



ANNUAL REPORT 2014

THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT



UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

NOTICE OF THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY 2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING


NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the **UGANDA LAW SOCIETY (ULS)** will be held on **Saturday 25th April 2015** at the **Imperial Resort Beach Hotel, Entebbe** starting at **9:00am**. The AGM will be preceded by the ULS Annual Conference on **Friday 24th April 2015** under the theme **"ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS: THE ROLE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION"** starting at **2:00 pm**.

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

1. National anthem, EAC anthem and inter-denominational prayer.
2. To receive communication from the President of the ULS.
3. To present and consider for adoption the minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting.
4. To present for consideration and adoption the 2014 ULS Annual Report by the ULS Executive Council.
5. To present for consideration and adoption the Treasurer's Report on the Audited Accounts for 2014 and ULS Master Budget for 2015.
6. To present for consideration and adoption of the Proposed Mutual Recognition Agreement for the Legal Profession across the East African Region.
7. To conduct the election of the ULS Executive Council 2015 - 2016.
8. A.O.B. (For Notified Items Only).

DATED this 27th day of March 2015.

BY ORDER OF COUNCIL


Mt. Ahmed Mukasa Kalule
HON. SECRETARY - UGANDA LAW SOCIETY.

NB: Attendance is limited to only paid up Members for the year 2015



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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
AGM	Annual General Meeting
CAB	Clinic Advisory Board
CBA	Canadian Bar Association
CCPS	Centre for Capital Punishment Studies
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CLE	Continuing Legal Education
CMA	Capital Markets Authority
CMIPC	Capital Markets, Insurance and Pension Committee
COTU	Central Organization of Trade Unions
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
DGF	Democratic Governance Facility
DPP	Directorate of Public Prosecutions
EAC	East African Community
EACJ	East African Court of Justice
EALS	East Africa Law Society
EC	Electoral Commission
EGM	Extraordinary General Meeting
HURINET	Human Rights Network
IBA	International Bar Association
IOSCO	International Organisation of Securities Commissions
IEC	Informative, Educational and Communicative
ID	Identity
IT	Information and Technology
JLOS	Justice, Law and Order Sector
JRP	Justice and Reconciliation Project
JSC	Judicial Service Commission
KADREC	Kampala Dispute Resolution Centre
KCCA	Kampala Capital City Authority
KOHA	Open Source Integrated Library system
LAC	Legal Aid Clinic
LAP	Legal Aid Project
LASPNET	Legal Aid Service Providers Network
LDC	Law Development Centre
LRC	Legal Resource Centre
NBA	Norwegian Bar Association
NCDC	National Curriculum Development Centre
NICHE	Netherlands Initiative for Capacity development in Higher Education
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NORFUND	Norwegian Investment Fund for Developing Countries
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
OATUU	Organization of African Trade Union Unity
PSFU	Private Sector Foundation Uganda
SAJCEA	Strengthening Access to Justice for Children and Youth in East Africa
ULRC	Uganda Law Reform Commission
ULS	Uganda Law Society
UNWG	Uganda National Working Group



FOREWORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Learned Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2014 Uganda Law Society (ULS) Annual Report. The report demonstrates the value of membership to the ULS and provides accountability for the subscription fees that we receive from our valued members. You will find the accomplishments and the many ways in which our Partners; namely; The Norwegian Development Agency/ Norwegian Bar Association (NORAD/NBA), Democratic Governance Facility (DGF), the Justice, Law and Order Sector (JLOS), Ford Foundation, USAID SAFE, MacArthur Foundation and Canadian Bar Association (CBA); have supported our efforts to touch many lives and impact communities by funding the various projects that we have executed over the last 12 months. Overall, it has been worthwhile working to promote the Rule of Law and to strengthen the Courts through our various endeavors such as extending a quality service to our less privileged communities, putting a spotlight on the criminal justice system and on child justice and protection mechanisms plus supporting our partners in the pursuit of justice as well as contributing to a robust policy and legal framework.

The year 2014 however presented one of the biggest challenges ever faced by the legal profession in the history of Uganda. The Judiciary continued to function without a substantive Chief Justice and a Deputy Chief Justice for nearly two years. This state of affairs tested the independence of the Judiciary and indeed the commitment of all Governmental and other institutions to respect and observe the independence of the Judiciary.

OUTLOOK

Judiciary

There are a few things that will shape how we do our work in the next few years and what achievements we will make in the justice system. The Appointment of a Chief Justice provides hope that the Judiciary's Constitutional mandate will be brought back on track and that the inefficiencies that bedevil the institution will be aggressively addressed. Case backlog in the Courts stands at 132,555, hence the need for the Judiciary to swing into action and implement the Performance Enhancement Project as a tool to maximize the performance of the institution. This calls for us as the Bar to work with the Judiciary to ensure that performance improves and case backlog tremendously reduces. We hope that our proposal to appoint Advocates as Temporary Judges will be carried through in the Constitutional Amendments that are being considered.

Targets for judicial officers have been set. Magisterial Areas are expected to be increased from 39 to 89 and each district will have at least a Magistrate Grade I, while the number of Magistrate Grade is expected to be increased from 173 to 250, to take care of Magistrate Grade II, who are currently being phased out. High Court circuits will be increased from the current 13 to 18.

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Now that the Judicature (Mediation) Rules of 2013, which make mediation mandatory in all civil matters, have been rolled out we should look to seeing quick resolution of disputes while maintaining harmony in communities. It is planned to establish of a fully-fledged High Court Division for Mediation in the Judiciary and harmonizing structures across JLOS institutions.

Plea Bargain

The Plea Bargain pilot project has registered some good success and we should build on this to deliver further improvements in the criminal justice system. The prosecution and the accused person enter into an agreement where the accused agrees to plead guilty to a particular charge in return for a reduced sentence is also helping address issues of backlog. This requires more sensitization of inmates so that they embrace its workings and in turn help decongest prisons around the country.

National Legal Aid Law

If we are to fight poverty using the law, Government should prioritize provision of legal aid and take up its obligation as the principal actor in legal aid provision by committing a percentage of the GDP for legal aid services. This will ensure improved access to justice for all. A legal aid policy is proposed to cater to both criminal and civil matters to address the overwhelming need brought about by the increasing disputes especially related to land and family; and to provide for legal aid at the start of the administration of justice processes through to the enforcement of court judgements. The Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs will expedite the process of enactment of the national policy and legislation on legal aid in Uganda.

The Financial Intelligence Authority

Compliance with money laundering obligations is going to be one of the greatest challenges for the legal profession. Advocates are accountable persons under the Anti-Money Laundering Act, 2013 charged with some duties, namely; to undertake customer due diligence, maintain records about the true identity of a customer for at least ten years and pay special attention to transactions that are complex with unusual sums of money and unusual patterns which have no apparent economic or lawful purpose and report suspicious transactions to the Financial Intelligence Authority. The Finance Intelligence Authority will issue guidelines to accountable persons in relation to customer identification, record keeping, and reporting obligations

A key area for Lawyers will be balancing the duty to keep the affairs of their clients' confidential information and the circumstances in which they are able to disclose client communications

which are strictly limited. The tension between an Advocate's duty and the provisions of the Anti-Money Laundering Act should be ironed out from the onset.

Professional Indemnity Insurance

A good number of clients are now asking that we take out professional indemnity insurance to cover us for our negligent actions and provide financial security. This also serves an important public interest function by ensuring that the client does not suffer loss, which might otherwise be uncompensated. This insurance does not come cheap and it ultimately leads to a huge overhead that has to be passed onto clients.

The high premiums also will severely restrict the ability of small new law firms to enter the market. Thus in future, we may have to think about taking out insurance as the Uganda Law Society on behalf of our members who contribute to a pool.

Conclusion

Our teams at the ULS Secretariat have done and continues to do a tremendous job in serving our members and ensuring to attend to members' needs so that we continue to improve our ethical and professional standards. We remain committed to delivering high quality services to our members. The team has also delivered various projects with the support of our Partners to whom we are grateful. We also remain committed to our mandate, values as well as to our obligations agreed with our Partners under these projects.

I hope you will find this report both informative and that it will give you a greater understanding of the work that we have undertaken to achieve the rule of law and access to justice. More importantly, I hope that you will gain an appreciation of the documented calls for continued ULS intervention in our communities because the ULS has become part of the fabric of many peoples' everyday life in this country.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY



Ruth Sebatindira
President - Uganda Law Society



THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Colleagues,

This annual report and consolidated financial statements were prepared against a background of ambitious change to our processes, services, people and organizational structure reflecting the challenges of legal services environment in Uganda.

The Society's solutions-focused approach means we actively review our services and member benefits to ensure our offerings remain relevant and suit members' professional and lifestyle requirements.

The plan was our blueprint on how we intended to deliver greater value and service for members. This included our plans to improve our web offering, buffer social media channels, work to amend our remuneration costs, consider sustainability options for the ULS and to provide skills-based learning and development opportunities to support members' practice of law; all of which have been significantly progressed during the year.

During the year, activities were carefully planned to ensure intelligent use of resources that resulted in cost effective, and practical services that meet members' needs and advanced the interests of the profession.

Our key initiatives and activities supported:-

- promotion of access to justice initiatives

- the evolution of member services
- provision of superior, service-oriented value
- enhancement of service delivery efficiencies
- a member-focused, high performance internal culture.

During 2014, the ULS demonstrated leadership and represented the members' and community's interests through growth of the membership base from **1827** in 2013 to **2088** in 2014. We held 61 seminars and workshops and provided administrative support for the regional and international conferences.

The advocacy component reviewed existing and proposed legislation, generated concept papers to government and other stakeholders on emerging policies and proactively identified social concerns for inclusion. Significant advocacy was registered during the year through generation and submission of several position papers, concepts and press statements, participation at 54 consultative and advocacy meetings among other activities.

In November 2014, the ULS Legal Aid Project received the Financial Reporting Award in the category of Outstanding Achievement in Financial Reporting.

12,353 clients directly benefitted from Court representation by the project staff: while over **26,000** benefitted through community sensitizations and radio talk shows - all done through the Legal Aid Project component of the Society. Suffice to mention that the Pro Bono Scheme enrolled **63.3 %** of the ULS membership bringing the number to **1313** advocates enrolled in the scheme.

As we get into the final year of the strategic plan 2011 - 2015, this report documents our achievements during the year 2014 and allows us to measure our progress in meeting the goals set out in our strategic plan.

All of these and innumerable other achievements testify to the inventiveness and resolution of the staff from multiple cultural backgrounds who work for the ULS. Those qualities of originality and dedication are also manifest particularly so in situations of limited funding.

This annual report demonstrates the breadth and quality of our work – a reflection of the commitment our President, her Executive and working Committees maintained as well as the direction they offered to reinforce the mandate and interest of the ULS.

Our successes over the last year would not have been possible without the support of the general membership and our development partners through the organizational process improvements, internal capability development and maximization of the available resources. Your support is much appreciated.

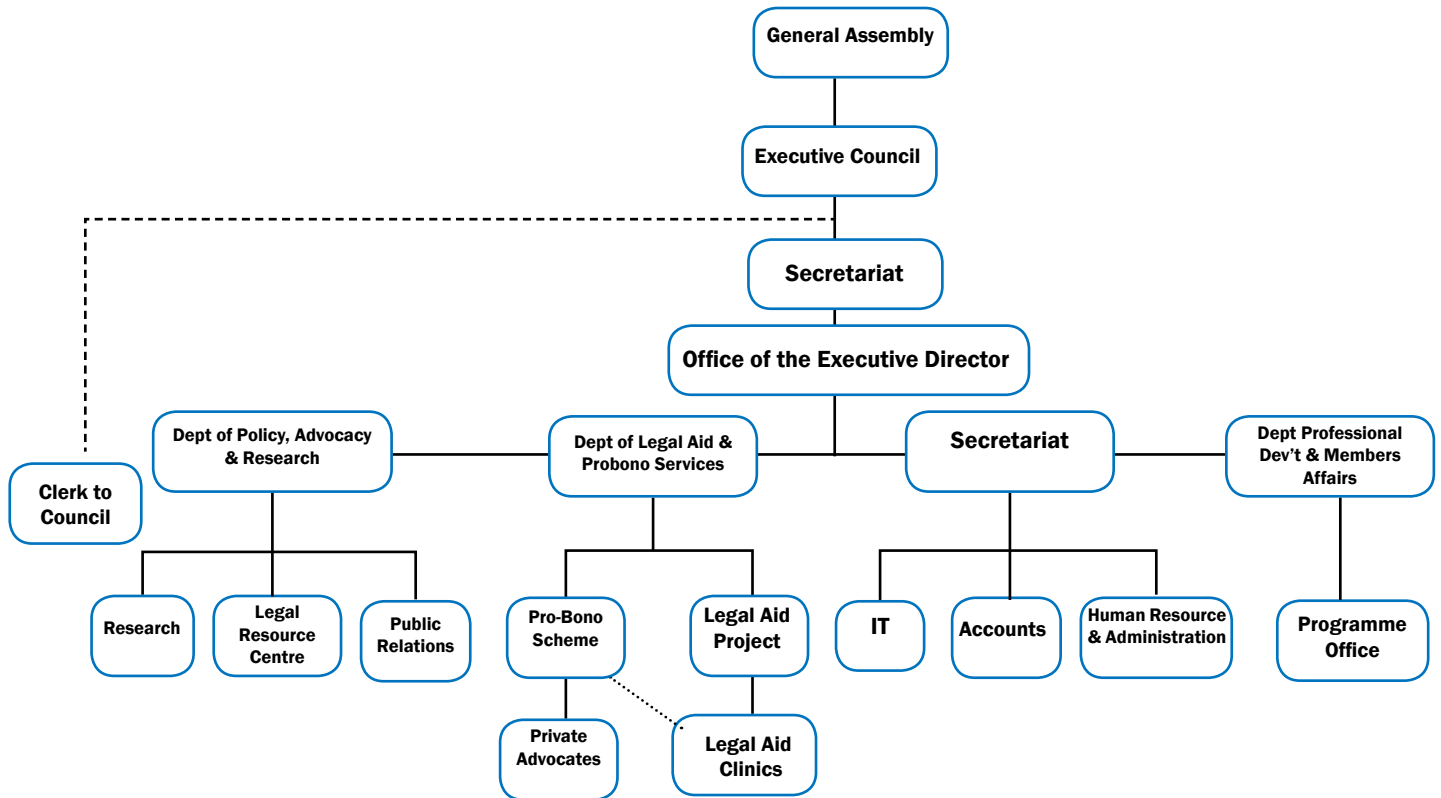
Thanking you for your continued patronage.



