





NOTICE OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY 2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the UGANDA LAW SOCIETY (ULS) will be held on Saturday 1st April 2017 at the Imperial Resort Beach Hotel, Entebbe starting at 9:00am. The AGM will be preceded by the ULS Annual Law Conference from Thursday 30th to Friday 31st March 2017 under the theme: "The Future of the Legal Profession: Unpacking Opportunities and Challenges" starting at 9:00am.

The purpose of the meeting is to transact the business set out below:

- National anthem, EAC anthem and inter-denominational prayer.
- To receive communication from the President of the ULS.
- To present and consider for adoption the minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting.
- To present for consideration and adoption the 2016 ULS Annual Report by the ULS Executive Council.
- To present for consideration and adoption the Treasurer's Report on the Audited Accounts for 2016 and ULS Master Budget for 2017.
- 6. To conduct the election of the ULS Executive Council 2017 2018.
- 7. A.O.B. (For Notified Items Only).

DATED this 28th day of February 2017.

BY ORDER OF COUNCIL

Pheona N. Wall

HON. SECRETARY - UGANDA LAW SOCIETY.

NB: 1). AGM Attendance is limited to only paid up Members for the year 2017.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADR Alternative Dispute Resolution

AGM Annual General Meeting

AIDS Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

ALWS American Jewish World Service

CAB Legal Aid Clinic Advisory Board (*)

CBA Canadian Bar Association
CEPA Centre for Policy Analysis

CIDA Canadian International Development Agency

CLE Continuing Legal Education
CMA Capital Markets Authority

DFCU DFCU Bank

DTB Diamond Trust Bank

DGF Democratic Governance Facility

EALS East Africa Law Society

HIV Human Immunodeficiency Virus

ICT Information and Communications Technology

ID Identity

JCA Justice - Court of Appeal

JLOS Justice Law and Order Sector
KCCA Kampala Capital City Authority

LAC Legal Aid Clinic

LDC Law Development Center

MoJCA Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

MOU Memorandum of Understanding
UNWG Uganda National Working Group

ULS Uganda Law Society

NBA Norwegian Bar Association

NORAD Norwegian Development Agency

RACE Reinforced Actions for Credible Elections

ROL Rule of Law

SAJCEA Supporting Access to Justice for Children and Youth in East Africa

UCC Uganda Communications Commission

UN United Nations

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

USAID United States Agency for International Development



Foreword from the President

Dear Learned Colleagues,

Let me start by thanking you for voting us into office and for the tremendous support you have continued to give to the Council. We have in the past year of reporting dared to believe that together we can build the ULS we want and we can confirm that we are getting there as this report will show you.

The Council spent the first half of the year finalizing the Uganda Law Society (ULS) Strategic Plan (2017 – 2021) that had been commenced by the previous Council. The Strategic Plan aims at positioning ULS as a proficient Bar Association in fostering Access to Justice, the Rule of Law and good governance in Uganda. The Strategic Plan will be implemented so as to realize the following four strategic objectives;

- 1. To promote members professional development and ethical conduct.
- 2. To promote access to justice for Indigent, marginalized and vulnerable persons in Uganda
- 3. To contribute to upholding and promoting the rule of law in Uganda
- 4. To strengthen the institutional capacity of the ULS to become a modern Bar Association.

In this Annual Report we have set out clearly the achievements of the Uganda Law Society (ULS) over the last 12 months and many of the activities and the challenges we have encountered as we seek to realign our activities to fit the new Strategic Plan.

During the year, we have also noticed an increase in the interest of the matters of the ULS by major stakeholders and also seen an increase in some of our members

subscribing back as a result of renewed efforts to enable members derive benefits from their membership to ULS. We will continue to ensure that ULS deepens the initiatives introduced in the year 2016.

There is no doubt that ULS is on the right track. The revenue growth as projected in the accounts and the receipt of yet another award for the fourth year now from Institute of Chartered Public Accountants of Uganda (ICPAU) in recognition of excellent financial reporting demonstrates that the Council and the Secretariat have been good stewards of the resources entrusted to them.

Most of the achievements have been as a result of combined effort of you the Members, the Council, the Secretariat and our Partners such as NBA/NORAD, DGF, JLOS, UN Women, CIDA and CBA to mention but a few. We also recognize the voluntary work of Council Committees and the Clusters for supporting the work of the Executive Council and for delivering great events such as the memorable ULS @60 function held at Serena Hotel Kampala graced by H.E the President of Uganda. We remain indebted to all of you for your outstanding contribution.

We remain optimistic that together we can make the ULS we want better in the year 2017. We value your feedback and we remain committed to continue serving you with humility and steadfastness at all times.

May God Bless all of you.

Francis Gimar

PRESIDENT



Message from The Executive Director

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

It is with great honour and pleasure that I present to you a review of the activities of the Uganda Law Society (ULS) for the year ended 2016. The ULS has continued to grow steadily and gain a leading role in the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law. The ULS celebrated sixty (60) years of existence with a series of activities which climaxed with a black tie dinner that was graced by the Head of State H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.

It was a year of reflection as our Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015 was reviewed and assessed in terms of our fulfillment of the projections in the Plan as well as development of a new Strategic Plan 2017 – 2021. We thank you for your participation and contribution to this process. This strategic plan brings on board a myriad of changes and will be our radar for the next five years.

We started alignment to the new Strategic Plan 2017 - 2021 and continue to improve on management of members interests, resource mobilization for a sustainable human and financial resource base for the ULS activities, prioritization of the improvement of service delivery through ICT innovations; offer standard CLE trainings for the professional lawyer, access to justice to over twenty thousand people through sensitizations, legal representation on pro bono basis in partnership with the members and the 16 legal aid offices of ULS with specific emphasis on alternative dispute resolution.

Commitment and dedication to access to justice continued through provision of high quality legal advisory services to the indigent, marginalized and vulnerable through the 12 regional Legal Aid Project offices. The membership numbers rose to 2446 from 2123 in 2015. The paradox in this is that despite such

rapid capacity growth, the ULS' financial resources have not increased at the same speed. As a result, we have not attained the full potential ULS is capable of to keep up with the ever growing needs and interests of our clientele, the members and the public.

During the reporting period, a total of 31 Continuing Legal Education trainings were conducted, with a focus of improving the professional standards of the membership as well as fora on bridging the gap between the Bar and Bench.

We enhanced strategic partnerships and collaboration with key state and non-state actors in pursuance of the ULS mandate to the membership, government and the general public.

On behalf of the Secretariat, I thank our partners for the continued technical and financial support as well as the key stakeholders and the membership, ULS Executive Council of the Uganda Law Society who have with commitment provided peer and policy guidance to our work.

We pledge to continue and maintain the close mutually beneficially relations with our partners and stakeholders towards the new Vision "To develop ULS as a professional body for the promotion of rule of law and good governance in Uganda".

Thank you.

Samuel Olumo
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Head of Rule of

Legal

Officer(Research and Advocacy)

Legislation Officer

Public Interest

and Rule of Law Officer

Professional Development & Members Affairs

Development Officer

Internal Auditor & Compliance Officer

General Assembl

Council

Officer

Deputy Chief Executive

Officer

Manager

Public Relations

dmin Assistan

M&E Manager

M&E Officer

Head of Finance

Head of Legal

Manager Pro

Bono Scheme of

ULS

Accounts

Ald Project

Prindpal Legal Officers

Senior Legal Officers

Legal Officers

Officers

Law Clerks





The Executive Council of the Uganda Law Society

About the Executive Council

The Uganda Law Society (ULS) Executive Council comprises ten members including the President, the Vice President, the Honorary Secretary, the Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Solicitor General and four regional Council Representatives. These members, other than the Attorney General and the Solicitor General, are elected annually by the General Assembly at an Annual General Meeting. Customarily, the immediate past President continues to assist with induction of the new Council and attend Council meetings for the first six months as an ex-officio member.

The Executive Council is the policy organ of the ULS and works with the ULS Secretariat which is the policy implementing organ to execute the ULS mandate. The Council manages the affairs of the Law Society-working through its various committees namely: the Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services Committee, Professional Development and Training Committee, Finance and Administration Committee, Commercial Bar Committee, Female Lawyers Committee, Young Lawyers Committee, Bar-Bench Committee, Research and Publications Committee, Members Welfare and Social Affairs Committee, Legislation Committee, Rule of Law and Strategic Litigation Committee; and such ad hoc Committees that the Council may establish to cater to the Society's needs.

Members of the Uganda Law Society Executive Council



Mrs. Alice Namuli - Blazevic Vice President



Mr. Francis Gimara President



Mrs. Pheona Nabaasa Wall Secretary



Ms. Shamim Amolo Council Representative - Northern Region



Hajjat Shifrah Lukwago Treasurer



Mr. Francis Harimuomugasho
Council Representative
- Western Region



Mr. Simon Peter M. Kinobe Council Representative - Central Region



Mr. Jacob Israel Osilo Council Representative - Eastern Region

Report of The Executive Council

About the Uganda Law Society

Sixty years ago on 27th December 1956, the ULS came into existence by an Act of Parliament. As the national Bar Association, its objectives are inter alia; to protect and assist the public in Uganda in all matters touching, ancillary or incidental to the law; and to assist the Government and the Courts in all matters affecting legislation and administration and practice of law in Uganda and to maintain and improve the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Uganda.

Over the years, the ULS has and continues to be at the forefront in promotion and defense of the rule of law and access to justice in Uganda as well as development of the legal profession as per its mandate and vision. The ULS has engaged in ground-breaking activities and efforts including the following: fostering access to justice through establishment of various legal aid clinics in the four main regions and championing human rights including women and children's rights.

The ULS Vision:

To be a proficient Bar Association in fostering access to justice, the rule of law and good governance in Uganda.

The ULS Mission:

To develop a skilled and empowered legal profession in execution of its statutory mandate to foster and improve access to and administration of justice as well as good governance in Uganda.

The ULS Strategic Framework

During the reporting period, the ULS developed its Strategic Plan for the period 2017 - 2021 to provide a working framework for implementing its strategic interventions that will contribute to its ability to effectively deliver its mandate. The implementation of this Strategic Plan is in line with the National Development Planning Frameworks and Uganda's Vision 2040 as well as the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS) selected direction.

The main purpose of this Strategic Plan is to guide and steer actions of the ULS towards realizing its vision in a manner that will benefit all stakeholders while addressing the key areas of its mandate during the plan period.

Developed through extensive consultation with

stakeholders and literature review, implementation of this strategic plan is focused on setting parameters against which the success must be measured; identifying clear goals and objectives; responsibilities and timelines; and monitoring and evaluation methods. The Strategic Plan is also intended to foster the independence of the ULS as a national Bar Association.

The ULS Strategic Plan is set out to realize four strategic objectives namely:

- 1. To promote members' professional development and ethical conduct;
- 2. To promote access to justice for Indigent, marginalized and vulnerable persons in Uganda;
- 3. To contribute to upholding and promoting the of rule of law in Uganda; and
- 4. To strengthen the institutional capacity of the ULS to become a modern Bar Association.

Our shared values – the principles we uphold

The underlying principles to the ULS' operations and success are the values we cherish; to wit: Integrity, Competence, Accountability, Independence and Professionalism

How we are governed

The ULS is established by the Uganda Law Society Act of 1956, CAP 276 of the Laws of Uganda. It is governed by an Executive Council; which reports to the General Assembly of the ULS Membership.

