MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT TO INQUIRE INTO ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING IN UGANDA

(Moved under Rule 55 and 186(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Uganda)

WHEREAS Objective XIV (b) of the National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy mandates the State to fulfil the fundamental rights of all Ugandans to social justice and economic development and shall, in particular, ensure that all Ugandans enjoy rights and opportunities and access to education;

AND WHEREAS Article 30 of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda guarantees the right to education for all persons;

NOTING THAT Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child to which Uganda is a signatory mandates government to take appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect a child from all forms of violence including sexual abuse;

AWARE THAT in line with the Vision 2040 and NDP (II), the Government developed the National Strategic Plan on Violence Against Children in Schools, 2015-2020 whose overall goal is to ensure that measures are put in place to prevent, protect and respond to violence against children in schools.

DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT during the development of the National Strategic Plan on Violence Against children in Schools, it was established that violence against children in schools is widespread and children are subjected to different forms of violence. Sexual harassment especially among girls was on the high with 77.7% of the primary school children and 82% of the secondary school students experiencing sexual harassment while at school, 8% of the girls are subjected to defilement, 24% are spoken to in a sexual way, 18% receive marriage proposals and 25% are fondled/touched in a sexual manner while 29% are made to watch sexual scenes (pornography);

RECOGNIZING THAT in the recent past, the media has been awash with numerous and repeated reports of gross acts of sexual violence in institutions of learning at all levels;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING THAT access to education is one of the fundamental rights of a person which should be delivered in a conducive and safe learning environment however this right is frustrated when people are subjected to sexual

violence which hence undermines their security and safety in institutions of learning as well as threatening Uganda's path to development;

NOWTHEREFORE be it resolved by Parliament;

- 1. Parliament sets up a select committee to investigate allegations of sexual violence in institutions of learning in Uganda
- 2. Parliament fast tracts the Sexual Offences Bill, 2015

MOVED BY: Hon. Adeke Anna Ebaju, Youth Representative (National)

SECONDED BY: 1. Hon. Veronica Isala Eragu Bichetero, M. Kaberamaido

2. Hon. Okello Anthony, MP Kioga County