# UGANDE LIGANDE

# **News Release**

January 27, 2023

# Allegations made by Malong are false and malicious

The attention of the Judiciary has been drawn to an article and video footage by an online publication, The Spy, by a one Malong Lawrence Lual Yor, who was tried and convicted by the Anti-Corruption Court in 2021. He was convicted and sentenced to a prison term of three years with an order to compensate the complainant USD.1,092,000.

In the said video and article, Malong alleges that the trial Judge asked for a bribe of USD.400,000 through his lawyer in order to acquit him.

## We clarify as follows:

- 1. Malong underwent trial, was found guilty and subsequently convicted by the trial court on seven of the ten counts charged. He appealed against both the conviction and sentence to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal upheld the conviction and sentenced him to two years. The Court also reduced the compensation from USD.1,092,000 to USD.419,087.
- 2. By the time of sentencing by the Court of Appeal, he had spent the two years already which necessitated his release. The release order issued by the Assistant Registrar of the Court of Appeal indicated that the conviction was quashed and sentence set aside whereas not. This position has since been corrected.
- 3. The advocate of Malong mentioned in the video, Mr. Stephen Nelson, who represented him at the initial stages of the trial was found to have no valid practicing certificate for that year and subsequently abandoned the proceedings.
- 4. Hon Justice Lawrence Gidudu has NEVER met Mr Stephen Nelson or any other advocate to discuss the case involving Malong.
- 5. The perusal of the record of the trial court is conclusive that at no stage did Malong raise any issues regarding the allegations stated in the article and video.

- 6. Had the author of the article and producer of the video looked at the record at the Court of Appeal, they would have established that the allegations by Malong were false.
- 7. It is the position of the Judiciary that the publication is false and a scheme intended to intimidate, malign and blackmail trial judges from trying and convicting persons charged of offences similar to those that were preferred against Malong.
- 8. The general public is therefore urged to ignore and treat with contempt the fabricated stories in the article and video involving Malong.
- 9. We challenge Malong to make a formal complaint to the Judicial Service Commission or any other established Complaints Handling Mechanism body so that the Hon. Judge is given the opportunity to be heard in line with the principles of natural justice.

### **ENQUIRIES**

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