Pursuant to Section 24 of the Uganda Law Society Act, the ULS Executive Council hereby presents the ULS Annual Report for the year 2016. This Report covers key activities undertaken by the Council and the Secretariat (acting under the supervision of the Council).

A. Executive Council Meetings

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS ATTENDANCE FOR 2016

No.	Name	Designation	No. of meetings held	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings missed	Percentage
1.	Mr. Francis Gimara	President	4	4	0	100
2.	Mrs. Alice Namuli - Blazevic	Vice President	4	4	0	100
3.	Mrs. Pheona Nabasa Wall	Honorary Secretary	4	4	0	100
4.	Hajat Shifrah Lukwago	Treasurer	4	3	1	75
5.	Mr. Simon Peter M. Kinobe	Council Member - Central Region	4	4	0	100
6.	Mr. Francis Harimwomugasho	Council Member - Western Region	4	4	0	100
7.	Ms. Shamim Amolo	Council Member - Northern Region	4	3	1	75
8.	Mr. Jacob Israel Osilo	Council Member - Eastern Region	4	3	1	75
9.	Mr. John Bosco R. Suuza	Attorney General's Representative to Council	4	1	3	25
10.	Ms. Stella Nyandria	Solicitor General's Representative to Council	4	2	2	50

B. Executive Council Innovations and Achievements

In a bid to ensure that the ULS becomes more competitive and contributes more effectively to the development of law in particular areas of law and of concern to the general public, the following innovations were spearheaded by the Executive Council:

i. ULS Clusters

During the reporting period the system of clustering of lawyers according to their interests and expertise was initiated to bolster the efforts of the existing ULS Committees and to foster continued learning within the profession.

On 17th May 2016, the first cluster i.e. the Media and ICT Law Cluster was launched at the Golf Course Hotel. Other clusters were subsequently formed making a total of 12 clusters by the close of 2016. These include; Oil & Gas Law Cluster, Environmental Law Cluster, Land Law Cluster, Tax & Revenue Law Cluster, Human Rights & Governance Law Cluster, Family Law Cluster, Labour Law and Retirement Benefits Cluster, Commercial and Business Law Cluster, Criminal Law Cluster, Intellectual Property Law Cluster, Finance & Banking Law Cluster. Three more clusters have since been set up and these include the International Law Cluster, the Construction

Law Cluster and the East African Community Law Cluster.

Each Cluster had its terms of reference and set its own meeting times and managed their programme in consultation with the ULS Secretariat. Each cluster elected a team leader who worked together with the ULS Secretariat to coordinate cluster activities. Through these clusters the ULS was able to contribute to law and policy reform in the country more effectively.

ii. Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Centre for Policy Analysis (CEPA)

In order to contribute to law reform the ULS considered partnership with institutions that are keen on law reform. As a result, an MOU between the ULS and the CEPA was entered. The purpose of this MOU was to establish a working relationship between the two entities and to foster effective input to Bills before Parliament by the ULS. The two entities partnered in development of general analyses on policies, legislation and government programmes. This arrangement paved way for the ULS to obtain more accurate and timely information on Bills and areas for law reform thereby fostering ULS' effectiveness in responding to issues and undertaking more on spot and timely law reform interventions.

iii. The ULS Rule of Law Programme

Pursuant to Strategic Objective 3 (to promote the rule of law and human rights protection) of the new ULS Strategic Plan (2017- 2021), the ULS launched its first ever comprehensive Rule of Law Strategy under which it has adopted a more proactive approach in dealing with rule of law issues. Under the strategy, the ULS has:

Set up a High-Level Rule of Law Advisory Panel. Members of this panel include Prof. Fredrick Ssempebwa (Chairperson), Mrs. Lydia Ochieng Obbo, Prof. Joe Oloka Onyango, Mrs. Gertrude W. Karugaba, Mr. Andrew Kasirye and Ms. Loyola Karobwa (Secretary); who are supported by an in-house Rule of Law Officer;

- Introduced the ULS Quarterly State of the Rule of Law Report;
- Established the Annual High-Level Stakeholders' forum on rule of law issues in October;
- Enhanced its strategic Public Interest Litigation and Advocacy campaign;
- Created the Coalition in Support of the Independence
 of the Judiciary (CISTIJ): This Coalition was set
 up as one of the activities under the Rule of Law
 Project to foster the independence of the Judiciary.
 It is chaired by the ULS President and comprises
 representatives from the Legal Aid Service
 Providers Network, the Centre for Public Interest
 Law, the Network of Public Interest Lawyers, the
 Public Interest Law Clinic, Human Rights Network



Members of the ULS Rule of Law Advisory Panel and the ULS Executive Council

Uganda, Chapter Four Uganda, the Citizens' Coalition for Electoral Democracy in Uganda, the Anti Corruption Coalition Uganda, the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative and the Uganda Law Society. It works to ensure that the Judiciary enjoys autonomy as prescribed by law, delivers on its constitutional mandate and shall additionally work to advance measures necessary for the efficiency of the Judiciary such as the enabling policy and legal reforms e.g. advocacy for laws that advance the effectiveness of the Judiciary such as Judicial Administration Bill.

- Set up a Rule of Law Club programme to be rolled out in universities and secondary schools; and is
- Working towards establishment of an effective and supportive Rule of Law Fund.

iv. The Remuneration and Taxation of Costs

The Council oversaw the completion of the review and drafting process for the new Remuneration and Taxation of Costs Rules Draft Rules and these were presented to the Law Council for their action.

v. Rebranding of ULS

The ULS was given a face lift with a more visible and modern Brand, a strong social media presence and an active communication platform. This has made the ULS more member centered with constant member feedback on a variety of activities.

vi. Strategic Partnerships (CEPA, UCC)

In addition to establishment of the cluster system, the ULS has partnered with various organizations to host Cluster activities, conduct CLEs and support its Events. Some inroads have been made with other professional Societies like the Engineering and Architects Societies.

vii. Members Surveys on CLEs and the AGM

During the year in review, two surveys were carried out which informed the Council on how to conduct CLEs and AGMs going forward. As a result, members were availed up to 40 free CLE Training hours on the Calendar and the CLE curriculum was updated and made more engaging. There was also increased member participation as a result of these improvements.

viii. 100 Days Programme

The year began with a 100 days program aimed at increasing member benefits, involvement and making an impact on the Rule of Law. By the end of the 100days the Council had far exceeded their objectives.

ix. Financial and Systems Analysis

The Council also had a consultant carry out a financial and systems analysis which offered recommendations which informed the development of the Strategic Plan to ensure sustainability of the Society, ease planning and increase productivity.

x. Member Benefits

During the review period, the ULS introduced the following member benefits:

- The Shell Fuel Discount Card for members
- A Lawyers Health Club at Legends every Wednesday
- Up to 41 free CLE training hours on the calendar

 A discount at Fitness Paradise Gym at the Acacia Mall for members

xi. Revival of the Senior Counsel Ranking Scheme

In the review period, Council engaged the Hon. Chief Justice and the Hon. Attorney General regarding recognition of senior, long serving and reputable members of the ULS and the Senior Counsel Award was re-instated. The Senior Counsel Rank is a title of highest honour conferred on eminent lawyers who have served as Advocates. The ranking is reserved for those who have excelled at the highest level of law and obtained an extremely good reputation. This rank is provided for under the Advocates, (Special Rank) Regulations, Statutory Instrument No. 267-8. For many years, this scheme has been in limbo and the last Advocate to be recognized as Senior Counsel was Henry Kayondo in 1986. In line with the Council's promise to revive this ranking, a communication was sent to the Chief justice and the Attorney General requesting that a meeting be convened to revive this scheme to avoid the misuse of this title. A meeting was convened on 20th October, 2016 in the Chief Justice's Chambers. The meeting recommended that the Senior Counsel Rank be conferred upon all applicants who had been cleared in 2009. Accordingly, the meeting recommended that the Senior Counsel Rank be conferred upon Professor Fredrick Ssempebwa, Mr. Yusuf Kagumire and all the persons who previously served as Attorney General.

The Advocates (Special Rank) Committee also adopted various recommendations to improve the Regulations to enable them suit the current times. The process of conferment of the approved applicants for this prestigious rank awaits the President of Uganda to

provide an appropriate date to enable him to preside over the ceremony as required by the Regulations.

We congratulate Professor Fredrick Ssempebwa and Mr. Yusuf Kagumire together with all persons who previously served in the office of Attorney General, together with the current Attorney General Mr. William Byaruhanga upon this well deserved achievement.

xii. The Annual Law Conference

In a bid to upgrade the quality of CLEs, the first ever Annual Law Conference was established to expose Ugandan Lawyers to the nuances of international practice and accord them an opportunity to benchmark with other Societies abroad. This will be held as a prelude to the AGM and will cover pertinent topics such as sustainable firm management, cross border practice and handling millennial lawyers.

xiii. The Law Reports and Law Journal

In a bid to improve the ULS' law reporting and publishing function, the ULS Research and Publications Committee conducted wide stakeholder consultations on existing practice and the feasibility of establishing an active ULS Law Reporting and Law Journal system. The Committee generated a concept note on the same and is in the process of establishing an Editorial Board.

C. Management of the ULS

The ULS is run on a day-to-day basis by a team of professional staff headed by the Executive Director who is assisted by four departmental heads namely; the Head-Finance and Administration, the Head-Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services, the Head-Professional Development & Members' Affairs and the Head-



The Council Meeting with the Chief Justice, the Hon. Justice Bart Katureebe and the Hon. Attorney General William Byaruhanga on revival of the Senior Counsel Ranking Scheme

Policy, Advocacy and Research. Other members of the management team include the Manager-Legal Resource Centre, the Manager-Pro Bono Services, the Human Resource Manager, the Systems Administrator and the Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist. The respective functions of these Departments are as follows:

i. Professional Development & Members' Affairs Department:

The department is charged with the development and enhancement of the ULS memberships' professional skills through regular refresher and capacity building Continuing Legal Education seminars throughout the year, to ensure that members are up to date with regional and global trends in legal practice.

ii. Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services Department:

As the office operationalising the Legal Aid Project (LAP), the department offers legal aid advisory and support services to indigent, vulnerable and marginalised men, women and children. LAP operates in 12 clinics throughout the country which offer both primary and secondary legal aid services. Through this Department the ULS ensures and promotes access to justice for the less privileged in society.

iii. Policy, Research and Advocacy Department:

Through this Department, the ULS works to strengthen the policy and legal framework in Uganda. The Department undertakes periodic analysis of laws and policies in Uganda in order to generate policy briefs that inform policy and legislative reform. The ULS through this Department regularly issues position/press statements and other publications on various issues ranging from matters of public interest to matters of law.

The Department also engages in the coordination of the mobilization of resources (e.g. by generating concept notes or funding proposals) to sustain the mission and objectives of the ULS and under stewardship of the Hon. Secretary generates key ULS publications such as annual reports, newsletters and magazines.

In the review period, this Department also housed the ULS Legal Resource Centre which stocks publications on various areas of law and disseminates up to date electronic and physical legal resource reference materials and information to the ULS membership and the general public.

iv. Finance and Administration Department:

Provides financial and administrative support to the Society's financial and Human Resources. This Department also houses the Information, Communication and Technology Unit which deals with establishment and maintenance of the IT systems platform within the Society and provides IT related support to the Programs and Projects of the Society.

