

## HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS AND PROMOTION FORUM - UGANDA (HRAPF)

**Annual Report 2013** 





## Annual Report 2013

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#### **ABOUT HRAPF**

#### LEGAL STATUS

Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum- Uganda (HRAPF) is an independent, non-partisan, non-governmental organisation. It is incorporated under the laws of Uganda.

#### VISION

A society where the human rights of all persons including marginalised groups are valued and respected.

#### MISSION

To promote respect and observance of human rights of marginalised groups through legal and legislative advocacy, research and documentation, legal and human rights awareness, capacity building and partnerships.

#### SLOGAN

'Taking Human Rights to all'

#### ORGANISATIONAL OBJECTIVES

- 1. To sensitise Ugandans on the international and national human rights regime in order to promote a culture of respect for human rights of marginalised groups.
- 2. To undertake research and document human rights abuses suffered by marginalised groups for appropriate remedial action.
- 3. To influence legal and policy developments in Uganda to ensure compliance with human rights principles.
- 4. To offer legal assistance to marginalised groups in order to enhance access to justice.
- 5. To share information and best practices on the rights of marginalised groups in order to strengthen the human rights movement in Uganda.
- 6. To network and collaborate with key strategic partners, the government, communities and individuals at a national, regional and international level.
- 7. To build a strong and vibrant human rights organisation.

#### VALUES

- 1. Non -discrimination
- 2. Equal opportunities
- 3. Justice
- 4. Practical Approach
- 5. Team work



#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HRAPF wishes to thank all the stakeholders that have supported the organisation's work during the year 2013. These are:

HRAPF's donors during the year 2013: American Jewish World Service (AJWS), Foundation for Open Society Institutes (FOSI), Humanistic Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (HIVOS), Positive Action for Children Fund (PACF), and Refugee Law Project provided funds and technical support to the organisation which were essential to HRAPF's work during the course of the year.

HRAPF's partner organisations: HRAPF continued to work with many other organisations which boosted, complemented and supplemented its work. The main partners in 2013 were: Refugee Law Project (RLP), Foundation for Human Rights Initiative (FHRI), East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project (EHAHRDP), Support Initiative for People with Atypical Sex Development (SIPD), Uganda Health and Science Press Association (UHSPA), Centre for Human Rights and Development (CEHURD), Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG), Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC), Women's Organisation Network for Human Rights Advocacy (WONETHA), Trans Support Initiative (TSI), Uganda Network on HIV/AIDS, Law and Ethics (UGANET), Uganda Health Science and Press Association (UHSPA).

HRAPF's partners under the HIV Project: HRAPF continued to work closely with its partners under the HIV project who relentlessly supported its work and hosted it during visits to the various districts in which they operate. These groups are: Bulo Sexually Transmitted Infections Organisation of People Living with HIV/AIDS (BUSITIHA); Butooro Health Centre, Help the Sick (HESI) and Buwama Health Centre in Mpigi District, Bukomero Health Centre and Nabwendo Health Centre in Kiboga District; Nyimbwa Multi-purpose Centre and Luwero HIV District Forum, in Luwero District; and Buleera Health Centre, Mityana HIV District Forum and Integrated Community Based Initiatives (ICOBI) in Mityana District.

*Loose groups and unincorporated organisations:* Many of HRAPF's target groups congregate in informal, small and unincorporated groups. These greatly support HRAPF's work and seek the services of the organisation.

*Networks and Coalitions that HRAPF is part of:* HRAPF belongs to different networks, which are key for joint advocacy, support and for referrals. These are: The Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law (CSCHRCL),



East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Network (EHAHRD-NET), Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET), the Uganda Network on Law Ethics and HIV/AIDS (UGANET), the Uganda NGO Forum, Human Rights Network (HURINET), Coalition on Access to Medicine, and the National Human Rights Defenders Network.

*HRAPF's clients:* Finally, HRAPF extends its gratitude to its clients who use the organisation's services. They help to guide and develop the organisation as it pursues its day to day work. They are the reason why the organisation exists.

All the work that is presented in this report was due to the efforts of the above groups. The organisation would have been barely able to accomplish what it did in 2013 without their support.



## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



This is the fifth Annual Report of Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum, and the first Annual Report under the new Strategic Plan 2013-2017. It thus gives me great pleasure to present it. HRAPF celebrated its fifth anniversary at the end of the year 2013, and the last five years have indeed been worthwhile and phenomenal in the work of the organisation.

Since 2008, HRAPF has registered significant growth and improved performance in advancing the rights of marginalised groups through legal aid and legislative advocacy. The organisation finalised implementation of its first Strategic Plan 2010-2012 at the end of 2012. 2013 began with the new Strategic Plan in place and HRAPF ready to face its next five years.

The first year of implementation of the Strategic Plan has not been a disappointment and HRAPF has steadily pursued its vision and mission despite the ever-increasing huddles.

The Board of Directors has remained active in the work of HRAPF. It has been able to deliver on its mandate and has championed the development of policies and guidelines, which match the rate of growth of the organisation. Increasingly, policies have to be revised and adapted to the demands of a fast growing and active organisation.

The fifth Annual General Meeting was held on the 27th July 2013 at HRAPF Offices. It was attended by the majority of members. The Board reported on its activities during this meeting.

The secretariat has grown both quantitatively and qualitatively. Our rate of activity for implementation as planned is 95% with greater precision and results than before.

The year 2013 saw the passing of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill (2013) and the Anti-Pornography Bill (2013) each of which contain provisions that threaten to drag the country backwards by targeting marginalised groups. This makes the work of HRAPF more and more relevant, as it ensures access to justice for marginalised groups. HRAPF still stands strong and committed amidst these challenges.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of HRAPF, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to HRAPF's trustees, members, friends, victims of human rights abuses, our development partners, the secretariat and all stakeholders for their continued support to HRAPF's work.

We shall rely on your support to pursue our collective objectives.

Sheila Muwanga, Chairperson, Board of Directors

HRAPF ANNUAL REPORT 2013



## **INTRODUCTION**



Once again, I am glad to present to you HRAPF's fifth Annual Report, the Annual Report 2013. It has been five years since this organisation started its work, and during the course of these five years, it has grown from strength to strength. 2013 was no exception.

The organisation continued to grow and to meet its commitments and plans. 2013 marks the first year of implementation of HRAPF's strategic plan 2013-2017. This

Annual Report is a summary of the activities implemented during the year 2013 and the developments that took place during the period. It also provides an overview of the organisation's financial performance during the year.

2013 was both the fifth year of HRAPF's existence and the first year of the implementation of the new Strategic Plan. It is thus a year that launched the organisation into a new phase. Almost everything had to change, including the way work was done.

