

# Uganda Peoples Congress

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## UPC

27<sup>th</sup> January, 2016

### **PRESS STATEMENT.**

#### **UPC EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER THE POOR SAFETY AND MAINTAINANCE OF ITS HEADQUARTERS.**

1. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to condemn in the strongest terms possible, the actions by certain members of the Go Forward team that include: Olara Otunnu, some individuals in the Milton Obote Foundation (MOF), Peter Walubiri, Chris Opio, Matia Kisembo and some of the candidates standing as “independents” in these General Elections, who are trying to disrupt the Party.

Clandestine meetings in the guise of organizing a Delegates Conference have been held in Kisoro, Kabale, Hoima, Lira, Gulu, Soroti, Jinja, Mbarara and Sheema. Otunnu failed to convene a single Delegates’ Conference during his term in office and suspended the only one he called as its sole purpose would have been to affirm the results of the District Conferences which rejected his proxy, Joseph Bossa.

The Court directed the Party to enter into mediation to resolve the very issue, and therefore spending money on subversion as opposed to mediation only confirms the dubious intentions of the aforementioned.

UPC Members have stood firm and rejected the activities of these individuals and will continue to do so while pushing for compliance with court's directive on the case they themselves brought in the first place.

2. The recent fire at Uganda House has raised some critical issues that Uganda Peoples Congress demands the Milton Obote Foundation address without further delay. The fire alarm did not sound when the fire broke out. A number of escape routes were found to be blocked and there were no fire extinguishers to be found where they should have been placed. This has raised concerns as to why no money has been spent on basic safety measures. Routine maintenance of the building should have highlighted these lapses and the Foundation has a duty of care to the tenants of the building that should not have been criminally negligently abandoned, whatever the dispute with the UPC, the building's owners, it is engaged in.

The Uganda Peoples Congress calls for an immediate investigation by the relevant authorities into what happened on the day. It should be recalled that the building was recently closed by KCCA over the issue of shocking maintenance standards.

3. Uganda Peoples Congress confirms the recent press reports concerning Milton Obote Foundation's continued refusal to fund the Party. The Party finds the current stories leaking out from around the country of UPC funds being diverted to support the Go Forward campaign while UPC candidates have not been supported financially, disturbing. Whatever disputes are taking place, the candidates who are bystanders in the drama should not be punished in such a disgraceful and embarrassing manner.
4. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to thank those members of FDC, NRM, DP and JEEMA who paid their respects to our late Vice President, Hon. Patrick Mwendha. In such turbulent times, the actions of those leaders sets an example to the rest of the country and exhibits the spirit of brotherhood and sisterhood that provides a ray of hope that the politics of this country will overcome the spirit of enmity that has bedeviled it for far too long.

5. Uganda Peoples Congress would like to remind its membership to remain focused as we implement the National Council Resolution of rebuilding the Party from the grassroots at this critical stage in our nation's history, one which will usher in a transition period leading to 2021.

**“The Point that must be emphasized is that we are, in a sense, an ‘artificial’ nation, brought together by a conscious act of will, and that, if we are to go together, some degree of conscious effort must be exerted. It would be dangerous to leave the process of unification to take its natural course”.** *From Dr A.M Obote: “Thoughts of an African Leader”, Quotable Quotes from the Speeches of His Excellency the President of Uganda.*

**FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY**

**EDWARD SEGGANYI  
SECRETARY GENERAL**