D. ULS Programmes & Activities

i. Membership Services

The ULS Secretariat keeps in constant service and communication with her members; providing updates and notifying them about various activities, services and programmes either by the Secretariat or other relevant institutions. The membership is reached through e-mail, sms, personal letters, the ULS website, public notices, ULS newsletters, ULS event reports and radio programmes. Additional services to the membership included:

- a. Continuing Legal Education seminars;
- b. Free access to the ULS Legal Resource Centre including online resource
- c. Attendance of International fora like Annual Conferences and General Meetings;
- d. References & accreditations such as letters of good standing;
- e. Continued development of a members' directory;
- f. Memorabilia like professional robes, shirts and flaps,
 T-shirts, casual shirts and pens;
- g. Issuance of membership IDs; and
- h. Social events such as cocktails, breakfast meetings, dinners, matches and sports.

ii. Fundraising

In a bid to obtain funding for various society programmes and initiatives, the ULS through its Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services and Policy, Research and Advocacy Departments generated some fundraising concept notes/proposals including Annual Conference, The Project on Reinforced Actions for Credible Elections (RACE), The DFCU Women in Business Programme, the Rule of Law & Constitutional Democracy Project, The ULS ROL Project, the Colloquium on the Supreme Court ruling on Presidential Election Petition No. 1 of 2016) etc..

iii. ULS Projects

Legal Aid Project

The Legal Aid Project (LAP) of the ULS continued to provide a countrywide and diverse range of legal aid services to indigent men, women and children. In 2016, the department engaged in legal representation, legal awareness programs, prison decongestion programmes, development and dissemination of IEC materials, media campaigns, net working meetings and workshops, institutional development through proposal writing, monitoring and coordination and staff capacity building seminars. A detailed report of the same is documented in the LAP 2016 Annual Report.

Pro Bono Project

Following the amendment to the Advocates Act Cap 267 to provide for section 15(A) stipulating the mandatory requirement for all advocates to provide free legal services to the indigent; the Uganda Law Society in partnership with the Law Council and with the financial support from the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF) instigated the Pro Bono Project to ensure that an increased number of indigent, marginalized and vulnerable people access quality legal services The project is currently operational in Uganda. countrywide through the satellite ULS LAP Clinics. As at December 2016, the project had enrolled 1589 advocates. The Project also runs a Duty Council Scheme whereby walk in indigent unrepresented clients receive free legal advice from advocates stationed at courts. This scheme is currently running at the Chief Magistrates' Courts at Nakawa, Makindye, Buganda Road and the Grade I Magistrates Court at Kira and the Central Police Station, Kampala.

Supporting Access to Justice for Children and Youth in East Africa (SAJCEA)

The SAJCEA Project was implemented from March 2013 – June 2016 in the districts of Busia, Katakwi, Bundibugyo and Kampala with financial support of the Government of Canada provided through the Global Affairs Canada formerly the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD). This project was initiated to enhance access to justice for vulnerable children and youth in East Africa.

In Uganda the project was steered by the ULS and implemented by the Uganda National Working Group (UNWG) comprised of; the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs – Department of Law Council, Justice Law and Order Sector Secretariat, Paralegal Advisory Services, Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), the Judiciary, the Directorate of Public Prosecutions – Gender Section, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – Children and Youth Department. At its closure, the following results had been realised;-

- Increased level of knowledge, skills enhancement and attitudes of justice system stakeholders handling children and youth issues as a result of training of 3017 justice system stakeholders through trainings conducted through the Project.
- Increased participation advocates to a total of 39 in child justice issues unlike before the training.
- 300 Children were offered advice and of these 40 cases resolved through mediation and in Court.
- The UNWG participation in child justice contributed to an improvement in delivery of child friendly

services for boys and girls in Uganda. This was through diversion of juvenile cases from the formal justice sector to child friendly process. For instance a number of children cases were resolved at local councils/village level using their community leaders/volunteers save for grave offences which were referred to court.

• The Judiciary launched and introduced taking of evidence through audio video link for children and vulnerable persons. It is anticipated that this innovation currently to be set up in Fort portal, Mbarara, Soroti, Gulu and Mbale High Court circuits will improve access to justice for children.

Amnesty Law Project

During the reporting period, this Project undertook a nationwide field study which was conducted by the Uganda Law Reform Commission on development of an amnesty Model Law which would provide a holistic approach to the amnesty question in Uganda. A draft report on the survey was generated and presented to the Amnesty Law Project Board for review. The finalization of the report and the model law is underway.

Overall, the project seeks to supplement Government's efforts in addressing the amnesty question and to ensure that the amnesty law promotes principles of natural justice and accountability, observes, promotes and protects human rights as well as provides adequate redress and reparation to victims.

Reinforced Actions toward Credible Elections (RACE) Project

The ULS with support from the Ford Foundation implemented the RACE Project from 1st January 2016 to 31st October 2016 to conduct a number of consultative engagements with key state and non state actors in the electoral process. The objective of this undertaking was to promote a concerted, informed and effective citizen and institutional participation in the electoral processes and to among other things advise on several policy, legal and institutional issues stifling electoral democracy in Uganda. A number of activities were undertaken in the reporting period and these include:

• Election Observation: During the general Presidential elections, the ULS Elections Watch Committee observed the voting process in the hard to reach upcountry areas especially those that were not covered by the East Africa Law Society (EALS) Observation team. This was done in close working relations with other election observers.

Key issues that the team paid keen attention to were voter registration, the electoral campaign, the role of the media in the elections, the participation of the women in the elections, the role of the security forces and the extent of the participation of the other observers. A report was published for dissemination to the public.

- **Convening a Colloquium on Sustainable Electoral Processes:** This Conference was held on 29th January 2016 to examine election management in Uganda and obtain updates on the Electoral Commission's Roadmap and the level of preparedness for the elections in Uganda, examine new ideas in the management of elections and meaningful civic engagement beyond elections, underscore the rights based approach to elections as a way of dealing with election violence, unequal treatment of political aspirants, misuse of public resources and disenfranchisement of political aspirants as well as part of the electorate. The Colloquium was held at the Kampala Serena Hotel and attended by 200 participants. The Colloquium report was published for dissemination to the wider public and stakeholders.
- Convening a Colloquium to reflect on Presidential Election Petition No.1 of 2016: This Conference was held on 13th September 2016 to reflect on the outcome of the election petition which was filed by the Hon. John Patrick Amama Mbabazi. The conference entailed a discussion of the perspectives of both the Petitioner and Respondent regarding the entire election period and the Supreme Court's examination of the entire election period. The role of civil society in the presidential election petitions as well as other key stakeholders was also discussed. The members looked at the impact of the Presidential Election Petition on the current electoral laws and reforms. Several recommendations were made with a view that they need to be adopted before Uganda's next elections in 2021. The Colloquium was held at the Kampala Serena Hotel and attended by 200 participants. The Colloquium report was published for dissemination to the wider public and stakeholders.
- Documentation: The ULS has continued to follow and document developments in the electoral process in the Legislature, Electoral Commission and the media. This information has continuously been uploaded on the ULS website since January 2016.

The Masindi Oil and Gas Project

This Project which is currently operational in the three Albertine areas of Hoima, Buliisa and Kibaale was initiated and implemented in the last quarter of 2016. The project kicked off with a stakeholders' meeting at Hoima Resort to discuss the objectives, expected outputs and outcomes of the project as well as to secure stakeholder buy in and political will for this project.

During the reporting period community awareness sessions on oil and gas were held in the areas of Kakindo and Ngwedo in Bullisa District. The purpose of these sessions was to introduce and create public awareness of the Oil & Gas project in the Albertine regions. The sessions also served to introduced the Legal Aid Project of the Uganda Law Society, and the free legal services to be rendered which include:- alternative dispute resolution methods and court representation among others. This project will be implemented for three years.

E. ULS Events of the Year

i. ULS Colloquium on Sustainable Electoral Processes

On 29th January 2016 the ULS held a Colloquium on Sustainable Electoral Processes at the Kampala Serena Hotel. under the theme "Fostering Sustainable Electoral Processes in Uganda". The event which is one of the activities under the ULS Project titled Reinforced Actions Towards Credible Elections (RACE) took place at the Kampala Serena Hotel was widely attended by participants from the State, non State entities including the diplomatic community, academia and representatives from sister Bar Associations in the EAC region. The overall aim of this colloquium was to encourage and facilitate constructive dialogue among the key actors in Uganda and from select successful democracies on critical issues affecting elections in Uganda and to borrow from best practices to ensure free and fair elections in Uganda.

ii. The ULS Annual Pro Bono Day

On 18th March 2016 the ULS held its 5th Annual Pro Bono day organized in 9 regions across the country under the theme 'Access to Justice for Children' at the Railway Grounds in Kampala, Boma Grounds in Fort Portal, Busoga Square in Jinja, Nebbi Mayor's Gardens in Arua and the Legal Aid Project Offices in Soroti, Mbarara, Gulu, Masindi and Kabale. The day was aimed at reaching the general public with on spot legal advice and assess the legal merit of clients' cases and the nature of the remedy available to them. At this event 1614 clients received on-spot legal advice from 1087 Advocates.

"The overall aim of this colloquium was to encourage and facilitate constructive dialogue among the key actors in Uganda and from select successful democracies"



The Discussion Panel at the Colloquium on Sustainable Electoral Processes held on 29th January 2016. From Right: Mr. Jenerali Ulimwengu, Eng. Dr. Badru Kiggundu (EC Chairperson), ULS President Ruth Sebatindira, Mr. Festus Okoye, Ms. Sarah K. Kihika and Mr. Wachira Maina

iii. The ULS Annual Conference and General Meeting

The Policy, Research and Advocacy Department together with the Professional Development and Members Affairs Department organized the Annual Conference that was held on 1st April 2016 under the theme "Confronting Mindsets: Incorporating Alternative Dispute Resolution in Legal Business" at the Commonwealth Resort, Munyonyo. This conference was attended by **1461** members. The Annual General Meeting (AGM)was subsequently held on 2nd April 2016 and a new Executive Council led by President Francis Gimara was elected. **1608** members attended this AGM.



ULS Members at the 2016 AGM

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Past President Ruth Sebatindira congratulating incoming President Francis Gimara

iv. The 6th ULS Rule of Law High Level Stakeholders Forum

The 6th Annual Rule of Law High Level Stakeholders Forum was held on 7th October 2016 at the Kampala Serena Hotel. The meeting which attracted participants from the Judiciary, legal fraternity, academia, civil society and the ULS Council discussed issues pertaining to judicial independence, the climate of legality, human rights and the role of the legal profession in fostering

these concepts. Recommendations for the State and other relevant actors were generated.

v. The 9th Annual Rule of Law Symposium 2015

On 7th October 2016, the ULS held its 9th Annual Rule of Law Symposium under the theme "Access to Justice and the State of the Rule of law in Uganda". This Symposium was held to initiate dialogue among members of the legal fraternity and other state and non-state actors

on the state of the rule of law in Uganda. This event that was held at the Kampala Serena Hotel attracted participants from state and non-state institutions including socio-economic and political actors, civil society organisations, the legal profession, and the academia (including students at secondary school level); among others.