Grace Babihuga Nuwagaba
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

This annual report and these consolidated financial statements are in respect of the Law Society and its operations for the year ended 31 December 2014. The organisation chart below sets out the key constituents in the Law Society.



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

About the Law Society

The Uganda Law Society (ULS) is the national Bar Association of Uganda and is responsible for the improvement of professional standards of its members and promotion of respect for Human Rights, Access to Justice and ultimately the Rule of Law in Uganda.

Its statutory objectives include, among others: *“to maintain and improve the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Uganda; 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 the administration and practice of law in Uganda”.*

The ULS Vision

To improve the professional standards of its members and to promote respect for Human Rights, the Rule of Law and Access to Justice.

The ULS Mission

To excel as a professional body in the development of the legal profession and the promotion of justice in Uganda.

ULS Strategic Framework (2011 – 2015)

The ULS is a unique institution, building on the legacy of improving professional standards of its members; promoting human rights; access to justice and rule of law in Uganda. It has genuinely translated its mandate into practical action and brought along some notable successes, alongside important lessons including; provision of legal aid and pro-bono services, providing continuous legal education to our membership, making continuous contributions to policy and law making processes in Uganda, developing our capacity and providing an enabling environment to work.

Our strategy to deliver our vision is intended to build on that experience through an ambitious programme of work; directed at successfully achieving our mandate as well as improving efficiency and effectiveness within the organisation.

In implementation of our strategy, ULS works to ensure that its business focus meets financial goals, customer service, and internal goals. To enhance these initiatives, ULS directly and in partnership continues to:

Promote learning and growth by developing competences, knowledge, and continuous training to change corporate

and individual work ethics. The overall net effect with time shall be an organization in which people are the main resource because of their knowledge and experience.

Devise measures to guide managers in focusing on training where it is most needed or where the functions or tasks are priorities.

Develop measures that are quantifiable for all internal business processes to allow managers know how well their business is running, and whether ULS products and services conform to stakeholder expectations.

Focus on stakeholder service and satisfaction where quantifiable measures will be developed to ensure quality assurance and in determining red flags for the future.

Pay attention to financial focus by monitoring the ULS as a system along with the other balanced scorecard perspectives. Additional financial-related data, such as risk assessment and cost-benefit data is considered.

In light of this broad direction stated above, ULS set itself out to attain the following strategic objectives:

- To promote access to justice
- To promote professional development and ethical conduct of members
- To strengthen institutional capacity of ULS to become a modern Bar Association
- To contribute to strengthening the policy and legal frameworks
- 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.

About the Executive Council

The Executive Council of the Uganda Law Society (ULS) comprises ten members: the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Attorney General, the Solicitor General as well as four other 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 attend meetings of the new Council for the first six months as an ex-officio member; to assist with its induction.

The ULS Executive Council offers policy oversight to operations of the ULS Secretariat and manages the affairs of the Society 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, Membership Welfare and Social Affairs Committee, Legislation Committee, Rule of Law Committee; and such ad hoc Committees that the Council may establish to cater to the Society's needs.

The Honourable Executive Council Members



Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira
President



Mr. Ernest Kalibbala Wiltshire
Vice President



Mr. Enoch Barata
Treasurer



Mr. Ahmed Kalule Mukasa
Secretary



Mr. Mike Abwang Otim
Council Member - Northern Region



Mr. Tibayeita Kahungu
Council Member - Western Region



Mrs. Alice Namuli - Blazevic
Council Member - Central Region



Mr. Yusuf Mutembuli
Council Member - Eastern Region



Ms. Stella Nyandira - Solicitor General's Representative



Mr. Barishaki Bonny Cheborion - Attorney General's Representative

Pursuant to Section 24 of the **Uganda Law Society Act**, Cap 276, the ULS Executive Council hereby presents the ULS Annual Report for the year 2014. This Report covers key activities undertaken by the Council and the Secretariat (acting under the supervision of the Council).

A. Council Meetings:

During the reporting period the Council met to attend to the Society's business and the attendance of Members in the said meetings is shown in the table below:

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS 2014

No.	Name	Designation	No. of meetings held	No. of meetings attended	No. of meetings missed	Percentage
1.	Ruth Sebatindira	President	6	5	1	83
2.	Ernest Wiltshire Kalibbala	Vice President	6	6	0	100
3.	Ahmed Kalule	Honorary Secretary	4	3	1	75
4.	Enoch Barata	Treasurer	6	4	2	66
5.	Alice Namuli - Blazevic	Council Member - Central Region	6	5	1	83
6.	Tibayeita Kahungu	Council Member - Western Region	6	6	0	100
7.	Mike Abwang Otim	Council Member - Northern Region	6	2	4	33
8.	Mutembuli Yusuf	Council Member - Eastern Region	6	6	0	100
9.	Barishaki Bonny Cheborion	Attorney General's Representative	6	3	3	50
10.	Stella Nyandria	Solicitor General's Representative	6	3	3	50

B. Management of the ULS

The Management team of the ULS comprises professional staff operating under the stewardship of the Executive Director. This team includes four departmental heads namely; the Head-Finance and Administration, Head-Legal Aid & Pro Bono Services, Head-Professional Development & Members Affairs and the Head-Policy, Research and Advocacy. Other members of the management team include the Manager-Legal Resource Centre, the Manager-Pro Bono Services, the Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist and the Systems Administrator. This team manages the day-to-day basis operations of the ULS and is stationed at the ULS Secretariat.

C. ULS Programmes & Activities

(i) Membership Services

During the reporting period, the ULS Secretariat continued to serve and communicate with the ULS membership; notifying them about various activities, services and programmes either by the Secretariat or other relevant institutions. The membership was regularly updated using communication via e-mail, sms, personal letters, the ULS website, public notices, ULS newsletters, ULS event reports and radio programmes. Additional services rendered to the membership included:

- Continuing legal education seminars;
- Preparation and hosting of membership fora such as the Annual Conference and General Meeting, Bar-Bench fora with respective Court Divisions and the Rule of Law Symposium. The Secretariat also offered administrative support to facilitate members' attendance of international fora like the IBA Annual Conference, the Commonwealth Law Conference and the East Africa Law Society Annual Conference and General Meeting;
- References & accreditations such as letters of good standing;
- Continued upgrading and updating of the Members' Directory;
- Memorabilia like professional robes, shirts and flaps, T-shirts, casual shirts and pens;
- Issuance of members IDs;
- Social events such as cocktails, breakfast meetings, dinners and a sports gala.

ii. Access to Justice Services

The Legal Aid Project (LAP) of the ULS as guided by the ULS 2011-2015 Strategic Plan continued to provide a countrywide and diverse range of legal aid services to indigent, marginalized and vulnerable men, women and children. Services offered include legal advice, legal representation in courts of law, documentation and dissemination of simplified legal literature, legal and human rights awareness creation campaigns, strengthening the capacity of legal aid service providers as well as prison decongestion among others. A detailed Report of the same is documented in the LAP 2014 Annual Report.

iii. Policy, Research and Advocacy Component

Pursuant to Strategic Objective 4 of ULS 2011-2015 Strategic Plan and in keeping with its mandate to advise Government and the public on matters of law; to assist the Courts in the administration of justice; as well as its mission to promote the Rule of Law in Uganda, the ULS issued various position/press statements and other publications on topical issues affecting the law and in the public's interest.

Additional undertakings were publication and dissemination of the ULS Law reports, monthly newsletters and the Lawyers Voice Magazine.

To facilitate access to learning resources for legal practitioners and scholars in Uganda the ULS through its Legal Resource Centre stores publications on various areas of law and also undertakes dissemination of information to the ULS membership and the general public. During the reporting period, the Legal Resource Centre registered **458**¹ users that physically visited the library throughout the year; majority of whom were ULS members, researchers and students from various universities. Up-to-date electronic and hard copy reference resources were availed to aid research.

As per its role to contribute to policy and advocacy issues, the ULS participated at various local and foreign fora; sharing with other stakeholders about ULS interests, initiatives and activities and learning from others about various topical issues. This continued to increase stakeholder awareness about the ULS mandate and resulted in creation of useful linkages with likeminded institutions serving in the rule of law arena both locally and internationally.

Fundraising: In a bid to mobilize of resources for the Society, the ULS Council in collaboration with the ULS management team generated concept papers/proposals for funding. Key among these were the *proposal for the ULS Rule of Law Symposium; the Child Justice proposal; the Women in Law proposal; a proposal on the ULS Constitutional Literacy project; 2 proposals for extension of the DGF funded Legal Aid Project² and Pro Bono Scheme; a proposal for the ULS Communications Law Conference; the Patongo project proposal; the NBA proposal on Oil and Gas; a proposal submitted to the Prime Minister's office on Access to Justice for Refugees as well as input to a Canadian Bar Association Concept on the Lawyers' role in the Extractive industry etc..*

Funding was obtained from; Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, TradeMark East Africa and the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF) to support the annual Rule of Law day event in October 2014. The DGF funded Legal Aid Project (Soroti, Arua, and Mbarara clinics) and Pro Bono Scheme were also extended for 22 more months. Some funds were also obtained to supplement the ULS Annual Conference and General Meeting.

Detailed accounts on the above and other activities are provided under respective ULS Committee reports included herein.

Detailed accounts on the above and other activities are provided under respective ULS Committee reports included herein.

¹ A 31% increase from the previous year

² Covering the 3 additional legal aid clinics of Soroti, Arua and Mbarara

iv. ULS Projects

- **Towards 2016: Reinforced Actions towards Credible Elections (RACE)**

Under the auspices of the Ford Foundation, the ULS commenced implementation of this one year project in June 2014. This project was intended to promote informed and effective citizen and institutional participation in electoral processes. In pursuit of its vision to promote the Rule of Law among in Uganda, the ULS undertook a deliberate advisory and advocacy strategy to uphold the Constitution and to enhance electoral processes in Uganda. Specifically this intervention is aimed at engaging with and supporting the Electoral Commission (EC) in the execution of its mandate; creating awareness on the existing electoral laws and practices; enhancing public awareness regarding electoral processes and standards; and providing support to the Judiciary and safeguard its independence in adjudication of electoral disputes. Various engagements with key stakeholders have been held with candid discussions across the board with support from the multi-faceted Project Advisory Board.

- **Promoting Access to Justice: An ADR based Justice Delivery Approach**

Following a grant from the USAID, the ULS in partnership with the Kampala Dispute Resolution Centre (KADREC) commenced implementation of a one year project titled *Promoting Access to Justice: An ADR based Justice Delivery Approach*. The overall objective of the project is to enhance the capacity of local actors and to strengthen mechanisms for resolving, managing and mitigating conflicts related to land and other disputes through ADR. This project is being implemented in the districts of Kibaale and Kiboga and so far **55** participants comprising Judicial Officers, Lawyers, District Land Boards, and Area Land Committee and **48** paralegals have been trained in ADR practices and processes with respect to land matters. These paralegals have commenced sensitization sessions in these two districts. Follow ups on the impact of this training were done and the results are impressive as the paralegals and trained professionals shared amazing experiences of the outcomes of the trainings.

- **Strengthening Access to Justice for Children and Youth in East Africa Program (SAJCEA)**

For the second year running, the ULS continued coordinating the Uganda chapter of a programme on Access to Justice for Children and Youth Project (SAJCEA) funded by the Canadian Bar Association (CBA). This four year initiative is aimed at enhancing access to justice for children and youth in Eastern Africa, through stakeholder collaboration, institutional development

and capacities sharing amongst the Justice Sector institutions. In Uganda, the project focus areas are Katakwi, Busia and Bundibugyo. This programme is implemented by the Uganda National Working Group (UNWG) comprising the Judiciary, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – Children Department, the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP), JLOS Secretariat, the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), and Foundation for Human Rights Initiative – Paralegal Advisory Services. In 2014, the UNWG carried out Needs Assessments in the 3 project areas and developed tailor made capacity building programmes for duty bearers in the child justice arena. A Child Justice Manual and IEC Materials on children rights, child sexual abuse and operations of local councils as first points of call within the local communities were developed and disseminated. Community based paralegals were trained on child best practices and on the referral pathway for cases of children in conflict with the law. Additionally, key justice stakeholders were trained on child diversion procedures, victim and witness handling. For purposes of sustainability, the UNWG in collaboration with the District heads in Katakwi and Bundibugyo registered trained community paralegals into Community based Organisations; which now work with the District officials and tap into local government funding to address rampant child related issues. Cases that need legal action are referred to the various LAP Clinics.

- **Kigula II Beneficiaries Capital Punishment Mitigation Project**

Following the Supreme Court endorsement of the Constitutional Court ruling in **Attorney General v Susan Kigula and 417 others (Constitutional Appeal No. 03 of 2006) [2009] UGSC 6 (21 January 2009)** the ULS in collaboration with the Centre for Capital Punishment Studies (CCPS) and the Judiciary undertook a capital punishment mitigation project with support from DGF. This project was intended to benefit convicts who had been sentenced to death under the mandatory regime and had waited three years or more for their execution following confirmation of their conviction. The Supreme Court among other directives had ordered that all the petitioners in the case be re sentenced as their original sentence was considered unconstitutional. Despite this ruling, the petitioners had stayed on remand for close to 5 years without any action.

