



**COALITION AGAINST TORTURE AND THE COALITION ON
POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY & SECURITY SECTOR REFORM**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE OF SUSPECTS
BY SECURITY AGENCIES**

The Uganda Coalition Against Torture which is hosted by ACTV; and the Uganda Coalition on Police Accountability and Security Sector Reform hosted by HURINET-U with a membership of over 300 NGOs, wish to express concern over the increased reports of cases of torture in Uganda that continues to claim the dignity of the citizens.

It should be recalled that scores of citizens have reported allegations of torture inflicted on them, and most unfortunately most of the allegations pin point the Uganda Police Force as the biggest perpetrators of these torture cases; for instance there have been ongoing allegations of torture, cruel, inhumane and degrading treatment perpetuated by security agencies on the 13 men formerly detained at Nalufenya Police Station, suspects implicated in the murder of Assistant Inspector General of Police Andrew Felix Kaweesi and his driver Godfrey Wambewo and body guard Kenneth Erau. These suspects include;

1. Abdu Rashid Mbaziira
2. Higenyi Aramanzani Noordin
3. Mugerwa Yusuf

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4. Bruhan Balyejusa
5. Baganda Umar
6. Ahamada Senfuka
7. Hassan Tumusiime
8. Ibrahim Kissa
9. Osman Mohamed Omarite
10. Magambo Hamidu
11. Abdu Majidu
12. Kyambadde Joshua
13. Sheikh Musa Ntende

The suspects were rounded up from 20th March 2017 to 7th April 2017 from different locations in the country and eventually detained at Nalufenya Police Station where they were allegedly tortured; and are currently remanded at Luzira Upper Prison. Among the methods of torture employed were; Flogging with the head upside down, cuts on the head, hitting with gun butts, putting red pepper in the eyes, nose, mouth and anus; immersion in water, burning with a flat iron, blindfolding, placement of a polythene bag over the head, drinking urine, electrocution and threats among others.¹

Uganda ratified the Convention Against Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading Treatment or punishment on 26th June, 1987 which criminalizes all forms of torture. At National level, freedom from Torture, Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment is guaranteed under Article 24 of the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda which states that *“No person shall be subjected to any form of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment”*. Freedom from torture is also an absolute right under Article 44 (a) of the same Constitution. The Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act (PPTA), 2012 criminalizes all acts of Torture Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment. Furthermore the PPTA 2012, Section 14 (1) and (2) shows the inadmissibility of evidence obtained by torture.

¹ New Vision, Saturday 13th May, 2017, at Page 4-5

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