The event featured a keynote address by Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o - the Senator of Kisumu County in Kenya; followed by panel presentations moderated by Mr. Simon Kaggwa Njala on the theme of the day by a selection of distinguished panelists from relevant sectors including the academic, civil society and private sector. The panelists were Prof. Oloka Onyango- Professor of Law, Human Rights and Peace Centre, Makerere University, Uganda; Ms. Christine Birabwa – National Coordinator Justice Centres – Uganda; Ms. Irene Ikomu – Coordinator – Regional Civil Society Initiative, Aga Khan Development Network and Mr. Everest Kayondo - Chairperson – Kampala City Traders Association.

The Symposium offered a learning platform for different members of society as to how they, as individuals and as a collective, can maintain the rule of law in Uganda. Additionally, the ULS Rule of Law Fund was officially announced and lawyers were encouraged to contribute to it, in order to facilitate the activities of the ULS Rule of Law and Strategic Litigation Committee.



The Keynote Speaker - the Hon. Senator of Kisumu County Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o during his presentation at the 9th ULS Annual Rule of Law Symposium

Among others, this event generated the following recommendations; that the National Development Plan should prioritise the rule of law as the most important condition for development; recommendations from audit reports should be swiftly adopted by Parliament and that all citizens should practice democracy and accountability should also be practiced at the household level.

vi. The East Africa Law Society (EALS) Annual Conference and General Meeting

The 21st EALS Annual Conference and General Meeting took place on 25th and 26th November 2016 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, under the theme "Enhancing Business Competitiveness through a Greater Democratization of East Africa". The Conference provided an unparalleled platform for legal practitioners across the region to catch up on regional legal sector developments over the course of the year. 187 ULS members attended this event and obtained 10 CLE points towards their compliance.

vii. ULS Members Open Day and Young Lawyers Training

On 26th August 2016 the ULS held an open day and a training for the young lawyers on "Ethics and Practice Management" at the ULS Secretariat offices. This event featured a keynote presentation by the Hon. Lady Justice Hellen Obura on the Foundation Principles for Young Lawyers. Participants also received presentations from personalities with a long standing experience in legal practice on professional etiquette and mentoring a young lawyer. Participants were also addressed by the Executive Council led by the ULS President under the



A cross section of the participants at the 9th ULS Annual Rule of Law Symposium

slogan "The ULS We Want".

In addition, members undertook a tour of the different Department offices at the Secretariat and met with Department heads in a bid to learn about and appreciate their respective mandates and activities. 1280 ULS members attended this event which offered five (5) points towards their CLE compliance.





The Hon. Lady Justice Hellen Obura addressing Participants at the ULS Open Day and Young Lawyers Training





viii. Members Sports Event

On 27th March 2016, the ULS held its 4th Annual Sports Day at the KCCA Football Grounds – Lugogo. ULS Members engaged in sports activities including; athletics, volleyball, chess and football. The football match was between the ULS team and the Diamond Trust Bank (DTB) team. The DTB team won the match in penalties. Other activities for the day included bouncing castles for members' children and a blood donation drive by the Uganda Blood Transfusion Service





Left: ULS Members participating in the activities at the ULS Sports Day on 27th March 2016. Right: Members' children participating at the same event

ix. ULS@60 Commemoration

In 2016, the ULS marked sixty years of existence since its establishment on 27th December 1956. In commemoration of this milestone, the ULS held a series of activities including: showcasing the ULS History and Milestones, Public Exhibitions, Radio and TV Talk Shows and engagements with key State and non-State actors. This commemoration commenced with launch on 11th November 2016 to mark 60 years of dedicated services to the profession and the society under the theme, "Celebrating Our Story: Rekindling Ethical Legal Practice". This event was held at the ULS Secretariat and it featured a lecture on the history of ULS and a moderated session by Past President Bruce Kyerere. This session involved presentations by Past Presidents on their terms in office; sharing their experiences and highlighting milestones and challenges faced. The past presents preset were; Prof. Fredrick Ssempebwa, Hon. Justice Remmy Kasule, Mr. John Mary Mugisha, Mr. Andrew Kasirye, Mr. Deo Lumumba Nkuzingoma, Mr. Bruce Kyerere, Ms. Ruth Sebatindira and the current president Mr. Francis Gimara.

At the event a number of ULS past Presidents namely: Mr. Akena Adoko (the first ULS president) Mr. Godfrey Binaisa, Mr. John Kazoora and Mr. Sam Njuba who have all since passed on and Dr. Joseph Byamugisha, Justice Solome Bbosa, Dr. Harriet Diana Musoke, Mr. John Matovu, Mr. Moses Julua Adriko, Mr. Oscar Kihika and Mr. James Mukasa Sebugenyi who were not present at the Launch, were recognized.

Following the ULS@60 Launch, the following events were held as part of the commemoration:

• Lecture on Human Rights and the Role of the Bar

On the 9th December 2016, a lecture on Human Rights and the Role of the Bar was held at the High Court gardens in Kampala. The day commenced with a march from the ULS secretariat to the High Court gardens led by the Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga. This lecture was organized in partnership with United Nations Human Rights Office, as one of the activities to also observe the Anti – Corruption Week and celebrate the International Human Rights day.

ULS Members were addressed by Dr. Uchenna Emelonye - U.N. Human Rights, Country Representative who emphasized observance of human rights. A keynote speech was made by the Principal Judge Hon. Justice Yorokamu Bamwiine on the role of the bar in protecting the sanctity of the courts. The Lecture concluded with a vote of thanks to the Principal Judge by the Deputy DPP – Mr. Charles Elem Ogwal.

• Annual Lawyers' Dinner

The 'Black Tie dinner' held on 16th December 2016 at the Serena Hotel, Kampala commenced with viewing of a documentary that featured various dignitaries who shared the history of ULS and its current standing as well as testimonies by beneficiaries of the Legal Aid Project.

The event commenced with a board signing by ULS members as re-commitment to ethical legal practice and an opening cocktail followed by an awards ceremony led by the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs – Hon. Major General Kahinda Otafire who presented awards to ULS Past Presidents for their outstanding contributions to the ULS. The Hon. Minister also presented awards to advocates within the following categories;

- Lifetime Achievement Award
 Prof. Fredrick E. Ssempebwa
- Distinguished Legal Career in Government
 Hon. Francis Ayume, RIP
- Outstanding Judicial Officer Award
 Rtd Justice J. W. N. Tsekooko
- 4. Recognition of initiation of Legal Aid Project
 Hon. Justice Remmy Kasule
- 5. Outstanding Contribution to Legal Education– Prof. Joe Oloka-Onyango
- 6. First female advocate on the Roll
 Princess Elisabeth C. Bagaaya
- 7. Long Service Award
 Rtd. C.J. Sam Wako Wambuzi
- 8. Youngest member on the Roll of advocates
 Itogot Amy Amina
- 9. Distinguished female leadership award– Justice L. E. M. Kikonyogo

The gathering received congratulatory remarks from the Minister and the Attorney General Mr. Byaruhanga William followed by Mr. Francis Gimara who spoke about key achievements of the ULS including the Legal Aid Project, highlighted the need for Legal Policy and support to legal services, the role of ULS in advancing the Rule of Law and made a clarion call for professionalism and ethical conduct.

The dinner concluded with the chief guest's speech by H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni who appreciated the invitation, articulated the government's support for Rule of Law, highlighted a few bottlenecks to governance and recommended rekindling of ethical legal practice





Above: The Chief Guest – H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda – Yoweri Kaguta Museveni cutting the cake at the ULS@60 Dinner Event held at the Kampala Serena Hotel on 16th December 2016

Left: The ULS President addressing the ULS Membership at the Dinner held in commemoration of ULS 60th Anniversary. To his right is Hon. Kahinda Otafire - the Cabinet Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

Below Right: The Hon. Principal Judge Yorukamu Bamwine signing the Board at the ULS@60 Celebrations at the Kampala Serena Hotel on 16th December 2016. **Below Left:** Senior ULS Members and Judges during a cocktail held to commemorate the same event.





F. Reports from the ULS Committees

Professional Development and Training Committee

Chaired by Mr. Ivan Engoru

Other Members include: Mr. Julius Ojok, Mr. Alex Matovu, Ms. Lydia Namuli, Mr. Muzamiru Kibeedi, Mr. Patson Wilbroad Arinaitwe, Mr. Ian Mutiibwa, Mr.Ronald Tusingwire, Mrs. Fiona Nalwanga Magona, Ms. Grace Atuheirwe and Mr. Alex Kibandama.

The Professional Development and Training Committee was set up to among other tasks, identify and design courses and programme to address lawyers' training gaps. The Committee in consultation with the ULS Council designs and recommends areas for which CLE trainings should be carried out. The report of the Committee with a request accreditation is forwarded to the Law Council for its consideration and approval. Once the approval is obtained from the Law Council, the proposed areas of CLE training become the annual Professional Development calendar of the year for accredited CLE activities which is circulated to members for their information and planning.

Over the years, the Committee has attempted to be responsive to member feedback, taking into account the peculiar needs of members of the Society. The Committee offers guidance on implementation of professional development programmes with technical assistance from the Professional Development and Members' Affairs Department of the Society.

During the year under review, the Committee convened a total of three meetings key among which was one for training and approving the training areas for the year 2017. It also developed a duty rota for its members to supervise and moderate at CLE trainings and also get feedback from the general membership on areas for improvement. Arising from member feedback, the Committee has been able to submit to Council a report with recommendations to the Law Council to review and expand on the criteria for CLE accreditation beyond ULS organised trainings.

The Committee is optimistic that once the report is adopted, other engagements of members outside the CLE trainings will attract and entitle a member to CLE points. The committee has also made other recommendations. In particular, the Committee has proposed to the ULS Council that for purposes of representation to Council, positions be created for; West Nile, Bunyoro and Toro, and Mid Eastern. This has been informed by the ever growing numbers of members practising in those areas and the distance that members have had to travel currently to attend

Society regional functions in Gulu, Mbarara, and Jinja respectively.

A total of thirty two (32) trainings were held in different fields of the law and in various regions of the country.

2. Research and Publications Committee

Chaired by Mr. Karoli Ssemogerere

Other Members include: Mr. Benson Kwikiriza, Mr. Didas Bakunzi Mufasha, Mr. Edward Balaba, Mr. Brian Kalule, Mr. Frank Tumusiime, Mr. Moses Mwase, Ms. Maria Nassali, Mr. John Mugalula, Mr. Edwin Tabaro, Dr. Rose Nakayi and Mr. Remmy George Wamimbi

During the reporting period the committee held 2 meetings out of which sub-committees to consider revival of the Law Reports, Law Journal previously published by the Uganda Law Society and the Annual Magazine were formed. These sub-committees carried out studies and made reports on the viability of the same.

However, this activity met as a major challenge of lack of funding as the ULS does not have a proper budget for publication. At the close of 2016, the sub-committees were considering implementation of findings to hand over to the next Committee.

3. Female Lawyers Committee

Chaired by Mrs. Diana Ninsiima Kibuuka

Other Members include: Ms. Irene Nassuna, Ms. Norah Kagwa, Ms. Proscovia Nsenge, Ms. Rebecca Athieno, Ms. Stella Ladona, Ms. Baati Katende, Ms. Barbara Asiimwe, Ms. Angella Namakula, Mrs. Fiona Magona, Mr. Kenneth Akampurira and Ms. Dorothy Ochola.