The HRAPF Strategic Plan 2013-2017 sharpens HRAPF's focus on enhancing access to justice for marginalised groups. To this end, provision of legal aid services, documentation and monitoring of violations, strategic litigation, research, human rights awareness, advocacy and networking are the major avenues of achieving the desired ends. As a result of this specific focus, HRAPF's programmatic areas were changed to: Access to Justice; Advocacy and Networking; and Organisational Development and Capacity Building. Each of these focus areas has a department dedicated to it and the three departments at HRAPF in 2013 were: Access to Justice Department; Advocacy and Networking Department; and Organisational Development and Capacity Building Department.

The Access to Justice program uses legal aid service provision; paralegal trainings; research; monitoring and documentation; strategic litigation; and legal and rights awareness to achieve its objectives.

During the course of the year, the legal aid clinic handled 328 cases from its target constituencies, including women and girls living with HV/AIDS and indigent women, children and the elderly seeking land justice. Paralegal trainings continued and 13 persons working with marginalised groups as well as 21 persons working with people living with HIV/AIDS were trained as community paralegals. Research continued with the study on the implementation of Section 145 of the Penal Code Act being finalised and the report published at the beginning of the year 2014. Strategic litigation was continued in the case of *Adrian Jjuuko v Attorney General* which challenges Section 15(6)(d) of the Equal Opportunities Commission Act, as well as lining up of more than three cases of strategic importance. HRAPF continued to promote awareness on basic law and human rights for marginalised



groups. To this end, people were directly reached through these campaigns. Eleven radio talkshows were held during the year to spread awareness about laws affecting marginalised groups. The program also accorded technical support to partner organisations working with HRAPF target communities through facilitating at trainings and workshops with partners and advising clients on legal issues.

The Advocacy and Networking program achieves its objectives through: legislative advocacy, publications, and creating lasting relationships with like-minded organisations and networks. Under legislative advocacy, the organisation submitted a memorandum on sections of the Penal Code that had an effect on sexual and reproductive health rights to the Uganda Law Reform Commission. This was part of the ongoing effort to amend the Penal Code. A paper entitled "The Implications of Uganda's Anti Homosexuality Bill 2009 From a Legal Perspective" was developed in partnership with the Institute of Development Studies, University of Brighton UK and published. Engagement on the HIV/AIDS Control and Prevention Bill also continued with a joint memorandum submitted to Parliament by HRAPF and the Uganda Health and Science Press Association (UHSPA). Engagement with the Equal Opportunities Commission continued and a meeting was held between the EOC and representatives of minority groups. A number of publications were made during the year including the Human Rights Advocate. The Human Rights Advocate is a bi-annual magazine that analyses legislation. It was launched in 2013. The quarterly newsletters also continued. The Department supported strategic litigation through conducting meetings on the case of *Jiuuko Adrian v* Attorney General as a way of mobilising support for the case. Under the networking component, HRAPF maintained its membership in existing coalitions and networks, but also joined new ones including the Human Rights Network (HURINET) and the Human Rights Defenders Network. HRAPF continued playing an active role in the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law. HRAPF regulary hosted meetings and was in constant communication with its partners.

The Organisational Development and Capacity Building Program prioritises the five management goals laid out in the Strategic Plan. These are: Policy Development; Human Resource Management and Development; Strengthening Governance Structures & Building membership; Strengthening HRAPF's Monitoring and Evaluation Systems and; Increasing Resources for Increased Needs. To this end, a number of policies that help to streamline work at the organisation were developed during the course of the year. These are: The Security Policy, the Membership Policy, and the Human Resources Policy. Of these the Security Policy was adopted by the Board of Directors, the Membership Policy is pending members' input, and the Human Resources Policy is yet to be considered by the Board. Guidelines were developed on legal aid service provision. Under human resource management and development, HRAPF maintained a professional and active staff. The staff were well facilitated to do their work and schemes aimed at staff development and retention were designed and implemented. Three new staff members were recruited during the course of the year and a number of trainings for staff were held. Strengthening Governance structures continued with the Board of Directors sitting to review the organisation's work, develop policies and approve budgets and work plans. HRAPF



held the Fifth Annual General Meeting, and the membership policy that was developed devised ways of involving members more in the organisation's work. The organisation developed a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the new Strategic Plan, which is yet to be approved. Under resource mobilisation, HRAPF maintained all the existing donors and brought on board new ones. The financial audit done during the year found out that our financial statements presented a true and fair view of the financial position of the organisation as at 31st December 2012 and of its financial performance and funds for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

HRAPF also launched its new logo in 2013. Reflecting HRAPF's sky blue colours and depicting the scales of justice, the logo cleary portrays what HRAPF stands for. It replaced the old logo which had been designed at the inception in 2008.

The year was thus generally good for the organisation as a transitional year. The Executive Director was physically away most of the time pursuing his LLM in Human Rights and Democratisation at the University of Pretoria, but nevertheless the system moved on without a halt. New ways of working and ensuring approvals were designed and the existing structures, especially the Board of Directors ensured that the organisation continued to operate normally.

The year was characterised by a lot of confrontation between civil society and government over the new and proposed laws including a planned law on the activities of civil society organisations. HRAPF was alert to these developments and continued to stand firm in its beliefs in a free society where freedom of association and expression as well as all other human rights are respected.

The successful completion of five years of existence and the successful completion of the first year of the new Strategic Plan were a great achievement for the organisation. We have met our goals and the organisation is firmly set on its path for the next five years.

All that was achieved is owed to the dedication, commitment and determination of HRAPF's various stakeholders: members, the Board of Directors, staff members, local and international partners, donors and the marginalised and vulnerable people that we serve. We extend our gratitude to them and count on their support as we advance in the second year of implementation of our new Strategic Plan, for our call is always clear and enduring: 'Taking human rights to all.'

Adrian Jjuuko Executive Director



HRAPF is part of the broader civil society and part of Uganda. All the work that the organisation does is aimed at making Uganda a better place for everyone to live. As part of the broader civil society and in Uganda, developments in the political, economic and social sectors of the country have an impact on HRAPF and its work, especially when these developments affect the realisation of human rights.

**ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA IN 2013** 

2013 was marked by a number of such important developments whose impact on Uganda and human rights will continue to endure for a long time.

As the country moved closer to the 2016 elections, political parties and individuals started positioning themselves in readiness for the elections. Members of the opposition parties continued to push for more open political space. However, their efforts were met with increased resistance from the government, which continued to arrest opposition politicians as well as clamp down on their rallies. The government passed the Public Order Management Act 2013 which gives the Police overarching powers to stop meetings that are regarded as political. There was constant police presence at former President of the Forum for Democratic Change Kizza Besigye's home and he was not allowed to move freely. Civil society was not spared either, with high ranking officials accusing civil society organisations of 'meddling in politics' and threatening to pass more stringent laws on NGO operations.

Parliament passed bills that threaten human rights. These bills included the Public Order Management Bill, the Anti- Homosexuality Bill and the Anti-Pornography Bill.

