



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**STATEMENT
BY**

AMB. DUNCAN MUHUMUZA LAKI

**DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
PERMANENT MISSION OF UGANDA TO THE UN
ON BEHALF OF THE DELEGATION OF UGANDA**

**AGENDA ITEM
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

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[Please check against delivery]

Mr. Chairperson,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the delegation of Uganda.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered on behalf of the African group.

Uganda attaches great importance to the functioning of a system of administration of justice in the United Nations which operates in a manner consistent with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, principles of administrative law, the rule of law and due process. This is fundamental to ensuring respect for the rights and obligations of staff members, as well as the accountability of staff members and managers.

The effective and efficient processing and disposition of disputes using both formal and informal systems are central to the ability of the Organization to fulfil its mandate to promote peace and security, human rights and development.

Uganda welcomes the appointment of judges appointed in November 2022 to enhance the geographical and linguistic diversity of the administration of justice system. With the new composition of the tribunals, the Appeals Tribunal will benefit from additional judicial capacity in French, Spanish, Arabic and Chinese

Uganda underscores the importance of an independent, impartial, transparent, and professional system of administration of justice at the United Nations. We register our support for the system to the extent it exemplifies these attributes and principles. This is underscored by the fundamental principle of fairness, which in our mind is characterized by equity, respect, justice, with the people and not the UN as an institution at the center. . This is more relevant as we address the issue of workplace culture, institutional racism, and discrimination within the context of the “Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination”, and the work-life balance during the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate that the system of administration of justice has continued functioning notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic challenges, and the financial liquidity crisis.

Uganda welcomes the fact that in national tribunals that have adopted judicial mediation, around 70 per cent of all pending cases are resolved with one session lasting an average of four to six hours. The system would prove very efficient owing to the moral authority of the Tribunal. If the case is not

resolved, the judge who has acted as the mediator would then be excluded from hearing the case as part of the Tribunal and would not express opinions on the merits of the case. The process of mediation would remain entirely consensual and confidential. Despite its successful results, mediation has been underutilized by the international system in addressing administrative and labour disputes. The international justice system still lags behind in acting on opportunities for the proactive use of mediation as a tool to improve the quality of the relationship between management and staff and therefore the quality of the work performed within the Organization.

In conclusion, Uganda wishes to renew its continued and unwavering commitment to support the Organisation's efforts to improve its Internal Justice System and provide staff members, as its most important asset, the justice they deserve in an impartial, accessible and accountable manner.