This project was implemented by the Legal Aid Project with support from select legal practitioners on pro bono basis; with aim of achieving resentencing for the 417 petitioners. To date, 226 convicts on death row were offered free legal representation and as a result, 21



were freed, 3 were had their sentences adjusted to life sentences and 4 who were found to be mentally unstable were committed to psychiatric facilities. Furthermore, the ULS as a member of the Rules Committee proposed reforms to the sentencing guidelines which were passed and adopted in March 2013. With the passing of the new Sentencing Guidelines, Judges and lawyers were trained on effective use of the same under this project.

- **Amnesty Law Project**

This project which was undertaken as a multi-stakeholder drive to ensure domestic accountability for atrocities or crimes in post-conflict Uganda is currently in the third year of implementation. The Uganda Law Society (ULS) together with its three main project partners - the Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC), the Law Development Centre (LDC) and the Justice and Reconciliation Project (JRP) have successfully continued to implement this MacArthur Foundation funded project through regular consultations with key stakeholders. This project will supplement (with respect to the amnesty component) Government's ongoing efforts to develop a transitional justice legal framework. In the reporting period, a number of project activities including a scoping mission to affected communities, community dialogues, preliminary surveys, a series of planning meetings were held by the key project partners in collaboration with state and non state actors and an Annual Report on project activities was generated and submitted to the MacArthur Foundation in February 2014.

A. Regional Integration & International Relations

In 2014, the ULS continued its networking relations with likeminded regional and international organizations. These relations have continued to flourish and to develop the ULS' capacity to effectively deliver on its mandate and participate in other regional processes.

During the reporting period, the ULS participated at the **East African Court of Justice (EACJ) Sensitisation Workshop** held on **July 2, 2014** in Kampala. This workshop organized by the EACJ in collaboration with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute was held to brief NGOs, CSOs, the business community and Government on the role and jurisdiction of the EACJ in the context of the Common Market Protocol, its challenges and the Court's new Law Digest and shared experiences with the EACJ from the Civil Society perspective. This workshop which was coordinated by the Ministry of the East African Community Affairs was very beneficial to participants as it provided a opportunity for discussion and appreciation of the EACJ's jurisdiction, composition, committees, procedure for instituting proceedings, law applicable, cases handled from the member states, challenges and opportunities of the Court and the existence of regional courts in the member states. Relevant reading material on the Court and Rules of Procedure was provided and this supplemented our Secretariat library resources.

Events of the Year

i. ULS Annual Pro Bono Day Commemoration

The Annual Regional Pro Bono day that was held on **February 28, 2014** under the theme “**Access to Justice for All**” at various locations around the country. For Kampala, The event was commemorated at the Railway Grounds in Kampala, Busoga Square in Jinja, Boma Grounds in Fort Portal, Arua Hill Playground in Arua and The Legal Aid Offices of Gulu, Mbarara, Masindi, Kabale and Soroti, 1,339 indigent persons received pro bono services and over 1028 Advocates attended the same. The event which begun with a march from the High Court was officiated by the principal judge Hon. Yorakamu Bamwine who in his key note remarks appreciated the Uganda Law Society and the Advocates therein for extending access to justice to the poor through the provision of free legal services for the past six years. The event was also graced by various representatives from the different JLOS institutions, the donor community especially the DGF and indigent marginalised and vulnerable persons.



ii. Members Sports Event/Fun day

On **March 15, 2014**, the ULS held its second sports and fun day at the KCCA Football Grounds. The event featured sports activities such as athletics and a football match between senior and young lawyers as well as a fitness session with Coach Bob entailing cardio, stretches and aerobics. The young lawyers team emerged as winners of the football match. Aside from athletics, the event also provided an opportunity for a fun based interaction for the ULS membership and their families.



ULS Members at the 2014 Annual Sports Day



iii. ULS 2014 Annual Conference and General Meeting

On **March 22, 2014** the ULS Annual Conference and General Meeting were held and March respectively at the Imperial Resort Beach Hotel, Entebbe. The General meeting was preceded by the Annual Conference held under the theme *“Professional Integrity and Ethics at the Bar: A Client’s Perspective”*. Bar leaders from sister Bar Associations in the East African region were in attendance. At the AGM, members moved to extend the Executive Council’s term by a year and a new Honourary Secretary was elected to office. the ULS members. The ULS Secretariat registered an increase in attendance compared to the previous year. **1432** advocates attended the Annual Conference and **1411** attended the AGM.



A cross section of ULS Membership at the 2014 Annual General Meeting



iv. ULS Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM)

During the reporting period, the ULS held two EGMs to deliberate on issues affecting the Society the rule of law and administration of justice in Uganda. The first Meeting was held on **May 31, 2014** to consider the draft ULS Election Regulations and the proposal for increment of members subscription. Members reviewed the Regulations and passed them with amendments; while the proposal for subscription increment was deferred pending justification and details on benefits accruing to members.

The second AGM was held on **September 18, 2014** at the ULS Secretariat to elect members of the ULS Elections Committee that had been proposed by the General Meeting held in **March 2014**; as well as to elect ULS Representatives to the National Pornography Control Committee (Mr. Dalton Opwonya), the Capital Markets Authority (Mr. Nelson Nerima) and the Committee on Legal Education and Training of the Law Council (Mr. Daniel Ruhweza).



ULS Members voting at the May 2014 EGM

v. Women in Law Awards Dinner

The first ever ULS Women in Law Celebratory Awards Dinner was held on **September 19, 2014** at the Kampala Serena Hotel. The Chief Guest was the Honourable Justice Bart Katureebe who delivered a gratifying keynote speech in honour of female lawyers who have made a remarkable contribution to our nation and society in their legal career. This event was organized by the ULS Female Lawyers Committee. Various categories were awarded and the winners per category were:

- Female Lawyer of the year – Life Time Achievement Award: - Mrs. Margaret Sekaggya
- Female State Attorney of the Year, Directorate of Public Prosecution: - Ms. Jane Frances Abodo
- Female State Attorney of the Year, Attorney General's Chambers: - Ms. Patricia Mutesi
- Female Legal Practitioner of the Year, In-House Counsel - Ms. Doris Akol
- Female Legal Practitioner of the Year (Private Practice) - Ms. Deepa Verma Jivram
- Female Human Rights Lawyer of the Year 2014 - Mrs. Lilliane Keene Mugerwa
- Female Legal Academician of the Year 2014 - Mrs. Florence Nakachwa Dollo
- Young Female Lawyer of the Year 2014 - Ms. Irene Ikumu
- Special Category Award winner - FIDA Uganda

The voting and selection process was handled by PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited.



Award Winners together with the Chief Guest - the Hon. Justice Bart Katureebe, the Irish Ambassador H.E. Donal Cronin, the ULS President and other members of the ULS Executive

vi. Annual Rule of Law Symposium

On October 3, 2014 the ULS with support from the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung - Rule of Law Program for Sub-Saharan Africa, TradeMark East Africa and the Democratic Governance Facility held its **7th Annual Rule of Law Symposium** under the theme ***“Labour Rights in Uganda: Making Decent Work A Reality”***. The event which was hosted at the Golf Course Hotel in Kampala attracted over **640** participants; majority of whom were ULS members. Other distinguished socio-economic and political actors that attended included the Judiciary, relevant members from the academia, labour specialists, CSOs and workers unions. The event featured a keynote presentation delivered by Mr. Francis Atwoli - President of the Pan African Labour Movement, the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) and Secretary General of the Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU) – Kenya. The event was also characterized by panel discussions moderated by Mr. Gawayu Tegulle and delivered a selection of labour specialists from Government, the Civil Society and the Legal fraternity including; Mr. Usher Wilson Owere; Ms. Harriet Luyima, Ms. Lilian Keene – Mugerwa, Mr. Wandera Daniel Ogalo, Mr. Martin Wandera and Mr. Moses Segawa.

This event provided an excellent platform for discussion of critical labour related rights and such issues as youth unemployment, unfavourable working conditions (including in the legal profession), access to social security and inequality in remuneration. It also served to create awareness among the legal fraternity on the plight of employees and the crucial points for action. It further presented an opportunity for reflection on the role of lawyers as agents for social justice and transformation; and brought to light operational challenges faced by the Labour Court in Uganda. ULS members resolved to seriously consider defending labour rights and disputes within their respective firms and organizations. The panel discussion highlighted the importance of implementing a number of legislative provisions governing labour matters.



Participants and discussants at the 7th ULS Annual Rule of Law Symposium 2014

This Symposium, was preceded by the **4th High Level Stakeholders' Breakfast meeting** held on the morning **October 3, 2014** at the Sheraton Hotel, Kampala. Key representatives from Government and the Judiciary attended and had discourse on select topical issues affecting the Rule of Law in Uganda and region namely; Human Trafficking in Uganda; the National ID System; Critical electoral reforms ahead of 2016; Progress and operational issues of the Industrial Court; and the Administration of Justice Bill (a follow up from last year).



Participants at the 4th ULS Rule of Law High Level Breakfast Meeting

vii. The East Africa Law Society Annual Conference and General Meeting

The 19th Annual Conference and General meeting of the East Africa Law Society (EALS) took place on 14th and 15th November 2014 respectively at the Kigali Serena Hotel in Kigali, Rwanda under the theme **“Advancing the Legal Profession in East Africa: Trends and Patterns”**. The Conference which was attended by over 600 lawyers, 234 of whom were from Uganda featured highly interactive discussions on issues such as cross border legal practice, the place of ADR in the practice of Law and what Law Societies should be doing for their members as well as a session on experience sharing on how to run a successful law firm. The EALS saw the election of new office bearers to its Executive Council; led by President Nassor Khamis Mohmed from Zanzibar Law Society. The EALS brings together legal professionals across the region to discuss emerging issues in practice, regional integration among others.



Members of the new EALS Executive Council



The ULS President being recognized for her distinguished service as a member of the EALS Executive Council 2012 – 2014 by Hon. Kalonzo Musyoka

viii. Annual Lawyers' Dinner

The ULS celebrated the close of the year with a Dinner and Dance at the Kampala Serena Hotel on **December 19, 2014**. This event was officiated by Mr. Robert Kabushenga, the CEO - Vision Group and was attended by a large number of legal practitioners and other legal professionals from JLOS institutions; who socialized and networked as they were serenaded by the sweet sounds of DJ Jeff.



ULS Members at the 2014 Annual Lawyers Dinner



REPORTS FROM THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

1. THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mr. Mohamed Mbabazi

The Professional Development and Training Committee was set up to among other tasks, design and undertake responsive professional development training seminars for lawyers, that reflect the emerging national, regional and global professional development trends. The Committee oversees and provides policy guidance on the implementation of the CLE programme of the Law Council with day to day technical support offered by the ULS Secretariat. Other members of this Committee include; Ms. Pamela Tibihikira-Kalyegira, Mr. Chris Engola, Ms. Dorothy Kabugo, Mr. Ivan Engoru, Mr. Ronald Tusingwire, Mr. Francis Gimara, Ms. Grace Atuheirwe and Mr. Bernard Olok.

During the period under review, the Committee convened a total of three meetings in which it considered members'

training needs, assigned its members to moderate at all CLE training seminars to generate feedback for the Committee through a duty Rota, discussed and approved training areas for 2015 CLE Calendar and drafted proposals on the amendment of The Advocates (Continuing Legal Education) Regulations, SI 78 of 2004 and generally offered policy guidance to the professional development programme.

A total of sixty one (61) training programs in various areas of law were conducted in a bid to enhance and sharpen the legal knowledge and skills of advocates; to ensure that they remain relevant and competitive in the local, regional and global market.

2. THE MEMBERSHIP WELFARE AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mr. Simon Peter Kinobe

The Membership Welfare and Social Affairs Committee works closely with the Professional Development and Members Affairs Department AT the ULS Secretariat and generally offers policy guidance on welfare and social needs of the ULS membership. Other members of this Committee include; Mr. Ernest Kalibbala Wiltshire, Ms. Diana Ninsiima Kibuuka, Mr. Fredrick Mbaziira, Ms. Lillian Drabo, Ms. Dorothy Amuron, Ms. Barbara Daisy Nabuweke; Ms. Lillian Kiiza and Mr. Daniel Walyemera Masumba.

During the period under review, the Committee held three (3) meetings which focused on planning, managing and successful implementation of key membership events which included:

1. Annual Conference and General Meeting;
2. Members Sports event/Fun day;
3. Annual Rule of Law Day Symposium;
4. Annual Lawyers Ball.

On a sad note, the ULS lost the following members and legal personalities:

1. Mr. Edward Kikirengoma
2. Ms. Fredah Turyasingura
3. Mr. Sserwanga Spiridion Naluswa
4. Mr. Musiiho Moses
5. Mr. Protasio Ayigihugu Mr. Robson Tyan
6. Mr. Paul Mpungu
7. Mr. Natsomi Ferdinand Wekoye
8. Mr. Baguma Marere Gilbert
9. Mr. Brian Kyaligonza

May their souls rest in eternal peace.

3. THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mr. Karoli Ssemogerere

The Research and Publications Committee is responsible for undertaking periodic research and advising on policy briefs, statements and opinions generated by the ULS as well as on proposed legislation in Uganda. The Committee offers assistance in preparation, publishing and marketing of ULS Publications; in addition to ensuring physical and electronic access of legal resource materials to the membership. It operates in close cooperation with the Policy, Research and Advocacy Department of the ULS Secretariat.

During the year in review, 5 ULS press statements on matters of public interest were generated as well as position papers on Bills including; a set of tax related Bills (the Lotteries and Gaming Bill, 2013, the Tax Procedure Code Bill, 2014, the Stamps Bill, 2013, the Excise Duty Bill, 2013), the Tobacco Control Bill, Amendments to the 1995 Constitution, the Capital Markets Authority Bill, the Retirement Benefits Sector Liberalization Bill; among others. Other activities undertaken include drafting, consolidation and production of concept papers and annual reports such as the **ULS 2013 Annual Report** and compilation of the ULS Election Petition Law Report (due for publishing in 2015).

