



Foundation People for Peace and Defense of Human Rights

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Updates on the current situation of refugee in Uganda since Tuesday October 23rd, 2017 up to now: Clarifying on the current situation and the need to investigate both OPM and UNHCR.

Recalling our commitment to always avail to the public the true information about refugees here in Uganda, we again get this opportunity to highlight the following as we believe that it may help to make decisions which will benefit refugees in Uganda.

Since June 2017 refugee food in camps was reduced to 1Kg of the grain of Maize per refugee and per month, this has forced many refugees to run away from Uganda up to Kenya, Tanzania and Malawi among other countries. This ugly and well maintained situation has not yet attracted the attention of so many actors and refugees are facing so many risks on their way. Very few among refugee leaders and human rights defenders are convinced about the official justification of lack of funding, however we believe that the available funding is the hands of the few within the refugee regime here in Uganda. We suspect that imposed hunger to refugees may be one among the strategies of the refugee regime here in Uganda to fundraise from unsuspecting donors, who just share what they have in the name of helping refugees,

We also wish to make it clear that the current influx of refugees from South Sudan is not the main reason to justify the refugee crisis in Uganda as it has been argued by different actors within the refugee regime but the failure to put to proper use the available funding donated to help refugees and all kind of interventions should first of all take into consideration the audit of the current funding and humanitarian aid to refugees here in Uganda through the massive involvement of refugees at the community levels,

We were so much pleased last week to hear that number of Uganda Security Agents who have been involved in kidnaping Rwandan Refugees and other refugees were arrested and appeared to Court, we support all these efforts so far deployed by the Government of Uganda and we ask that they are not reduced to mere media publicity but rather the real accountability actions aiming at ensuring the protection of refugees in Uganda.

We also noted that among those arrested there was a Congolese national who has been helping to penetrate into Congolese refugees and also target Hutus in Uganda,

We strongly protest against that attack in Nakivale Refugee Camps on Sunday October 29th, 2017 which claimed the lives of two refugees and left many others injured including Ugandan nationals, we also protest against the official communication from the refugee regime attributing this attack to a mere robbery. We wish to make the views that basing on what refugees have told

us and the circumstances in which the attack was done, this was clear planned attack that aimed at harming refugees,

We are strongly concerned about the security deterioration of some refugee human rights defenders and refugee leaders in Uganda currently and the failure of both the UNHCR and the Office of the Prime Minister Department of Refugees to provide protection to those whose lives are at risk right now.

We call upon both OPM and the UNHCR to clear up their image which is perceived as working on behalf of Rwandan and Congolese governments, the failure of both OPM and UNHCR to ensure the protection of refugees should be strongly investigated and in case some people are found guilty, they should be held accountable.

We protest against the current situation against refugee human rights defenders in which three Rwandan Refugee Leaders are missing up now since Sunday October 29th, 2017, we appeal to both the UNHCR and OPM to urgently do all what they can to get these people, we are so chocked to observed that both UNHCR and OPM have not done enough to help in this matter.

We are also concerned that up to now refugees leaders and refugee human rights defenders whose lives are at risk have not yet been sent to UNHCR protection Houses but they are still left into the hands of the security services while their families are suffering without help.

We do send our gratitude to different press and Media houses, journalists and all other people who have published issues about refugees here in Uganda since last week especially the New Vision Group. We seem to understand a lot from your work and we ask you to continue doing that, we encourage you to do more and dig down into both OPM and UNHCR offices to understand better their roles.

We call upon all people of good will, the UNHCR and OPM, the development partners, CSOs and all other actors to prioritize the protection of refugee human rights defenders in Uganda during this difficult moment,

Yours faithfully

Kulihoshi Musikami Pecos

Executive Director