | Civil | 372 | 198 | 215 | 355 | 178 |
| | | Executions and Bailiffs | 52 | 12 | 0 | 64 | |
| | | Family | 145 | 368 | 360 | 153 | 58 |
| | | Land | 830 | 776 | 705 | 901 | 508 |
| Subtotal -Mpigi High Court | | | 1,658 | 1,481 | 1,331 | 1,808 | 849 |
| 12 | Mubende High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 597 | 734 | 581 | 750 | 278 |
| | | Civil | 290 | 353 | 228 | 415 | 226 |
| | | Land | 651 | 592 | 374 | 869 | 460 |
| Subtotal -Mubende High Court | | | 1538 | 1,679 | 1,183 | 2,034 | 964 |

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| 13 | Mukono High court | | B/F | REGISTERED | COMPLETED | PENDING | BACKLOG |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | Criminal | 821 | 586 | 164 | 1,243 | 770 |
| | | Commercial | 0 | 39 | 3 | 36 | 0 |
| | | Civil | 1893 | 1,109 | 570 | 2,432 | 1,274 |
| | | Land | 969 | 1,269 | 287 | 1,951 | 868 |
| Subtotal-Mukono High court | | | 3,683 | 3,003 | 1,024 | 5,662 | 2912 |
| 14 | Soroti High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Criminal | 406 | 311 | 195 | 522 | 323 |
| | | Civil | 245 | 352 | 259 | 338 | 224 |
| | | Land | 249 | 252 | 224 | 277 | 107 |
| Subtotal -Soroti High Court | | | 900 | 915 | 678 | 1,137 | 654 |
| TOTAL | | | 23,519 | 19,581 | 13,250 | 29,850 | 17,532 |

Reference is made to Table 3 above;

- a) The High Court Circuits brought forward **23,519** cases; Registered **19,581** cases; Completed **13,250** cases and closed 2021 with **29,850** Pending cases.
- b) In the year 2021, the High Court Circuits closed with **21,631** cases of a Civil nature and **8,219** cases of a Criminal nature.
- c) In the year 2021, the High Court Circuits concluded with **17,532** backlog cases. Of these, **12,325** cases were of a Civil nature while **5,207** cases were of a Criminal nature
- d) The Circuit with the highest number of cases was **Mukono** High Court with **5,698** cases.
- e) The Circuit with the least number of cases was Kabale High Court with **1,004** cases.
- f) The Circuit that disposed of the highest number of cases was **Mbale** High Court with **2,116** cases
- g) That Circuit that disposed of the least number of cases was **Lira** High Court with **165** cases.
- h) The Circuit that disposed of the highest number of Criminal cases was **Mubende** High Court with **581** cases.
- i) The Circuit that disposed of the highest number of Civil cases is **Mbale** High Court with **1,583** cases.

Table 4: Case Backlog for High Court Divisions and High Court Circuits for the Year 2021

| SNO | Court Name | Case Backlog as at 31 st December 2021 |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| High Court Divisions | | |
| 1 | Land Division | 4,277 |
| 2 | Family Division | 2,641 |
| 3 | Commercial Division | 2,188 |
| 4 | Civil Division | 1,828 |
| 5 | Criminal Division | 536 |
| 6 | Anti-corruption Division | 87 |
| 7 | International Crimes Division | 27 |
| <i>Subtotal -High Court Divisions</i> | | <i>11,584</i> |

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| High Court Circuits | | |
|---|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. | Mukono High Court | 2,912 |
| 2 | Gulu High Court | 2,216 |
| 3 | Jinja High Court | 2,043 |
| 4 | Lira High Court | 1,464 |
| 5 | Masindi High Court | 1,301 |
| 6 | Mbarara High Court | 1,122 |
| 7 | Fort Portal High Court | 1,005 |
| 8 | Mbale High Court | 1,002 |
| 9 | Mubende High Court | 964 |
| 10 | Mpigi High Court - HCT | 849 |
| 11 | Masaka High Court | 745 |
| 12 | Soroti High Court | 654 |
| 13 | Arua High Court | 646 |
| 14 | Kabale High Court | 610 |
| <i>SubTotal -High Court Circuits</i> | | <i>17,533</i> |
| Total Backlog for High Court | | 29,117 |

Reference is made to Table 4 above;

- a) Land Division had the highest backlog of **4,277** cases as at 31st December, 2021.
- b) International Crimes Division had the least number of backlog cases at **27** cases as at 31st December 2021.
- c) **Mukono** High Court had the highest backlog of **2,912** cases as at 31st December, 2021.
- d) **Kabale** High Court had the least number of backlog cases at **610** cases as at 31st December 2021.
- e) **The Land Division had the highest overall backlog cases as at 31st December 2021.**

Challenges

- The number of cases disposed of in the year 2021 were far less than the number of cases carried forward from 2020 and equally less than the number of cases registered for that year (2021).
- The total number of backlog cases for all the High Court Circuits combined stood at 29,117 cases, while the combined number of backlog cases for all High Court Divisions stood at 11,584 cases. These numbers are alarming!

