

A Baseline Survey of Uganda's Legal Aid Service Providers

March 2012

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(PILAC)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study would not have been possible without the generous support of the fund for Global Human Rights. During the second Semester of 2011 (August to December), the School of Law, Makerere University hosted six students on the Human Rights and Democratization in Africa LLM Program whose initial work formed the basis for the study. The author is particularly grateful to each of the students for conducting the initial interviews.

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LIST OF ACRONYNS

ACHPR	African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights
ACODE	Advocates Coalition on Environment and Development
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
CEHURD	Centre for Human Rights and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESCR	Economic Social and Cultural Rights
FHRI	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
FIDA	Association of Women Lawyers in Uganda
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HURINET-U	Human Rights Network- Uganda
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil Political Rights
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic Social Cultural Rights
IDPs	Internal Displaced Persons
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IGP	Inspectorate General of Government
LAP	Legal Aid Project
LAPD	Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities
LASPNET	Legal Aid Service Providers Network

LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NUDIPU	National Union of Disabled Persons
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PIL	Public Interest Litigation
PILAC	Public Interest Law Clinic
PLA	Platform for Labour Action
PRA	Peoples Redemption Army
PRALP	Popular Resistance Against Life Presidency
PSA	Production Sharing Agreement
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities
RLP	Refugee Law Project
UBC	Uganda Broadcasting Corporation
UETCL	Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Limited
ULA	Uganda Land Alliance
ULS	Uganda Law Society
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defence Forces

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The School of Law at Makerere University established a fully-fledged Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) in January 2012, with the purpose of enhancing the practical application of Clinical Legal Education (CLE) to Law students. The project mainly aims at building the capacity and skills of Ugandan Lawyers to enable them initiate and pursue public interest litigation, teach CLE as well as organize and manage the students' clinics. It also aims at creating an avenue for the provision of legal services to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) which use public interest litigation as one of their strategies, with the ultimate goal of creating a network of legal aid clinics in Uganda, Africa and the world. The project will also facilitate research on public interest litigation cases in the courts of Uganda, and institute a system of *amici curiae* ('friends-of-the-court') briefs.

PILAC is spearheading research with the view to undertaking litigation relevant to the advancement of Public Interest Law for the protection of the vulnerable members of society. While the success of this initiative is conditional on very many factors, HURIPEC believes that before the clinic ventures into more active legal aid provision and strategic impact litigation, it is necessary to understand the current environment and context of legal aid and strategic impact litigation. This involves reviewing the major legal framework on legal aid and strategic impact litigation and most importantly understanding the work of the various key actors in the sector.

For this reason PILAC commissioned a three month baseline survey in January 2012 to map out the key legal aid service providers and the most important actors in the area of strategic impact litigation. It is our hope that the survey will guide PILACs future work and interventions and also help to identify opportunities for collaboration on existing initiatives. The survey is also expected to isolate the key challenges faced in legal aid service provision and strategic impact litigation.

METHODOLOGY

The survey involved a broad review of existing laws and the literature on legal aid services and strategic impact litigation in Uganda. In order to understand the legal and regulatory framework for legal aid service provision and strategic impact litigation in Uganda, several laws and policies were critically reviewed in order to identify key provisions that support/limit legal aid and strategic litigation. Some key international and regional treaties and declarations on legal aid that apply to Uganda were also considered. This is in addition to a review of existing publications and literature on legal aid services and strategic litigation in Uganda. The researchers also relied on the websites of key organizations to learn more about their work, challenges and achievements so far.

Leading legal aid service providers and the staff of organizations involved in strategic impact litigation were also interviewed during the course of the survey. The intention was to establish the kind of services that they provide as well as the various challenges they face in the execution of their work. These interviews were critical in the identification of the possibilities for collaboration between individual organizations and PILAC. Overall, the methodology employed was largely qualitative rather than quantitative.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Definition and Brief History of Legal Aid in Uganda

Legal aid is defined and understood differently depending on the context in which it is practiced. The Draft Uganda Legal Aid Bill for instance defines legal aid to mean the provision of legal advice or representation by a lawyer, an advocate, a paralegal or a legal aid provider as the case may be, to a client free of charge or at very minimal cost.¹ The Advocates (Legal Aid Services to Indigent Persons) Regulations defines legal aid in very similar terms.² Legal aid may therefore be generally understood as the provision of assistance to people otherwise unable to afford legal representation and access to the court system. Legal aid provision aims at among others providing access to justice by ensuring equality before the law, the right to counsel and the right to a fair hearing.

Historically, legal aid was grounded in the theory of a welfare state which created many binding obligations on the state towards its citizens. Among them was the obligation on the state to extend legal services to citizens who would otherwise not be able to afford it. In the same vein, the state was expected to provide a broad range of services such as medical/health care, social security, education and housing among others. Legal aid provided a critical tool for ensuring that the state fulfilled these obligations.³ Legal aid therefore emerged as an individual enforcement tool for a broad range of rights mainly comprised of an economic, social and cultural nature.⁴ However, it was not until the early 1940s that legal aid assumed a collective stature with the reconstruction of the welfare state and accelerated industrialization.⁵ The formulation of organized groups such as workers under trade unions who demanded collective rights rather than individual rights radically changed the face of available legal services. The state became duty bound to collectively provide legal aid to these groups for the enforcement of their rights.⁶ On the other hand, the scope of legal aid services greatly expanded to include all other disputes between citizens for which the state was held responsible.

States therefore deployed legal aid as one of the mechanisms for the fulfillment of the above obligation.⁷ Until 1980, the state was the single most active provider of legal aid services in

¹ See the proposed Draft Legal Aid Bill, 2011.

² Regulation 2 and Clause 1, Legal Aid Bill, 2011.

³ Francis Regan (1999), *The Transformation of Legal Aid: Comparative and Historical Studies*. Oxford University Press, at pp. 89–90.

⁴*Id.*

⁵*Id.*

⁶*Id.*

⁷*Id.*

those countries which adopted this mechanism of assistance, a situation that only began to change in the 1980s. Private legal service providers emerged to compliment the state and gradually states have reduced on the level of legal aid services they extend to their citizens. Many private service providers have come to fill this gap of legal aid services provision including in Uganda. In these countries, however, the state has maintained a regulatory role by adopting laws and regulations that govern the provision of legal aid services by the private service providers.