Additionally, the annual Lawyers Voice Magazine and 9 monthly newsletters were generated and published to the ULS membership, other stakeholder institutions and members of the general public at various ULS fora.

Routine acquisition of legislation as well as compilation and dissemination of decisions from the Anti Corruption Division in preparation for compilation of ULS Law Report on corruption cases; including other key precedents from national and regional courts was done. was also done.

In the reporting period, the Committee convened a series of meetings to consider a number of assignments including: a request from the Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC) to consider issues papers on a set of laws to wit; laws governing Elections, the Money Lenders Act Cap 273, the Births and Deaths Registration Act Cap 309, the Prisons Act of 2006; as well as Mobile Money and Internet Banking Transactions in Uganda. These papers highlighted issues for reform for reasons ranging from addressing emerging issues to those that had been repealed by court judgments or merely to adopt best practices. The Committee reviewed³ these legislation and through the ULS President offered comments and proposals for reform of the above laws to the Secretary of the ULRC.

The Committee also analyzed the provisions under the current Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and submitted proposals for amendment of the same. Views of the membership were sought in this regard

and the same were incorporated for submission to the ULRC. These proposals pertain to its supremacy; the Judiciary; presidential term and age limits; parliamentary representation; the Uganda Land Commission and use of public finances; against the yardstick of enforcement and compatibility.

To keep members updated on EAC integration matters, regular updates on EAC news, activities as well as ongoing and completed cases in the East African Court of Justice were provided through emails, monthly newsletters and the ULS website. Furthermore, upon request by the Ministry of East African Community Affairs through the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the ULS provided its input to a *“Comprehensive Technical Paper Extending the Jurisdiction of the East African Court of Justice to include Crimes against Humanity”*.

Additionally, upon delegation by the ULS President the Committee Chairperson participated at a ULRC/Law Council working committee meeting to consider draft amendments to the Advocates Act Cap 267. The meeting considered some draft pertaining to entry of Advocates from the other East African Community Partner States and to provide for easier access to the Ugandan Bar of such other Advocates. This meeting considered additional insertions to the definition section and other relevant sections to reflect the provisions and spirit of the East African Common Market Protocol. These amendments formed the basis of the Mutual Recognition Agreements (“MRA”s) negotiated by Bar Associations of the EAC member states.

In a bid to enhance and promote its image and programmes, the ULS participated in a number of exhibitions which among others included; the Human Rights Expo organized by Makerere University; A 2-day exhibition organized by HURINET; A 2-day Fair organized by Private Sector Foundation (PSFU); the CSO FAIR organized by NGO Forum and the Human Rights Expo organized by NSSF.

In addition, ULS through the LRC continued to market ULS publications and other legal regalia like the ULS Law Reports, and corporate shirts and blouses. The LRC accessioned 260 copies of information materials including legislation; law reports and legal textbooks. It further undertook building linkages with a number of institutions with respect to information sharing and publishing. These institutions include; the Library of Congress, the Commonwealth Secretariat, African Law Digest and all law libraries in Uganda.

Other Committee members include; Mr. John Mugalula, Mr. Ivan Engoru, Mr. Brian Kalule, Mr. Frank Tumusiime, Mr. Moses Mwase, Mr. Victor Agaba, Dr. Christopher Mbazira and Mr. Timothy Atuheirwe.

³ Pursuant to the ULS mandate to assist Government and the Courts in all matters affecting legislation.

4. THE RULE OF LAW COMMITTEE

Chaired by Dr. Christopher Mbazira

The Rule of Law Committee was set up to among other work with the Research and Publications Committee in developing ULS policy briefs and position papers on pending bills and national policies. It was purposed to periodically evaluate the human rights and good governance situation in Uganda and advise the Executive Council on appropriate positions the Uganda Law Society should adopt. The Committee is also intended to ensure integration of gender; poverty eradication; HIV-AIDS prevention and mitigation; conflict resolution and impact mitigation; and prevention of corruption as cross cutting themes in all the Programs and Projects of the Uganda Law Society.

During the review period, the Committee in close collaboration with the Policy, Research and Advocacy Department of the ULS Secretariat undertook planning

and successful conduct of the Annual Rule of Law Day Symposium held under the theme: **“Labour Rights in Uganda: Making Decent Work a Reality”** and the High Level Stakeholder Meeting. The Committee also provided input to the concept note among other conference documents; which was shared to solicit funding for the event. Following the main event, the *ULS 7th Annual Rule of Law Symposium Report* and the *4th ULS High Level Stakeholders’ Breakfast Meeting Report* were generated and submitted to Konrad Adenauer Stiftung ad TradeMark East Africa.

Other Committee members include; Mr. Rwakafuuzi Kiiza Ladislaus Ms. Norah Matovu Winyi, Mr. Kabumba Busingye, Ms. Ruth Sekindi, Mr. John Francis Onyango, Mr. Frank Rusa

5. THE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mrs. Florence Nakachwa Dollo

The Legislation Committee is mandated to undertake periodic reviews of proposed and current legislation in Uganda and to formulate and compile ULS views on such legislation.

Other members of this Committee include; Mr. Naboth Muhairwe, Ms. Florence Nakazibwe, Mr. Edgar Agaba, Ms. Peruth Nshemereirwe, Mr. Dickens Kagarura Ms. Brenda Apiny, Ms. Florence Ocago, Ms. Irene Lugayizi, and Ms. Patience Kabiije.

In the reporting period this Committee in close

collaboration with the Policy, Research and Advocacy Department of the ULS Secretariat, undertook review of the proposed Retirement Benefits Sector Liberalisation Bill (2011) and Tobacco Control Bill (2014) and made recommendations for its enrichment to the Parliament. The Committee also as represented by Mr. Muhairwe participated at a meeting held at the Ministry of Works and Transport to review and propose amendments to the Inland Waters Transport Bill, (2014). Comparative review was also conducted in a bid to incorporate international best practices.

6. THE LEGAL AID AND PRO BONO SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mr. Ernest Kalibbala Wiltshire

The Legal Aid and Pro Bono Services Committee was essentially established to monitor and track the performance of the Legal Aid Project, the Pro-bono Project and to ensure access to justice interventions of the Uganda Law Society as against the respective donor memoranda of understanding. Among other terms, the Committee is tasked to enroll more lawyers to the Pro Bono Project, and to recognize outstanding performance in cases handled.

Other members of this Committee are; Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira, Mr. Musa Mudoi, Mr. Enoch Barata, Mr. Kato Sekabanja, Mr. Steven Senkeezi Ssali, Mr. Jimmy Madira, Mr. Robert Okalang and Ms. Rose Gamwera.

During the year in review, the Committee oversaw various activities of the ULS Legal Aid and Pro Bono Projects including:

- **Extension and enhancement** of the Legal Aid Project through innovations such as a *retainer court bailiff* to promote effective execution and enforcement of court judgments, the *Duty Counsel* to offer representation, guidance and advice to unrepresented persons at some courts and *Self help court representation* where clients with minor cases are trained to represent themselves. These innovations have to an extent eased challenges relating to case backlog and delayed judicial processes and appointments.
- **Renewal of the DGF Project:** The Democratic Governance Facility renewed its partnership with the ULS for legal aid service provision through the Soroti, Arua and Mbarara clinics which were established at the end of 2012. The DGF also facilitated the procurement of vehicles for these

clinics; which was a great bonus in facilitating access to justice.

- The Project registered an increase in the number of communities and clients served with respect to cases registered and handled both in courts and offices. A total of **12,353** people were served through ADR and court representation.
- Through its **community outreach programme**, the LAP directly sensitized **26,980** people on legal issues like land rights, marriage and divorce, domestic violence, children rights and the operation of Local Council Courts.
- Strengthening the capacity of local actors in the administration of justice. **390** local council court members were trained on the application and guidelines of the Local Council Courts Act 2006 and on handling of various matters within their jurisdiction. This has improved administration of justice in these areas.
- The Pro Bono Project of the ULS continued to enroll advocates into the Scheme. In 2014, **307** Advocates were enrolled into the scheme bringing its portfolio of registered advocates to **1313**. The Project has handled **5690** clients and registered an increase in the number of clients handled on Pro

Bono basis by **2167** clients.

- Under its Prison Decongestion Programme, the LAP visited prisons and remand homes with the aim of reducing the number of inmates in prison and juveniles in remand facilities. **3384** persons received legal assistance; out of which **560** were released on bail and **709** were successfully represented in court..
- Under the auspices of the USAID SAFE Program, the LAP in collaboration with the Kampala Dispute Resolution Centre (KADREC) embarked on promotion of ADR methods in land matters through knowledge and skills training of professionals engaged in adjudication and management of disputes as well as community-based paralegals in Kibaale and Kiboga districts.
- **Legal aid service providers' capacity strengthened:** During the implementation of the *Mobilizing Lawyers for the Rights of Ugandans* project, the capacity of **243** advocates was strengthened to provide high quality legal services to vulnerable persons.

Details on the above and more activities conducted by the ULS under its legal Aid Project are included in the Project's 2014 Annual Report.

7. THE FEMALE LAWYERS COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mrs. Alice Namuli Blazeovic

- *The Female Lawyers Committee (FLC) is tasked to design and undertake responsive professional development training seminars for female lawyers; that reflect the emerging national, regional and global professional development trends. Other members of this Committee are; Ms. Joyce Ngaiza, Ms. Deborah Gasana, Ms. Dorothy Amuron, Ms. Diana Ninsiima Kibuuka, Ms. Assumpta Kemigisha, Ms. Celia Nagawa Kaala, Mr. Ernest Kalibbala Wiltshire and Mr. Mike Okua*
- *During the reporting period, the FLC held a number of events in addition to several planning meetings such as: a Networking Event on **July 4, 2014** at the Kampala Serena Hotel under the theme "**How to Brand and Market a Female Lawyer**". This event was targeted at improving the professional image of female lawyers by way of sharing public, client*

and male colleagues' perceptions of female legal practitioners. This event which was facilitated by Mr. Robert Semakula, an Executive Coach was characterized by in-depth knowledge sharing on how female lawyers should brand and market themselves as professionals. The chief guest was Mrs. Jennifer Semakula Musisi, the Executive Director of the Kampala Capital City Authority.

The FLC also held a "**Women in Law**" awards ceremony to recognize women lawyers who have excelled in their respective careers and improved the status of women in Uganda and beyond; as well as to inspire other women professionals not only in the legal profession to succeed. Emphasis was placed on the contribution these ladies had made in influencing, inspiring and mentoring other female lawyers.

8. THE ADHOC COMMITTEE FOR ULS ELECTION REGULATIONS

Chaired by Mr. Ernest Kalibbala Wiltshire

Following a resolution of the ULS membership at the 2013 AGM and pursuant to Section 25(h) of the Uganda Law Society Act which mandates the Executive Council to make Regulations binding on members prescribing the manner of election, removal and replacement of the president, the vice president and other members of the Society and ULS representatives to the Law Council, the Adhoc Committee for ULS Election Regulations was set up. This Committee was tasked to finalise preparation of ULS Election regulations.

Initial work on the draft ULS Election Regulations had been commenced by a Committee formed in 2007 at the Annual General Meeting together with a committee formed at the Law Council comprised of Prof. Frederick E. Ssempebwa, Mr. John Mary Mugisha, Mr. Agaba Maguru, Ms. Harriet Grace Magala, Mr. Deo Nkuningoma, Mr. Alex Rezida and Mr. George Omunyokol.

Consultative meetings were held across the country in the months of May and June in 2012 to inform these regulations among others and a validation workshop held in September 2013 to input this draft.

During the reporting period, the Committee made consultations with the ULS membership and input was obtained from the Young Lawyers Committee, Ms. Olive Zaale who had assisted in aligning the form and appearance/structure of the regulations and others. The draft was further improved thereafter under the guidance of the Vice President and following approval by Council, presented to a ULS EGM for approval held on **May 31, 2014.**

The Election Rules are in line with the objective of ULS to become a modern bar association. The highlights of these regulations cover the following areas: Management of elections is to vest in a Committee; Standards for elections and the procedure for conducting elections is provided for; Elective offices are defined and qualifications spelt out; General elements are also provided for e.g. nominations, complaints, assumption of leadership, disqualifications etc.

Other members of this Committee were; Prof. Frederick Ssempebwa, Ms. Harriet Grace Magala, Mr. Alfred Okello Oryem, Mr. Enoch Barata, Mrs. Florence Nakachwa Dollo.

9. THE COMMERCIAL BAR COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mr. Alex Rezida

The Commercial Bar Committee is mandated by the ULS Council to liaise with the commercial Court in general and the Bench in particular; on matters that are pertinent to dispensation of justice by the Commercial Court.

In the discharge of its mandate the Committee continued to interact in appropriate measure with the Commercial Court Bench. During the year in review, the key activity of the Bar Committee has been a liaison role between the Commercial Court Bench and the Bar. The Committee led by the Chairperson met the Commercial Court Bench. The forum provided an engaging and frank interaction about enhancing delivery of justice at the commercial Court. The main scope of this meeting included: *Case management and backlog; Impact of interlocutory applications on creating of backlog and the need to reduce such applications; the need for continuous encouragement of the Bar to embrace mediation; Strict compliance with practice directions and the Civil Procedure Rules; Conducting of Counsel in court; e-filing (in pipeline); Coordination between the Commercial Division of the High Court and other Divisions; Timely delivery of Judgments and Rulings and Challenges with the Registry.*

Bar Bench Forum: The Committee held a one day (CLE) Bar – Bench forum on October 10, 2014 at Golf Course Hotel-Kampala. The theme was *“Harnessing the best practices at Commercial Court-A review of the commitments made between the commercial*

Court Bench and the Bar on 11th September, 2011”. At the close of the forum, the Hon. Justice Christopher Madrama agreed to write a paper on witness statements showing different practices from other jurisdictions and making out a best practice case. Further his paper was circulated and he graciously agreed that it can be shared with other Divisions of the High Court in a bid to enhance usage of the same in a harmonized manner.