The Public Order Management Bill was passed on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2013. The law undermines the enjoyment of human rights- -freedom of assembly and expression, among others and limits citizens' role in governance and demanding for accountability from the state. The Act gives the Inspector General of Police (IGP) or an authorised officer powers "to regulate the conduct of all public meetings in accordance with the law". This reintroduces Section 32 of the Police Act, which was found unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court in the case of *Muwanga Kivumbi vs. Attorney General*, Constitutional Petition No.9/2005. The Act has indeed been used quite high handedly by the police and many opposition meetings have been stopped and dispelled with force.

The Anti-Pornography Bill (APB) and the Anti-Homosexuality Bill (APB) were both passed by Parliament in December 2013. The Anti-Pornography law has taken the country steps back in the struggle for equality and empowerment of women. It takes us back to a period where women were restricted on what to do including what they can wear and how they can present themselves- which are now determined by the majority. It also restricts press freedom and internet



freedom.

The Anti-Homosexuality bill violates rights to non-discrimination, to equality before the law, and to privacy. It also sanctions hatred, violence and the persecution of marginalised groups. It promotes intolerance and hampers the work of human rights defenders and others who find themselves in conflict with the law merely by carrying out their legitimate activities.

The country's press freedom environment remained wanting in 2013 as journalists continued to face intimidation and harassment from state and nonstate actors. The media operated in a tense atmosphere as the Uganda Police Force raided the offices of Daily Monitor, a local Newspaper, for a full week and later ordering the closure of two radio stations KFM and Dembe FM. This was in search for a letter purportedly written by Gen. David Sejusa that was published in the paper. Verbal threats from officials, including the President, engendered self-censorship, especially among less prominent media outlets. Human rights activists staged protests against this attack on press freedom but were harshly dispersed by the Police with teargas. Although the Constitution provides for freedoms of expression and of the press, several laws undermine these guarantees, and the government has continued to crack down on critical journalists and media houses using a variety of methods.

Economically, Uganda is still ranked among the worst performing countries in human development according to the Human Development Report 2013 released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The report ranked the country 161 out of 181 countries in human development. However, the report noted improvements in education and health over the past 20 years. The report recommended that for Uganda to attain improvements in human development there is need to address the issues of inequality, unemployment, democracy and education. In the same measure, the 2013 National Millenium Development Goals (MDG) report, which was produced by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, highlighted child and maternal health as areas of particular concern, where immediate accelerated action must be taken or Uganda will likely be far off it's 2015 MDG targets.

In 2013 corruption raged on. Although 26 major development partners, who had withheld aid to Uganda's budget over the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) corruption scandals, agreed to resume full support to government programmes after the Anti-Corruption Court sentenced Goeoffrey Kazinda to five years in jail for corruption, the global Corruption Perception Index (CPI) for 2013 released by Transparency International showed that Uganda had dropped 10 positions to rank 140 in 2013 from 130 in 2012. On the CPI, the higher the corruption, the higher the ranking.

Although the country continues to provide free education to primary and secondary students, as well as some students in Universities, analysts have blamed the country's education system for training job seekers rather than job



creators. There is high unemployment in Uganda especially among the youth, who form the largest demographic proportion of the population. Because many people who go through the education system lack skills and capital to create jobs, very many young people continued in 2013 without jobs. In a report published by Action Aid International Uganda, 61.6% of Ugandan youth are unemployed.

Uganda's economy was reported to have grown more in Financial Year 2012/2013 as compared to the previous year. According to the revised figures from the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) revealed on Sept. 30<sup>th</sup>, the economy grew more in Financial Year 2012/13 at 5.8% up from 3.4% a year earlier. This was due to improved indicators of growth witnessed in all sectors. For instance, agriculture, which covers cash crops, food crops, livestock, forestry and fishing, grew at 1.5%, up from 0.8%, industry grew at 6.8% from 2.5%, and services grew at 6.5% from 3.6%. Taxes on products also grew to 5.2% from 4.7%. Despite this growth, the annual pressure of inflation continued to hit at the average Ugandan. According to UBOS, annual headline inflation went up to 8.0% in the year ending September 2013 from 7.3% recorded in the year ending August 2012.

In conclusion, the political, economic and social developments that took place in 2013 convey both a message of hope and a message of decline. Hope in the sense that Uganda's economy is ever displaying signs of growth, increase in enrollment in schools and improved health indicators. However the narrowed civil and political parties' space, coupled with increasing violations of fundamental human rights and constitutionalism, as well as the rampant corruption, are problematic for Uganda's future.

## **HRAPF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES 2013**

This section discusses the various program activities carried out by HRAPF in the year 2013. As already stated, 2013 was the first year of implementation of the new HRAPF Strategic Plan 2013-2017.

#### HRAPF program goal:

To promote equality and non-discrimination

#### Strategic objectives:

- 1. To promote sustainable access to justice for marginalised groups in Uganda;
- 2. To influence the adoption of polices and legislation that promote equality and non-discrimination in order to prevent discrimination of marginalised groups in Uganda;
- 3. To create the appropriate organisational framework and institutional structures for the efficient and effective implementation and realisation of the program goals of HRAPF.

### **Outcomes for the Strategic Objectives**

- 1. Access to Justice for marginalised persons enhanced.
- 2. A strengthened policy and legislative framework that promotes equality and non-discrimination.
- 3. A strong and vibrant human rights advocacy organisation.

#### **HRAPF** Programs

The outcomes above are realised under three (3) broad programs:

- 1. The Access to Justice Program.
- 2. The Legislative Advocacy and Networking Program.
- 3. Organisational Development and Capacity Building Program.

## **ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM**

#### **Program objective**

To promote sustainable access to justice for marginalised groups in Uganda, especifically, minorities, poor women and children living with HIV/AIDS and poor men and women and the elderly seeking land justice.

#### **Program activities**

There are three main activities under this program. These are: Provision of probono legal assistance; documentation and advocacy; and capacity strengthening and technical support for marginalised groups. These were implemented as follows:

#### 1. Provision of pro-bono legal assistance

HRAPF continued to provide legal aid services to minorities, women living with HIV/AIDS in selected districts of Central Uganda, and the poor women, children and the elderly facing land problems. Clients qualify for pro-bono legal aid services if they belong to one of the specified groups.

The pro-bono legal assistance provided at HRAPF is for both criminal and civil cases. For criminal cases, the services provided are: legal advice, assistance in making police statements, securing release of the arrested person on police bond, securing bail, engaging with the prosecutors on the nature of the offence charged, and legal defence in case of a trial. For civil matters, HRAPF's services include: legal advice, mediations, and representation in courts of laws or before administrative bodies depending on the nature of the case. Most of the cases concerning minorities are criminal cases, while most of those concerning women living with HIV and land justice are civil cases.

In 2013 the legal aid clinic handled **328** cases in total. 105 were for minorities, 114 concerned women living with HIV/AIDS, and 109 were land cases. The details on each category follow below:

#### a) Legal aid to minorities

HRAPF operates a specialised legal aid clinic for marginalised persons. In 2013, the team handled 105 matters involving minorities.