2.0 INTERNATIONAL, REGIONAL AND DOMESTIC LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON LEGAL AID

2.1 The Regional and International Legal Framework on Legal Aid

Presently, legal aid is conceptualized as an integral part of due process and the associated rights to a fair trial/hearing. For this reason, it may be said to be governed by a number of human rights treaties at both the international and regional level.⁸ Uganda is party to most of these treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR),⁹ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR),¹⁰ and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).¹¹ Article 14(1) of the ICCPR guarantees equal rights for all before all courts and tribunals while also emphasizing every person's right to a fair hearing. Article 14(3)(d) guarantees free legal representation for all persons who cannot afford legal services. On the other hand, Article 7(1) of the African

⁸ Don Fleming, 'Legal and Aid and Human Rights,' A paper Presented to the International Legal Aid Group Conference, Antwerp, 6-8 June, 2007. Available at http://www.ilagnet.org/jscripts/tiny_mce/plugins/filemanager/files/Antwerpen_2007/Conference_Papers/Legal_Aid_and_Human_Rights.pdf.

⁹ International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, UN Doc. A/6316 (1966), 999 U.N.T.S. 171. Uganda ratified the ICCPR on 21st June 1995. See <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/research/ratification-uganda.html>.

¹⁰ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, UN Doc. A/6316 (1966), 993 U.N.T.S.3, entered into force Jan. 3, 1976. Uganda ratified the ICESCR on 21st January 1987. See <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/research/ratification-uganda.html>.

¹¹ African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, 21 I.L.M. 58 (1982), *entered into force* Oct. 21, 1986. Uganda ratified the ACHPR on 10th May 1986. See <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/research/ratification-uganda.html>.

Charter guarantees the right to a fair trial in almost similar terms. The Charter protects every person's right to defense counsel. Still at the regional level, Article 8 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa protects the right of women to access judicial and legal services including legal aid.¹²

The African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) has also affirmed the right to legal aid in a number of Declarations. For example, the Dakar Declaration recognises the need for legal assistance in actualizing Articles 7 and 26 on the right to a fair trial which includes the provision of legal aid services to those who cannot otherwise afford them.¹³ Finally, the Lilongwe Declaration enjoins African states to recognize and support the right to legal aid in their criminal justice systems.¹⁴ The Declaration provides one of the most comprehensive guidelines on legal aid services provision in Africa.

2.2 The Ugandan Legal Framework on Legal Aid

A. Constitution of Uganda, 1995

The Ugandan Constitution does not contain an express provision on legal aid but can be said to tacitly incorporate it in a number of provisions. Article 21 of the Constitution for instance guarantees equality before the law for all Ugandan citizens. This in effect means that the poor and the well to do are equal before the law. Article 28 on the other hand protects the right to a fair hearing which includes among others the presumption of innocence until proved guilty, the right to adequate time and facilities to prepare one's defense, the right to an interpreter, the right to a lawyer at ones cost and the right to cross examine witnesses among others. Importantly, these rights can only be effectively realized where there is legal representation although the Constitution only guarantees free legal representation in cases where the maximum penalty is death.¹⁵

¹² See Article 8, Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, Adopted by the African Union on 11th July 2003 and entered into force on 25th November 2005. Also available on http://www.achpr.org/english/info/women_en.html.

¹³ See ACHPR /Res.41(XXVI)99: Resolution on the Right to Fair Trial and Legal Aid in Africa (1996). Also available at http://www.achpr.org/english/resolutions/resolution46_en.html.

¹⁴ Lilongwe Declaration on Accessing Legal Aid in the Criminal Justice System in Africa, Conference on Legal Aid in Criminal Justice: the Role of Lawyers, Non- Lawyers and other service Providers in Africa, Lilongwe, Malawi, Novemebr 22-24, 2004. Available on <http://www.penalreform.org/files/rep-2004-lilongwe-declaration-en.pdf>.

¹⁵ See Article 28 (2) (e)

It should also be mentioned that the Uganda Constitution makes provision for yet another albeit indirect avenue for legal aid in terms of public interest litigation. Article 50(2) of the Constitution bestows on any person including any organisation the right to bring an action against the violation of any persons' or group's rights. In effect the provision has relaxed the rules of *Locus Standi*.¹⁶ Over the years, this provision has been relied on by various individuals and organizations to challenge human rights violations against citizens who would not otherwise afford the cost of legal services.¹⁷ Such actions may therefore be said to constitute legal aid but of a strategic nature whose intended results are meant to benefit a larger group of persons.

B. Other Relevant Laws

The Poor Persons Defence Act is one of the laws that provides for legal aid. Under the Act, legal aid is an entitlement where it appears desirable and in the interests of justice that a prisoner should be provided with legal aid to prepare and conduct his or her defence, and yet his/her means are insufficient to obtain legal counsel.¹⁸ Upon committal to prison, such a prisoner is assigned an advocate and the remuneration of such advocate is payable from monies provided by Parliament as determined by the judge.¹⁹

The Advocates Act as well as the various Regulations made under it also make major provision for legal aid.²⁰ Under the Advocates Act, the Uganda Law Council is mandated to exercise general supervision and control over legal aid services provision in the country.²¹ Using this mandate, the Uganda Law Council developed the Advocates (Legal Aid Services to Indigent Persons) Regulations, No. 12 of 2007. The Regulations establish general rules that govern the provision of legal aid services. These include rules on the registration of legal aid service providers, eligibility for legal aid, as well as client care and quality standards

¹⁶ See Phillip Karugaba, 'Public Interest Litigation in Uganda, Practice and Procedure: Shipwrecks and Seamarks,' A paper Presented at the Judicial Symposium on Environmental Law for Judges of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeal, 11th – 13th September, Imperial Botanical Beach Hotel. Also available on http://greenwatch.or.ug/pdf/news/SHIPWRECKS_AND_SEAMARKS.pdf.

¹⁷ *Uganda Land Alliance v. Attorney General*, High Court Miscellaneous Case N0.0001 of 2004. The case was brought by the Uganda Land Alliance on behalf of the Benet people, a small, poor and marginalized group living on the slopes of Mount Elgon.