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The poor performance may among other factors be attributed to;

- ❖ The Covid 19 Pandemic which resulted into;
 - a. Lock down and in-operation of courts at full capacity.
 - b. Travel restrictions made it difficult for Witnesses to attend court.
 - c. Budget cuts for court operations.
 - ❖ Limited funds for sessions.
 - ❖ Late release of JLOS funds for sessions.
 - ❖ Lack of sufficient funds for locus in quo visits in land matters.
 - ❖ Manpower gaps.
- etc.

SOME PERFORMANCE RELATED ISSUES THAT AROSE DURING INSPECTIONS

- Most Judges do not carry out inspections of lower courts in the circuits.
- Disorganized exhibit and archives rooms.
- Absenteeism of some judicial officers and support staff.
- Vandalism of judiciary property in some courts.
- Complaints of corruption tendencies among support staff and some judicial officers.
- Misuse or nonuse of judiciary resources for purposes they are intended for.
- Case Register books and CCAS are not updated with results of completed cases.
- Etc.

TABLE 5: Performance from Plea Bargaining Sessions Held in the Year 2021

| No | Station | Name of Officer | No. of Cases | Status | No.of Completed Cases | Percentage Completed |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Mbarara HC 3rd-05th Feb 2021 | Hon Jane Okuo K | 50 | Completed | 50 | 100 |
| 2 | Mukono HC 19th Feb -26th March 2021 | Hon Batema N.D.A | 40 | Completed | 40 | 100 |
| 3 | Masindi HC 22nd Feb 2021 | Hon. Jesse Byaruhanga & Hon.Jane Okuo K | 51 | 9 Adjourned to next session | 42 | 82 |
| 4 | Mbale HC 4th-25th March 2021 | Hon.Namundi Godfrey | 27 | Completed | 27 | 100 |
| 5 | Mbale HC 9th March 2021 | Hon. Byaruhanga Jesse | 40 | Completed | 40 | 100 |
| 6 | Kabale HC at Rukungiri | Hon. Moses Kazibwe Kawumi | 42 | Completed | 42 | 100 |

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| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
| 7 | Criminal Division at Entebbe 21st April 2021 | Hon. J.W Kwesiga | 40 | 4 Adjourned to next session | 36 | 90 |
| 8 | Jinja High Court 11th and 12th August 2021 | Hon. Dr. Winfrey Nyondo Nabisinde | 23 | Completed | 23 | 100 |
| 9 | Mubende HC | Hon. Henrieta Wolayo | 59 | Completed | 59 | 100 |
| 10 | Criminal Division 6th September 2021 | Hon. Michael Elubu | 52 | Completed | 52 | 100 |
| 11 | Kigo Prison 17th September 2021 | Hon. Michael Elubu | 22 | Completed | 22 | 100 |
| 12 | Mukono HC September 2021 | Hon Batema N.D.A | 110 | Completed | 110 | 100 |
| | Total | | 556 | | 543 | 98 |

Reference is made to Table 5 above;

During the year 2021, out of 556 cases caused listed for Plea-Bargain Sessions, 543 cases were completed translating into 98%. Plea-bargain sessions were conducted at Mbarara High Court Circuit, Mukono High Court Circuit, Masindi High Court Circuit, Mbale High Court Circuit, Kabale High Court at Rukungiri, Criminal Division at Entebbe, Jinja High Court Circuit, Mubende High Court Circuit, High Court -Criminal Division and Kigo Prison.