The cases handled can be categorised as shown in the table below:

Table 1: The cases handled can be categorised as shown in the table below.
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Nature of cases	Number of cases received	Completed	Pending
Arrests and charges	41	29	12
Arrests without charges	6	6	0
Assault	2	2	0

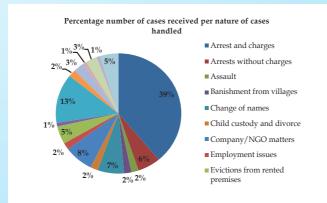


Child custody and divorce	2	1	1
Company/NGO matters	8	6	2
Change of names	7	7	0
Evictions from rented premises	5	5	0
Employment issues	2	2	0
Expulsion from school	1	1	0
Immigration issues	1	1	0
Land issues	3	0	3
Recovery of property and documents	3	3	0
Theft and burglary	1	1	0
Threatening violence	14	14	0
Others	5	5	0
Total	105	87	18

As compared to 2012, there was an increase in the number of cases reported in 2013 from 80 to 105 cases. This is an increment of 25 cases accounting for a percentage increase of 24%. Cases of arrests and charges accounted for the biggest number handled in the year at 41 cases. This was followed by 14 cases where violence was threatened.

In terms of percentages, the cases were as shown in Figure 1 below:

From Table 1 and Figure 1 above, it is clear that criminal arrests made up the biggest percentage of cases handled- 39%. Cases where violence was threatened were also many, accounting for 17% of all cases.





Nature Of Cases	Number Of Cases recieved in 2013	Number Of Cases recieved in 2012
Administrative Action	0	1
Arrests without charges	6	3
Arrests and charges	41	19
Assault	2	4
Banishment from villages	2	1
Blackmail	2	0
Child custody and divorce	2	4
Company/NGO matters	8	20
Change of names	7	4
Evictions from rented premises	5	2
Employment issues	2	3
Immigration Issues	1	1
Land Issues	3	0
Media outings	0	3
Office raids	0	3
Physical assault	0	3
Stoppage of meetings and shows	0	4
Rape	0	1
Recovery of property and documents	3	0
Theft and burglary	1	0
Threatening violence	14	2
Others	5	2
Grand total	105	80

#### Table 2: Comparison of cases of minorities recieved in 2013 with those of 2012

In 2013, majority of the cases were on criminal arrests and threatening violence while in 2012 criminal arrests and NGO matters were the highest.

NGO/Company matters reduced from 20 in 2012 to 8 in 2013, a reduction of more than 12 matters. This is attributed to the fact that NGO Registration was a special project that came to an end in 2012.

New categories were also registered in 2013, which were not seen in 2012. These are: blackmail, land cases, recovery of property and documents, and theft and



burglary. Also some categories recorded in 2012 were not seen in 2013, these are: media outings, office raids, and stoppage of meetings.

# b) Legal aid to women and girls infected/affected by HIV/AIDS in rural Central Uganda

In 2013, HRAPF continued to provide legal aid services to women and girls affected and infected with HIV/AIDS from the Central Uganda districts of Kiboga, Luwero, Mityana, and Mpigi. Most of the cases handled were civil cases. The services provided included: mediation, legal representation in courts of law, legal advice, bond applications, drafting of wills and keeping them in safe custody. 114 matters were handled in 2013 as shown in the table below:

No.	Category	Total	Completed	Pending
1.	Assault	1	1	0
2.	Custody	1	1	0
3.	Child neglect	2	1	1
4.	Contractual breach	4	2	2
5.	Domestic issues	1	1	0
6.	Declaration of parentage	2	0	2
7.	Inheritance	11	1	10
8.	Labour rights	1	0	1
9.	Land matters	82	19	63
10.	Threatening violence	2	2	0
11.	Will making	4	3	1
12	Others	3	0	3
	Grand Total	114	31	83

 Table 3: Number of cases received and their status

From the table shown above, land matters ranked the highest among the matters handled for this category. These were followed by inheritance matters. In most cases, husbands in families passed away without making wills to distribute property. This resulted in conflicts over land, which is the primary asset owned by the deceased.

Out of 114 matters handled in 2013, 31 matters were concluded and 83 were still pending. 17 matters went up to court level and 4 of them were completed with judgments in our clients favour, while others remained pending.



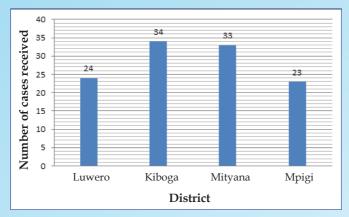


Figure 2: Number of cases received per District in 2013

The figure shows that from the four districts served by this project, 24 matters were registered from Luwero, 34 from Kiboga, 33 from Mityana and 23 from Mpigi District

No.	Category	Cases received in 2013	Cases received in 2012
1.	Assault	1	0
2.	Child neglect	2	15
3.	Custody	1	0
4.	Domestic Issues	1	9
5.	Declaration of Parentage	2	0
6.	Contractual breach	4	2
7.	Inheritence	11	8
8.	Labour rights	1	2
9.	Land matters	82	24
10.	Threatening violence	2	0
11.	Will making	4	3
12.	Others	3	0
	Grand Total	114	67

 Table 4: Comparison of cases received in 2013 with cases received in 2012.

From the table above, the HIV/AIDS cases received in 2013 increased by 47 cases compared to 2012 causing a percentage increase of 70%. Land matters received



in 2013 increased by 241.7% from 24 cases to 82 cases. Inheritance followed from 8 cases in 2012 to 11 cases in 2013 and will making and contractual breach cases also increased. However, there was a sharp decline in cases of child neglect from 15 cases in 2012 to only 2 cases in 2013 -- a percentage decrease of 87%. Domestic issues fell from 2 cases to 1 case and labour rights from 2 cases to 1 case in 2012 and 2013 respectively. New categories of cases developed in 2013: Threatening violence, declaration of parentage, custody and assault.

#### Legal aid for poor people with land problems c)

HRAPF continued to provide legal aid services to indigent persons with land disputes. In total, 109 matters were handled in the year 2013. The number of matters handled in 2013 was lower compared to 139 matters handled in 2012. The reduction in the number of cases handled is attributed to streamlining of the land division during the year to handle cases from only three districts: Wakiso, Nakasongora and Mubende. This was done to limit the geographical coverage of cases.

Tuble 5	. Number of cas	ses received	in 2013 per l	nature oj case.
No.	Nature of cases	No. Received	Completed	Pending
1	Letters of administration	6	4	2
2	Unlawful transfer	24	13	11
3	Unlawful eviction	67	32	35
4	Others	12	12	0
	Total	109	61	48

Tuble	5.	Number	IJ	cuses	receiveu	m	2015	per	nuture	IJ	C
No.		Nature of c	ases	N	o. Received		Compl	eted	Pe	ndin	σ

From the table above, 109 cases were received, 67 cases were for unlawful eviction, 24 cases for illegal transfer, 6 cases for letters of administration and 12 cases fell in other categories. 18 cases are ongoing pending in court. 61 Cases were handled to completion and 48 cases are still pending. 49 cases received were for women and 62 for men.