During the reporting period this Committee held 7 meetings. The Committee also coordinated and organized a Networking Event for Women Lawyers, Women in Law Awards – 2016.

The Committee was also invited to address the Female Lawyers Breakfast at the EALS Conference of 2016.

Challenges

- Failure of members to attend meetings despite their volunteering to serve and in turn contribute to the achievements of the Committee
- Difficulty in communicating the mission of the Committee to the ULS members especially the male members of the committee who do not attach value

to the engagements organized by the Committee. It was also hard to get female lawyers to commit to participating actively with the committee.

Recommendations

- The Chairpersons of the Committees should be allowed flexibility to request non-performing members of the Committee to resign.
- Although the induction conducted for Committee members was very helpful, in future, the ULS Secretariat should be given more time to detail how it operates and exactly how it supports Committees.
- The Finance personnel at the ULS Secretariat should brief Committees on the financial operations of the Society so that it is clear what authorizations are required and what can be expected by Committees engaging with third parties on behalf of the ULS.

4. Welfare and Social Affairs Committee

Chaired by Mr. Fredrick Mbaziira

Other members include: Mr. Alex Luganda, Ms. Eve Soraya Mr. Innocent Kihika, Ms. Barbara Daisy Nabusweke, Ms. Lillian Kiiza, Mr. Noah Wasige, Ms. Clare Amanya Rukundo, Mr. Allan Paul Mbabazi Nshimye, Ms. Rita Namakiika and Ms. Lillian Drabo.

This Committee works closely with the Professional Development and Members' Affairs Department and generally offers policy guidance on members' welfare and social needs.

During the period under review, the Committee held four (4) meetings which focused on planning, organization and successful conduct of key events which included; the Annual Conference and General Meeting, the Members Sports event/ Fun day, and the ULS@60Celebrations and dinner

On a sad note however, the ULS lost the following members; Late Kobusinge Kilonsi Nyakoojo, Late Bernard Kabogoza, Late Martin Anukur, Late Patrick Nyakana, Late Peter Amooti Nyamutale, Late Johnson Musana, and Late Yusuf Nsubuga Nsambu

5. Elections Committee

Chaired by Mrs. Norah Matovu Winyi

Other Members include: Mr. Fredrick Mbaziira (Vice Chairperson), Mr. John Mary Mugisha, Ms. Caroline Bonabana and Mr. Shaiub Chemisto

This Committee held a total of five meetings focused on reviewing the whole ULS electoral process for 2016. These weekly meetings facilitated the planning and follow up of various activities/tasks in preparation for the ULS Executive Council elections.

Working with the ULS Secretariat the Committee ensured timely compilation of the Voters Register of paid up members; sending out reminder alerts to members by sms, email and other social media platforms to meet their basic membership obligations; obtaining information on the professional status/standing of candidates and securing the voting materials from the Electoral Commission (EC).

The Committee also prepared materials including the Roadmap, Elections notices, Election Guidelines, Campaign Guidelines, and Letters of confirmation of Nomination. The Committee further received nominations for the 8 elective positions namely: President, Vice President, Treasury, Secretary and four Council Members.

Elections were held on April 2, 2016 at Commonwealth Resort Munyonyo from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm in which over 980 members participated.

Challenges

- Despite the communication to members there was a lot of last minute payments thereby affecting the process of compiling the voters' register two days to the voting day.
- It was noted that it is impracticable for the Executive Council to meaningfully conduct any other business on the day of elections. The AGM was greatly disrupted by this arrangement as majority of members abandoned the meeting to hang outside watching the voting process and waiting for their turn to cast their votes.

Recommendations

- There is need to mobilize members to pay up their membership fees earlier, possibly in January of each year.
- To avoid the practice of members hanging around the election venue, there should be chief whips in place to mobilize members to get back in the meeting hall. All candidates should have their election observers to keep watch of the process on behalf of their candidates and the members of the society.
- Staff designated to support the Elections Committee should be relieved of some of their regular business/ duties for a period of one month to 45 days so that they devote sufficient time to the tasks involved in preparing for the ULS elections. This will contribute to increased efficiency and effectiveness in following up on the decisions of the Committee.
- The communication budget should be sufficient to ensure that all members including members stationed upcountry are reached with the messages relating to the ULS elections in good time since

some of the members operating in upcountry towns have limited access to internet services.

- Regular and all year round update of the Members' directory should be done to avoid the last minute rush. It is best to start sending out reminders in mid-January to build the momentum towards the AGM.
- It is recommended that Council should make budget provisions for the Secretariat to acquire its own equipment for conducting future elections as a contingency plan, just in case the Electoral Commission equipment is not available.
- It is further recommended that ULS should invest in the acquisition of a ballot counting machine like the one used at airports to ensure a quicker and efficient counting process of the ballot papers.
- The Council should groom leaders within ULS. Efforts should be made to identify active and committed members to be engaged in the activities of ULS so that they are well placed for successful leadership in the ULS.
- Regarding the voting, the Council should organize an Extra Ordinary General Meeting (EGM) specifically for elections at least three months to the AGM, budgetary implications notwithstanding; or maintain the current 2 days programme but hold the pre-AGM Conference in the morning of day 1, and the AGM opens in the afternoon and elections on the second day. Once the elections are concluded the AGM would have the final session for declaration of the results and other outstanding business prepared by the outgoing council.

6. In-House Lawyers' Committee

Chaired by Mrs. Angela Kiryabwire Kanyima

Other Members include: Ms. Lucy Namuleme, Mr. Peter Mulira, Mr. Harriet Nantumbwe, Ms. Cynthia H. Musoke, Ms. Agnes Tibayeita Isharaza, Mr. Christopher Luwaga, Ms. Asmahaney Saad, Mr. William Bwanika, Ms. Fiona Kunihira, Ms. Miriam Magala and Ms. Francesca Nakaggwa.

The Committee held one meeting during the reporting period in which members nominated and appointed Ms. Agnes Tibayeita Isharaza as the Committee Vice Chairperson and Mr. Peter Mulira as Secretary.

The Committee agreed to: Create an In-House Lawyers' directory; fix strategic partnerships and plan activities for the In-House Lawyers; and do branding so as to entice other member's to join; to have annual events that would be fully sponsored by big institutions and

companies including motivational talk to be held at the beginning of 2017 and to encourage members participation in the ULS@60 celebrations.

Challenges

- Lack of a vibrant record keeping system to guide on what was done in the past and capture what is being done.
- Most In- House lawyers do not by the nature of their work usually apply for Practicing Certificates and are thus not paid up members of the ULS.

7. Investment Committee

Chaired by Mr. Francis Gimara

Other Members include: Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira, Mr. Edgar Agaba, Mr. James Mukasa Sebugenyi, Ms. Harriet Magala, Mr. Cephas Birungyi, Mr. Masembe Kanyerezi, Mr. Musa Modoi, Mr. Alex Rezida, Hajat Shifrah Lukwago, Mr. Edwin Karugire and Mr. Bernard Oundo.

The above Committee took on from previous Committee to consider the way forward for the main ULS House and has a draft of the ULS House design report as approved from the previous Executive Council. This Committee was tasked to look into the question underlying the mode to adopt in order to raise funds for the ULS House.

Challenges faced

- Lack of enough funds to start on the ULS House Project
- Change of the ULS leasehold from the years held to 10 years. Currently the lease has 9 year remaining and in case the land is not developed, KCCA reserves the right to take over the same by the end of 2025

8. Finance Planning and Administration Committee

Chaired by Hajat. Shifrah Lukwago

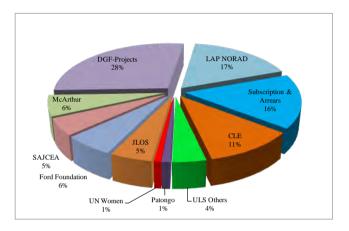
Other Members include: Mr. Moses. B Mwase, Mr. Titus Kamya, Mr. Ruta Darius, Mr. Noah Wasige, Mr. Christal Kabajwara, Ms. Caroline Bonabana , Festus Akunobera, Ms. Eva Kentaro, Mr. Enoch Barata, Mr. Wilberforce Sserazi and Mr. Godfrey Akena.

The Finance and Administration Committee oversees the finance, administration and human resource matters of the ULS. During the period under review the Committee among others concerned itself with the availability of sufficient financial resources and liquidity to the Society throughout the year.

Funding

The ULS main source of income was subscription from a total of 2,246 members in addition to donor funding.

Below is a graphical view for the revenues received in the year 2016 inclusive of LAP NORAD



- Human resource: during the reporting period, 11 staff left while18 staff joined the organization. ULS continued to offer capacity building trainings and medical insurance to the staff body as a motivator.
- Procurement: 6 computers and 1 photocopier were facilitated by JLOS, ULS obtained 2 computers, and the Masindi Oil Project under LAP acquired 1 photocopier, I computer, a printer, a laptop, office desk, steel cupboard and 1 Executive Chair.
- **Transport:** all Legal Aid clinics have vehicles that assist in the running of daily activities by legal staff in the provision of legal aid to indigent clients.

Highlight of the Year; the ULS received yet another ICPAU Financial Reporting Awards of the year 2016.

During the year under consideration, the Uganda Law Society Auditors were PKF Uganda.

Reports from ULS Representatives to Various Bodies

1. Report of the Representative to Mildmay Uganda

By Mr. John Mugalula

In 2016, Mildmay continued to pursue its mission of modeling quality and sustainable prevention, care and treatment of HIV and other health priorities, using a family centred approach; together with training, education and research.

During the reporting period the ULS Representative attended its Annual General Meeting on the 15th December 2016.

Challenges faced

- The representative made a follow up on the effect of the HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control Act 2014 on the operations of Mildmay and whether Mildmay had started to appropriate funds from HIV & AIDS fund established under Section 25 of the said Act
- It was noted that the Chairman of the board suggested that the Board would seat and review the said Act vis a vis the operations of Mildmay while arrangements are still ongoing in the Ministry of Health in the establishment of the said fund.
- As stated in the report of 2015, it is recommended that the Uganda Law Society can immensely benefit from the services offered by Mildmay Uganda. Through liaising with Council, the ULS can tap into the HIV prevention, care and treatment services offered by Mildmay for the membership which has now expanded its private medical services and now offers general medical conditions such as in-patient admissions, surgery, and reproductive health services among others.

2. Report of the Representatives to the Law Council

By Messrs. John Mary B. Kiwuuwa & Peters Kizito Musoke

The Law Council is mandated to regulate the legal proffession in Uganda and runs two committee namely; the Committee on Legal Education and Training and the Disciplinary Committee.

During year under review the ULS representatives participated in a number of activities including; meetings, workshops, retreats; regulating the discipline of advocates and their clerks; conducting the Bar Course Pre-entry examinations; vetting applications for enrolment; legislating; inspection of chambers and law programmes; supervision and control of the provision of legal aid and probono services to indigent persons and Continuing Legal Education (CLE); and computerisation of the Secretariat.

The Law Council is still faced with challenges which included; excessive workload, understaffing, inadequate funding and restructuring and autonomy.