¹⁸ Section 2, Poor Persons Defence Act cap 20.

¹⁹Section 3 Poor Persons Defence Act. See also Hellen Obura, 'Laws and Practices in East Africa: A Case of Uganda,' A paper presented at the 8th East African Judicial Conference Arusha, Tanzania. Also available at <http://www.eamja.org/arusha2010.html>.

²⁰ The Advocates Act Cap. 267 (As amended by Act. No. 27 of 2002).

²¹ Section 3 (e).

among others. Following the amendment of the Advocates Act to provide for legal services to indigent persons by all advocates, the Law Council also developed the Advocates (Pro bono Services to Indigent Persons) Regulations No. 39 of 2009. Under the Regulations, all advocates are enjoined to provide pro bono services for at least 40 hours a year or to pay money in lieu thereof. An advocate who fails to comply with these provisions may have his or her application for the renewal of a practicing certificate denied. Finally, the Law Council has drafted the Advocates (Student Practice) Regulations 2004 which grants the right of audience to persons under instructions to acquire professional skills for the purposes of enrolment provided they appear with an advocate with a valid practicing certificate. This widens the scope of persons who may provide legal aid to include students in their advanced stages of legal training.

While the above provisions greatly enhance and entrench legal aid in the country, they generally fall short of establishing a right to legal aid *per se*. In the main, they attempt to create mandatory obligations on lawyers to offer free annual representation to persons who would otherwise not be able to afford legal fees, rather than putting in place a consistent and sustainable framework for the availability of legal aid services.

Realising this glaring gap, the Government recently embarked on a process of developing a law and policy for the regulation of the legal aid services sector. Although not yet passed into law, a draft National Legal Aid policy and Legal Aid Bill have been crafted. So far, there have been various consultations on the draft documents.²² The draft Policy aims at systematically reconfiguring the nature, scope and method of delivery of existing legal aid amidst increasing costs of providing legal aid. Further, the policy underscores the role of legal aid in harnessing access to justice. On the other hand the draft Legal Aid Bill sets out to give effect to the constitutional provisions on legal aid while at the same time making provision for legal aid to indigent persons.²³ The Act also establishes a Legal Aid Commission whose roles include among others providing and coordinating legal aid services in the country.²⁴ What is evident in both the draft Policy and Bill is the reluctance of government to assume the obligation of legal aid services provision. This is even more apparent in the policy which outlines the government's role as that of merely organising and strengthening the legal aid sector rather than the actual provision of services. The government should ordinarily be seen to be at the forefront of legal aid services provision rather than relegating this important obligation to private legal aid service providers.

²² Interview with Christine Birabwa, National Coordinator Justice Centers, on January 13th 2012.

²³ See Long Title, Draft Legal Aid Act 2011.

²⁴ See Section 3 and 13, Draft Legal Aid Act, 2011.

3.0 LEGAL AID SERVICE PROVIDERS IN UGANDA

From the above, it can be said that the future of the legal aid services sector lies largely with non-state actors, unless drastic measures are taken to change this. Given this trend, civil society and other legal aid service providers outside government are and will be very critical in guaranteeing access to justice for indigent persons through provision of legal aid.²⁵ At this point, the study will review the status of non-state legal aid service providers highlighting among others their areas of interest, the challenges they face, and the achievements so far realized, as well as the potential areas of partnership with PILAC. A great deal of emphasis is put on those organisations involved in legal aid services provision and/or public interest in line with PILAC's objectives.

A. Uganda Land Alliance (ULA)

Uganda Land Alliance (ULA) is a national organisation committed to the provision of pro bono legal services to indigent persons. The range of legal services provided ranges from active legal representation in court to alternative dispute resolution of clients' complaints. Outside legal aid, the organisation is also involved in advocacy around land rights especially those of marginalized groups including women. This takes the form of advocacy in the media targeting the public and the relevant policy makers.

Occasionally, ULA gets involved in strategic litigation on issues that affect a wide group of people. The biggest success so far achieved has been with the petition filed in the High Court of Uganda 2004 challenging the eviction of the Benet, a small ethnic minority group traditionally resident on the slopes of Mount Elgon. As a lead petitioner ULA, successfully contested the acts of the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) in evicting the Benet to create space for conservation without affording them any form of compensation or any other alternatives. In the land mark decision, the court not only found the evictions illegal but also directed the government to provide the Benet with a broad range of economic and social rights, including an adequate standard of living, education and health facilities.²⁶ The decision in this case contains one of the most progressive pronouncements on economic and social rights in Uganda.

²⁵ See Hansen Obel Thomas (2011), Report of Access to Justice and Legal Aid in East Africa, Danish Institute for Human Rights, København K.

²⁶ *Uganda Land Alliance v. Attorney General*, High Court Miscellaneous Case N0. 0001 of 2004.

This success notwithstanding, the organisation is greatly constrained and unable to take on other cases of this nature.²⁷ Litigation involves a great deal of resources including finances and human assets which are presently beyond the organization's capacity. For this reason ULA is open to collaborating with other organizations so as to combine scarce resources for concerted action.²⁸ ULA would be open in partnering to extend legal aid services and strategic litigation to northern Uganda areas where issues of HIV/AIDs and land rights often arise.

B. Centre for Health Human Rights and Development (CEHURD)

The Centre for Health Human Rights and Development (CEHURD) is one of the few organizations actively involved in legal aid provision on ESCRs in the form of strategic litigation. CEHURD's mission is to realize an effective, equitable, people centered public health system that ensures universal access to healthcare, while upholding general human rights guarantees.²⁹ Its objectives include among others; serving as a public health law resource center in the East Africa Region, advocacy for the health rights of marginalized populations and supporting and identifying strategic cases that advance health rights.³⁰

Most of CEHURD's work so far has centered on the right to health although its mandate covers a broad spectrum of all other rights.³¹ On the 27th of May 2010, the Centre together with the families of two mothers who lost their lives in government hospitals while giving birth instituted a public interest case in the High Court.³² The petition in the main contends that the death in both instances was a result of the country's poor healthcare system. While the case is yet to be determined, it is the first ever of its nature to be filed and a favorable decision will go a long way in curbing maternal death as a result of government's neglect in the health sector.