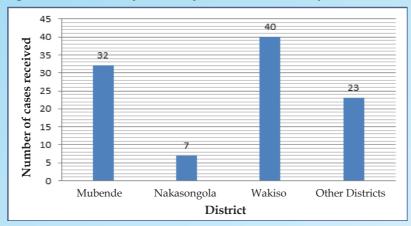


Figure 3: Distribution of number of land cases received by District in 2013

From the figure above, 32 cases were from Mubende District, 7 from Nakasongola District and 40 from Wakiso District. Although the project was restricted to three districts, other districts also brought in cases before the project was streamlined. These cases accounted for 23 in total. These other districts included Kampala, Mukono, Kayunga, Mpigi and Mityana.

Number	Nature	Nature No. Received in 2013	
1	Family disputes	0	8
2	Letters of administration	6	4
3	Unlawful evictions	67	75
4	Unlawful transfer	24	37
5	Others	12	15
	Total	109	139

Table 6: Comparison of cases received in 2013 with cases received in 2012.

From the table above, there was a decrease in the number of cases received in almost all categories of cases. Unlawful evictions declined from 75 to 67 cases, unlawful transfer of land from 37 to 24 cases, family disputes from 8 to 0 and all others from 15 to 12 cases. Only cases for letters of administration increased from 4 to 6 cases. The major reason for the decline was the streamlining of the land rights project to only serve clients from Wakiso, Nakasongola and Mubende Districts. This reduced the number of clients from other districts.



#### 2. Research and Documentation

#### Documentation:

Under Documentation, the Access to Justice Department documented all the cases that were handled in 2013. Background information was collected on every case and the facts were recorded and verified where possible. The actions taken by HRAPF were also recorded and the information stored in both physical and electronic formats.

HRAPF also operationalised a customised version of Martus Database Software with support from technicians from Benetech Technologies. This database is already in use.

Trends were analysed and periodic information on violations made available. This information concerning minorities was shared with other stakeholders and partners, including the diplomatic community, Human Rights Watch, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional law (CSCHRCL).

In terms of advocacy, the documented cases and the trends monitored are shared with the Advocacy and Networking team in order to inform advocacy efforts.

#### Research:

HRAPF also continued and finalised the study on the enforcement of laws criminalising same-sex conduct in Uganda. The study was finalised during the course of the year and published under the auspices of the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law.

#### 3. Capacity strengthening and technical support for marginalised groups

HRAPF offers capacity building to partners through training and legal support for stronger human rights advocacy from the grassroots. This is done in the following ways:

#### a) Community Paralegal Training

Community Paralegal Training is one of the interventions implemented under the Access to Justice Department to enhance access to justice for the marginalised communities that HRAPF serves. The people that are trained are selected by and from the marginalised communities. The training is done for paralegals working with marginalised persons and people living with HIV/AIDS.

#### i. Paralegal training for minorities

In 2013, HRAPF trained 13 community paralegals from the minority communities.

13 new trainees, including one HRAPF staff member, were enrolled from 13 new partner organisations to take part in the paralegal training for 2013. Meetings were held with directors of the different organisations, each of which recommended a person to be trained as a paralegal and also made input into



the training curriculum. The minimum requirements for the training were: the person must have a fairly good grasp of the English Language, be committed to serve the community, and have a position within the organisation that can enable the person to serve the community.

The training was done in three four-day modules ending with placement with an organisation working with legal issues for at least one week. The three modules in which paralegals were trained are: The Paralegal and the Legal Systems in Uganda, Criminal Law and Procedure, and Human Rights and Civil Actions. Out of the 14 trainees, 13 were able to complete the full course. One person was disqualified after having failed to attend all the modules.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2013, HRAPF awarded certificates to the 13 new paralegals who had successfully completed the full training. This brought the number of HRAPF community paralegals working with minority groups to 30. The paralegal passout ceremony was held at the HRAPF offices.



Paralegals display their certificates during their pass out ceremony that was held at HRAPF Secretariat

The paralegal training for minorities has proved a worthwhile endeavor for HRAPF. It is realistic and practical because community members find it easier to initially confide in their fellow community members rather than lawyers. In 2013, the legal aid clinic received 40 cases referred by paralegals working with minority groups.

ii. **Paralegal training for women and girls infected and affected by HIV/AIDS** In 2013, after realising that there is widespread human rights abuses and lack of legal services for people living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda and an increasing prevalence of the disease, HRAPF rolled out paralegal trainings for women and girls infected and affected with HIV in the districts of Kiboga, Luwero, Mpigi, and Mityana.



The training targeted women and girls because they are the most vulnerable. 21 women and girls from 4 districts were identified by partner organisations, verified to meet the basic requirements for the trainings by HRAPF, and trained as paralegals for two weeks in two phases. The trainings were held in two districts of Mityana and Luwero. The awarding of certificates were then awarded in early 2014. HRAPF developed the training curriculum based on issues that most affect people living with HIV/AIDS. The HIV/AIDS paralegal curriculum materials are in two modules. The first module on civil law focuses on the concept of a paralegal, skills of a paralegal, concepts of human rights, rights in the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, rights of patients, guardianship, custody, foster homes, adoption and parentage. Other topics included, rights upon marriage and divorce, law of succession-will making, procedures at the Administrator General's Office and land rights in Uganda.

The second module on criminal law focuses on an introduction to criminal law and criminal law provisions relating to HIV/AIDS, criminal arrests, searches and seizures. It includes pre-trial process at the police station, charges and institution of criminal charges, bail and pleas, witnesses, ruling on a case to answer, defense case and final submissions. Judgment, sentencing and appeals, the law in Uganda, the police and law enforcement in Uganda, the control over criminal law and the role of the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) is also inclusive. The judiciary and court system in Uganda, local council courts and other specialised courts, the prison systems in Uganda, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Justice Law and Order Sector and the role of independent commissions was part of the module.



Paralegals being trained by the District Police Commander, Luwero District ASP Ninsiima Godfrey at Bukenya Foundation Motel in Luwero District.



By the end of 2013, the trained paralegals had yielded some results: 209 people had so far been reached-out to by the trained paralegals and taught about will making, patients' rights and marriage and divorce. The paralegals also referred 12 clients to HRAPF for legal aid services, 2 names of the trained paralegals have been proposed to be included on the land committee at a local council level, 1 will form was drafted by the paralegal in Luwero district, and 2 paralegals were selected by their organisations to make presentations together with HRAPF staff during the radio talk shows which were funded under the project.

#### b) Legal Support

HRAPF continued to act as a company secretary through offering legal, organisational and technical support to partners from minority organisations and groups. Members and leaders of different minority groups also received technical advice from our legal team in running their organisations and interracting with the law.