The forum was well attended and appreciation is extended to the ULS President, Council and the Secretariat for their support.

Commercial Bar Committee Meetings: During the year in review, the committee was able to hold three meetings. Attendance could have been better but there was more ground covered electronically than in the 3 meetings- a demonstration of the impact of working smarter as it were, except of course where it is mandatory or very necessary to have a formal.

Post Judges Conference meeting: Plans are underway for the Committee to meet the Bench with a view to learning what needs to be done as a result of deliberations of the Judges during the Annual Judges Conference.

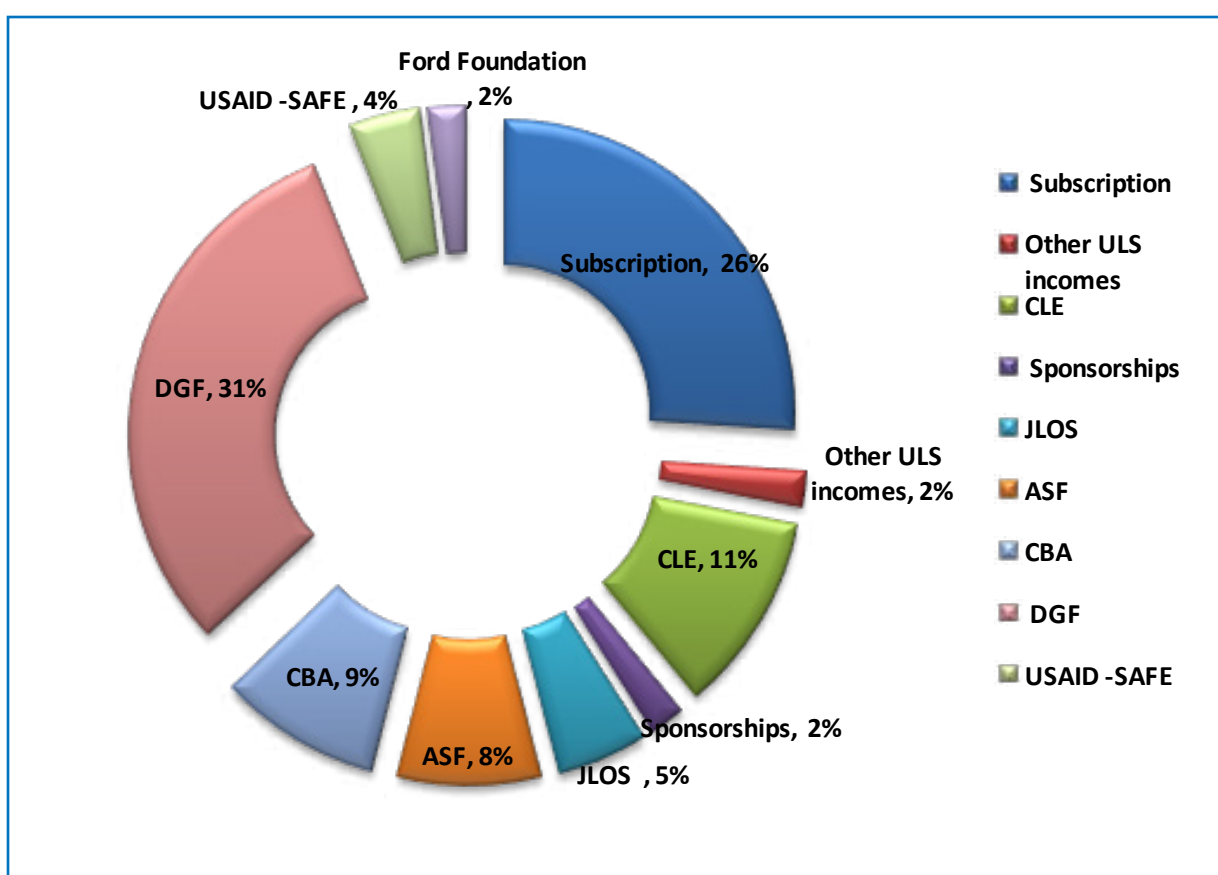
Other Committee members include; Mr. James Mukasa Sebugenyi, Mr. Didas Nkurunziza, Mr. John Fisher Kanyemibwa, Mr. Mohammed Mbabazi, Ms. Anne Tumwesigye, Ms. Lydia Nakamalira, Mr. Timothy Masembe Kanyerezi and Ms. Deepa Verma.

10. FINANCE, PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mr. Enoch Barata

The Finance and Administration Committee oversees the finance, administration and human resource matters at the ULS Secretariat. In line with the ULS Strategic Plan 2011 - 2015, the Committee strives to strengthen institutional capacity of ULS to become a modern Bar Association. Other members on this Committee are; Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira, Mr. Cephas Birungyi, Ms. Harriet Magala, Mr. Festus Akunobera, Ms. Titus Kanya and Ms. Caroline Bonabana.

In the reporting period the Committee worked to ensure the availability of sufficient financial resources and liquidity to the Society throughout the year and have these resources reach all departments for the implementation of activities in a timely manner. As the ULS continues to grow, it is imperative to note that our main source of income is members' subscription which is still low and cannot sustain all the ULS programmes like CLE, Members' Benevolent Funds, Building Fund, Members social events, the Library and e-resources etc. A total number of **two thousand one hundred (2100)** members subscribed to the ULS; registering a 15% increase from 2013. Below is a graphical illustration of the all **finances received** in the year 2014.



Human resources: In 2014, **16** staff joined and **7** staff left the organization. The ULS continued to support and motivate its staff through various capacity building trainings and initiatives.

Procurement: The ULS procured **3** vehicles, **7** computers, **4** laptops and a printer, **2** book shelves, **3** filing cabinets and **3** photocopiers for the upcountry clinics.

Transport: **3** vehicles were purchased to support the LAP clinics of Arua, Mbarara and Soroti.

Strict Financial controls were emphasized and adhered to with the above procedures, and the ULS membership as well as our development partners have our assurances that Uganda Law Society is in position to deliver on its objectives; and to realize its Vision and Mission as an organization.

During the year under consideration, the Uganda Law Society Auditors were; **PKF Uganda**, Certified Public Accountants of Uganda.

11. IN-HOUSE LAWYERS COMMITTEE

Chaired by Ms. Doris Akol

The In-House Lawyers Committee comprises 9 members including; Ms. Agnes Tibayeita, Ms. Angelina Namakula, Ms. Miriam Magala, Mr. Denis Kakonge, Mrs. Angela Kiryabwire Kanyima, Ms. Peninah Kasule, Mr. Bernard Oundo and Mr. Edward Ochen.

This Committee was set up to create a platform through which issues affecting members that practice as In House Counsel can be addressed.

In 2014, the Committee had three meetings from which a directory of In-House lawyers was generated and approved for circulation to the membership. The Committee also discussed issues relating to meeting Pro Bono obligations for In House Counsel. Considering their contractual obligations and limitations on time, the Committee explored various avenues through which In - House Counsel could offer Pro Bono services without infringing on their employees time and contractual obligations.

The Committee also discussed its activities and targets

for the year 2015 and agreed to undertake the following in year 2015:

- To host an “In house Counsel Networking Forum” featuring a business networking meeting followed by a social/networking event.
- To make a presentation on issues with respect to insurance that the Committee should look out for, since insurance is a crosscutting issue affecting all in-house counsel regardless of sector.
- To create an In-house Counsel members’ mailing list for ease of future and specific correspondence.
- To participate in preparation of articles for the ULS Newsletter, on the role of the Committee and to give publicity to the In-house Counsel Business Networking Engagement.

Overall, the Committee is committed to ensuring active participation of the ULS In house Counsel Membership in ULS activities.

12. INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Chaired by Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira

In the reporting period, the Committee sought and secured approval from the JLOS Steering Committee to utilize funds initially received as contribution to construction of a floor to house a state of the art ULS Library, to instead cater for the preliminary stages of construction of the ULS House. The Committee also sought and awaits approval from the Kampala Capital City Authority for change of user status from residential purpose to commercial purpose. By the year end, the Committee had embarked on the process of procuring the services of the building consultant.

The Committee faced challenges attributed to lack of adequate funding to start on the ULS House project as well as the slow and numerous processes involved in the pre-construction stages.

As a way forward, the Committee proposes that the ULS should devise different proposals such as, contribution from all Lawyers towards the ULS House a prescribed fee for a period of 5 years, ULS to seek for bankable proposals in order to secure funds for the building and or ULS to venture into partnership with financial institutions in order to put up a building.

The Investment Committee of the ULS chaired by Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira comprises other Committee members who are Mr. Enoch Barata, Mr. James Mukasa Sebugenyi, Ms. Harriet Magala, Mr. Cephas Birungyi, Mr. Cheborton Barishaki, Mr. Musa Mudoi, Ms. Caroline Bonabana and Mr. Kanya Titus.

13. AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW OF THE ADVOCATES (REMUNERATION AND TAXATION OF COSTS) REGULATIONS

Chaired by Mr. Ernest Kalibbala Wiltshire

The Ssempebwa Committee report on the reform of the Advocates Act in 2011, highlighted a number of aspects; which included need for improvement of the remuneration and taxation of costs Rules. The argument raised was that the schedules done in 1996 could no longer accurately serve the purposes of advocates who are users of this legislation and needed to change with changes in the economy. Following this report, the ULS Executive Council constituted an ad hoc Committee to

review these regulations in the spirit of harmonization with other member states in the East African Community Region.

This ad hoc Committee held a series of meetings in the reporting period and will soon present its report to the ULS membership for consultations and if approved, its recommendations will mitigate challenges such as advocates who flout the rules by charging exorbitant fees way beyond the 6% leading to public outcry.

REPORTS OF UGANDA LAW SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES TO VARIOUS STATUTORY BODIES

1. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MILD MAY UGANDA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mr. John Mugalula

Mildmay Uganda is a programme established in 1998 to provide quality HIV/AIDS Care, Treatment, Training and Education. It is the biggest HIV care and treatment provider in central Uganda. Mr. John Mugalula was appointed the ULS corporate representative to the General Assembly of Mildmay Uganda.

During the review period, the 1st Mildmay Uganda General meeting at the head office in Lweza on July 2, 2014.

A Board meeting was held on the same day led by the Board

Chairperson Prof. Dr. Rev. Samuel Luboga. Members of the Board and General Assembly reviewed the Charter of the Board of Directors of Mildmay Uganda and the same was adopted. It is critical to note that the adopted charter embodied all the key aspects of corporate governance, and it is anticipated that once followed to the letter, it would go a long way in shaping the destiny of Mildmay in the right direction. The appointment of External Auditors was also agreed upon by the members unanimously. The ULS' support to these processes was appreciated.

2. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LAW COUNCIL

Mr. John Mary Kiwuuwa and Mr. Peters Musoke

The Law Council is a body established by the Advocates Act [Cap. 267,] as amended and is mandated to regulate the legal profession in Uganda. The mission of the Council is to act as the overall regulatory authority for the entire legal profession in Uganda.

During the reporting period, Mr. John Mary B. Kiwuuwa and Mr. Peters Musoke represented the Uganda Law Society (ULS) to the Law Council, having been re-appointed and appointed respectively at the previous Annual General Meeting of ULS for the last year of the second term and first term respectively.

As part of the ten member Committee, the ULS representatives were engaged in activities such as: conducting Council meetings, workshops and retreats; conducting Disciplinary Committee meetings; vetting applications for enrolment; legislating; launch of the Probono Board of trustees; inspection of chambers; inspection of universities teaching law programmes; Conducting Bar Course Pre-entry examinations; supervision and control over the provision of legal aid; offering advice to indigent persons, as well as supervision of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) compliance.

From the above activities, the Council registered the following outcomes:

- **Vetting applications for enrolment;** 199 applications for enrolment were vetted and 268 applicants were approved (including those that had been deferred in the previous year), and 28 rejected for non compliance with the legal requirements and 8 were deferred;
- **Bar Course Pre-entry examinations;** out of the 1026 students that took the Bar Course Pre-entry examination, 552 students representing 53.80% obtained the 50% pass mark and were admitted to the Law Development Centre (LDC) for a post graduate Diploma in legal practice.
- **Legislative processes;** Currently, the Council is considering the preparation of Paralegal Regulations and working on some laws including: amending the Advocates Act and the Uganda Law Society Act to suit the social-economic changes; amending the Advocates (Disciplinary Committee) (Procedure) Regulation S.I 267-2 to ease the process of handling complaints.
- **Legal Education and Training;** the respective Committee visited nine (9) universities for compliance checks and also considered a number of applications by applicants seeking recognition of their foreign legal qualifications in order to join the Bar Course.
- **Disciplinary action;** the Disciplinary Committee received 199 complaints which were brought to the attention of the concerned advocates. 55 meetings were held in which 155 cases were concluded. Out of 199 complaints, 161 were brought against male advocates as compared to 38 against the female advocates. The number of complaints against female advocates as compared to the previous year increased.
- The Committee continued to use alternative dispute resolution to resolve complaints not entailing gross professional misconduct and commends advocates who appeared before the Committee and exhibited

the willingness to have their complaints resolved. The Committee also commend advocates who appeared on behalf of their clients (complainants) to prosecute their errant colleagues; which demonstrated commitment to defending and protecting the integrity of the legal profession.

- **Inspection of Chambers;** a total of 623 Chambers were inspected out of which 544 were approved for practice. Although a good number of chambers recorded an improvement in the standards, some of them still need to borrow a leaf from other colleagues to refurbish or change their premises. An increase in the number of sole practitioners as compared to partnerships was noted. It was also recognized that the number of unqualified persons holding out as advocates continued to rise and in some cases were the ones managing these law firms.
- **Supervision and control over the provision of legal aid and advice to indigent persons;** The Sub-Committee on Legal Aid inspected legal

aid service providers throughout the country and approved 39 chambers.