²⁷ Interview with Proscovia Nakanjako, Programme Officer, Land Observatory, Uganda Land Alliance, on 2nd February 2012.

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ See <http://www.cehurd.org/about/>.

³⁰*Id.* Also, Interview with Moses Mulumba, Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights and Development, on October 31st 2011.

³¹ Interview with David Kabanda, Advocate, Centre for Human Rights and Development, on February 4th 2012.

³²Constitutional Petition No. 16 of 2010. See also Government wants Maternal Health Case Dismissed. Available on <http://www.cehurd.org/2011/10/government-wants-maternal-health-case-dismissed/>

The Center is also behind the most recent petition aimed at advancing disability rights.³³ The petition contends that the use of words such as ‘idiots’ and ‘imbeciles’ in the law in reference to persons with mental disabilities is derogatory and unconstitutional. Furthermore, it is contended in the petition that the detention of persons with mental disabilities under the Trial on Indictments Act without due process is discriminatory.³⁴ As with the maternal health case, the disability rights petition offers great hope for reform of the country’s laws. Nonetheless, many challenges still abound most prominent of which is the uncertainties involved in litigation as well as its protracted nature. Others include the view that economic, social and cultural rights are not justiciable in Uganda and the reluctance of government to enforce court decisions.³⁵

Besides litigation, the Centre undertakes various reviews aimed at identifying laws that impact on citizen’s right to health, especially those that discriminate against certain groups in health service provision. While most of these laws are unconstitutional and should be challenged before the courts of law, CEHURD alone does not have sufficient capacity to solely undertake this process. PILAC and other likeminded organizations would add great value to the centers work in supporting these initiatives.³⁶

C. Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities (LAPD)

LAPD is a disability rights organisation committed to promoting and defending the rights of persons with disabilities. The organisation aims at using legal tools among others to advance the rights of disabled individuals. To that end LAPD provides legal aid to indigent Persons with Disabilities whose rights have been violated. Some of the human rights issues LAPD has worked on in this respect include the right of PWDs to access land, domestic violence and child desertion.³⁷ A record eighty five (85) cases of these have been undertaken so far. LAPD is also committed to bringing cases of a strategic interest before the courts of law in order to achieve the more comprehensive redress of violations against PWDs.³⁸

³³ *CEHURD & Yiga Daniel v. Attorney General*, Constitutional Petition No. 64 of 2011.

³⁴ Kabanda Interview, op.cit.

³⁵*Id.*

³⁶*Id.*

³⁷ Interview with Laura Kanushu, Executive Director, Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda (LAPD) on February 4th, 2012.

³⁸*Id.*

At present, LAPD has two strategic cases before the courts and on average has at least one Public Interest Litigation case per year. In Constitutional Petition No. 40 of 2010, LAPD is challenging the provisions of the law on the election of the representatives of PWDs. The law presently vests the power to organize the election of PWDs representatives in an umbrella organisation of PWDs as opposed to an electoral college as is the case with other special interest groups such as the youth. Secondly, for one to be elected as a representative of PWDs, they must be a member of the umbrella organization. And yet, not all PWDs are members of the National Union of Disabled Persons Union (NUDIPU) which is the umbrella organisation. On the whole, the petition contends that the current electoral framework discriminates against certain PWDs by denying them an opportunity to vote, campaign and contest for legislative office.³⁹ The law also in effect promotes forced association, which arises from the fact that to participate in the electoral process one has to be affiliated to NUDIPU.

The second petition contests the reluctance of Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA) and Makerere University to put in place access facilities for PWDs. It is contended that this amounts to discrimination against PWDs contrary to the Constitution and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which Uganda recently ratified. At the time of the interview, there were proposals to broaden the scope of defendants to include all government institutions across the country.⁴⁰

Aside from providing pro bono services and pursuing public interest litigation, the organization also conducts several human rights trainings, undertakes legislative lobbying, law reform advocacy in partnership with other organizations that deal with PWDs. LAPD also regularly engages magistrates and judges on the rights of PWDs.⁴¹ Additionally, a number of publications on the rights of PWDs have been developed and these are very useful in as far so they provide background research for select public interest cases on the rights of PWDs. In terms of achievements, the biggest so far has been the compulsion of the national broadcasting TV station i.e. the Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) to have a sign language interpreter during news hour. This notwithstanding, there still exists a number of challenges and these include protracted litigation which frustrates clients.

³⁹ Interview with David Were, Advocate Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda (LAPD) on February 4th 2012.

⁴⁰*Id.*

⁴¹ Interview with Boaz Muhumuza, Legal Officer, Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda (LAPD) on February 4th 2012.

Secondly, most legal aid programs are highly dependent on donor funding which limits their duration.

D. Platform for Labor Action (PLA)

PLA is a Ugandan NGO with the mission of promoting and protecting the rights of vulnerable and marginalized workers through the empowerment of communities and individuals. To achieve this goal, the organisation engages in a combination of advocacy, *pro bono* and public interest litigation. This is done within three thematic departments namely; legal aid, child protection and community empowerment. The legal aid department is also seen as the harbinger of public interest litigation within the organisation. On a daily basis the department receives about 120 cases and by November 2011, 5,000 cases had been registered. Most of these complaints are related to Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and include social security, unfair labor practices and pension fund claims, among others.

PLA has so far not undertaken strategic litigation in the strict sense. Nonetheless, it has carried out research on key areas of economic, social and cultural rights. This research and experience is key in identifying key issues which can form a basis of strategic litigation.

In terms of achievements so far, PLA considers that as a result of its work there has been a considerable reduction in corruption in the social security fund, increased prosecution of corrupt public officers as well as increased transparency in the sector. PLA has also greatly contributed to the reform and restructuring of the pension sector through its advocacy efforts. Most of these reforms are evident in the proposed Pension Bill. The biggest challenge to these efforts remains political interference in prosecution of the corrupt as well as selective prosecution. Even where cases are won, there is no corresponding action from government to enforce such decisions.