#### 4. Legal and human rights awareness

HRAPF also supports partner organisations by facilitating legal and human rights workshops and trainings organised by the partners and publishing of materials relevant to legal and human rights awareness of target groups. The activity also includes commissioning surveys to assess levels of human rights awareness among target groups. Findings are used to inform awareness raising campaigns, appropriate materials development and legal aid advocacy under the program. In 2013, HRAPF carried out awareness sessions and trainings as follows:

#### a) Awareness sessions for minorities

HRAPF conducted an awareness session for minorities in Kasese on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December. This was organised in partnership with Blessed Ruwenzori Uganda and WONETHA Kasese. HRAPF made a presentation on the laws that affect minorities specifically enshrined in the Penal Code Act and criminal procedures from arrests to appeals. In total **55** persons benefited from the awareness session.



HRAPF's Head of Department Access to Justice Ms. Fridah Mutesi facilitating at Kasese awareness sessions for minorities

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HRAPF together with the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional law (CSCHRCL) reached out to 17 mainstream human rights organisations through in- house trainings. The major objective of the in house training was to raise awareness of the challenges faced by marginalised groups, including stigma and discrimination. These were organised and held at each organisation's office HRAPF made presentations on the laws and proposed laws that affect marginalised persons.

HRAPF also conducted awareness sessions for minorities on access to justice through the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC). The objectives of the workshops were to sensitise minorities about the EOC, how it can be helpful to them in accessing justice and resolving issues of discrimination, as well as the details of Section 15(6)(d) and the case of *Jjuuko Adrian v. Attorney General*. The second objective was to collect information on the issues affecting minorities that can be addressed by the EOC and to sensitise them on their rights. All workshops were facilitated by HRAPF lawyers and other staff. Six workshops were conducted with different minority groups and 192 total minorities attended.



Group photo of intersex children with their parents after the EOC training at HRAPF Secretariat

#### b) Awareness sessions for persons living with HIV/AIDS

In 2013, 8 awareness sessions were carried out in four districts where the HIV project operates. These sessions were hosted by partner organisations and facilitated by HRAPF. Existing community mobilisers and HRAPF's own trained paralegals were used to mobilise people living with HIV/AIDS for the sessions. The participants were taught about patients' rights, general human rights and law of succession with special emphasis on will making. A total of 613 people living with HIV/AIDS were reached out to during these sessions.



District	Area	No. of awareness sessions	Participants	Women	Men	Children
Kiboga	Lwamata	1	79	58	20	1
	Bukomero	1	72	40	25	7
Luwero	Bombo	1	28	24	4	0
	Kalagala	1	79	52	23	4
Mityana	Bulera	1	84	53	29	2
	Mityana Hospital	1	151	113	36	2
Mpigi	Nindye	1	47	28	15	4
	Buwama	1	73	42	26	5
TOTAL		8	613	410	178	25

#### Table 7: Summary of the face to face awareness sessions

From the above table, 613 people living with HIV/AIDS were reached out to. 67% (410) of the beneficiaries were women, 29% (178) were men and 4% (25) were children. Women form the majority of participants at these sessions, and they typically face the most violations of human rights. Mityana district had the highest number of participants (235) followed by Kiboga (151), Mpigi (120) and Luwero (107).



Mr. Julius Ssentamu, the HIV/AIDS Project Officer, facilitating at an awareness session in Mpigi.



#### c) Awareness on land law and rights

HRAPF conducted an awareness session for residents of Musaba village in Mubende District. The workshop was organised in the wake of increased land wrangles in the area which have led to increased evictions and violations of people's land rights

The workshop was attended by the area residents, Local council Chairperson and other local leaders, a representative from the Justice Law and Order Sector (JLOS), a representative from the Administrator General Office, the District Land Surveyor, and the District Land Registrar. In total, 270 participants attended.

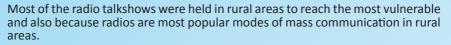
Among the issues addressed were: who can own land in Uganda and types of land ownership; the land tenure system; the difference between a landlord and a tenant; the difference between a bonafide occupant and lawful occupant, rights of tenants; and the Land Act 2010.



#### d) Radio talk shows

HRAPF conducts radio talk shows as a means of spreading awareness on legal and human rights issues that affect different people in our constituencies. The programs focus on general human rights awareness, land law and rights, rights of minorities and rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.

A total of 11 radio talk shows were held where HRAPF lawyers and other staff discussed several issues related to the law and human rights for vulnerable groups in Uganda. Radio stations used in 2013 included Buwama FM in Mpigi, Kiboga FM in Kiboga District, Mboona FM in Mityana District, Musana FM in Luweero District, CBS FM, Kingdom FM and Mama FM in Kampala.





HRAPF's Edward Mwebaza, Project Officer Advocacy, and Julius Ssentamu, Project Officer, HIV/AIDS, discuss human rights with police on Kingdom FM.

HRAPF

#### e) Resource Centre

Under the Access to Justice Program, HRAPF maintains a resource centre that provides sources of information on legal and human rights for marginalized groups. The centre was kept open throughout the year year and was used by 170 people, including members of our partner organisations.

HRAPF also maintained an up-to-date website to communicate our activities to the public and enable other stakeholders' access to our resources worldwide. Our website remains <u>www.hrapf.org</u> and it is currently updated. We also used social media through the organisation's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

#### Conclusion

The Access to Justice Program is the biggest and flagship program of HRAPF. Despite the challenges associated with providing legal aid in Uganda, HRAPF continues to champion the cause of promoting human rights through the law and astutely did so in 2013.



## LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING PROGRAM

The Legislative Advocacy and Networking Program is also fundamental to HRAPF's work and was established as an independent program in the HRAPF Strategic Plan 2013-2017.

#### Program objective

The overall objective of the program is to work with like-minded organisations and institutions to advocate for and influence the adoption of polices and legislation that promotes equality and non-discrimination for marginalised groups.

#### **Program activities**

The program focuses on four major activities to achieve the stated objective. These include: Policy and legislative analysis; strategic interest litigation; building strategic alliances for policy and legislative advocacy; and supporting publicity and dissemination. These were implemented as follows:

#### 1. Policy and legislative analysis

This activity concerns laws/bills and policies that are regarded as affecting the rights of marginlised groups. Under this activity the following sub activities were implemented:

a) Paper on the Legal implications of the Anti-Homosexuality Bill for the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), University of Sussex Brighton HRAPF prepared an analysis paper on the Anti-Homosexuality Bill 2009. Research was conducted and a paper entittled "The Implications of Uganda's Anti Homosexuality Bill 2009 from a Legal Perspective" was developed and submitted to the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex Brighton. The paper was published and is now used as reference by stakeholders working on the rights of sexual minorities

#### b) Analysis of the HIV Prevention and Control Bill

Besides the AHB, HRAPF also conducted research on the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Bill.The analysis of the Bill was converted into a fact sheet that we intend to publish next year and share with policy makers.

