

Wednesday, 28 August 2024

All Members Uganda Law Society (ULS)

Dear Members,

RE: NOTICE OF ELECTIONS OF ULS COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ULS REPRESENTATIVES ON SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2024 AT SPEKE RESORT MUNYONYO

Greetings from the members of the ULS Elections Committee.

This is to inform you that according to the 2024 ULS Activity Calendar, the ULS Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be physical and held on **Saturday**, **28 September 2024** at **Speke Resort Munyonyo**. At this AGM, ULS Members will elect the Council. Note that all the eight (8) elective positions on the Council are available to be contested. In addition, there are two (2) vacant positions for ULS Representatives on the Law Council Committee.

The ULS (Elections) Regulations, 2016 (S-I No. 4-10) ("the Regulations) provide the guidelines for conducting the ULS Council elections and this communication is intended to remind ULS members about the process leading up to the elections. Our goal is to achieve at least 95% participation of the society membership in the AGM and the electoral process. This means that all ULS members must have their names on the Electoral Roll by **Saturday, 21 September 2024, 4:00 pm.**

1. Elective Offices (Regulation 12):

The ULS Council has the following eight (8) elective positions: -

- 1) The President
- 2) The Vice President
- 3) The Treasurer
- 4) Secretary;
- 5) Four (4) Council Members (regional representatives Western, Northern, Eastern and Central regions); and
- 6) Two (2) ULS Representatives to the Law Council.

The President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are elected by all the paid-up members whose names appear on the Electoral Roll (Voters' Register) and are physically present at the AGM venue, in this case on **Saturday**, **28 September 2024**. It has been a long-standing practice for the Council Members to be elected as regional representatives. This will ensure that the leadership of ULS is inclusive and responsive to the needs and interests of different legal practitioners based and operating in different parts of the country. The four (4) Council Members are also elected by the paid up ULS Members whose names appear on the Electoral Roll and are present at the AGM.

2. Nomination of Candidates:

Under Regulation 14 of the Regulations, the qualifications for election to the Council for different positions are elaborated. The qualifications are further verified by the Elections Committee at the time each candidate submits her/his nomination papers and support documents. We urge you to read and get familiar with the Regulations as you prepare your nomination and/or participation in the electoral process including providing support for your candidate(s) of choice.

Nominations of candidates will take place on **Thursday and Friday**, **05 – 06 September 2024** at the **ULS Secretariat at Plot 5A John Babiiha Avenue (Acacia Avenue)**. Please note that a ULS member can support the nomination of only one candidate for each elective office.

3. Requirements for Nomination:

The requirements for nomination include the following: -

- a) The President, Vice President and Treasurer shall have been in legal practice for at least seven (7) years (with evidence of the practicing certificates).
- b) The Secretary and Council Members shall have been in legal practice for at least five (5) years (with evidence of the practicing certificates).
- c) Society Representative to Law Council shall have been in legal practice for at least five (5) years (with evidence of the practicing certificates).

Each prospective candidate shall provide the following: -

- a) A Nomination Form duly filled which can be collected from the ULS Secretariat Offices or downloaded from the ULS Official website.
- b) **Eligibility** for participating in the 2024 elections, meaning that you are a **fully paid-up** with the ULS and the East African Law Society. You must present to the Elections Committee certified copies of the receipts for membership payment for 2024 as a basic requirement for receipt of your Nomination Form.
- c) **The year of enrollment**: (provide a certified copy of your Certificate of Enrollment or letter from Chief Registrar of the Courts of Judicature confirming that your name is on the Roll of Advocates and the actual year and date of enrollment).
- d) A Personal Record Report indicating that you have not been convicted of a criminal offence involving moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction or been found guilty of an offence by the Law Council within twenty-four (24) months immediately preceding the nomination. The prospective candidate shall seek Law Council to provide a confirmation letter which will be delivered directly to the request at the ULS offices for the attention of the Chairperson of the Elections Committee.
- e) A Form obtained from ULS Secretariat or the website with signatures of at least 30 fully paid-up members of ULS for the year 2024. This is to support the candidature of the prospective nominee as required by Regulation 16(2). Please note that each paid up member can only nominate one candidate for an elective office (Reg. 16(3).
- f) Two (2) passport size photographs taken in the last six months.
- g) **Payment of the Nomination Fee** as provided for in Regulation 16(5), and avail to the Elections Committee both the original and a certified copy of the receipt issued by ULS Accounts Department at the time of nomination. This fee is non-refundable.
- h) A one-page profile/CV to be sent out to members by email or posted on the ULS website to publicize your candidature, once nominated.

