



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS**  
**OFFICE OF THE MINISTER**

The Rt Hon Speaker

Hon Members

**STATEMENT ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN ARUA  
MUNICIPALITY**

Hon Members, yesterday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2018 was the final day of campaigns to elect another Member of Parliament following the assassination of Hon. Col. (Rtd) Ibrahim Abiriga on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at Kawanda, Wakiso District.

The security situation during the three weeks (23rd July to 13<sup>th</sup> August) of campaigns was generally calm and peaceful giving opportunity to all the candidates to freely canvass for support. This peaceful atmosphere continued to prevail until yesterday August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at around 1830/c when supporters of candidate Kasiano Wadri with imported support groups led by Members of Parliament Robert Ssentamu Kyagulanyi, Francis Zaake, Paul Mwiru, Gerald Karuhanga and former MP Michael Mabikke obstructed and violently attacked the presidential motorcade at Prison cell, Arua Municipality during which one of the vehicles bearing the presidential court of arms had its hind screen smashed.

At this point, security officers intervened to contain the situation and they indeed halted it from further escalation. The situation was restored to normalcy by which time someone who has since been identified as Mr. Yasin Kawuma, a resident of Lusanja, Nangabo Sub County, Wakiso district was established to have succumbed to a gun shot. His body has been taken to Arua Hospital for post mortem. We continue to investigate to establish who was responsible for this sad occurrence.

It should be noted that earlier in the day around 1600/c as the president was going to Boma grounds for the rally, there was an incident where a grader, Registration number UAP 064R wrapped in red ribbons obstructed his motorcade at a place called Transport Junction Road.

This grader and a Tundra vehicle registration number UAJ 416K in which Yasin Kawuma's dead body was found have since been impounded and are currently at CPS Arua.

Suspects have been arrested including the following: candidate Kasiano Wadri, MPs Paul Mwiru, Gerald Karuhanga, Robert Ssentamu Kyagulanyi and former MP Michael Mabikke among others in connection with the incidents mentioned above to help in the ongoing investigations.

We caution the public that it is criminal to obstruct and or attack the presidential motorcade as it contravenes the Traffic and Road Safety Act as well as provisions in the Penal Code Act. To that effect, it is incumbent on all members of the public to be cautious and desist from ever attempting to engage in such acts of criminality that often result into regrettable consciences as seen above.

Our readiness to secure the election tomorrow is total. We encourage all voters in Arua Municipality to come out and exercise their constitutional and democratic rights to freely cast their votes for their proffered candidates, and the general public to freely go about their business without fear.

In conclusion let me categorically state thus:

1. Impunity of whatever kind or amount shall not be tolerated. It shall be dealt with.
2. NRM fought to bring freedom of choice and thought to our political space. Any attempt to deny Ugandans this freedom is unacceptable and will be resisted.
3. What value do processions add to the political process other than creating a false impression or biasing others of the political support and or strength one has. It is noteworthy processions have resulted in clashes and violence. Our considered opinion and advice is that these should be discouraged.



Gen Odongo Jeje

**MINISTER FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

14<sup>th</sup>, August 2018