#### c) Preparation of a position paper on the Penal Code Act of Uganda

HRAPF developed a review of the Penal Code sections 145 to 148. HRAPF initiated communications with the Uganda Law Reform Commission (ULRC) and requested to be part of the process. HRAPF's request was accepted and two meetings were held with the Secretary of the Uganda Law Reform Commission Mr. Lucas Omara to discuss the law reform process. The paper was finalised and delivered to the Uganda Law Reform Commission which acknowledging receipt of the paper. The position paper was also shared with our partners on various listservs and published on the HRAPF website.



#### 2. Strategic Interest Litigation

HRAPF conducts strategic litigation on behalf of marginalised Ugandans. The following activities have been done under this activity.

a) Follow up on the ruling in the case of Jjuuko Adrian v. Attorney General, Cons. Pet. No. 1 of 2009

The case of *Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General* was filed in 2009 with HRAPF Executive Director Mr. Adrian Jjuuko as the petitioner. The petition challenges section 15(6)(d) of the Equal Opportunities Commission Act 2007. It was heard on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2011 but a ruling has not been delivered since then.

Seven meetings were held with Constitutional Court officials in 2013 to follow-up on the case and to seek advice as to the way forward. Three meetings were held with His Worship Elias Kisawuzi, three with His Worship John Arutu and one with the Deputy Registrar.

A letter was written to the Registrar of the Constitutional Court expressing concern over the delayed ruling. He replied in part that "I regret the delay in delivering the said ruling attributed to the busy schedule of this court and acute human resource shortage. However, I am reliably informed that the ruling is being prepared and expected to be delivered soon."

After a long wait, HRAPF and other CSOs decided to join hands for advocacy on the issue. On 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2013, over 20 civil society organisations (both national and international) led by HRAPF delivered a petition to the Constitutional Court to ask the Court to deliver a ruling in the case of *Jjuuko Adrian vs. Attorney General.* 



Members of civil society at the Registrar's office at the Constitutional Court 23/07/2013 waiting to deliver the compliant.

The event was covered by the media including NBS television and Uganda Broadcasting Corporation, it was also published by Uganda Radio Network and the Daily Monitor newspaper.

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Edward Mwebaza, the HRAPF Project Officer Advocacy, addressing Journalists at the Constitutional Court during the delivery of the civil society petition on the delayed ruling in the case of Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General.

b) **CSO strategic meeting on the case of Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General** HRAPF also conducted a CSO strategic meeting to follow up on and strengthen the coalition demanding for a ruling that was long overdue. The meeting was held on 17th October 2013 at Grand Imperial Hotel Kampala. It was attended by activists from human rights organisations in Uganda.

The meeting was intended to brainstorm new strategies going forward to advocate for a ruling in the case, of *Jjuuko Adrian vs. Attorney General*, to update CSOs on the importance and status of the case and to generate synergy and more support against Section 15 (6)(d) of the EOC Act.



Participants from different Civil Society Organisations during the strategic meeting on the case of Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General.



c) Legal strategic meeting on the case of Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General HRAPF conducted a legal strategic meeting to come up with a way forward in the delayed case. The meeting was attended by key legal and human rights activists, including Professor Sylvia Tamale of Makerere University, the counsel for the petitioner Mr. Ladislaus Rwakafuzi, Mr. Kabumba Busingye from Makerere University School of Law, among others. It was moderated by Ms. Sheila Muwanga, the HRAPF Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

The meeting laid strategies to speed up the judgment in the case of *Jjuuko Adrian Vs. Attorney General*.



Prof. Sylvia Tamale from the School of Law Makerere University leading the participants during the legal strategic meeting on the case of Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General

#### d) Detention beyond 48 hours case

This case is a proposed challenge to the police practice of detaining LGBTI persons beyond the 48 hours which are mandated by Article 23 of the Constitution. In this case, the accused was detained for 9 nine days at Kira Police Station without police bond or presentation in a court of law. However, the victim was not willing to push forward with a strategic case.

#### 3. Building strategic alliances for policy and legislative advocacy

HRAPF engaged with new partners and strengthened the existing relationships. This helped the organisation to create more visibility for its work, engage in policy reforms and development, and work with other organisations in advocacy.



#### a) Engagement with the Equal Opportunities Commission

One of the outstanding accomplishments for HRAPF in 2013 was the relationship built with the Equal Opportunities Commission. This was achieved through various meetings and other engagements with the commission members below.

During the initiation of the relationship, two meetings were held with Ms. Zaminah Malole, a member of the EOC, to discuss how a relationship could be forged between HRAPF and the Commission. Another meeting was held with the Chairperson of the Equal Opportunities Commission on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2013. The chairperson resolved that HRAPF should organise another meeting between members of the Commission and minorities to discuss the challenges they face within their communities and families. The EOC meeting with minorities in Uganda took place on 7th May 2013. It was the first ever meeting between members of the LGBTI community and the Equal Opportunities Commission.

This dialogue will go a long way towards strengthening access to justice for minorities in Uganda. The meeting was held at Serena Hotel Kampala and attended by all the commissioners of the EOC and some staff members of the EOC and minorities who were members of the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law (CSCHRCL).

Minorities discussed the traumatising lives they lead on a daily basis, the discrimination they face, human rights abuses from the police and fellow citizens, and the challenges of identity and unequal access to social services. They called upon the EOC to become their allies in their struggle for respect and empowerment.



Members and staff of the EOC, HRAPF staff, representatives of minorities and stakeholders pose for a group photo after the meeting at Serena Hotel Kampala.



After the meeting, members of the EOC observed the challenges that need to be addressed for minorities and pledged to work toward changing the understanding and mindset of the organisation.

#### b) Engagement with the NGO Forum

HRAPF officially joined the NGO Forum in 2013. HRAPF attended seven meetings organised by the NGO Forum.

HRAPF also participated in the National CSO fair that took place between 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>July 2013. HRAPF displayed and passed out publications on its work and hosted a session on the implications of gender and sexual development dilemmas for intersex children in Uganda.

#### c) Engagements with the Legal Aid Service Providers Network (LASPNET)

HRAPF remained an active member of the Legal Aid Service Providers Network by participating in the gender Audit research and taking part in the public Legal Aid clinic. The network secretariat visited HRAPF to conduct a capacity assessment. HRAPF also attended the LASPNET's Annual General Meeting and also took part in the Legal Aid Week in Kamuli District plus other engagements..

#### d) Engagement with UGANET

HRAPF continued to be part of the coalition against the HIV/AIDS Bill. During the year, several coalition meetings and press conference were held, and these included three planning meetings and a validation meeting for the draft report on the HIV Needs Assessment conducted by UGANET and UNDP. A press conference applauding the President for assenting to the East African HIV/AIDS Prevention and Management Act, was also participated in.

