

Parliamentarians *for Global Action* Parlamentarios para la Acción Global Action Mondiale des Parlementaires

PGA's Statement - For Immediate Release

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STATEMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR GLOBAL ACTION (PGA) TO CONDEMN THE BRUTAL ASSASSINATION OF UGANDAN LEADING STATE-PROSECUTOR MS. JOAN KAGEZI

PGA IS CLOSE TO THE FAMILY AND COLLEAGUES OF MS. KAGEZI

The Hague/New York, 31 March, 2015: Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) expresses the heartfelt condolences of its Member-Parliamentarians from 142 countries in all regions of the world to the family and friends of Ms. Joan Kagezi (Senior Principal State Attorney), to the Director for Public Prosecutions and to all the Prosecutors, Judges and Lawyers of the legal fraternity of Uganda, and to the People and Government of Uganda. Parliamentarians for Global Action firmly condemns her brutal and senseless assassination, which occurred yesterday evening in Kampala.

Parliamentarians for Global Action recalls the extraordinary contribution that Ms. Joan Kagezi was giving to the effective implementation and application of fundamental laws that the Parliament of Uganda had enacted in the best interest of the people of Uganda to put an end to impunity for extremely serious crimes, from the International Criminal Court Act of 2010 to the anti-terrorism legislation.

In her addresses to PGA Meetings and Conferences (see for example <u>PGA's Parliamentary meeting</u> on challenges for domestic prosecutions and programmes to fulfill the rights of victims, Kampala, Parliament of Uganda, 26-27 Sept. 2013), Ms. Kagezi always emerged as the most competent and capable representative of the Uganda national service of public prosecutions: Her legacy must now be honoured by re-doubling the efforts of all relevant actors within the State and in society-at-large to bring to justice not only the perpetrators of the unspeakable and cowardly act that led to her defenseless assassination, but also all the perpetrators of the serious crimes that Joan Kagezi was prosecuting on behalf of the State and of the individual victims who suffered the consequences of inhumane acts, such the crimes against humanity committed in Northern Uganda and the terrorists' attacks committed in Kampala.

About PGA

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is the largest transnational network of Members of Parliaments from all regions of the world who, in their individual capacity, support the effective operation of the ICC and domestic jurisdictions to end impunity. The PGA network is assisted by a small secretariat that facilitates the cooperation and exchange by member MPs to achieve these goals and provides technical cooperation on legal advice and advocacy.

Members of PGA have contributed to 76 of the 123 ratifications of, or accession to the Rome Statute to date. PGA is a member of the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the ICC. The PGA Campaign for the Universality and Effectiveness of the Rome Statute system receives support from:

THE EUROPEAN UNION (EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS)



THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND, ESTONIA, LIECHTENSTEIN AND



PGA RECEIVES CORE SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF **SWEDEN** AND **DENMARK**.

On-line access to PGA ICC Campaign: http://www.pgaction.org/programmes/ilhr/overview.html

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