UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

HOLDING STATEMENT OF ULS PRESIDENT ISAAC SSEMAKADDE FOLLOWING TODAY'S NULLIFICATION OF SECTION 115(3) OF THE PENAL CODE ACT — "INSULTING THE MODESTY OF A WOMAN"

Kampala, Uganda - 4 November 2026:

COLLEAGUES: I have been vindicated by the Constitutional Court for the second time this year.

The first was on 17 March 2026, when a five-judge bench ruled in Alternative Digitalk & Others v Attorney General that Uganda is **treaty-bound to repeal all laws criminalising sedition, insult, and the publication of false news.**

Today, the same Court has nullified the **unconstitutional framework for private prosecution** (under Section 42 of the Magistrates Courts Act) **and one of the two foundational offences upon which an international warrant of arrest** was issued against me last year.

The other offence keeping me in exile is **"contempt of court by insulting judges."** I urge the Judiciary to stop shying away from hearing my appeal against that travesty as well, so that we may restore constitutional balance to political discourse in our lifetime.

I have been relentlessly persecuted as a martyr for freedom of expression and opinion, and particularly for the nonderogable right to insult and annoy public figures. **I will not back down from this fight against censorship, authoritarianism, and present-day colonialism.**

This is good news. I thank my learned friends — **Mr. Steven Kalali (petitioner), Mr. Paul Mukiibi (co-lead counsel), and Mr. Caleb Alaka (co-lead counsel)** — who pursued this matter at their own cost, but for the benefit of my freedom.

I am one step closer to returning home to complete what we started. Blessings.

#BangTheTable #BackOnTrack
#ResistLawlessness #FreeAllPoliticalPrisoners
#NoGulag #NoApology

Isaac K. Ssemakadde, SC
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