It is recommended that there is need to: fast-track autonomy for the Law Council, expedite the amendment process to the Advocates Act [Cap. 267], the Advocates (Disciplinary Committee) (Procedure) Regulation S.I 267-6, the Advocates (Probono Service

to Indigent Persons) Regulations S.I No 39 of 2009, the Advocates (Remuneration and Taxation of Costs) Rules S.I 267-4 as well the making of the Paralegal Regulations, fast-track cross-border practice (the Mutual Recognition Agreement), make regulations to govern land coveyancing in order to curb down on complaints emanating from land transactions, appeal to advocates to respect the summons of the Disciplinary Committee to avoid unnecessary delays in handling their complaints and to appeal to the courts to avoid issuing interim orders allowing advocates whose names have been removed from the Roll or suspendend to practice pending their appeals.

Appreciation is extended to Justice Remmy Kasule (JCA), Chairperson, Law Council, the President Uganda Law Society and the Law Council team for their cooperation and unwavering support.

3. Report of the Representative to the Capital Markets Authority

By Mr. Nelson Nerima

During the reporting period, the ULS representative participated in various Capital Markets Authority (CMA) activities including: Board and Board Committee meetings, Board approvals, a National Risk Assessment exercise under the auspices of the Financial Intelligence Authority, public education of over 5,800 individuals and several outreaches with potential issuers through one on one meetings, organizing of the 5th Annual Directors and Company Secretaries' Conference which contributed CLE points to advocates, carrying out a National Risk Assessment for Uganda for the Securities Sector to determine the risky sectors in relation to anti money laundering, participation in the review of the Insolvency Regulations issued under the Insolvency Act, 2011, publication of Regulations, capacity building and regulatory collaboration, working on the strategic plan 2017 /18 - 2021/22 and the Capital Markets Development Master plan.

The CMA also sought approval from the Attorney General to reprint the Capital Markets Authority Act following its amendment by the Capital Markets Authority (Amendment) Act No.12 of 2011 and the Capital Markets Authority (Amendment) Act No.8 of 2016.

During the reporting period the Capital markets Authority (Amendment) Act, 2016 was passed and accented to by H.E the President on 3rd May 2016 and commenced on 20th May, 2016.

4. Report of the Representative to the Board of Trustees of the Makerere University Retirement Benefit Scheme

By Magala Miriam

The ULS representative participated in 9 Audit Committee meetings and 7 Board of Trustees meetings. During the reporting period; the scheme's fund value grew from 67.5 Billion to 78.2 Billion, three new service providers were recruited and new contracts were drawn at a lower cost with enhanced service delivery than the outgoing providers; core Scheme documents were developed including the Board Charter, Strategic Plan, Risk Management Policy and Framework and the Human Resource Manual among others; regular member contributions were received; a Consent Decree with Makerere University which reinforced their efforts to recover outstanding unremitted retirement benefits for the Scheme members was secured: a webbased platform on which members can access online statements was launched; and a biometric registration exercise to boost the member data available in the Scheme was also launched.

However, the board encountered challenges including but not limited to; outstanding un-remitted contributions for members continued to impede the performance of the scheme and the general performance of the equities in the region which led to certain unrealised losses that affected the overall returns on investment. Trustees are pursuing the debts recovery until payment is made in full.

 Report from the Representive to the Committee on Legal Education and Training of the Uganda Law Council

By Dr. Daniel R. Ruhweza

During the reporting period, the ULS representative participated in over 10 meetings and other activities including:- Inspection of chambers and Universities that teach the law program: Consideration of; results of the Bar Course pre-entry examinations for the year 2016/2017, applications by law graduates with foreign legal qualifications; applications for continuing legal education compliance and programmes, applications by law graduates with foreign legal qualifications, applications for CLE compliance and programmes, applications for accreditation as a CLE service providers and applications for accreditation of law programs.

However, Committee activities were hampered to an extent by inadequate funding leading to a slow down or to almost a halt in work. Additionally, most members

of CLET did not receieve their sitting allowances.

It is therefore recommend that;

- ULS members who seek to teach in law programs either on permanent or part time basis should be discouraged from joining more than two teaching institutions. This only delays the accreditation of the teaching institution
- ULS members who wish to send students for legal studies outside the country should seek advice from the Law Council regarding possibilities of such future graduate being allowed to sit for the preentry examination to the post graduate Bar Course at the Law Development Centre.
- ULS members should be reminded that CLE is a legal requirement and non compliance may result in disciplinary action. Additionally, non compliance with notice period means that the member will not be awarded the hours requested for.
- Teaching Institutions need to be advised that before they are given accreditation, any students admitted and taught shall not be allowed to join post graduate Bar Course at the Law Development Centre (LDC) because accreditation is not retrospective. Teaching instutitions should also be reminded that accreditation may also be revoked for failure to comply with the terms and conditions therein.
- Candidates who wish to sit for the pre-entry to join the post graduate Bar Course at the LDC need to be well prepared.

Report of the Representative to the Legal Aid Clinic Advisory Board of the Law Development Centre

By Mr. Musa Modoi

The Legal Aid Clinic Advisory Board (CAB) to which the ULS is represented is chaired by Hon lady Justice C. Bamugemereire. The main function the CAB is to serve as the governing body of the LDC Legal Aid Clinic (LAC) and to provide policy, technical and administrative oversight to the Clinic.

The ULS representative Mr. Modoi has full participation in the CAB and Technical Committee meetings. The Board meetings are held on a quarterly basis, while the committees meet on a needs basis.

Mr. Modoi is Chairperson to the CAB's Technical Committee for Programs which is responsible for the technical oversight of the implementation all CAB legal aid and legal education programs. The LAC runs the following programs;

Clinical Legal Education

The LAC is responsible for promoting and integrating clinical legal education in the LDC Bar curriculum as well

as manage and supervise Bar Course students during the handling of cases at the LDC Magistrate Court.

• The Reconciliation Project

This project is implemented by the LAC to promote reconciliation in criminal matters in Magistrates Courts like the practice and application of ADR skills by Bar Course students. This follows the issuance of Reconciliation Rules issued under the Magistrates Courts Act. The targeted cases are those that are private and minor in nature.

The project is funded by JLOS and DGF, and is implemented in Fort portal, Masindi, Lira, Iganga, Kibale, and Kampala.

• The Diversion Project and ADR

The LAC's Diversion project has been implemented for the past ten years and supported by the American Jewish World Service (ALWS), JLOS and DGF. This project has three components that are implemented and include the following; Community Engagement stage, Police Engagement stage and Court Engagement stage.

There is also an ongoing USAID funded ADR project to handle land disputes in Kibaale district designed to engage Bar course students.

• UNDP Support to strengthen Legal Aid Clinic

The LAC is a beneficiary of the UNDP's Rule of Law and Constitutional Democracy programme that is managed by JLOS/MoJCA. The programme is to support the equipment and furnishing of LDC's clinics and also some legal aid interventions. The programme is focusing on mainly eastern and northern Uganda regions. As part of the support, the LAC office at LDC is to be converted into a law chamber that is fully licensed to conduct legal business.

LDC Restructuring

The LAC was integrated in the LDC mainstream management and systems. The integration required a review of the LAC Regulations guiding the Clinic and the CAB.

Mr. Modoi led the team to review the LDC-CAB Regulations however the follow up engagements at the LDC-CAB level were curtailed by the leadership gap at the Clinic.

LDC Clinic Leadership Challenges

Since the LDC Clinic Manager left office in the second quarter there is a defacto freeze on the functioning of the LDC-CAB. Efforts to get information and propose a meeting to revive normal functioning were to no avail. Therefore, this report was made with no clear statistical returns unlike in the past.

AUDITED ACCOUNTS



UGANDA LAW SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

PKF Uganda

Certified Public Accountants

A member firm of PKF International

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SOCIETY'S INFORMATION

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Mr. Francis Gimara

Mrs. Alice Namuli Blazevic

Hajati Shifrah Lukwago Mrs. Pheona Nabasa Gladys Wall

Mr. Simon Peter M. Kinobe Mr. Francis Harimwomugasho

Mr. Jacob Israel Osilo Ms. Shamim Amolo Mr. J.B.R Suuza

Ms. Stella Nyandria

Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira

- President

- Vice President

- Treasurer

- Honorary Secretary - Member Central Region

- Member Western Region - Member Eastern Region

-Member Northern Region - Representative of the Attorney General

-Representative to solicitor General

-Ex-Official

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS & REGISTERED OFFICE:

Plot 5A John Babiiha Avenue

P.O. Box 426 Kampala, Uganda

Telephone: +256-414-342424 Fax: +256-414-342431 Website: www.uls.or.ug.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS:

PKF Uganda,

Certified Public Accountants,

Kalamu House Plot 1B, Kira Road P. O. Box 24544, Kampala, Uganda.

BANKERS:

Standard Chartered Bank Ltd Plot 5, Speke Road Branch. P. O. Box 7111 Kampala, Uganda

DFCU Acacia Branch, Plot 24B Acacia Avenue, Kololo P.O.Box 70 Kampala, Uganda

Stanbic Bank Limited
Forest Mall Branch
Plot 3A2/3A3 Sports Lane Lugogo
P.O. Box 7131
Kampala Uganda

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Uganda Law Society (ULS) is a corporate body established by the Uganda Law Society Act [Cap.276] with perpetual succession and a common seal. Uganda Law Society is considered among the Leading Bar Associations in East and Central Africa. The Society currently has a registered membership of Two Thousand Four Hundred and Forty Six (2,446) advocates.

1.2 Vision, Mission and Goal

Vision

To be a Proficient Bar Association in Fostering Access to Justice, the Rule of Law and Good Governance in Uganda.

Mission

To Develop a Skilled and Empowered Legal Profession in execution of its Statutory Mandate to Foster and Improve Access to and Administration of Justice as well as Good Governance in Uganda.

Goal

Efficient Legal Service Delivery to ensure Access to Justice and Observance of the Rule of Law for Positive Social Transformation.

1.3 Strategic Objectives of the Society

- 1. To promote members' professional development and ethical conduct.
- 2. To promote access to justice for Indigent, marginalized and vulnerable persons in Uganda.
- 3. To contribute to upholding and promoting the rule of law in Uganda.
- 4. To strengthen the institutional capacity of the Uganda Law Society to become a modern Bar Association.

2.0 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

The Executive Council Members present their annual report together with the audited Financial Statements of the Society for the year ended 31 December 2016, which discloses the state of the affairs of Uganda Law Society.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the Society is to maintain and improve the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession.

RESULTS

The operating results for the year.

2016 2015 Ushs Ushs

Surplus for the year

113,180,529

102,146,188

AUDITORS

The Uganda Law Society appoints auditors at their Annual General Meeting.

By order of the Executive Council

PRESIDENT

.....2017

3.0 STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of management of the Society to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the affairs of Uganda Law Society at the end of the year and the surplus or (deficit) and other comprehensive income for that year.

The Uganda Law Society Act [CAP.276] also requires the Executive Council to ensure that the Society maintains proper accounting records that disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the society.

The Executive Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society.

The Executive Council accepts responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatements whether due to fraud or error. They also accept responsibility for:

- Designing, implementing and maintaining such internal controls as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- ii. Selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies;
- iii. Making accounting estimates and judgements that are reasonable in the circumstance.