E. Human Rights Network- Uganda (HURINET-U)

HURINET-U is a network organisation of over forty human rights organizations. These organizations are committed to diverse but complimentary human rights issues that include child rights, economic, social and cultural rights, minority rights, women's rights, media rights, labor rights and conflict resolution. In terms of structure, the organisation has three main departments that include Finance and Administration, Advocacy, Research and

Information Exchange and the Capacity Building and Network Development Department.⁴² The ESCR project which is relevant in this case is domiciled in the Advocacy, Research and Information Exchange department.⁴³ Under the project, civil society has been mobilized under the ESCR coalition to follow up on the government's obligations under the ICESCR. At the moment, there are also efforts to draft a shadow report comprising of civil society views on the country's progress in the realization of ESCRs.⁴⁴ In 2008, HURINET-U conducted and published a report of a study on the right to health and education in Karamoja and Northern Uganda region.⁴⁵ The ESCR campaign and research undertaken under the project present key issues for a public interest litigation case in Uganda and it would be very useful for PILAC to follow up on these initiatives.

Although HURINET-U is yet to undertake a case of public interest on ESCRs, over the years the organisation has been actively involved in public interest cases on civil political rights. In 2005, HURINET-U supported a petition brought by Muwanga-Kivumbi a member of the group Popular Resistance against Life Presidency (PRALP) challenging numerous provisions of the Police Act that among others required demonstrators to seek the written permission of the Inspector General of Police (IGP) before holding assemblies contrary to Article 29 of the Constitution that guaranteed citizens' right to assemble and demonstrate.⁴⁶ In a landmark decision, the impugned provisions were found unconstitutional, thereby broadening the space for assembly and demonstration.⁴⁷ Most recently in 2009, HURINET-U supported journalists Angelo Izama and Charles Mpagi Mwanguhya to challenge the acts of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Energy in denying access to the Oil Production Sharing Agreements (PSA) entered into between the government of Uganda and various multinational oil companies. From the above analysis and the various interviews conducted, there is great potential for partnership between HURINET-U and PILAC.

⁴² Interview with Patrick Tumwine, Advocacy, Information and Research Officer, HURINET-U, on January 9th 2012.

⁴³*Id.*

⁴⁴*Id.*

⁴⁵ Obligations Unfulfilled, The Rights to Education and Health in Karamoja and Northern Uganda Region, HURINET-U, 2008. Available on www.hurinet.or.ug/index.php?=com-docman...doc.

⁴⁶ Constitutional Petition No. 9 of 2005.

⁴⁷ Tumwine interview, op.cit.

F. Uganda Law Society (ULS)

The Uganda Law Society is a professional statutory body of lawyers enrolled to practice law in Uganda, whose mandate includes promotion of the rule of law. ULS aims at maintaining and improving the standards of the legal profession in Uganda through diverse ways. Among the various programs run by ULS is the Legal Aid Project (LAP) established in 1992 with the support of the Norwegian Bar Association to provide legal assistance to indigent and vulnerable people. As of January 2012, the project had assisted thousands of indigent men, women and children to realize their rights. The project also supports legal aid clinics in the districts of Kabarole, Kabale, Masindi, Jinja, Gulu and Luzira in addition to the headquarters at Kampala. On average, these clinics receive about two thousand five hundred cases per year, ranging from land and property issues to family and employment matters. ULS has also been very actively involved in drafting the National Legal Aid Policy and Law among others. The organisation also holds regular trainings of community based paralegals that offer legal services at the community level.

Besides providing legal aid to individual persons, the ULS also occasionally brings cases of a public interest nature to the courts. In 2002 for instance, ULS was one of the petitioners that challenged the execution of two UPDF officers summarily tried, convicted and executed by the UPDF field court martial in one day outside provisions of the Constitution.⁴⁸ In 2005, the ULS challenged the acts of the infamous ‘black mamba’ a hitherto unknown security outfit that invaded the courts of law and re-arrested Peoples Redemption Army (PRA) suspects who had been granted bail. It was contended that this amounted to an infringement of the well-grounded principle of judicial independence.⁴⁹

Despite these major successes, ULS still experiences major challenges in providing legal aid services as well as in public interest litigation. Most members of the legal profession on whom the organisation draws for its operations are based in Kampala which makes it very difficult to access and provide legal aid services in other areas of the country. Lastly in this regard, the government is very reluctant to enforce and comply with the decisions of the courts, rendering court gains somewhat irrelevant.

⁴⁸ *Uganda Law Society and Jackson Karugaba v. Attorney General*, Const. Pet. No. 2 of 2002 and No. 8 of 2002.

⁴⁹ *Uganda Law Society v. Attorney General*, Constitutional Petition No. 18 of 2005.

G. Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)

FHRI is a nongovernmental organisation whose main focus is human rights advancement in Uganda. The organization's mission is to enhance knowledge, respect and observance of human rights, promote information exchange and best practices through training, education, research, advocacy and strategic partnerships and to promote a strong and democratic human rights culture as a foundation for peace, stability, social justice and sustainable development in Uganda. In 2012, FHRI modified its focus to include the concept of fostering social accountability. This includes the social protection of vulnerable and minority groups, judicial independence, citizen participation and access to justice.⁵⁰

FHRI also provides legal aid in its legal services division under three broad categories which include pro bono service, criminal legal defense and public interest litigation. The pro bono legal aid service entails the provision of free legal services to the vulnerable and indigent. On the other hand, criminal legal defense involves provisions of legal services in situations of the repatriation of torture victims, representation of death row inmates and the use of paralegal advisory services. The last attribute of legal aid offered is public interest litigation. Under this arm of service, the organisation aims to protect the rights of citizens and obtain redress for violation of constitutionally guaranteed rights.

In 2008, FHRI challenged the provisions of the Magistrates Court Act and the Trial on Indictments Act that among others required proof of exceptional circumstances before a suspect in criminal proceedings could be granted bail. This they argued was contrary to the spirit of Article 23 of the Constitution that guaranteed the right of an accused person to apply for bail.⁵¹ FHRI also supported death row prisoners in Luzira prison to challenge the constitutionality of the death penalty in a very prominent public interest litigation case under the death penalty project.⁵² The organisation was instrumental in providing representation and research in support of scrapping the death penalty.

⁵⁰ See <http://www.fhri.or.ug/>.

