Kampala 13th July 2023.

Uganda Bureau of Statistics welcomes the decision of the High Court to strike out applications by our former employee seeking restraining orders from being subjected to the disciplinary process for acts breaching the institution’s code of conduct.

The applicant in the matter, Mr. Henry Munaaba Dhikusooka, who served as a Principal Officer in the Department of Risk and Compliance Management, was dismissed in May 2023 for gross misconduct offences.

While the main suit is yet to be concluded by the same Court, Mr. Dhikusooka, together with other dismissed staff, have embarked on a smear campaign using online media houses and radio stations with intention to undermine the Uganda Bureau of Statistics for their selfish motives. The main projects being targeted for sabotage by the errant staff are the forthcoming National Population and Housing Census and redevelopment of UBOS Entebbe Offices, to mention a few. The smear campaign which involves spreading false propaganda is that:

1. The contract of the Executive Director had expired in March 2023 and, therefore, the Executive Director is in office illegally.
2. The contracts of the Board Members had expired in June 2023 and, therefore, they are in office illegally.
3. The US government withdrew funding for the 7th round of Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS).
4. There was nepotism at the Bureau.
5. There was financial mismanagement at UBOS.
6. Mr Henry Munaaba Dhikusooka was dismissed on grounds of being a whistle-blower.

The Bureau refutes the above false and malicious propaganda from the disgraced staff and hereby clarifies as follows;
1. The contract of the Executive Director is still running and he is in office legally.
2. The contracts of the Board Members are still running and they are in office legally.
3. That there were no financial resources withdrawn by the US Government apart from technical support for the 7th Uganda Demographic Health Survey which support was no longer needed by UBOS.
4. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics is an All Equal Opportunity Employer that hires every qualifying citizen without discrimination.
5. UBOS leadership is steadfast and focussed on delivering the forthcoming National Population and Housing Census.
6. Mr Henry Munaaba Dhikusooka, Mr John Mayende, and others were recently dismissed on grounds of gross misconduct offences, but NOT for being whistle-blowers as they claim.
7. The Bureau adheres to national laws, guidelines and procedures while executing her mandate of developing, producing and disseminating official statistics, as well as supervising and monitoring the National Statistical System.
8. The Bureau is guided by the institution’s Human Resource Manual and Public Service Standing orders during staff recruitment, staff development, performance management, enforcing code of conduct and staff retirement.

UBOS Assurance

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics wishes to assure all key stakeholders, particularly the Ugandan public that the country is on course to conduct the forthcoming National Population and Housing Census. As earlier communicated this is going to be the first technologically driven census to be conducted in the country. The application of this new technology shall provide results in a timely manner as opposed to the previous paper based censuses.

Indeed, the Bureau is continuing with various pre-enumeration activities, some of which have been completed. Those which have been completed are:

a) Census Committees from National level to Districts / Cities are now in place.
b) The Census instruments namely household questionnaire, institutional questionnaire and community questionnaire were developed.
c) Pre-testing of census instruments in (b) above was concluded.
d) The Census pilot has just been conducted and the data from the exercise is being analysed.

e) Geo-mapping of Households and Enumeration Area boundaries is now approximately at 62% complete.

f) Funds for undertaking the National Population and Housing Census has been secured from Government of Uganda.

g) The remaining pre-census activities are procurements, publicity, recruitment and training of census staff and developing digital maps.

The census results will provide indicators to guide planning, policy formulation, programme implementation and monitoring development progress set out in the NDP III objectives and also guide in the formulation of NDP IV, as well as implementation of the Parish Development Model (PDM).

We are particularly grateful to the Local Government at higher and lower level throughout the country for their active participation in pre-census activities.

In addition, the data generated from the Census will be used to monitor International development frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the African Union Agenda 2063 and the East Africa Integration Agenda.

In conclusion, Uganda Bureau of Statistics will not be diverted from fulfilling her vision of becoming a World Class National Statistics Office, as we deliver on our mandate.

Chris N. Mukiza (PhD)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ CHIEF STATISTICIAN