

Uganda Peoples Congress

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UPC

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PRESS STATEMENT

INDIVIDUALS WITHIN MILTON OBOTE FOUNDATION (MOF) ARE AT THE HEART OF UPC COURT CASES

1. According to the Red Pepper dated January 12, 2016, it is now clear that the Milton Obote Foundation (MOF) is involved in politics and is sponsoring and supporting Olara Otunnu who are not engaged in the UPC election campaign, but rather, are executing the Go Forward agenda. The General Manager of MOF who is an administrator and not a politician, held a Press Conference on Monday 11th 2016 in which he distanced MOF from political activity.

The facts emerging and known to the Party for the last 10 years do not support Mr. Oyepa's attempted explanation. The former Prime Minister of Uganda, Amama Mbabazi has never been well disposed towards Uganda Peoples Congress and his elevation of Olara Otunnu to the position of Campaign Manager for his Task Force in the midst of the current dispute over the Party Leadership suggests that his feelings towards the Party remain hostile. He should have respected the High Court Judge's directive that the Party resolves its issues via mediation as opposed to predetermining the outcome of the process.

2. Milton Obote Foundation (MOF) in its Press Statement dated 7th January 2016 stated in Paragraph 5 ".....other allegations against Mr. Joseph Bossa and Dr Olara Otunnu. These allegations including the the alleged plan to call the Delegates Conference will be answered by the legally recognized Leadership of the Party". The statement contradicts the assertion made at the beginning of the release affirming MOF's independence. The efforts by Otunnu to circumvent the Court date set for Mention on the 18th January 2016 are now being

Mission: A social democratic party that seeks to safe guard national independence and promote national unity, equality, equity and human rights for all.

Vision: An independent, united, democratic, just, peaceful and prosperous nation, where all its citizens have equal opportunities and equitable access to national resources.

coordinated with MOF. Mr. Oyepa hosted a meeting on Saturday in the MOF offices in which plans were being drawn. It should also be noted that one of the Trustees of MOF, Peter Walubiri was an appointee of Otunnu and served as his Treasurer. MOF is now engaged in a direct fight with the Party, and this explains why Chris Opio was in Soroti and Walubiri in Jinja trying to cause confusion in the Party.

3. Uganda Peoples Congress has now understood it clearly that the endless Court cases are designed to weaken the Party in order that it becomes discredited and easy to dispossess of its assets and investments. After all the plaintiffs in the cases are members of the past administration and appointees of Otunnu.
4. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to inform Party members and the general public that there are individuals who are going round the Districts claiming to be organizing National Council and Annual Delegates Conferences meetings basing the attendance on the 1970 Party Constitution, thereby annulling the 2008 Constitution. The latter was supposed to have been in place in time for the 2010 Presidential contest but the very same Walubiri who was part of the team that drew it up, failed to gazette it in time. This meant that Otunnu was spared the process of having to get the 30% endorsement of districts nationwide to stand for the presidency. It was gazette in 2012 by the same Otunnu administration that is now fighting to annul it.
5. MOF has stated that it will not fund UPC candidates on account of there being no legitimate President. This suggests that MOF is more interested in who the Party President is and not the well-being of the Party. That is their position and it has been clearly understood through the continuing contacts and support being given to those operating under the banner of GO Forward. It should also be noted that Article 3.6 of the UPC Constitution states:

"A member who commits any of the following abuses of the Party's Constitution and regulations shall be subject to disciplinary proceedings of the Party and if found at fault shall lose membership of the Party, that is to say:

(1) Standing for an election or acting as an agent or financing, supporting or campaigning for a person who is standing for such election in opposition to a duly elected or nominated Party candidate.

(2) Standing for election or acting as agent or campaigning for or financing an independent candidate."

6. Mr. Oyepa's claim that the Party Headquarters were violently stormed by the current administration is untrue. He must not be aware that Otunnu's outgoing administration allowed the Transition Team headed by the Vice President, Patrick Mwendha, office space on the 6th Floor. Otunnu fled the building via the toilet rather than announce the results of the District Conference elections. This is clearly captured in the NTV footage on the day. Bossa who should have in his capacity as Vice President, stepped in to announce the results chose to leave the building instead. This was also clearly captured in the same footage.
7. UPC states for the record that it is in opposition to the Government and has a clearly defined strategy for its activities that has been deliberated and agreed in accordance with its own Constitution through its Party Organ, the National Council. There is no record of Olara Otunnu and or Peter Walubiri and MOF of their having convened any organs of the Party bar the National Council in 2011 to commit to any alliance with other political actors. Olara Otunnu chose to act unilaterally and is now in Go Forward and he should concentrate on his new home. We wish him and all those that have a chosen a new path well.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY



**EDWARD SEGGANYI
SECRETARY GENERAL**