**TABLE 6: AGGREGATED PERFORMANCE OF MEDIATION PROGRAMME
AT HIGH COURT CIRCUITS & DIVISIONS 2021**

| S/N | High Court | Brought Forward | Registered | Workload | Mediated Cases | % Mediated Cases Vs Workload |
|-----------------------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| High Court Divisions | | | | | | |
| 1. | Land | 10,996 | 4,920 | 15,916 | 330 | 2.07 |
| 2. | Family | 6,154 | 3,626 | 9,780 | 65 | 0.66 |
| 3. | Commercial | 4,939 | 4,236 | 9,175 | 81 | 0.88 |
| 4. | Civil | 4,403 | 2,358 | 6,761 | 107 | 1.58 |
| <i>Subtotal- Divisions</i> | | 26,492 | 15,140 | 41,632 | 583 | 1.40 |
| | | | | | | |

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| High Court Circuits | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. | Mukono HCT | 3,719 | 3,003 | 6,722 | - | 0.00 |
| 2. | Jinja HCT | 2,279 | 1,065 | 3,344 | - | 0.00 |
| 3. | Mbarara HCT | 2,274 | 1,910 | 4,184 | - | 0.00 |
| 4. | Gulu HCT | 1,889 | 1,307 | 3,196 | 50 | 1.56 |
| 5. | Masindi HCT | 1,854 | 768 | 2,622 | 73 | 2.78 |
| 6. | Mbale HCT | 1,789 | 2,154 | 3,943 | 14 | 0.36 |
| 7. | Mpigi HCT | 1,722 | 1,481 | 3,203 | 249 | 7.77 |
| 8. | Masaka HCT | 1,594 | 1,146 | 2,740 | 108 | 3.94 |
| 9. | Mubende HCT | 1,538 | 1,679 | 3,217 | 124 | 3.85 |
| 10. | Lira HCT | 1,494 | 648 | 2,142 | 16 | 0.75 |
| 11. | Kabale HCT | 1,020 | 511 | 1,531 | 76 | 4.96 |
| 12. | Soroti HCT | 900 | 915 | 1,815 | - | 0.00 |
| 13. | Arua HCT | 805 | 1,329 | 2,134 | 17 | 0.80 |
| 14. | Fort Portal HCT | 742 | 1,665 | 2,407 | 17 | 0.71 |
| Subtotal -Circuits | | 23,619 | 19,581 | 43,200 | 744 | 1.72 |
| Total Mediated cases for High Court | | 50,111 | 34,721 | 84,832 | 1,327 | 1.56 |

Reference is made to Table 6 above;

- In General
 - a) For Mediation, the High Court Brought forward, 50,111 cases from 2020 and registered 34,721 cases. The Court therefore, recorded a **workload** of **84,832** cases that could potentially be mediated.
 - b) The High Court mediated **1,327** cases in the year 2021 which is **1.56%** of the workload that was before them in 2021.
 - c) Statistics on which mediations were successful and which mediations failed were not available. This is also another area we shall improve on.

Table 7: Performance of the Mediation Programme at High Court Divisions for the Year 2021

| S/No | High Court Division | Bought-Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending |
|----------|---------------------|----------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1 | Land | 1,038 | 380 | 330 | 1,088 |
| 2 | Civil | 594 | 148 | 107 | 635 |
| 3 | Commercial | 66 | 31 | 81 | 16 |
| 4 | Family | 550 | 49 | 65 | 534 |
| | Total | 2,248 | 608 | 583 | 2,273 |

Reference is made to Table 7 above;

- a) The **Land Division** mediated the highest number of cases at **330** cases in the year 2021.

- b) The **Family Division** mediated the least number of cases at **65** cases in the year 2021.

Table 8: Performance of the Mediation Programme at High Court Circuits for the Year 2021

| S/NO | COURT NAME | CASE TYPE | BROUGHT FORWARD | REGISTERED | COMPLETED | PENDING |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Fort Portal High Court | | | | | |
| | | Civil | 31 | 59 | 17 | 73 |
| <i>Subtotal -Fort Portal High Court</i> | | | 31 | 59 | 17 | 73 |
| 2 | Gulu High Court | | | | | |
| | | Civil | 246 | 50 | 50 | 246 |
| <i>Subtotal -Gulu High Court</i> | | | 246 | 50 | 50 | 246 |
| 3 | Jinja High Court | | | | | |
| | | Commercial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Civil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Executions and Bailiffs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Family | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Land | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Subtotal -Jinja High Court</i> | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| 4 | Mbale High Court | | | | | |
| | | Commercial | 0 | 10 | 9 | 1 |
| | | Civil | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| <i>Subtotal -For Mbale High Court</i> | | | 0 | 15 | 14 | 1 |
| 5 | Mbarara High Court | | | | | |
| | | Commercial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Civil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Executions and Bailiffs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Family | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Land | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Subtotal -Mbarara High Court</i> | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | Masaka High Court | | | | | |
| | | Civil | 101 | 24 | 37 | 88 |
| | | Land | 61 | 40 | 71 | 30 |
| <i>Subtotal -Masaka High Court</i> | | | 162 | 64 | 108 | 118 |
| 7 | Arua High Court | | | | | |
| | | Civil | 16 | 20 | 17 | 19 |
| <i>Subtotal -Arua High Court</i> | | | 16 | 20 | 17 | 19 |

