

Uganda Peoples Congress

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PRESS STATEMENT

JOSEPH BOSSA IS A FRAUD.

1. Joseph Bossa in an advert paid for by the Milton Obote Foundation placed in the Daily Monitor on 27th August 2016, stated that the court has ruled against the Presidency of Hon. Jimmy Akena. Olara Otunnu throwing in the towel on July 1st this year has absolutely no relevance as his term had ended in 13th March 2015. Bossa's term also ended at the same time along with his administration. Bossa is aware of this as the Court of Appeal Order was made in the presence of his lawyers. **Please see attached Order, which has since been extended.**

The advert is just a continuation of the smokescreen that has been generated by the self-seeking clique in the Milton Obote Foundation to deplete the Party's resources, steal its assets and investments and cover up their past misappropriation at the expense of the members of UPC.

2. Joseph Bossa is simply fronting for the clique in MOF. His emergence stems from Otunnu's failure to adequately prepare for the UPC Party Presidential elections before the expiration of his term.
3. When Otunnu realised that the 2008 UPC Constitutional provision that required the endorsement of one third of the District Conferences, a minimum of 38 Districts out of 112, he reluctantly threw in the towel, publicly stating that he would not seek re-election.

The High Court Ruling of May 7th 2015 had conferred upon Otunnu the status of *de facto* President and was hinged on the roadmap he presented detailing the election process that was to culminate in a Delegates' Conference on the 12th June 2015. On the 8th of May 2015, Otunnu unilaterally altered his roadmap:

- He cancelled the National Council Meeting slated for the 10th and 11th of June.
- He postponed the Delegates Conference, pushing from the 12th June to the 10th of July 2015.
- He then on the 21st of June 2015 postponed “indefinitely” the Delegates’ Conference that he had announced would be held on 10th July 2015.

Hon. Jimmy Akena was returned unopposed in the District Conference elections. In their desire to undo the WILL OF THE MEMBERS this clique hastily put together a “Commission of Inquiry”. This Commission was chaired and consisted of individuals who had serious conflicts of interest and whose terms of reference fell outside of the provisions of the UPC Constitution.

4. This unelectable cabal at the prompting and possible funding of their handlers, the clique in MOF, went to court in order to reverse the decision of the Delegates’ Conference that swore Hon. Akena in as UPC Party President. They chose to file a Judicial Review which would only look at the procedure, in other words “the how and not the why”, of the convening of the Delegates Conference and the not the substance of matter as that would be embarrassing and would reveal to the wider public the sheer malice and undemocratic character of the group.

Their suit was also a judicial “sleight of hand”, as Bossa sued his boss, Olara Otunnu and the UPC Party Electoral Commission over the conduct of the elections he himself had been party to in their organisation.

In a further twist, Olara Otunnu and the Party Electoral Chairperson, Eng. Buzu who submitted affidavits to the court in support of Bossa’s plaint. So we have the ridiculous situation whereby those being sued supported the person who is suing them.

The intention of Bossa suing Otunnu and the PEC was to undo the whole election by giving Otunnu grounds to step down and hand over to Bossa after “losing” the Court case.

By the court upholding the District Conference elections of May 30th defeated the core purpose of circumventing the FREELY EXPRESSED WILL of the Party members.

5. There is an appeal before the Court of Appeal, UPC vs. Bossa, Civil Application No.20 of 2016, against the decision of High Court, Misc Cause No. 86 of 2015, with a Court of Appeal Order putting on hold the decision of the High Court until the main Appeal is disposed of, which recognises Hon. Jimmy Akena as the UPC Party President. By contemptuously ignoring the fact, Bossa and the self-seeking clique in MOF have opted to attempt to dupe the public to perpetuate the fraud ongoing at the Milton Obote Foundation.

The situation currently being played out by the clique at MOF in its dealings with the Party is best compared to one where a Member of Parliament is subjected to a challenge after winning an election. A petition is lodged in court against the Member after their taking their seat in the House. The MP would naturally appeal if they lost the petition and would remain in the House until the case was disposed of.

The Parliamentary Commission would be duty-bound to honour their salaries and to facilitate them in the execution of their duties. That is how institutions work. The same should apply to the situation in UPC where MOF should fulfil the role it was set up to do, irrespective of who the Party President is. The aspiring candidates in elections and the Party should be adequately funded and facilitated at ALL TIMES.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

MICHAEL OSINDE ORACH
PARTY SPOKESPERSON