⁵¹ See *Foundation for Human Rights Initiative v. Attorney General*, Const Pet. No 20 of 2006.

⁵² *Susan Kigula and 417 Ors v. Attorney General*, Constitutional Petition No. 6 of 2003.

H. Association of Women Lawyers in Uganda (FIDA)

FIDA Uganda was founded by a group of women lawyers in 1974 to promote their professional and intellectual growth. The organisation was also dedicated to the protection and promotion of the rights of women in Uganda through various ways. One of the ways was via the setting up of legal aid clinics to attend to women whose rights have been either violated or threatened.⁵³ The first clinic was set up in Kampala in 1988 and has since been very active in providing legal services to women who cannot otherwise afford them. FIDA has also since diversified its approaches beyond legal aid services provision to include advocacy and training of defenders of women's rights. At present, the organisation boasts of a membership of over three hundred members.⁵⁴

In terms of PIL, FIDA has been at the fore front of petitions challenging discriminative laws against women. In *Uganda Association of Women Lawyers v. Attorney General and Ors*, FIDA successfully challenged the provisions of the Divorce Act which made it more difficult for women to divorce abusive husbands while the reverse was not true.⁵⁵ In the main, the petition contended that by providing for different grounds for women and men seeking divorce, the law was discriminative in as far as it required women to prove both adultery and some other ground while men only needed to prove one ground. In sum, most of FIDA's services are constrained to providing legal aid to individual persons rather than pursuing litigation with a broad impact.

I. Advocates Coalition on Development and Environment (ACODE)

ACODE is an independent public policy think tank with operations in the Eastern and southern Africa sub regions. Its mission is to make public policies work for people through evidence-based policy research and analysis. Over the years, ACODE has come to be widely known as a public policy research and analysis think tank in the areas of governance, trade, environment, science and technology. The organisation is also a member of several civil society coalitions such as the Civil Society Coalition on Oil, police reform and the 'Return our Money' campaign.

Research and policy analysis is the key driver of ACODE's work. Nonetheless over the years the organisation has brought and supported cases in the public interest.⁵⁶ In the year 2000, ACODE together with another environmental law NGO sought a petition against the

⁵³ Interview with Dr. Maria Nassali, Executive Director, FIDA, Uganda, on March 7th 2012.

⁵⁴*Id.* See also <http://www.fidauganda.org/our-origins>.

⁵⁵*Id.*

⁵⁶ Interview with Godber Tumushabe, Executive Director, ACODE, on March 21st 2012.

construction of a hotel in a wetland. Although the injunction was denied, the court upheld the right of citizens to petition in the public interest.⁵⁷ In yet another successful petition, ACODE successfully challenged the degazettement of Butamira forest for the purposes of sugarcane growing. It was stated that the degazettement of the forests would affect the ecosystem and infringe on citizens right to a healthy and clean environment.⁵⁸ Most recently, ACODE was a lead petitioner in the ‘return our money’ case that sought to have members of parliament return the monies they received for monitoring public programs on the ground that it amounted to a wastage and abuse of public funds.⁵⁹ ACODE is therefore a key partner in public interest litigation as a petitioner and through research which can be utilized to identify issues for public interest litigation.

J. Refugee Law Project (RLP)

RLP started as a project on refugee rights under the then Faculty of Law at Makerere University. Over the years it diversified its work to include conflict resolution, gender violence and the rights of sexual minorities, among others. At the moment RLP is a member of various coalitions such as the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutionalism, the Coalition against Torture, Northern Uganda Transitional Justice Working Group and the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET) among others.⁶⁰

In terms of legal aid, RLP provides legal services to refugees, asylum seekers and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Legal aid is located within the Access to Justice department which receives and handles both criminal and civil cases although the latter dominate. Most cases in the category of civil law are either referred to the Uganda Law Society (ULS) or settled outside the formal court system. On the whole, most cases concerning refugees are put before the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) which is the department in charge of refugees. In 2011 alone, RLP received over three thousand two hundred (3,200) cases. Although RLP largely handles individual cases, it is also active in Public Interest Litigation

⁵⁷ Miscellaneous Application No.390 of 2001 (Arising from HCCS No.834 of 2000).

⁵⁸ Miscellaneous Cause no. 0100 of 2004.

⁵⁹ *Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment and 4 Ors v. Attorney General and Anor*, Const. Petition No. 14 of 2011.

⁶⁰ Interview with Salima Namusoby, Senior Legal Officer, Refugee Law Project, on March 1st 2012.

for certain categories of cases. Presently, RLP has instituted a public interest case seeking clarification on citizenship and naturalization of refugees.⁶¹

Besides legal aid, RLP employs other advocacy strategies including periodic publications, media advocacy, human rights trainings and capacity building. In 2011, following the Governments of Uganda and Rwanda's revocation of the cessation clause to forcibly repatriate Rwandese refugees from Uganda, RLP was very active in challenging this position and mobilized activists both in Uganda and abroad through using its international list serve.⁶² As a result of these efforts, the international community acted on this information to pressure the Ugandan and Rwandese governments to halt the forcible repatriation process.

K. Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law

The Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional law was formed in the wake of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2009 to among others have the bill scrapped. The main objective of the coalition at inception was to have the bill dropped and to promote a positive sexual rights agenda for Uganda.⁶³ The coalition currently comprises of forty three (43) organizations including the media, human rights organizations, LGBTI groups, refugees and individual human rights activists. Legal aid is largely offered by member organizations rather than by the coalition. Nonetheless the coalition is very active in litigating high profile public interest cases. At the moment, the coordinator of the coalition has petitioned the constitutional court to challenge certain provisions of the Equal Opportunities Act.⁶⁴ The petition contests the provision of the Act that prohibits persons involved in what is termed 'socially unacceptable behavior' from seeking redress from any court of law on the grounds of discrimination.

In 2010, the Coalition actively supported a case in which the photographs and names of several persons who were alleged to be homosexual were published in a local tabloid, the *Rolling Stone*. The court found this to constitute an infringement of these persons' right to privacy and accordingly issued an injunction against the newspaper in addition to awarding damages to the affected individuals.⁶⁵

⁶¹ Constitutional Petition No. 24 of 2010.