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| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|----|
| 8 | Soroti Court | High | | | | | |
| | | | Commercial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | Civil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | Executions and Bailiffs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | Family | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | Land | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Subtotal -Soroti High Court</i> | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| 9 | Lira High Court | | | | | | |
| | | Civil | 50 | 9 | 9 | 50 | |
| | | Land | 5 | 12 | 7 | 10 | |
| <i>Subtotal -Lira High Court</i> | | | 55 | 21 | 16 | 60 | |
| 10 | Kabale Court | High | | | | | |
| | | | Civil | 72 | 4 | 76 | 0 |
| <i>Subtotal -Kabale High Court</i> | | | 72 | 4 | 76 | 0 | |
| 11 | Masindi Court | High | | | | | |
| | | | Civil | 100 | 13 | 73 | 40 |
| <i>Subtotal -Masindi High Court</i> | | | 100 | 13 | 73 | 40 | |
| Grand Total | | | 1071 | 381 | 744 | 708 | |

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| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 12 | Mubende High Court | | | | | |
| | | Land | 142 | 52 | 124 | 70 |
| <i>Subtotal -Mubende High Court</i> | | | 142 | 52 | 124 | 70 |
| 13 | Mukono High court | | | | | |
| | | Commercial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Civil | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Executions and Bailiffs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Family | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | Land | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Subtotal -Mukono High court</i> | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 14 | Mpigi High Court | | | | | |
| | | Civil | 33 | 10 | 38 | 5 |
| | | Family | 48 | 12 | 38 | 22 |
| | | Land | 166 | 61 | 173 | 54 |
| <i>Subtotal -Mpigi High Court</i> | | | 247 | 83 | 249 | 81 |
| Grand Total | | | 1071 | 381 | 744 | 708 |

Reference is made to table 8 above;

a) **Mpigi** High Court mediated the highest number of cases at **249** cases in the year 2021.

b) The High Courts of **Jinja, Mbarara, Soroti and Mukono** mediated the least number of cases each with nil returns in the year 2021.

Individual Performance of High Court Judges

At the last Annual Judges conference, I promised to highlight individual performance of each High Court Judge for the calendar year preceding the next similar conference. However, since Covid 19 pandemic affected most Court operations and a number of Judges in the calendar years 2020 and 2021, I was not able to make an informed assessment of performance by each individual Judge for those years. However, if Covid 19 pandemic does not affect Court operations in this calendar year, I will highlight individual performance of each Judge at the next Conference.

TABLE 10: BRIEF SUMMARY ON PERFORMANCE OF CHIEF MAGISTRATES COURTS 2021

| PERFORMANCE OF THE CHIEF MAGISTRATES COURTS FOR THE YEAR 2021 | | | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Case Type | Bought-Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending |
| <i>Cases of Criminal Nature</i> | | | | |
| Criminal | 26,500 | 65,240 | 51,919 | 39,821 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Criminal Nature</i> | <i>26,500</i> | <i>65,240</i> | <i>51,919</i> | <i>39,821</i> |
| <i>Cases of Civil Nature</i> | | | | |
| Civil | 13,193 | 31,965 | 25,664 | 19,494 |
| Family | 297 | 1,118 | 958 | 457 |
| Land | 9,290 | 8,074 | 6,200 | 11,164 |
| Small Claims Procedure (Claims and Demand Notices) | 1,028 | 5,175 | 4,944 | 1,259 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Civil Nature</i> | <i>23,808</i> | <i>46,332</i> | <i>37,766</i> | <i>32,374</i> |
| Total for Chief Magistrate Courts | 50,308 | 111,572 | 89,685 | 72,195 |

Reference is made to Table 10 above;

- a) For the year 2021, Chief Magistrate Courts Brought Forward **50,308 cases** from 2020; Registered **111,572 cases**; Completed **89,685 cases** and concluded the year with **72,195 Pending cases**.
- b) The highest level of disposal (**51,919 cases**) and filing (**65,240 cases**) were of a Criminal Nature.
- c) For cases of a Civil Nature (Civil, Family, Land and Small Claims Procedure), 46,332 cases were registered and 37,766 were disposed of.