- **The Pro bono Board of Trustees;** the Council launched the Probono Board of Trustees on 1st March 2012. This Board of trustees is in the process of making preparations to enable it perform its mandate. Additionally, the Law Council also received funding from the DGF to develop regulations to harmonise the legal profession and regulate other legal aid service providers such as paralegals in terms of professional conduct, minimum standards and qualifications.
- As was the case in previous years, the Law Council continued to face challenges to its operation such as; excessive workload, understaffing, inadequate funding, lack of a computerized database, failure by some advocates to honour disciplinary committee proceedings, lack of restructuring and autonomy of the Law Council.

3. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE JUSTICE LAW AND ORDER SECTOR INTEGRITY COMMITTEE TOUR

Ms. Peruth Nshemereirwe

- The Justice, Law and Order Sector Integrity Committee (JLOSIC) organized a country wide tour for all the key institutions directly involved in the administration of Justice. The Uganda Law society being one of the Institutions of JLOSIC was requested to send a representative to participate in the tour and Ms. Nshemereirwe Peruth was duly nominated.
- The nationwide tour was conducted between 23rd and 28th November 2014 and the participating members were divided into teams of 8 persons; each to cover the different Regions of the Country. As a representative of the ULS, Ms. Peruth Nshemereirwe was part of the team that visited the Southern Region comprising of the Districts of Kiboga, Mityana, Masaka, Kalangala, Sembabule, Kalisizo Rakai and Lyantonde.
- The objectives of the tour were: to ascertain whether officers and staff of Key JLOS institutions are complying with the ethical and integrity standards of in performance of their duties; to establish whether cases are being handled properly and expeditiously with timely judgments; and to establish whether the public is aware of the initiatives and steps that the JLOS institutions have taken to control corruption.
- The visits were carried out in prisons and court premises where the team interacted directly with inmates who shared about their challenges. At court premises, the team interacted with the general public and later with members of the District Chain Linked Committee who are officers and staff of the JLOS institutions in the area visited as well as with District leaders.
- The Committee registered the following findings based on observations, contributions and complaints received and where possible provided immediate responses specific complaints against their
- The manner in which the police conducts its investigations leading to arrests, detention and charging of suspects. This involves keeping suspects in police cells beyond the 48hr Rule, malicious charges and or criminalization of would be civil matters, torture during arrest and detention in police cells and confiscation of suspects property.
- Congestion in prisons beyond the required capacity, poor feeding in some prisons and feeding on one meal a day in others, long working hours, beatings by fellow inmates popularly known as “Katikiros” and in some instances prison warders, overstay on remand, failure to be presented in court in the required timeframe, inadequate High Court sessions among others.
- Advocates conduct and/or misconduct was also raised in some districts. There was general concern

that some Advocates on state brief do not bother to visit prisons to interact with the inmates that they are representing in court. Prisoners/accused persons only discover who representing them Advocate is, in court, without any prior encounter. These Advocates then confer with the accused persons through whispers while in the dock. This was particularly pointed out at Kiboga and Masaka prisons. Furthermore, there were allegations of Advocates charging exorbitant instruction and other fees, demanding for this money in places outside their offices such as the corridors of court premises, requesting clients to send mobile money, without any acknowledgment of receipt. Advocates' failure to treat their clients with respect and conspiracy between Advocates to the detriment of clients were also issues the team was confronted with. This was specifically pointed out during the interaction with the public at Mityana Chief Magistrates' Court. On the other hand some advocates raised a concern that their bills of costs are not taxed by judicial officers.

- There were general complaints about the relationship between the State Attorneys and the Magistrates which leads to endless adjournment of cases and denial of bail.
- Interference in the administration of justice especially in land matters by of political leaders such as RDCs was also raised during the tour.
- Other challenges were structural and administrative

in nature such as inadequate judicial officers, state Attorneys, large magisterial areas use bucket system in the prisons among others.

- In response to the concerns of the public on the conduct and or misconduct of Advocates in relation to their mandate as officers of court; the ULS Representative informed the public about regulation of Advocates conduct by law and that upon receipt and registration of formal complaints against them, they can be subjected to disciplinary and other proceedings as and when they are considered to have conducted themselves in an unbecoming manner. Accordingly, the public was informed that the Law Council under the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs has the mandate is to regulate the conduct of Advocates including inspection and approval of Advocates' chambers. The public was urged to ensure that they deal with Advocates who are properly qualified with practicing certificates and approved chambers.
- The tour was generally a success, as the team managed to interact with the officers, staff, political leaders and the public in the justice arena. The information given to the team relating to the administration of justice in the specific areas visited answered the objectives of the tour. What remains now is for all stakeholders through concerted efforts to perform their duties in accordance with the law and deliver justice to the people of Uganda.

4. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Charles Okoth-Owor

- Mr. Okoth-Owor is a member of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) and the ULS representative to this Commission. During the year in review, the Commission engaged in a series of activities including:
- **Recruitment of Judicial Officers:** The JSC held over 8 short listing sessions, and over 28 interview sessions. Interviews were conducted and recommendations made to the Appointing Authority for the appointment of; Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice, Supreme Court Justice and High Court Judge.
- The following appointments were made; Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Registrar of the Electricity Disputes Tribunal, Chairperson of the Tax Appeals Tribunal, 3 Magistrates Grade 1 and one Chief Magistrate.
- The Commission held 8 administrative meetings and a number of issues and activities discussed and done. These included; 1 cancer screening exercise and appointment of a new HIV/AIDS focal

person, preparation and submission of two quarterly performance reports, 4 monitoring and evaluation exercises, as well as staff training in Uganda and abroad.

- During the period under review, the Commission also carried out **public awareness and participation** in the administration of justice. 33 radio talk shows were held, 3 prison inmates' workshops carried out, 5 Sub county workshops held and 1,105 copies of citizen handbooks were printed.
- **The Disciplinary Committee:** The committee was involved in handling public complaints against judicial officers. 21 meetings were held to consider such complaints and the Committee was able to dispose of **47** cases, **12** cases completed pending final consideration and **6** investigating trips conducted.

The JSC continues to execute its role as per its mandate.

5. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAKERERE UNIVERSITY RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME (MURBS)

Ms. Miriam Magala

The Makerere University Retirement Benefits Scheme (MURBS) was established with effect from the 1st day of April 2009 and is governed by a Trust deed (“the Deed”) dated 10th September 2009 (the deed is under review). The Scheme is a defined contribution plan and provides, under the rules of the Scheme, retirement benefits for the staff of Makerere University (“the employer”). The Scheme is licensed with the Uganda Retirement Benefits Regulatory

All permanent employees of the university under the age of 50 are eligible to join the Scheme as contributing members. The membership comprised of 2,305 contributing members and 949 deferred members bringing the total to 3,254. The Scheme’s financial statements for the year ended 2013/2014 were audited by KPMG. The Scheme’s assets in the 2013/2014 Financial Year comprised mainly of: listed stocks, treasury bills and bonds, corporate bonds and receivables from Makerere University and is yet to acquire property.

Ms. Miriam Magala was nominated as a ULS representative to the Board of Trustees Makerere University Retirement Benefits Scheme in May 2013 following a request from the Scheme through her administrators Pensions Consulting Liaison (Risk and Pension Consultants). Following nomination, Ms. Magala was further seconded to sit to the Trustee Deed Review and Audit committees by the Board.

During the FY 2013/2014, the Scheme made gross income of **UGX 6.7 Billion** and a net income of **UGX**

4.5 Billion with the funds that we had in the Scheme, paid out over **UGX 2.4 Billion** in benefits and paid out **UGX 20 Billion**.

Substantial progress was made in 2014 during the negotiations between University Management, the Trustees and staff associations. The principal amounts payable in each category have been determined together with the interest that is to be applied. However, when it came to signing the consent agreement, the University Management declined to execute the Agreement.

During the 30th June 2014 appearance, the judge directed that the matter be scheduled for hearing on 3rd and 10th October, 2014 given that the case had been in Court for over 2 years without any consent agreement being reached by the two parties. However, during the Court vacation between 15th July 2014 and 15th August 2014, the Principal Judge and Judges of the High Court (Civil Division) decided that all labour matters/claims be transferred to the Industrial Court. This case is now one of several labour matters (300 cases) that have been referred to the Industrial Court. It has been re-designated as Labour Dispute Claim No. 017 of 2014. The Industrial Court has started hearing some of the various claims which have been referred to it. The Scheme lawyer had written to the Registrar of the Industrial Court requesting that this case is scheduled for hearing as soon as possible.

The Board held 10 meetings in the reporting period.

6. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LDC LEGAL AID CLINIC ADVISORY BOARD (CAB)

Mr. Musa Modoi

The Legal Aid Clinic (LAC) of the Law Development Centre (LDC) was established to provide clinical legal education to postgraduate students and legal aid to the vulnerable and indigent persons. The Legal Aid Clinic’s mission is to enhance professional training of post graduate students at LDC and promote the lawyer’s role of service to the community through practical experience based learning and legal representation of indigent persons.

Mr. Modoi Musa, the ULS representative to the LDC Legal Aid Clinic Advisory Board (CAB) which is chaired by the Hon. Lady Justice Catherine Bamugemereire and serves as the advisory body of the Clinic and provides policy, technical and administrative oversight to the Clinic. He participated in the LDC Clinic Advisory Board meetings (held on a quarterly basis) and Technical Committee (held on a needs basis).

Mr. Modoi also chaired the CAB’s Technical Committee for Programs. This Committee is responsible for the technical oversight of the implementation all CAB legal aid and legal education programs. The list of programs that Mr. Modoi was involved in include; Clinical Legal Education, the Reconciliation Project covering Fort portal, Masindi, Lira, Iganga, Kibaale, and Kampala., the Diversion Project the Diversion Project, the ADR project to handle land disputes in Kibaale district, and the Juvenile Justice project.

Key highlights for the reporting period are that the Clinic revised the methods of teaching CLE whereby facilitators apply a combination of theoretical concepts and actual legal practice through real case scenarios; while assisting students to learn from their own experience and from their reflection on that experience.

Through its Reconciliation Project funded by JLOS and DGF, the Clinic developed, approved and gazetted Reconciliation Rules, and a fully-fledged program is implemented by the Clinic to promote reconciliation in criminal matters at the Magistrates courts. It is planned to extend the program to Police stations and posts such that reconciliation is promoted before getting to court. This would save and divert minor cases from clogging the criminal justice system. The primary import of this Reconciliation project is twofold; build students' skills and capabilities, and also contribute towards the success of the JLOS case backlog reduction strategy.

During the reporting period, the Clinic resolved to develop diversion guidelines under the auspices of the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. This process is ongoing and has the participation of various legal aid service providers including the Uganda Law Society. Once the Diversion Guidelines are finalized and gazetted, it is expected that common and consistent approaches will be applied in the implementation of the diversion project.

New initiatives were undertaken by the Clinic such as ADR project to handle land disputes in Kibaale district is a USAID funded intervention that is designed to make use of Bar course students to resolve land disputes. The Project is expected to commence in March 2015.

Additionally, the LDC restructuring process with support from Netherlands through the NICHE project

with consultants from Northumbria school of law was completed and new teaching methods, a revised curriculum were introduced. The restructuring process has had several effects on the teaching design and curriculum of LDC programs; the most outstanding being the creation of two streams of classes (morning and afternoon). Additionally, the Legal Education program has been extended from a two weeks course component taught at the beginning of the Bar Course, to a two-term spread out training. Two sessions held per week.

The Clinic became an integral part of the LDC with new staff and some former LAC staff brought onboard and no longer a semi-autonomous unit. It is therefore expected to operate within the LDC systems framework for purposes of planning, resource management, resource application and accounting. Under the new restructure, the central LDC leadership will be directly involved in the guiding the strategic direction of the Clinic to ensure harmonized growth along the LDC mainstream processes.

The future of LAC is to strengthen its function of teaching and implementing legal aid programs. With new team players brought on board, there is a thirst to reach new heights and make a mark for the Clinic. This will be boosted by the close management and monitoring of the mainstream LDC leadership. However, a critical requirement for this success is availability of adequate financial and logistical resources to see implement the LAC programs and activities.

7. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AUTHORITY (KCCA)

Mr. Frank Kanduho

Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) is the legal entity established by Parliament of Uganda to manage the operations of Kampala Capital City; replacing the former Kampala City Council (KCC).

As the representative of the Uganda Law Society to Kampala Capital City Authority, Mr. Kanduho acted as Chairperson of the KCCA Legal Affairs Working Group which provides oversight on legal issues affecting the Authority. Mr. Kanduho also chaired the KCCA Steering Committee that was tasked by the Minister for Presidency and Kampala Capital City to study the KCC Act, offer proposals for the amendment of the Act and submit a report on the same to the Minister.

During the reporting period, the Legal Affairs Working Group held 9 meetings between March 2014 and December 2014; while the Steering Committee held 7 meetings. A myriad of legal and administrative issues

pertaining to KCCA's internal and external operations were discussed during these meetings; a few key examples of which include: Amendment of the Kampala Capital City Act 2010; Contracts and revenue collection by KCCA; Behavior of the Law Enforcement team of KCCA vis a vis the Code of Conduct for the KCCA Enforcement officers; Streamlining of Boda boda operations; the working relationship between KCCA and Kampala District Land Board (KDLB); Handling of impounded livestock; Handling of street children. Preservation of green areas and alternative penalties for defaulters, such as community service and fines; The Proposed Guidelines for Outdoor advertising; Procurement and disposal of public assets; The Commercial Road Users Regulations and streamlining of the same with the Traffic and Road Safety Act 1998; Street Parking Regulations; Handling petitions to the Authority among others.