An undischarged bankrupt or a person the subject of any bankruptcy proceedings in any country will not be eligible for nomination as a candidate (per Regulation 14 (1) (d).

4. Nomination Fee for Each Elective Position:-

- a) UGX 2,000,000/= (Uganda Shillings Two Million) for President;
- b) UGX 1,500,000/= (Uganda Shillings One Million Five Hundred Thousand) for Vice President;
- c) UGX 1,000,000/= (Uganda Shillings One Million) for Treasurer;
- d) UGX 500,000/= (Uganda Shillings Five Hundred Thousand) for Secretary;
- e) UGX 500,000/= (Uganda Shillings Five Hundred Thousand) for Council Member; and
- f) UGX 2,000,000/= (Uganda Shillings Two Million) for Law Council Society Representative.

5. Nomination Days:

The Elections Committee has set the following as Nomination days:

- a) Thursday, 05 September 2024 from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm to be the nomination day for candidates interested to take up the position of President, Vice President and Treasurer; and
- b) Friday, 06 September 2024 from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm as the nomination day for the positions of Secretary and Council members. Submission of nomination papers will be done at the ULS Secretariate. It is required that the intended candidates submit their nomination papers in person to reduce on the time taken to complete the nomination process. In case we do not receive your nomination papers for any of the elective positions indicated above on any of the two designated days then you will not be eligible to participate in the 2024 elections for Council members as a candidate. It is the responsibility of each candidate to ensure that before a society member signs the candidate's Nomination Form in support of his or her candidature, such member is duly paid up. The member should provide the serial numbers for their receipts for ULS and EALS membership.

6. Duties and Responsibilities of Council Members

To prepare for the elections, we urge you to review the duties and responsibilities for each elective position. This information is available on the ULS website. This is important for the prospective candidates to do so as well as the general membership who will make up the electorate.

7. Display of the Nominated Candidates

The Elections Committee circulate the list of the duly nominated candidates as provided under Regulation 16 (4).

8. Electoral Roll (Voters' Register)

The Elections Committee is required to compile an Electoral Roll (Voters' Register) (per Regulation 8 (1) which will include the name of the member, the receipt number and date of payment of ULS and EALS membership fees for 2024 and place of work.

It is a requirement that the Electoral Roll is displayed at the ULS Secretariat and on the official website of the Society for at least two days before the election date. The ULS Secretariat will continuously update the Electoral Roll which on the ULS Election Committee's instruction, will be availed to members for their review. The objective of displaying the Electoral Roll is to enable each member to check and confirm that their name is included and has not been misspelt or the receipt number for the subscription payments is not wrongly captured. Members should notify the Secretariat to rectify any mistakes on the Roll. The updating of the roll will end on **Saturday, 21 September 2024**.

Non-paid up ULS Members are advised to ensure their membership subscriptions are fully paid **NOT LATER** than **Saturday, 21 September 2024** by **4:00 pm.** A member who fails to meet the payment deadline **WILL NOT** be included on the Electoral Roll and will not be eligible to vote.

Members are therefore encouraged to pay your membership in good time to facilitate the preparations for the Council elections.

In case you need to make any further inquiries on the above subject, do not hesitate to contact the ULS Secretariat, in particular, Ms. Doreen ATUKUNDA on Mobile Number 0774590680/Ms. Margaret BABIRYE on mobile number 0706317017.

Yours faithfully

Moses B. MWASE

CHAIRPERSON, ULS ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

c.c. Members Elections Committee, Uganda Law Society