

ANNUAL JUDGES CONFERENCE

31ST JANUARY, 2019

REMARKS BY MIKE J. CHIBITA, DPP

**THE ROLE OF ODPP IN INTEGRITY AND
CRIME PREVENTION IN THE JUSTICE
SYSTEM**

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LEGAL BACKGROUND, ODPP

- The Office is established under Art 120 of the Constitution of Uganda to:
- Institute criminal proceedings
- Direct Police to investigate
- Discontinue criminal proceedings

STRUCTURE OF ODPP

- DPP and Top Management
- Several departments, including Anti Corruption, Inspections and Quality Assurance and Regional Offices
- Regional Offices established at each High Court Circuit
- Resident State and Prosecutors Offices countrywide

INTERNAL DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

- Department of Inspections and Quality Control
- Sanctions and Rewards Committee
- Anti corruption Department Prosecutions

CHALLENGES

- Absence of mandate to hire and fire
- Weak disciplinary procedures within the services and institutions
- Lack of the will to discipline or enforce sanctions within the service
- Lack of an effective Rewards system
- Absence of an effective assessment tool
- Failure to secure convictions in court

PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Improved terms and conditions of service
- Filling all vacant positions in the establishments of the various institutions
- Strengthening the appraisal instruments
- Rewarding excellent performance
- Continued Legal education, training and promotions
- Strengthening inspection functions in the institutions

PROPOSALS CONTINUED

- Coordination between the Inspection departments in JLOS
- Equipping the Police with better investigative tools and improving their morale
- Investment in scientific evidence gathering processes: Forensic science, cameras, etc
- Elimination of case backlog and trying cases as they occur.

SOME SUCCESS STORIES

- Conviction rate at anti corruption at 85%
- Prosecution of members of the justice sector
- Recovery of funds in several cases
- Performance standards and clients charters launched
- Computerisation going on in various institutions
- Case Management systems in various JLOS institutions.

WHAT WE CAN DO

- PLEA BARGAINING DEEPENING
- ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS, TIME KEEPING, WORK ETHIC
- RESPECTING PRECEDENT
- DECORUM WITHIN THE PROFESSION
- INTEGRITY OF STATISTICS
- WITNESS AND OTHER PEOPLES FUNDS
- HEARING BAIL APPLICATIONS AT EXPENSE OF FULL TRIALS

WAY FORWARD

- The proposals from this Conference should be compiled
- They should be presented to Cabinet
- Reforms should be undertaken
- Rewards for excellent performing officers should be initiated
- Best performing Officers should be recognised and rewarded

CONCLUSION

- Matters within our control, matters outside our control.
- Time, work ethic, courtesy, decorum,
- Other people, salary, numbers, workload
- If we each do our part diligently, we can do much.
- Another year, another conference?
- What is my take away action point?