8. REPORT FROM THE ULS REPRESENTATIVE TO CAPITAL MARKETS AUTHORITY BOARD

Mr. Nelson Nerima

The Capital Markets Authority Board is comprised of a twelve (12) members including a representative from the ULS. The Uganda Law Society is a statutory constituent on the Board of the Capital Markets Authority among 11 other members. During the period from October 2011 to October 2014, Mr. John Fisher Kanyemibwa was the ULS representative. A new Board was appointed in October 2014 with Mr. Nelson Nerima as the ULS representative. From 2011 to 2014 a CMA Strategic Plan was crafted to guide the operations of the Authority from 2013/14 to 2015/16. During the period under review, the Board had the following undertakings as per the Strategic Plan:

Legal and compliance: The following corporate finance actions were approved:

- (a) The Information Memorandum for the Initial Public offer (IPO) to the public for Umeme Ltd shares;
- (b) The issue of bonus shares by Bank of Baroda (U) Ltd., Stanbic Bank (U) Ltd and Jubilee Holdings Ltd on the Uganda Securities Exchange;
- (c) The Uchumi Supermarkets Limited cross-listing on the Uganda Securities Exchange.
- (d) The application by National Insurance Corporation for a rights issue;
- (e) An application from African Development Bank (AfDB) to list its bond on the Uganda Securities Exchange;
- (f) An exemption to NORFUND and Rabo Development Bank from the Capital Markets (Takeovers and Mergers) Regulations 2012. NORFUND acquired 17.48% more shares in DFCU Limited bringing their shareholding to 27.54% and Rabo Development Bank acquired 27.54% holding in DFCU Limited;
- (g) The application by Kakira Sugar Works Limited to issue a domestic medium term note program;
- (h) The East African Development Bank Information Memorandum to issue a regional bond.

Legal framework: Pertaining to the legal framework, the Board considered and approved the following regulations:

- (a) The Capital Markets (Asset Backed Securities) Regulations no. 46 of 2012;
- (b) The Capital Markets (Takeovers and Mergers) Regulations no. 55 of 2012;
- (c) The Capital Markets (Issuance of Regional Bonds) Regulations.

The Board also approved the following East African Council Directives:

- (a) Council Directive of the EAC on Public Offers for Equity Securities;
- (b) Council Directive of the EAC on Public Offers for Fixed Income Securities;
- (c) Council Directive of the EAC on Public Offers for Asset Backed Securities;
- (d) Council Directive of the EAC on Collective Investment Schemes;
- (e) Council Directive on Corporate Governance for EAC Market Intermediaries;
- (f) Council Directive of the EAC on admission to a secondary exchange;
- (g) Council Directive of the EAC on Regional Listings in the Securities Market;
- (h) Council Directive of the EAC on Licensing of Market Intermediaries.

Additionally, the Uganda Securities Exchange applied to CMA and the Board granted approval for the following rules:

- (a) The Uganda Securities Exchange Fees and Penalties Rules 2012;
- (b) The Uganda Securities Exchange Growth Enterprise Market Segment Rules.

Communication and investor education: The Board supported various public investor education activities to sensitize and empower the public, potential issuers, market intermediaries and other key stakeholders to actively participate in Uganda's capital markets. Activities undertaken were as follows:

- Establishment and nurturing of University Investment Clubs;
- Capacity Building for Financial Journalism;
- Dissemination of Information through Seminars, Workshops and Other
- Speaking Engagements;
- Opened social media channels on facebook, twitter and LinkedIn;
- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Uganda Chapter to promote corporate governance among the private and public sector organizations. Under this MoU, the two organizations have organized an annual directors and company secretaries' conference.

Surveys and studies: The Authority completed two capital markets players' surveys in the period under review and published the survey findings⁴. The Authority also undertook a study on the introduction of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS); the main purpose of which was to assess the feasibility of Uganda's capital markets financing real estate development through Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS).

Prior to the reporting period, the capital markets investors' survey was completed and the survey findings published in 2012.

East African integration: The CMA continued to participate actively in the East African Securities Regulatory Authorities (EASRA), an umbrella body of EAC securities regulators and the Capital Markets, Insurance and Pension Committee (CMIPC) and the EAC Sectoral Council of the Ministers of Finance and Economic Affairs (SCFEA) meetings. Under EASRA a strategic plan for the integration of capital markets in the East African Community (EAC) was developed and this will guide the current efforts to integrate the capital markets in the EAC.

Under the CMIPC and SCFEA, the Authority has and continues to participate in two initiatives i.e. the harmonisation of the capital markets legal and regulatory frameworks.

Recommendations: The outgoing Board made the following recommendations to the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;

- (a) CMA funding should be increased and sustainable to enable the institution to carry out its regulatory and market development role;
- (b) CMA should be allocated a separate budget vote;
- (c) CMA should be assisted to acquire its own office premises;
- (d) Review of the current regulatory model for the regulation of non-bank financial services;
- (e) The Ministry of Finance should provide more policy incentives to encourage private companies access the capital markets in Uganda i.e. corporate tax rates;
- (f) Expedite the outstanding privatisation of Housing Finance Bank, Kinyara Sugar Works, Uganda Telecom Ltd, Barclays Bank, Tororo Cement, Apollo Hotel Corporation, among others;
- (g) Develop a policy on listing of companies in key sectors such as energy, telecom, financial services etc. to enable Ugandans become key stakeholders in those companies;
- (h) Expedite the passing of amendments to the Capital Markets Authority Act.

THE UGANDA LAW SOCIETY

AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2014



Accountants &
business advisers

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December

2014

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2014

SOCIETY'S INFORMATION

**PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS
 & REGISTERED OFFICE:**

Uganda Law Society Secretariat
 Plot 5A Acacia Avenue
 P.O. Box 426
 Kampala, Uganda
 Telephone: +256-414-342424
 Fax: +256-414-342431
 Website: www.uls.or.ug

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Mrs. Ruth Sebatindira	- President
Mr Ernest Wiltshire Kalibala	- Vice President
Mr Enoch Barala	- Treasurer
Mr Kalule Ahmed	- Honorary Secretary
Ms Alice Namuli	- Member Central Region
Mr Kahungu Tibayelita	- Member Western Region
Mr Mutembuli Yusuf	- Member Eastern Region
Mr Mike Abwang Otim	- Member Northern Region
Mr Barishaki Bonny Cheborion	- Representative office of the Attorney General
Ms Stella Nyandria	- Representative to solicitor General
Mr James Mukasa Sebugenyi	- Ex-official to Executive Council

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

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2014

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

AUDITORS:

PKF Uganda,
Certified Public Accountants,
Kalamu House
Plot 1B, Kira Road
P. O. Box 24544,
Kampala, Uganda.

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
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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 of Two Thousand One Hundred (2,100) advocates.

1.2 Vision, Mission and Goal

Vision

To excel as a professional body in the development of the legal profession and the promotion of justice in Uganda

Mission

To improve the professional standards of members of the Legal Profession, and to promote Human Rights, and the Rule of Law in Uganda by assisting the Government and the Judiciary in the Administration and practice of Law for the benefit of Ugandans

Goal

To contribute towards a public well served by a competent, ethical, honourable and independent Legal Profession

1.3 Objectives of the Society

(a) Statutory Objectives

- To maintain and improve the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Uganda.
- To facilitate the acquisition of legal knowledge by members of the legal profession in Uganda as regards conditions of practice and otherwise.
- To represent, protect and assist members of the legal profession in Uganda as regards conditions of practice and otherwise.
- To protect and assist the public in Uganda in matters touching, ancillary or incidental to the law.
- To assist the Government and the courts in all matters affecting legislation and the administration and practice of the law in Uganda.

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(b) Corporate Objectives

- To maintain and improve the standards of conduct and learning of the legal profession in Uganda.
- To protect and assist the public in Uganda in matters touching, ancillary or incidental to the law.
- To strengthen collaboration with the Government of Uganda, the Judiciary and the Legislature on all matters affecting Legislation, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Good Governance and the Administration and Practice of law in Uganda.
- To promote networking, collaboration of local and international stakeholders and legal fraternities by building linkages and exchange of expertise in the legal profession

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2.0 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

The Executive Council Members present their annual report together with the audited Financial Statements of the society for the year ended 31 December 2014, 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

ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium- sized have been adopted and are in use.

RESULTS

The operating results for the year ended 31 December 2014 are given on page 12

AUDITORS

The Uganda Law Society appoints auditors at their Annual General Meeting. The Society's current auditors, AA & L Associates merged with PKF during the year to carry on as PKF Uganda and being eligible have expressed their willingness to continue in office.

By order of the Executive Council

R. Sebastian

PRESIDENT

Date

2/4/15

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December

2014

3.0 STATEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Uganda Law Society Act [CAP.276] requires that the council prepares financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Uganda Law Society as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss and other comprehensive income for that year. It 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 of financial statements that are free from material misstatements whether due to fraud or error. They also accept responsibility for;

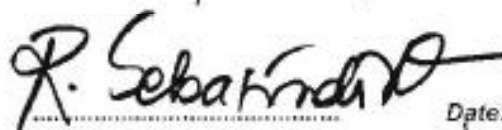
- i. Designing, implementing and maintaining such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- ii. Selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies;
- iii. Making accounting estimates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

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 2014 and of the society's financial performance and cash flows for the year ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of Uganda Law Society Act.

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.

Approved by the Executive Council on 7th April 2015 signed on its behalf by:

PRESIDENT



Date:

7/4/15

TREASURER



Date:

7/4/15

COUNCIL MEMBER



Date:

08/04/2015

PKF UGANDA
Certified Public Accountants



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Accountants &
business advisers

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31st December

2014

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

Report on the financial statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Uganda Law Society on pages 11 to 24 which comprises the society's statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014 and the statement of profit and other comprehensive income, the society's statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Executive Council's Responsibilities 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 Standards 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 determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an independent opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with international standards on auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the society's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 society's internal controls.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the Financial Statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

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Partners: Rupam Bhattacharya, Alpesh Vaidya, Muriuza Datar, Charles Ogutu (Kenyan, Indian)

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Opinion

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 31st December 2014 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, comply with International Financial Reporting Standards for small and medium size entities and Uganda Law Society Act [Cap.276]

Report on other Legal and regulatory Requirements

As required by the Uganda Law society Act [Cap. 276], we report to you that;

- i) We have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- ii) In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by Uganda Law Society, so far it appears from our examination of those books
- iii) Uganda Law Society Statement of financial Position and Statement of Profit or Loss other Comprehensive Incomes are in agreement with the books of account.

PKF Uganda

PKF Uganda
Certified Public Accountants
Kampala, Uganda.

Date..... *9th April 2015*

Ref: FK/U019/068/15

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Partners: Rupam Bhatia*, Alpesh Vadher*, Marieta Dada*, Charles Ogutu (*Kenyan, **Indian)

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4.0 STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Notes	2014 UGX	2013 UGX
Revenue	8.1.10a	1,214,726,974	1,209,975,872
Grants & Donations	8.1.11b	1,925,369,667	2,226,353,453
Other Income	8.1.12c	<u>134,183,919</u>	<u>100,675,032</u>
		3,274,280,560	3,537,004,357
Administrative Costs	8.1.12a	842,430,745	756,118,183
Other Operating Costs	8.1.13b	<u>2,530,514,094</u>	<u>1,948,999,557</u>
		3,372,944,839	2,705,117,740
Operating (Deficit)/Surplus for the year		<u>(98,664,279)</u>	<u>831,886,617</u>
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Total Comprehensive Income		<u>(98,664,279)</u>	<u>831,886,617</u>

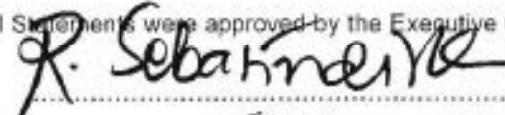

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5.0 STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	Notes	2014 UGX	2013 UGX
<u>Non-Current Assets:</u>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	8.1.1	339,889,566	363,460,789
<u>Current Assets:</u>			
Inventory	8.1.2	15,681,039	18,139,860
Prepayments	8.1.3	8,799,364	3,705,787
Receivables	8.1.4	41,057,100	25,182,100
Related Party Receivables	8.1.5	136,606,275	5,042,906
Cash and Bank	8.1.6	1,243,500,726	1,230,597,365
		1,445,644,504	1,282,668,018
Total Assets:		1,785,534,070	1,646,128,807
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
<u>Capital and Reserves:</u>			
General Fund	6.1.1	813,399,014	1,038,925,562
Capital Fund	6.1.2	339,889,566	363,460,789
Benevolent Fund	6.1.3	40,493,891	7,536,491
Development Fund	6.1.4	295,603,420	178,127,327
		1,489,385,891	1,588,050,169
<u>Current Liabilities:</u>			
Payables	8.1.7	55,101,860	7,998,460
Deferred Income	8.1.8	224,114,400	14,400,000
Accruals	8.1.9	8,593,323	5,594,350
Related Party Payable	8.1.5	8,338,596	30,085,828
		296,148,179	58,078,638
Total Equity and Liabilities:		1,785,534,070	1,646,128,807

The Financial Statements were approved by the Executive Council on 7th April 2015 and signed on its behalf by:


 PRESIDENT

 TREASURER

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
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6.0 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES

6.1.1 General Fund

The closing balance on this account is made up of Accumulated Reserves (surpluses / Deficits as follows:

	2014 UGX	2013 UGX
Balance at 01 January	1,038,925,562	285,353,136
Surplus / Deficit for the year	(98,664,279)	831,886,617
Change in Benevolent Fund	(32,957,400)	10,535,500
Change in Development Fund	(117,476,093)	(29,100,803)
Change in Operating & Donor Fund	23,571,224	(59,748,888)
Balance at 31 December	813,399,014	1,038,925,562

6.1.2 Capital Fund:

The closing Balance on this account represents the value of non-current Assets

Balance at 01 January	363,460,789	303,711,901
Additions during the year	9,400,000	78,640,455
Depreciation Charge for the year	(32,971,223)	(18,891,567)
Balance at 31 December	339,889,566	363,460,789

6.1.3 Benevolent Fund:

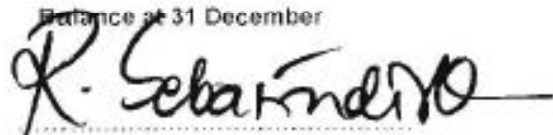
The closing balance on this account represents funds set aside to meet Benevolent Expenses as management may decide:

Balance at 01 January	7,536,491	18,071,991
Transfers to General Fund	32,957,400	(10,535,500)
Balance at 31 December	40,493,891	7,536,491

6.1.4 Development Fund:

The closing balance on this account represents members' contributions towards future Development Projects:

Balance at 01 January	178,127,327	149,026,524
Transfers from/(for) Development Fund	117,476,093	29,100,803
Balance at 31 December	295,603,420	178,127,327


 PRESIDENT


 TREASURER

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7.0. STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2014

	2014	2013
	UGX	UGX
<u>CASHFLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</u>		
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	(98,664,279)	831,886,617
Adjustments For:		
Depreciation on Assets	32,971,223	18,891,567
Interest Income	(3,841,764)	(10,201,260)
Changes in Working Capital:		
Decrease/(Increase) in Prepayments	(5,093,577)	3,866,285
Increase in Receivables	(15,875,000)	(20,052,031)
Increase in Related Party Receivables	(131,563,369)	(2,678,200)
Decrease/(Increase) in Inventory	2,458,822	(880,872)
(Decrease)/ Increase in Payables	259,816,773	(49,142,023)
Decrease in Related Party Payables	(21,747,232)	(24,361,676)
Net Cash generated from Operations	18,461,597	747,328,407
<u>CASHFLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	(9,400,000)	(78,640,455)
Interest received	3,841,764	10,201,260
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities:	(5,558,236)	(68,439,195)
<u>CASHFLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</u>		
Net Cash (Used in)/ Generated from Financing Activities	-	-
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalent:	12,903,361	678,889,212
Cash and Cash Equivalent		
Opening Cash and Cash Balance as at 1st Jan. 2014	1,230,597,365	551,708,153
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalent	12,903,361	678,889,212
Closing Cash and Cash Balance as at 31st Dec. 2014	1,243,500,726	1,230,597,365

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8.0. NOTES: 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.