The Executive Council members are of the opinion that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society's as at 31 December 2016 and of the society's financial performance and cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium sized Entities and the requirements of Uganda Law Society Act (Cap 276).

Nothing has come to the attention of the Executive Council to indicate that the society will not remain a going concern for at least twelve months from the date of this statement.

PRESIDENT

Date:

25/03/2017

TREASURER

Date:

25/03/2017

COUNCIL MEMBER

Date:

25/03/2017

PKF Uganda

Certified Public Accountants



4.0 REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Uganda Law Society on pages 11 to 25 which comprises the Society's statement of financial position as at 31 December 2016 and the statement of Profit or Loss and other Comprehensive Income, the Society's statement of changes in fund balances and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept and the accompanying financial statements which are in agreement there with, give a true and fair view of the state of the financial affairs of Uganda Law Society as at 31 December 2016 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, comply with International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium Entities (IFRS SME's) and Uganda Law Society Act [Cap.276].

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA's). Our Responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with The International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Uganda, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

The Executive Council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the report of the Executive Council, but does not include the financial statements and or our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion, thereon.

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Partners: Charles Oguttu****, Frederick Kibbedi ****, Alpesh Vadher*, Piyush Shah* (*Kenyan, **** Ugandan)

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In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Executive Council for the Financial Statements

The Executive Council Members are responsible for the preparation of Financial Statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for small and medium size entities and the Uganda Law Society's Act [Cap.276] and for such internal controls as the Executive Council Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Executive Council is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless council either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements

As part of an audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

i. Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.



- ii. Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organisation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- iv. Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organisation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- v. Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identify during our audit.

The engagement partner responsible for the audit resulting to this report of the independent auditor is: Fredrick Kibbedi (P0242)

PKF Uganda

Certified Public Accountants

Date 28 march 2017

Ref: FK/U109/062/17



5.0 STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AN	D OTHER COM	MPREHENSIVE INCOME	
	Notes	2016	2015
		UGX	UGX
Revenue	9.1.10a	1,882,629,150	1,458,520,988
Project Grants	9.1.11b	3,218,291,166	2,340,342,029
Other ULS Income	9.1.12c	37,142,886	79,458,917
		5,138,063,202	3,878,321,934
Operating and Other Expenditure			
ULS Operating Costs	9.12a	1,760,918,522	1,372,728,257
Project Operating Costs	9.1.13b	3,263,964,151	2,403,447,489
Total Operating and Other Expenditure		5,024,882,673	3,776,175,746
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		113,180,529	102,146,188
Net Surplus for the year		113,180,529	102,146,188

6.0 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016

ASSETS	Notes		2015
		UGX	UGX
Non-Current Assets:			
Property, Plant and Equipment	9.1	325,320,441	322,292,971
Current Assets:			
Inventory	9.2	16,061,320	14,967,219
Prepayments	9.3	14,190,374	7,064,756
Receivables	9.4	29,406,485	131,880,100
Related Party Balances	9.5	423,835,688	235,777,553
Cash and Bank	9.6	2,043,003,133	1,989,749,459
	_	2,526,497,000	2,379,439,087
Total Assets:	_	2,851,817,441	2,701,732,058
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES			
Funds:			
General Fund	7.0	1,192,861,544	996,931,237
Capital Fund	7.0	325,320,442	322,292,972
Benevolent Fund	7.0	72,593,691	52,557,691
Development Fund	7.0	113,936,930	219,750,178
	_	1,704,712,607	1,591,532,078
Current Liabilities:			
Payables	9.7	109,674,510	23,550,490
Deferred Income	9.8	1,026,594,574	1,079,683,414
Accruals	9.9	10,835,750	6,966,076
	-	1,147,104,834	1,110,199,980
Total Funds and Liabilities:	_	2,851,817,441	2,701,732,058

The Financial behalf by:	Statements were approved by the Executive Council on 25/03/2017 and signed on its
	PRESIDENT
	TREASURER

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

7.0 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS

	General fund UGX	Capital Fund UGX	Benevolent Fund UGX	Benevolent Fund Development fund UGX UGX	Total Funds UGX
Year ended 31 December 2016					
Balance at 01 January	996,931,237	322,292,972	52,557,691	219,750,178	1,591,532,078
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	113,180,529		•		113,180,529
Transfers from General fund	(20,036,000)	ı	20,036,000		
Transfers from/to Development fund	105,813,248			(105,813,248)	
Change in operating & donor fund	0				
Additions of Property, plant & equipment		88,930,000			88,930,000
Depreciation charge	(3,027,470)	(85,902,530)		•	(88,930,000)
Balance as at 31 December 2016	1,192,861,544	325,320,442	72,593,691	113,936,930	113,936,930 1,704,712,607

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UGANDA LAW SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

Balance at 31 December 2015	996,931,237	322,292,972	52,557,691	219,750,178	1,591,532,078
Depreciation charge		(33,736,994)	-		(33,736,994)
Additions of Property, Plant & Equipment		16,140,400		1-	16,140,400
Change in operating & donor fund	17,596,593		7	-	17,596,593
Transfers from/to Development fund	75,853,242	0-2	2	(75,853,242)	
Transfers from General fund	(12,063,800)	1	12,063,800	-54	
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	102,146,188	-	9		102,146,188
Balance at 01 January	813,399,014	339,889,566	40,493,891	295,603,420	1,489,385,891
Year ended 31 December 2015				7.77	17.79
	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX
	General fund	Capital Fund	Benevolent Fund	Development Fund	Total Funds
				Davelonment	

8.0. STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016 2016 2015 Note UGX UGX CASHFLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES 113,180,529 102,146,188 Surplus / (deficit) for the year Adjustments for: 9.1.1 Depreciation on Assets 85.902.530 33,736,994 (9,638,508)Interest Income (22,400,000)(495,000)Profit / Loss on Disposal Investment Income (2,967,300)173,220,759 126,244,674 Changes in working capital: Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments (7,125,618)1,734,608 102,473,615 (90,823,000)Decrease in receivables Increase in project advances (198,762,535)(99,171,278)(1,094,101)713,820 Decrease/(Increase) in inventory (Decrease)/ Increase in payables 36,904,854 822,390,397 Increase in related party payables 10,704,400 (8,338,596)116,321,374 752,750,625 CASHFLOWS FROM INVESTING **ACTIVITIES** Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment 9.1.1 (88,930,000)(16, 140, 400)Interest received 22,400,000 9,638,508 2.967.300 Investment income Increase / Decrease in Investments 495,000 53,253,674 746,248,733 Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents 53,253,674 746,248,733 Movement in Cash and Cash Equivalent Balance as at 1 January 9.6 1,989,749,459 1,243,500,726 Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalent 53,253,674 746,248,733 Balance as at 31 December 2016 9.6 2,043,003,133 1,989,749,459

9.0 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

General Information

The Society is a corporate body established by the Uganda Law Society Act [Cap.276] with perpetual succession and common seal. Uganda Law Society is considered among the Leading Bar Associations in East and Central Africa. The society currently has Two Thousand Two Hundred and Six (2,446) registered advocates.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting and in compliance with international Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium – sized Entities.

The financial statements are presented in the functional and reporting currency, Uganda Shillings (UGX).

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS for SMEs requires the use of estimates and assumptions. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the society's accounting policies.

Going Concern

The financial performance of the society is set out in the council report and in the statement of Profit or Loss and other Comprehensive Income. The financial position of the society is set out in the Statement of Financial Position.

Based on the financial performance and position of the society and its risk management policies, the members are of the opinion that the society is well placed to continue in business for the foreseeable future and as a result the financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

(i) Financial instruments

Financial instruments include investments in fixed deposits and securities. These are recognized at fair value. After initial recognition, they are subsequently reported at fair value every reporting date in accordance with IFRS 9.

(ii) Revenue recognition

Revenue comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable from donors.

- i) Grants for restricted purposes and for specified funded projects are recognised when received and spent on qualifying activities. Any unutilised grants are recognised as deferred income and any excess expenditure over income is recorded as grants receivable at year end where there is commitment of additional funds from grant providers to cover such expenditure
- All other donations are accounted for on a cash receipt basis unless there are committed funds or pledged funds that are receivable.
- iii) Interest income is accrued by reference to time under the effective interest method.
- iv) Other income is recognised upon performance of the services rendered.

(iii) Capital grants

This represents funds received for purchase of property and equipment's or the value of such property and equipment that are granted to the society. The initial amount is credited to a deferred income account known as capital grants. The balance is amortised to income annually at an amount equal to that of depreciating the assets purchased with the grants.

(iv) Deferred income

Grant Income is deferred where it has been received to fund specific future expenditure.

(v)Property and equipment

All property, plant and equipment are stated at historical cost less depreciation. The depreciation will be calculated as a percentage of the acquisition price according to the straight line method to write off the cost to their residual value over the estimated economic life span as follows.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will follow to the society and the cost can be reliably measured. The carrying amount of the replaced part is derecognised. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the Statement of Profit or Loss and other Comprehensive Income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

	% Rate	Lease Period
Leasehold land	2	9 years
Building	4	
Law Books Computers &	25	
Accessories	33.3	
Furniture & Fittings	12.5	
Office Equipment	12.5	
Motor Vehicles	25	
Generator	25	

Where the carrying amount of an asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, it is written down immediately to its recoverable amount.

The assets residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each statement of financial position date.

Gains and losses on disposal of property and equipment are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are taken into account in determining operating surplus / (deficit).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(vi) FUNDS

General Fund:

The General fund is made up of accumulated reserves also described as retained Earnings.

Capital Fund:

The Capital Fund represents the carrying amounts of property & equipment as at 31 December 2016.

Benevolent Fund

This fund is made up of funds set aside to meet benevolent expenses as management may decide.

Development Fund

This fund represents members' contributions towards future development projects.

(vii) Project commitments

Project commitments represent projects where contracts have been duly signed with the respective implementing partners, but third party disbursements have not been actually made. These have simply been disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Operating and Donor Funds

(viii) Revenue Recognition

Incomes represent amounts received or receivable from members' subscriptions, donors and sale of inventory on a pre-determined basis, recognised in the period to which they relate.

(ix) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash in hand, deposit held at call with banks, and financial assets with maturities of less than 91 days, net of bank overdrafts, money market line and restricted cash balances.

Restricted cash balances are those balances that the society cannot use for working capital purposes as they have been placed as a lien to secure borrowings.

In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are included within borrowings in the current liabilities.

(x) Receivables

Receivables are recognised as benefits that arise from economic events that would result in the inflow of resources to the entity.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

(xi) Payables

Accruals and other payables are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms and do not bear interest.

Payables denominated in foreign currency are translated into functional currency using the exchange rate at the reporting date. The resulting differences from conversion and translation are dealt with in the Statement Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income in the year in which they arise.

(xii) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to confirm with changes in presentation in the current year.

(xiii) Staff Benefits (NSSF)

Uganda Law Society and employees contribute to a statutory pension scheme, National Social Security Fund (NSSF). This is a defined contribution scheme registered under the National social security Fund act. Uganda Law Society's obligations under the scheme are limited to specific contributions legislated from time to time and are currently 10% of the employees' gross salary.

The Uganda Law Society contributions are charged to the statement of Profit or loss and other comprehensive income in the period to which they relate.