⁶² Namusobya interview, op.cit.

⁶³ Interview with Adrian Juuko, Coordinator, Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law, on February 2nd 2012.

⁶⁴ *Adrian Juuko v. Attorney General*, Constitutional Petition No. 1 of 2009.

⁶⁵ *Kasha Jacqueline, David Kato Kisuule and Patience Onziema v. Rolling Stone and Giles Muhame*, Misc. Cause No. 163 of 2010, unreported.

Aside from litigation, the coalition has adopted various strategies including issuing press statements condemning homophobia and the commemoration of the international day against homophobia to further its work and the notion of equality in the country. This is in addition to media campaigns and the active lobbying of members of parliament. As a result, there is increased dialogue on LGBTI rights and successful lobbying of the Ministry of Health and the Uganda AIDS Commission to include issues of homosexuality in HIV/AIDS policies. The main challenge remains the considerable homophobia against gay, lesbian persons and LGBTI activists. Secondly, the idea that LGBTI rights are a western creation greatly impedes the recognition of these rights. It is therefore important that attitudes against homosexuality are changed and the very discriminative laws set aside. The Coalition welcomes all efforts to achieve this objective.

L. Greenwatch Uganda

Greenwatch was established in 1995 and has since grown to be a leading environmental rights advocacy NGO in Uganda. The organisation aims at promoting the sustainable use, management and protection of the environment and natural resources, while at the same time enforcing the right to a clean and healthy environment. To achieve these objectives, Greenwatch works with communities, government institutions including the judiciary, police, local governments and select individuals. In terms of strategy, Greenwatch aims at empowering people to participate in environmental management decisions as well as in sustainable management and protection of the environment. On the other hand, the organisation also aims at ensuring that policy makers apply best environmental management practices in decision making.⁶⁶ To this end, the organisation is engaged in a variety of advocacy campaigns including media advocacy, trainings and capacity building of the communities, policy makers and other relevant stakeholders.⁶⁷

One other important component of the organizations' work is strategic impact litigation. Over the years, Greenwatch has either in its own right or in partnership with other organizations brought a number of public interest litigation cases on environmental matters. In 1999, Greenwatch participated in a public interest case that challenged the conclusion of a Power Purchase Agreement without an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) issued by NEMA.⁶⁸ Still in 2000, Greenwatch together with another environmental NGO challenged

⁶⁶ See also http://www.greenwatch.or.ug/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=60&Itemid=29

⁶⁷ Interview with Irene Sekyewa, Deputy Executive Director, Greenwatch, on 3rd February 2012.

⁶⁸ *National Association of Professional Environmentalists v. Attorney General*, Misc. Cause No. 60 of 1999.

the conversion of a wetland for hotel construction in the landmark case against Golf Course Holdings.⁶⁹ In 2001, Greenwatch successfully challenged the secrecy around the Power Purchase Agreements entered into between the government of Uganda and AES Nile Power. It was contended that the denial of information on these agreements was counter to the right of citizens to access information in possession of the state or its agencies under the Constitution.⁷⁰ In 2002, Greenwatch brought a public interest case seeking regulation of the manufacture, use, distribution and sale of plastic bags as well as the restoration of the environment in the state it was before the menace caused by the plastic bags.⁷¹ Finally in 2004, Greenwatch was very active in a petition brought to seek an injunction against the transportation and exportation of chimpanzees from Uganda to China or any other country.⁷² Most efforts in the public interest have therefore been in the realm of environmental law and the right to a clean and healthy environment.

J. LDC Legal Aid Clinic (LAC)

The Legal aid clinic was started by the Law Development Centre; an education institution established under the Law Development Centre Act.⁷³ The center also offers a one year post-graduate diploma in law, ordinary diploma in law and various short courses.⁷⁴ The clinic was established in 1998 with the main objective of training bar course students as part of the new curriculum integrating CLE in legal training.⁷⁵ The clinic therefore integrates CLE components such as interviewing, counseling and trial advocacy for this purpose.⁷⁶ This is aimed at enhancing the professional training of post-graduate law students at the center while at the same time promoting the role of lawyers in community service through practical experience based on learning and legal representation of indigent persons.⁷⁷ Most of these comprise of juvenile offenders, petty criminals and children in need of care and

⁶⁹ *Greenwatch and Advocates Coalition on Development and Environment v. Golf-course Holdings*, HC Misc. Application No 390 of 2001.

⁷⁰ *Greenwatch v. Attorney General and Uganda Electricity Transmission Company (UETCL)*, HCT -00-CV-MC-0139 of 2001.

⁷¹ *Greenwatch v. Attorney General and National Environmental Management Authority*, Misc. Application No. 104 of 2002.

⁷² High Court Misc. Application No. 92 of 2004 (arising from Misc. Cause No. 15 of 2004).

⁷³ Law Development Centre Act, cap 132.

⁷⁴ See <http://www.ldc.ac.ug/>

⁷⁵ See <http://www.ldc.ac.ug/?q=node/6>

⁷⁶ *Id.*

⁷⁷ Interview with Theo Weibale, Clinic Manager, LDC Legal Aid Clinic on April 20th 2012.

protection.⁷⁸ In the past, the clinic has considered strategic litigation on child rights but was not successful for several reasons including inadequate resources and the fact that the clinic is itself a government establishment.⁷⁹ Nonetheless, the clinic plans on bringing an action against government regarding the situation of children whose mothers have been incarcerated in partnership with another entity which is yet to be identified.⁸⁰ The LDC legal aid clinic therefore concentrates on individual cases particularly those involving juveniles rather than public interest litigation but is key in identifying cases of a strategic nature that can be litigated upon in the public interest.

K. Legal Aid Service Providers outside Kampala

There are equally many legal aid service providers outside Kampala with some having an existence in both places. i.e within and without Kampala. They include NGO's, Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and International Organizations.⁸¹ The government is also providing legal aid in the districts of Tororo and Lira under the justice centers project.⁸² Most of the upcountry legal aid services providers are confined to northern Uganda although even then they are quite unevenly spread. In terms of both geographical coverage as well as quality of services the north leads and is followed by the eastern and western regions.⁸³ The Lake Victoria shores and Karamoja regions have the most inadequate providers in terms of quality and coverage.⁸⁴ This notwithstanding, upcountry legal aid service providers have one major characteristic. Most of them concentrate on individual cases and are not very active in public interest litigation. Some of the issues handled by these organizations therefore include; land and property disputes, child rights violations, domestic and sexual violence cases.⁸⁵ Public interest litigation meant to benefit the rural people is still undertaken by Kampala based organizations since they have the capacity and resources.

