RADICAL NEW BAR

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE ORDER RNB NO 5 OF 2025

ACCELERATING RADICAL SURGERY OF THE JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION AND THE JUDICIARY, AND ERADICATING CHAPTER EIGHT REPUGNANCY

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the Ugandan Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission are grappling with a profound crisis, characterized by systemic inefficiencies, lack of transparency and accountability, and undue political influence, which has severely undermined the rule of law, access to justice, and public trust; and

WHEREAS the Judicial Service Commission's failure to effectively regulate and oversee the Judiciary has perpetuated a culture of impunity, mediocrity, and incompetence, further exacerbating the crisis and necessitating urgent reform; and

WHEREAS the Uganda Law Society (ULS), mandated to safeguard the rule of law, promote access to justice, and protect the integrity of the legal profession, is compelled to intervene and provide leadership in reforming the Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission, both established under Chapter Eight of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (as amended); and

WHEREAS the Radical New Bar (RNB) Governing Council of the ULS issued **Executive Order RNB No 2 of 2024** on the 29th day of October 2024, announcing radical surgery of the Judicial Service Commission and the Judiciary, and committing to halt repugnant laws, regulations, policies and practices affecting these institutions; and

WHEREAS despite efforts to implement **Executive Order RNB No 2 of 2024,** including recalling unelected ULS representatives, launching democratic elections for ULS nominees to the Judicial Service Commission, capacity-building initiatives, stakeholder engagements, and advocacy for policy reforms, the justice delivery crisis persists; and

WHEREAS the Legal Aid Project of the ULS, intended to complement these efforts, is chronically overloaded, underfunded, and understaffed, further exacerbating the crisis and necessitating a specialized committee to address these challenges; and

WHEREAS a Judiciary Affairs Committee is essential to assist the ULS in fulfilling its RNB Vision 2060 obligations regarding the Judicial Service Commission and Judiciary, by providing strategic direction and oversight for the radical surgery and reforms;

NOW, THEREFORE, the RNB Governing Council of the Uganda Law Society, by virtue of Sections 10 and 11 of the Uganda Law Society Act, Cap. 305, hereby issues this Executive Order:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Executive Order is to establish a Radical New Bar Committee to implement Sections III and IV of **Executive Order RNB No 2 of 2024**, focusing on radical surgery of the Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission, and halting unfair judicial recruitments respectively.

SECTION 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE

There is hereby established a Committee to be known as the Judiciary Affairs Committee (the Committee), which shall be responsible for providing strategic direction and oversight in relation to Chapter Eight of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (as amended).

SECTION 3. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Committee shall be responsible for:

1. Developing and implementing comprehensive reform strategies for the Judicial Service Commission and Judiciary, prioritizing merit-based appointments, transparency, accountability, equal opportunities, and good governance principles.
2. Strengthening the independence and credibility of the Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission through targeted interventions and oversight.
3. Promoting efficiency, effectiveness, and excellence in the Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission.
4. Building and maintaining strategic partnerships with stakeholders to drive the ULS's transformation agenda and advance judicial reforms.
5. Investigating and addressing allegations of corruption, nepotism, incompetence, non-performance, misbehaviour, misconduct, maladministration, and repugnancy within the Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission, ensuring accountability and integrity.

SECTION 4. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee shall comprise the following members:

1. Denis Kusaasira (Chairperson)
2. Richard Omongole
3. Robinah Kyamuhangire
4. Andrew Mumpenje
5. Enen Ambrose

SECTION 5. TENURE

The members of the Committee shall serve for a period of five years, renewable once, subject to satisfactory performance.

SECTION 6. EXPECTATIONS

Members of the Committee are expected to:

1. Contribute innovative ideas and expertise;
2. Collaborate with stakeholders to drive meaningful change and transformation within the Judiciary and Judicial Service Commission;
3. Respect confidentiality and disclose potential conflicts of interest; and
4. Act with integrity, in the best interest of the ULS, and with charity.

SECTION 7. IMPLEMENTATION

This Executive Order shall take effect immediately, and all necessary actions shall be taken by the Committee in consultation with the ULS Secretariat to implement the provisions herein.

SECTION 8. REPORTING

The Committee shall submit quarterly reports to the ULS Council, detailing progress, challenges, and recommendations for further action.

SECTION 9. PUBLICATION

This Executive Order shall be published immediately on the ULS website and circulated via official email to all ULS members.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at ULS House, Kololo, this 29th day of May 2025.

Asiimwe Anthony
Vice President
UGANDA LAW SOCIETY