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**24<sup>th</sup> October 2019**

**GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA**

**STATEMENT ON THE REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA PLANS TO INTRODUCE THE ANTI-HOMOSEXUALITY BILL IN PARLIAMENT**

There have been several reports in the media especially in the social media alleging that Government of Uganda plans to re-introduce the Anti-homosexuality bill in Parliament.

The reports indicated that a Member of Parliament had planned to seek leave of Parliament in August 2019 in order to draft the bill and introduce it on the floor of Parliament.

The reports also allege that some members of minority groups have been murdered in the previous 3 months.

I would like to use this opportunity to state clearly that;

1. The Anti-homosexuality act was nullified by Uganda's courts of law in 2014
2. Government of Uganda does not have any plans of re-introducing the anti-homosexuality bill on the floor of Parliament.
3. No Member of Parliament has sought leave of Parliament in order to draft and re-introduce the anti-homosexuality bill.
4. On the allegations that members of minority communities have been murdered, I would like to assert that protection of human

life is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and the laws therefrom. The Government of Uganda has robust security systems from national level up to the grassroots. Such cases should be promptly reported to Police, investigated and the perpetrators brought to book.

I would therefore like to appeal to all persons in Uganda including the minority communities to take advantage of the existing security systems such as police, internal security and the grass root systems such as the local councils to report any form of crime, harassment or abuse of their rights. The public is encouraged to share all relevant information on all matters of security including distress calls. This will enable Government to come up with timely responses to the individual situations as they arise.

Let us all join hands to ensure a crime free Uganda.



Hon. Esther M Mbayo (MP)

**MINISTER IN CHARGE OF THE PRESIDENCY**