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UGANDA LAW SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

9.1 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Leasehold Land	Buildings	Law Books	Motor Vehicles	Generator & Motor Cycles	Computers	Furniture & Equipment	Total
	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX	UGX
COST:								
At 01 January 2016	71,111,000	308,632,121	1,600,000	73,000,000	30,205,468	88,486,778	143,420,812	716,456,179
Additions	84,000,000	-	-	-	-	4,080,000	850,000	88,930,000
At 31 Dec 2016	155,111,000	308,632,121	1,600,000	73,000,000	30,205,468	92,566,778	144,270,812	805,386,179
DEPRECIATION / AMOR	TISATION:							
At 01 January 2016	22,123,420	110,973,956	1,600,000	48,250,000	27,580,468	78,269,799	105,365,565	394,163,208
Charge for the Year	52,148,085	12,345,285	-	12,375,000	875,000	3,402,254	4,756,906	85,902,530
At 31 Dec 2016	74,271,505	123,319,241	1,600,000	60,625,000	28,455,468	81,672,053	110,122,471	480,065,738
NBV:								
At 31 Dec 2016	80,839,495	185,312,880	-	12,375,000	1,750,000	10,894,725	34,148,341	325,320,441
At 31 Dec 2015	48,987,580	197,658,165		24,750,000	2,625,000	10,216,979	38,055,247	322,292,971

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTIN		
	2016	201
9.2 INVENTORIES	UGX	UG
Professional gowns	680,050	247,80
T-Shirts	1,936,535	341,90
Car Tire covers	45,000	45,00
Law reports	6,800,000	7,250,00
Professional Shirts	37,000	74,00
Corporate Shirts	1,542,800	1,596,00
Lapel Pins	5,019,935	5,412,51
_	16,061,320	14,967,21
9.3 PREPAYMENTS		
Insurance	2,230,374	3,929,75
Web Site Hosting	AL 2	400,00
National Water and Sewerage Corporation	750,000	200,00
Kampala Capital City Authority		2,135,00
Downtown (DT) bags	11,210,000	
Africel Uganda Limited (Internet)		400,00
_	14,190,374	7,064,7
9.4 RECEIVABLES		
DGF Project	16,596,685	11,817,30
MacArthur project Receivables	2,235,000	
Uganda Law Reform Commission		100,000,00
	10,574,800	13,374,80
Wambi Tom Shisa	17174 11575	
Wambi Tom Shisa Uganda National Roads Authority		6,688,00

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT	TINUED)	
	2016	2015
	UGX	UGX
9.5 Related Party Balances		
Legal Aid Project (LAP) - Receivables	434,540,088	235,777,553
Legal Aid Project (LAP) - Payables	(10,704,400)	
	423,835,688	235,777,553

Project advance transactions are balances receivable and payable with no fixed payment period and are interest free.

9.6 CASH AND BANK BALANCES

	2016	2015
	UGX	UGX
Stanbic Bank- Continuing Legal Education/ULS	165,356,562	51,529,548
Standard Chartered Bank - Operating account	346,506,490	84,612,786
Standard Chartered Bank - Building Fund account	113,936,930	219,750,178
Standard Chartered Bank - Benevolent Fund account	72,593,691	52,557,691
Standard Chartered Bank - DGF account	221,675,522	369,699,038
Standard Chartered Bank - CBA	203,148	61,282,636
Standard Chartered Bank - McArthur Project	786,108,818	359,178,327
Standard Chartered Bank - Ford Foundation Project		350,621,840
DFCU Bank - Continuing Legal Education /ULS	74,904,192	159,184,865
DFCU Bank - ULS/JLOS	261,717,780	280,282,550
Cash at Hand		1,050,000
Total Cash and Bank Balances	2,043,003,133	1,989,749,459

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINU	JED)	
	2016 UGX	2015 UGX
9.7 PAYABLES		
Kaddu Faluku	2,920,000	2,770,000
Prepaid membership IDs	1,020,000	
Justice Centers Uganda	-	850,000
Kampala Capital City Authority	6,623,000	6,623,000
National Water and Sewerage Corporation	283,760	283,760
Kyambogo University	7,823,000	3,553,000
Continuing Legal Education	740,000	1,140,000
Uganda Registration Services Bureau	900,000	100,000
Civil Aviation Authority		280,000
Office of the Auditor General	120,000	
Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity	1,580,000	
Kampala Serena Hotel	86,279,600	
MarkHill Motor Garage Limited		1,865,580
Uganda Revenue Authority	2	400,000
Bank of Uganda	1,385,150	5,685,150
	109,674,510	23,550,490
9.8 DEFERRED INCOME		
Prepaid Membership Fees	16,000,000	10,800,000
Ford Foundation	-	350,519,840
UN Women	136,201,000	
DGF Moroto Project	-	252,504,748
DGF LAP & Probono Project	142,753,398	29,016,366
MacArthur Project (Legal Aid Project)	651,858,272	332,093,181
SAJCEA Project		50,325,858
Patongo Project	79,781,904	54,423,421

1,026,594,574

1,079,683,414

	72.2	
	2016 UGX	2015 UGX
	UGA	UGA
.9 ACCRUALS		
Uganda Telecom	1,040,250	859,576
Audit Fees	5,841,000	5,841,000
Nimrod Stationary and Publishers	331,500	
Multicare Services Ltd		265,500
Tomaz Safaris Limited	420,000	
Mugenyi Joshua	1,600,000	
Sendgeya Catering Services	1,603,000	
	10,835,750	6,966,076

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2015 Actual
	UGX	UGX	UGX
9.1.10a. Revenue			
Subscriptions	978,400,000	926,400,000	882,400,000
Subscription Arrears	14,000,000	18,400,000	25,600,000
Legal Ragalia Income		2,000,000	3,648,180
Continuing Legal Education Trainings	695,253,000	473,260,000	521,858,300
ULS Reports Vol I & II	150,000	200,000	210,000
Sponsorships	23,000,000	20,000,000	8,666,000
Female Lawyers Dinner	31,530,000	45,000,000	
ULS at 60	105,896,150	269,050,000	
Bank interest received	22,400,000	20,000,000	9,638,508
Nomination Fees	12,000,000		6,500,000
	1,882,629,150	1,774,310,000	1,458,520,988
9.1.11b. Grants & Donations			
USAID - SAFE Project Grant			125,590,500
egal Aid Projects - McArthur Project	382,164,709	382,164,709	221,906,819
JN Women Grants	53,079,000	53,079,000	7
JLOS - Grants	330,270,000	330,270,000	148,830,000
Ford Foundation Project Grant	350,519,840	350,519,840	191,659,700
DGF Projects - DANIDA	1,739,464,875	1,739,464,875	1,112,181,889
Patongo Project	62,349,863	62,349,863	40,421,579
Canadian Bar Association & SAJCEA	300,442,879	300,442,879	499,751,542
	3,218,291,166	3,218,291,166	2,340,342,029
9.1.12c. Other ULS Income			
Biddings	2,967,300	-	1.2
Sundry Incomes			1,706,617
Annual Lawyer's Ball		45,000,000	54,250,000
Miscellaneous Income	2,000		527,300
Profit on disposal of Assets	495,000		
Exhibition Fees			5,000,000
Other incomes	33,678,589		17,975,000
e a. s. Mooring	37,142,886	45,000,000	79,458,917
Total Revenue	5,138,063,202	4,768,551,166	3,878,321,934

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (CONTINUED)

	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2015 Actual
	UGX	UGX	UGX
9.12a. ULS Operating Costs:			
Salaries and Wages	308,505,753	309,709,008	321,808,929
10% NSSF Contribution	31,285,977	30,970,901	18,441,925
Staff Welfare and Benevolent	110,243,638	111,136,000	91,260,442
Printing and Stationery	15,169,800	16,000,000	15,632,700
Telephone, Internet and Postage	15,796,186	22,000,000	29,068,499
Automobile & Local Travel	25,794,100	26,560,000	27,089,500
Conferences & Annual General Meeting	194,018,880	200,971,880	168,549,525
Promotion, Advertising and Publicity	2,331,000	3,700,000	23,612,200
Audit Fees	5,841,000	6,000,000	5,841,000
Bank Charges	9,938,850	7,647,300	7,985,134
Members Benevolent & Social Responsibility	3,059,000	6,000,000	400,000
Property Recurrent, Insurance & Security	18,721,871	23,100,000	19,259,799
Organizational Subscriptions	16,564,000	12,500,000	11,728,700
Planning & Monitoring	32,596,124	37,820,000	23,792,500
Social Events(Open day and Dinner)	227,220,990	382,850,000	54,404,020
Utilities	6,908,727	6,600,000	8,579,214
Repairs and Maintenance	46,059,648	44,500,000	29,170,427
Office Supplies	6,460,223	8,000,000	6,810,785
Hospitality	820,000	1,500,000	1,928,000
Travel & Networking Publications(Magazines and Annual reports,	62,373,620	72,337,120	79,069,620
DSTv)	8,418,000	8,418,000	19,788,000
Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Trainings	399,551,436	400,000,000	318,102,833
Case 321 of 2013	*0	-	23,042,970
Income tax	4,000,000	-	
Resource Centre Expenses	1,478,000	1,600,000	1,508,000
Consultancy	11,735,000	14,195,000	-
Fundraising proposal writing	3,000,000	4,000,000	
Strategic Planning	33,211,000	40,000,000	
Capacity Building	41,590,599	42,140,000	12,000,000
Information Acquisition & Dissemination	2,381,000	2,500,000	685,000
IT Section Costs	29,941,570	35,000,000	19,431,541
Depreciation Expense	85,902,530		33,736,994
Sub Total	1,760,918,522	1,877,755,209	1,372,728,257

NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (CONTINUED)

	2016 Actual	2016 Budget	2015 Actual
	UGX	UGX	UGX
9.1.13b Other Operating Costs:			
Legal Aid Projects - McArthur Project	382,164,709	382,164,709	221,906,819
JLOS Activities/ Expenses	354,886,820	330,270,000	198,782,660
DGF Projects(LAP, Probono and Kigula)	1,739,064,875	1,739,064,875	1,112,181,889
Ford Foundation Project Expenses	352,122,847	352,122,847	191,659,700
Canadian Bar Association/ SAJEA Expenses	320,296,037	300,442,879	499,751,542
Patongo Project	62,349,863	62,349,863	40,421,579
UN Women	53,079,000	53,079,000	-
USAID - SAFE Project Expenses	1		138,743,300
Sub-total	3,263,964,151	3,219,494,173	2,403,447,489
Total Expenses	5,024,894,673	5,078,249,382	3,776,175,746

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- Returns-interest is earned daily Unit price remains static,
- yield changes frequently Low risk-safe parking
- place, ideal during times of stock market turbulence 2% annual management
- Invests in accordance with Investment- equities (30%), the investment guidelines
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- pension plans.
 The fund has a bias towards fixed income securities
- Returns-interest is earned daily The fund has a low
- risk profile 2% annual management

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- Unit price- changes daily, underlying movement of shares held determine unit
- Medium risk- suitable for medium risk investors and offers medium term growth
- 2% Initial fee 2% annual management fee

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Hon. CJ Bart Katureebe Secretary to the Judiciary

Ruth Sebatindira; Ernest J.W. Kalibbala; William Byaruhanga.



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