Table 11: Performance of Grade I Magistrate Courts for the Year 2021

| PERFORMANCE OF THE MAGISTRATE GRADE ONE COURTS FOR THE YEAR 2021 | | | | |
|--|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Case Type | Bought-Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending |
| Cases of Criminal Nature | | | | |
| Criminal | 9,460 | 31,516 | 26,483 | 14,493 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Criminal Nature</i> | <i>9,460</i> | <i>31,516</i> | <i>26,483</i> | <i>14,493</i> |
| Cases of Civil Nature | | | | |
| Civil | 2,643 | 10,259 | 8,155 | 4,747 |
| Family | 66 | 542 | 227 | 381 |
| Land | 2,568 | 2,677 | 1,883 | 3,362 |
| Small Claims Procedure (Claims and Demand Notices) | 73 | 1,959 | 1,635 | 397 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Civil Nature</i> | <i>5,350</i> | <i>15,437</i> | <i>11,900</i> | <i>8,887</i> |
| Total for Magistrate Grade I Courts | 14,810 | 46,953 | 38,383 | 23,380 |

Reference is made to Table 11 above;

- a) For the year 2021, Chief Magistrate Courts Brought Forward **14,810 cases** from 2020; Registered **46,953 cases**; Completed **38,383 cases** and concluded the year with **23,380 Pending cases**.
- b) The highest level of disposal (**26,483 cases**) and filing (**31,516 cases**) were of a Criminal Nature.
- c) For cases of a Civil Nature (Civil, Family, Land and Small Claims Procedure), *15,437* cases were registered and 11,900 were disposed of.

Table 12: Performance of Grade II Magistrate Courts for the Year 2021

| PERFORMANCE OF THE MAGISTRATE GRADE II COURTS FOR THE YEAR 2021 | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Case Type | Bought-Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending |
| Cases of Criminal Nature | | | | |
| Criminal | 132 | 2,195 | 1,540 | 787 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Criminal Nature</i> | <i>132</i> | <i>2,195</i> | <i>1,540</i> | <i>787</i> |
| Cases of Civil Nature | | | | |
| Civil | 17 | 222 | 84 | 155 |
| Land | 97 | 134 | 139 | 92 |
| Family | 3 | 36 | 21 | 18 |
| Small Claims Procedure (Claims and Demand Notices) | 0 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| <i>Sub Total -Cases of Civil Nature</i> | <i>117</i> | <i>396</i> | <i>244</i> | <i>269</i> |
| Total for Magistrate Grade II Courts | 249 | 2,591 | 1,784 | 1,056 |

Reference is made to Table 12 above;

- a) For the year 2021, Chief Magistrate Courts Brought Forward **249 cases** from 2020; Registered **2,591 cases**; Completed **1,784 cases** and concluded the year with **1,056 Pending cases**.
- b) The highest level of disposal (**1,540 cases**) and filing (**2,195 cases**) were of a Criminal Nature.
- c) For cases of a Civil Nature (Civil, Family, Land and Small Claims Procedure), **396 cases** were registered and **244 cases** were disposed of.

Table 12: Performance of Small Claims Procedure for the Year 2021

| COURT PERFORMANCE OF SMALL CLAIMS PROCEDURE FOR THE YEAR 2021 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| S/No. | Procedural Level | Brought Forward | Registered | Completed | Pending | Value of Claims Recovered |
| 1 | Small Claims | 1,096 | 5,554 | 5,372 | 1,278 | 10,753,826,593 |
| 2 | Demand Notices | 585 | 1,004 | 1,207 | 382 | 1,812,975,537 |
| Grand Total | | 1,681 | 6,558 | 6,579 | 1,660 | 12,566,802,130 |

Reference is made to Table 12 above;

- a) At Claim level, Small Claims Procedure Courts, overall, brought forward 1,096 cases from the year 2020, registered 5,554 cases, completed 5,372 cases, and had 1,278 pending cases by 31st December 2021.
- b) From the cases concluded at Claim level, Ushs. 10,753,826,593 was recovered, and made available for reinvestment back into the economy.
- c) At Demand Notice level, Small Claims Procedure Courts, overall, brought forward 585 cases from the year 2020, registered 1,004 cases, completed 1,207 cases, and had 382 pending cases by 31st December 2021.
- d) From the cases concluded at Demand Notice level, **Ushs. 1,812,975,537** was recovered, and made available for reinvestment back into the economy.
- e) Overall the Small Claims Procedure resolved 6,579 Commercial disputes whose value does not exceed **Ushs.10,000,000** , from which a total of **Ushs 12,566,802,130** was unlocked and made available for reinvestment back into the economy.

Traffic Light System of Performance monitoring

| ACCEPTABLE PERFORMANCE | PUT ON A PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN | DISCIPLINARY ACTION TO BE TAKEN |
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