Transition to the IFRS for SMEs

The Society's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 are its first report and financial statements prepared under accounting policies that comply with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium- sized Entities. The financial statements of the previous period were prepared in accordance to full International Financial Reporting Standards. There are no material changes during transition.

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 One hundred (2,100) advocates.

Basis of Preparation

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

The financial statements are presented in the functional and reporting currency, Uganda Shillings (UGX), and prepared under the historical cost convention.

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 company's accounting policies.

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

(i) Financial Instruments

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

UGANDA LAW SOCIETY
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NOTES: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES CONTINUED

(ii) Non Current Assets

The Non Current Assets are valued at their acquisition price less the cumulative depreciations. The depreciations will be calculated as a percentage of the acquisition price according to the Straight line method on the basis of the economic life span, taking the residual value, if any, into account.

The depreciation percentages applied are:

Leasehold Land	35 years
Building	4%
Law Books	25%
Computers and Accessories	33.3%
Furniture and Fittings	12.5%
Office Equipment	12.5%
Motor Vehicles	25%
Generator	25%

Gains and losses from disposal of Tangible Assets are determined by reference to their carrying Value

(iii) Reserves

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 31st December 2014

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.

(iv) 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.

(v) PROJECT COMMITMENTS

Project commitments represent projects where contracts have duly been signed with the respective implementing partners, but 3rd party disbursements have not actually been made. These have simply been disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

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(vi) 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

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

(vi) RECEIVABLES

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

(vii) PAYABLES

Payables are recognised as obligations that arise from past economic events the settlement of which will result in an outflow of resources from the Society.

(viii) COMPARATIVES

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8.1.1 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENTS

	Leasehold Land UGX	Buildings UGX	Law Books UGX	Motor Vehicles UGX	Motor Cycle & Generator UGX	Computers & Accessories UGX	Furniture & Equipment UGX	Total UGX
COST:								
At 01 January 2014.	71,111,000	308,632,121	1,600,000	73,000,000	26,705,468	81,080,778	128,786,412	690,915,779
Additions	-	-	-	-	3,500,000	2,720,000	3,180,000	9,400,000
At 31 December 2014.	71,111,000	308,632,121	1,600,000	73,000,000	30,205,468	83,800,778	131,966,412	700,315,779

DEPRECIATION / AMORTISATION:

	Rate	36 years	4%	25%	25%	25%	33.3%	12.5%
At 01 January 2014.	18,962,930	86,283,386	1,600,000	23,500,000	26,705,468	72,726,472	97,676,734	327,454,990
Charge for the Year	1,580,245	12,345,285	-	12,375,000	-	2,781,984	3,888,710	32,971,223
At 31 December 2014.	20,543,175	98,628,671	1,600,000	35,875,000	26,705,468	75,508,456	101,565,444	360,426,213

NET BOOK VALUE:

At 31 December 2014.	50,567,825	210,003,450	-	37,125,000	3,500,000	8,292,322	30,400,968	339,889,566
At 31 December 2013.	52,148,070	222,348,735	-	49,500,000	-	8,354,306	31,109,678	363,460,789

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

	2014	2013
	UGX	UGX
8.1.2 INVENTORY		
Uganda Law Society (ULS) Reports	-	175,347
Professional gowns	550,000	2,640,000
T-Shirts	341,904	363,273
Car Tyre covers	45,000	45,000
Key holders	-	305,000
Law reports	7,400,000	8,800,000
Professional Shirts	444,000	185,000
Corporate Shirts	1,095,040	5,626,240
Lapel Pins	5,805,095	-
	15,681,039	18,139,860
8.1.3 PREPAYMENTS		
Insurance	4,999,374	1,862,057
Data Base Hosting	2,565,000	-
Web Site Hosting	400,000	-
Property Rates	834,990	834,990
National Water and Sewerage Corporation	-	488,842
Uganda Telecom Limited	-	519,898
	8,799,364	3,705,787
8.1.4 RECIEVABLES		
Buddu Broadcasting Services Ltd	5,500,000	-
DGF Project	8,400,000	4,600,000
Annual Lawyer's Dinner	3,600,000	-
MacArthur project Recievables	3,375,000	-
Tumushabe Godber	-	400,000
Wambi Tom Shisa	20,182,100	20,182,100
	41,057,100	25,182,100

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

	2014 UGX.	2013 UGX.
8.1.5 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS		
Legal Aid Project (LAP) Receivables	<u>136,606,275</u>	<u>5,042,906</u>
Legal Aid Project (LAP) Payable	<u>8,338,596</u>	<u>30,085,828</u>

Related party transactions are balances receivable and payable with no fixed payment period and interest free.

8.1.6 CASH AND BANK BALANCES

Stanbic Bank- Continuing Legal Education/ULS	20,323,561	41,992,500
Standard Chartered Bank - Operating account	41,488,325	52,476,572
Standard Chartered Bank - Building Fund account	295,603,420	178,127,327
Standard Chartered Bank - Benevolent Fund account	40,493,891	7,536,491
Standard Chartered Bank - DGF account	88,704,924	39,451,743
Standard Chartered Bank – CBA	11,855,958	14,253,924
Standard Chartered Bank - McArthur Project	125,484,591	413,631,900
Standard Chartered Bank – USAID - SAFE Project	13,176,300	-
Standard Chartered Bank – Ford Foundation Project	197,948,400	-
DFCU Bank - Continuing Legal Education /ULS	77,798,096	49,646,129
DFCU Bank - ULS/JLOS	330,623,260	321,667,950
Cash at Hand	-	1,260,000
United Bank of Africa- Investment	-	110,552,829
	<u>1,243,500,726</u>	<u>1,230,597,365</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONTINUED

8.1.7 ACCOUNTS PAYABLES

Kaddu Faluku	1,921,860	753,960
Privatisation & Utility Sector	-	3,000,000
Prepaid membership IDs	2,860,000	-
Justice Centers Uganda	850,000	-
Kampala Capital City Authority	8,243,000	-
Office of the Auditor General	900,000	-
Smart Media Ltd	2,832,000	-
Kampala Serena Hotel	31,330,000	-
Barik of Uganda	6,165,000	4,244,500
	<u>55,101,860</u>	<u>7,998,460</u>

8.1.8 DEFERRED INCOME

Prepaid Membership Fees	20,000,000	14,400,000
Ford Foundation	197,948,400	-
Ireland Development Cooperation	6,166,000	-
	<u>224,114,400</u>	<u>14,400,000</u>

8.1.9 ACCRUALS & PROVISIONS:

Umeme	-	284,350
Uganda Telecom	144,981	-
Audit Fees	5,841,000	5,310,000
National water and sewerage	254,342	-
Multicare Services Ltd	265,500	-
Dmark Compnay Ltd	1,522,500	-
Sendegeya Catering Services	565,000	-
	<u>8,593,323</u>	<u>5,594,350</u>

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

	Actual - 2014, UGX	Budget - 2014, UGX	Actual 2013 UGX
8.1.10a. Revenue:			
Subscriptions	840,000,000	880,000,000	734,350,000
Subscription Arrears	12,100,000	-	-
Legal Ragalia Income	2,687,379	1,500,000	1,516,913
Continuing Legal Education Trainings	284,601,000	198,000,000	442,290,000
ULS Reports Vol I & II	2,170,000	1,000,000	568,959
Sponsorships	73,168,595	75,000,000	31,250,000
	1,214,726,974	1,155,500,000	1,209,975,872
8.1.11b. Grants & Donations:			
USAID – SAFE Project Grant	134,409,500	260,000,000	-
Legal Aid Projects - McArthur Project	-	-	485,000,000
Avocates San Frontier	251,882,824	251,882,824	193,634,454
JLOS - Grants	169,939,500	160,000,000	573,754,000
Ford Foundation Project Grant	53,013,950	251,000,000	-
DGF Projects - DANIDA	1,030,492,176	520,116,460	743,320,777
Canadian Bar Association & Sajea	285,631,717	200,000,000	230,644,222
	1,925,369,667	1,642,999,284	2,226,353,453
8.1.12c. Other Income:			
Sundry Incomes	683,100	-	810,200
Female Lawyer's Dinner	43,610,000	37,500,000	22,546,500
Annual Lawyer's Ball	39,750,000	37,500,000	39,499,000
Miscellaneous Income	277,700	-	1,590,500
Consultancy jobs/ services	5,812,500	5,000,000	3,487,500
Bank Interest Receivable	3,841,764	3,000,000	10,201,260
Other incomes	40,208,855	-	22,540,072
	134,183,919	83,000,000	100,675,032
Total Revenue	3,274,200,560	2,861,499,284	3,537,004,357

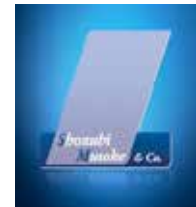
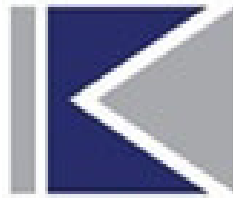
NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
CONTINUED

	Actual - 2014. UGX	Budget - 2014. UGX	Actual - 2013. UGX
8.1.12a. Administrative Costs:			
Salaries and Wages	282,869,101	260,291,376	284,688,304
10% NSSF Contribution	27,463,485	26,029,138	28,472,447
Staff Welfare	73,936,341	73,940,000	71,902,750
Printing and Stationery	16,351,620	13,000,000	10,957,000
Telephone, Internet and Postage	14,450,710	16,400,000	13,378,088
Automobile & Local Travel	22,156,709	23,700,000	22,648,696
Conferences & Annual General Meeting	141,796,900	121,000,000	97,967,650
Promotion, Advertising and Publicity	10,120,000	10,500,000	8,200,000
Audit Fees	5,841,000	6,000,000	5,410,000
Bank Charges	7,091,421	6,000,000	3,252,124
Benevolent & Social Responsibility	-	1,000,000	1,613,000
Property Recurrent, Insurance & Security	13,688,610	17,400,000	8,282,508
Organisational Subscriptions	6,811,600	8,000,000	7,152,500
Planning & Monitoring	17,804,795	24,550,000	16,599,290
Social Events(Open day and Dinner)	116,828,570	117,500,000	99,095,122
Utilities	3,904,546	2,520,000	3,462,000
Repairs and Maintenance	13,937,237	15,500,000	16,936,437
Office Supplies	4,132,825	3,000,000	6,905,365
Hospitality	561,400	1,000,000	917,000
Travel & Networking	49,403,375	57,000,000	35,908,150
Publications(Magazines and Annual reports, DSTv)	13,280,500	13,600,000	12,369,752
	842,430,745	817,930,514	756,118,183

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

	Actual - 2014. UGX	Budget - 2014. UGX	Actual - 2013. UGX
8.1.13b Other Operating Costs:			
Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Trainings	293,638,195	300,600,000	291,867,324
Resource centre expenses	1,591,000	1,300,000	3,601,200
Consultancy	4,650,000	5,000,000	780,000
Legal Aid Projects - McArthur Project	290,634,169	-	71,368,100
JLOS Activities/ Expenses	172,096,790	160,000,000	257,602,955
Avocates San Frontiers	261,821,674	251,882,824	290,903,749
DGF Projects(Lap, Probono and Kigula)	988,397,915	520,116,460	752,167,754
Ford Foundation Project Expenses	53,013,950	251,000,000	-
Strategic Planning	-	-	1,164,000
Canadian Bar Association/ SAJEA Expenses	275,751,477	200,000,000	218,576,964
Capacity Building	6,227,000	2,000,000	30,936,750
Information Acquisition &Dissemination	2,200,000	2,500,000	200,000
Fundraising Proposal Writing	-	5,000,000	4,500,000
Plan Uganda project	-	-	6,439,194
IT Section Costs	26,187,500	24,600,000	-
USAID – SAFE Project Expenses	121,333,200	260,000,000	-
Depreciation Expense	32,971,224	-	18,891,567
Sub-total	<u>2,530,514,094</u>	<u>1,983,999,284</u>	<u>1,948,999,557</u>
Total Expenses	<u>3,372,944,839</u>	<u>2,801,929,798</u>	<u>2,705,117,740</u>

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