⁷⁸ *Id.*

⁷⁹ *Id.*

⁸⁰ *Id.*

⁸¹ LASPNET, Mapping Report: Legal Aid Service Provision in Uganda, April 2011.

⁸² Birabwa interview, op.cit.

⁸³ *Id.*

⁸⁴ *Id.*

⁸⁵ *Id.* See also, Justice Centres Uganda, Mapping Trends Analysis of Key Issues in the Justice Centres Uganda Casework, August 2011

4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

From the above analysis numerous conclusions and recommendations can be made. First of all, it is clear that there is no comprehensive and specific legal aid framework directed at regulating the legal aid sector in Uganda. At the moment, only a handful of provisions in the Constitution, the Poor Persons Defence Act and the Advocates Act make provision for legal aid. Moreover, it is only of recent that the state embarked on the development of laws and a policy to regulate legal aid, yet even these are still inadequate in many ways. For this reason, most legal aid services are sporadic and rather unsystematic. Legal aid is also largely provided by non-state actors with very mild interest from the government. As it is now, most legal services provided by government for free are rather generalised and don't necessarily target the most deserving populations. They include free legal assistance offered by the office of the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP), labor and employment officers, police child and family protection unit and district probation officers among others.⁸⁶

Secondly, most legal aid service providers offer personal/individual services as opposed to engaging in public interest cases. Only a few organizations provide legal aid services to individual persons while at the same time engaging in public interest litigation. Even fewer organizations are actively involved in public interest litigation cases without necessarily providing legal aid services to individual clients. This is largely because they don't have the capacity and resources to do so while for some their mandate and/or strategy does not include public interest litigation. Nonetheless, these organizations although not very active in public interest litigation are vital in identifying systematic and recurring human rights violations that may be the subject of public/strategic interest litigation. It is therefore important for PILAC to constantly engage with these organizations in order to identify key cases to be taken in the public interest.

Generally, civil and political rights have been more extensively litigated in comparison to economic, social and cultural rights.⁸⁷ At the time of the survey, there was only one pending case on economic, social and cultural rights, namely the case on maternal health. The reluctance to litigate economic, social and cultural rights is partly attributed to the fact that unlike civil and political rights, the Constitution does not make express provision for economic, social and cultural rights in the Bill of Rights. For this reason, some have concluded that economic, social and cultural rights are not justiciable in the Ugandan

⁸⁶ *Supra* note 81.

⁸⁷ Chris Mbazira (2009), Public Interest Litigation and Judicial Activism in Uganda: Improving the Enforcement of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; HURIPEC Working Paper No. 24.

context.⁸⁸ Nonetheless it should be emphasized that the recent Constitutional amendment in Article 8A made National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy (NODPSP) part of the Constitution and many economic, social and cultural rights are contained in these Principles. This means that economic, social and cultural rights are indeed justiciable and may be enforced in courts just like civil and political rights. Given the fact that they are the least litigated, PILAC should give economic, social and cultural rights major priority when selecting cases and issues in the public interest. PILAC should also consider seeking clarification on the status of economic, social and cultural rights and whether they are justiciable. This will encourage other actors to bring economic, social and cultural rights issues in the public interest more often. It should also be stated that while most organizations are not active in litigating economic, social and cultural rights, they have undertaken and published extensive research on these rights which PILAC can effectively utilize.

There is also growing reluctance on the part of the government and its agencies to observe and enforce court decisions, especially those passed in the public interest. This has had the tendency of discouraging actors from bringing cases in the public interest. In some instances, the legislature has also failed to comply with court decisions by not replacing those provisions of the law struck down by the courts for various reasons. It is recommended that in such cases, recourse should be had to regional and international human rights bodies on the basis of inexistent local remedies. This is a role PILAC should champion.

In sum, the study has highlighted realities associated with legal aid and litigation in respect of economic, social and cultural rights in Uganda. A few organizations are involved in litigation of ESCRs while others provide legal aid on a broad range of rights that include economic, social and cultural issues. Most organizations have and still undertake research on ESCRs which is a good basis for establishing systematic violations in support of public interest cases. As a new entity committed to furtherance of ESCRs, PILAC should build on these works by among others demystifying the view that economic, social and cultural rights are not justiciable in the Ugandan context. This can be achieved through a well-thought out litigation strategy coupled with mass advocacy that includes engagement with the judiciary.

⁸⁸ See for example Kabanda Interview, *op. cit.*

List of Interviewees

1. Adrian Juuko, Coordinator Civil Society Coalition on Constitutional Law and Human Rights (CSCSLH)
2. Christine Birabwa, National Coordinator Justice Centers
3. Dave Danielson, US Trial Attorney based at Refugee Law Project (RLP)
4. David Kabanda, Centre for Human Rights and Development (CEHURD)
5. David Were, Advocate Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda (LAPD)
6. Godber Tumushabe, Executive Director, Advocates Coalition on Development and Environment (ACODE)
7. Irene Sekyewa, Deputy Executive Director, Greenwatch Uganda
8. LadslusRwakafuzi, Human Rights Lawyer
9. Laura Kanuso, Executive Director Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda (LAPD)
10. Maria Nassali, Executive Director, FIDA, Uganda
11. Moses Mulumba, Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights and Development
12. Boaz Muhumuza, Legal Officer Legal Action for Persons with Disabilities Uganda (LAPD)
13. Patrick Tumwine, Advocacy, Information and Research Officer, HURINET-U
14. Proscovia Nakanjako, Programme Officer Land Use, Uganda Land Alliance
15. Richard Muganzi, National Coordinator, Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET)
16. Salima Namusoby, Senior Legal Officer, Refugee Law Project
17. Theo Weibale, Clinic Manager, LDC Legal Aid Clinic (LAC).

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