#### e) Engagement with the Coalition against Maternal Mortality hosted by CEHURD

HRAPF joined the Coalition on Maternal Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) and attended six meetings to discuss and advocate for issues relating to maternal and child health. The issues that were key to HRAPF's engagement in this advocacy effort were the increasing maternal and child deaths, deplorable health conditions, poor health facilities, unsafe abortions and the development of a sharpened plan on Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) under the Ministry of Health and UNICEF. HRAPF was among the civil society organisatons that participated in developing CSO commitments to the sharpened RMNCH plan launched in December by His Excellency the Vice President Hon. Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi.

#### f) Engagements with the CSCHRCL

HRAPF has continued to be part of the Steering Committee and to chair the Legal Committee of the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights and Constitutional Law (CSCHRCL).



HRAPF also finalised the research that was done by HRAPF on behalf of the Coalition. That research on section 145 of the Penal Code was completed, published and launched in January 2014.

HRAPF also participated in meetings with officials from other countries. Meetings were held with a delegation from the U.S. State Department, Illinois Senator Dick Durbin, and Simon Bull from the U.K. Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

#### g) EOC coalition

HRAPF maintained a loose coalition on Section 15(6)(d) that was formed to engage civil society and other stakeholders to advocate against section 15(6)(d) of the Equal Opportunities Commission Act 2007.

A list of the coalition members was updated. The Coalition currently has all members of the CSCHRCL and other members of the civil society who believe in its objectives.

#### h. Engagement with Government agencies and Departments

#### i.) Meeting with the Inspector General of Police

On Thursday the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2013 a group of selected activists and advocates met the Inspector General of Police Maj. Gen. Kale Kayihura. HRAPF was represented by the Head of Department Access to Justice. The meeting was a free discussion about the AHB and the actions of the police as well as minority rights generally.

The IGP was briefed about the general human rights situation in light of the AHB, the legal and social status of the minority groups in Uganda, and the legal challenges they face. He suggested ways of engaging on these issues more.

#### ii) Parliamentary Symposium on HIV/AIDS Bill

The Coalition organised a symposium with members of Parliament on the AHB and the HIV/AIDS Bill in which HRAPF's Acting Head of Department Legislative Advocacy and Networking participated.

#### i) Regional Engagements

Through the Pan African Advocacy Programme, HRAPF's Head of Department Advocacy and Networking participated in a training on how to use the African human rights mechanisms. She also participated in the preparation for the sessions of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights. During the meeting HRAPF was part of the women's land rights discussions, minority rights activist discussion, the ICC discussions and the 54<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights in Gambia Banjul.



#### j. International Engagements

HRAPF also engaged in advocacy sessions at the international level. The Executive Director on the invitation of our partners HIVOS and Human Rights Watch participated in the Wanted For Love campaign in the Netherlands from 29th July to 2nd August 2013. The Executive Director gave interviews to print, radio and TV media houses on the situation of marginalised persons in Uganda. He and four other colleagues were on the front page of the Volskrant newspaper where their experiences and stories were shared. He also presented at a meeting with the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where issues of support for minority rights in Africa were discussed. His story and that of his three colleagues were portrayed in a play that was acted at the De Balie in Amsterdam in their presence. The Executive Director made a presentation after the play and engaged in a one on one discussions with different organisations and individuals interested in minority rights issues.

The Executive Director also delivered a lecture at the Harvard Law School on "Using the Constitution to Protect Minority Rights in Uganda." He attended the Global School on the "Global School on Social Economic Rights: Health Rights Litigation", held at the FXB Center for Health and Human Rights, Harvard University between 16th and 20th 2013.

The Executive Director and the Legal Officer of Advocacy also participated in the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) Legal Toolkit Workshop in Brighton UK on 6th and 7th November 2013. The meeting culminated in the development of a legal toolkit on minority rights.

#### k) Other networking activities

- i. Two charity matches were attended. These were: Celebration of 150 years of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)'s humanitarian service. The celebration included a 4.8-kilometer march on gender-based violence organised by Refugee Law Project
- ii. In conjunction with Uganda Health Science and Press Association (UHSPA), HRAPF initiated parliamentary advocacy on the HIV bill in respect to the rights of sexual minorities. A meeting with the clerk to the Committee on HIV/AIDS was held and he was presented a list of concerns regarding the bill. Consequently, a meeting was held at HRAPF bringing together various experts to analyse the bill and make recommendations for improving it.



## 4. Supporting publicity and dissemination

#### a) Publications

HRAPF developed, published, and distributed various publications in 2013 and these include:

#### i) The EOC Brochure

HRAPF published a brochure titled "Know about the Equal Opportunities Commission and How to Access It." It explains the role of the Equal Opportunities Commission and how it can be used by the minorities to access justice. It also highlights the implications of Section 15(6)(d) of the Equal Opportunities Act. 1500 copies were printed and 700 copies distributed to different minority groups and individuals.

#### ii) The Human Rights Advocate magazine

HRAPF Launched a legislative advocacy magazine called the **Human Rights Advocate**. The magazine is a biannual publication. The inugural issue was about the Equal Opportunities Commission Act. It was aimed at steering advocacy against section 15(6) (d) to promote the petition. 1000 copies were printed and 400 copies were distributed strategically by the end of the year.



Launch of the Human Rights Advocate

## iii) HRAPF Newsletter

In 2013, HRAPF started publishing the HRAPF Newsletter that is distributed electronically. Two issues of the newsletter were published and distributed to HRAPF partners on various listservs



during the year. The HRAPF Newsletter is an avenue where HRAPF shares progress on the implementation of activities. It acts as a monitoring and documentation tool for the impact of HRAPF activities on the communities we serve.

#### iv) Annual Report

The Annual Report 2012 was developed at the beginning of 2013. 300 copies were printed and distributed widely to both local and international partners.

#### v) Posters on HIV/AIDS and the EOC

The EOC poster with a message calling upon the community to use the EOC to solve issues of inequality was developed and 1000 copies were printed. An HIV project poster with a message discouraging stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS was also developed. 2000 copies in English and Luganda were printed and are being distributed to different stakeholders.

vi) **Developing and publishing of the HIV project booklet on will making:** 700 copies were printed and distributed during awareness sessions.

#### b) Electronic media

HRAPF maintained an updated website throughout the year. The website was redesigned to give it a new look and also enable it to hold as much information as possible. HRAPF also maintained constant communication with partners, donors, and clients via e-mail, Facebook, and Twitter.



CSOs during the press conference emphasised the need for the delivery of a ruling in the case, its importance, and a call to the Constitutional Court to deliver the ruling.



#### c) Press conference

HRAPF held one press conference to communicate civil society's call to the Constitutional Court to deliver a ruling in the case of *Jjuuko Adrian v Attorney General.* The story was published by UBC, Sanyu FM, Ddembe FM and The Daily Monitor.

#### d) Press releases

The first on was on the case of *Jjuuko Adrian v. Attorney General*, whose ruling was not yet delivered. The public was made aware of the issues surrounding the case and how section 15(6)(d) is likely to affect all minorities in accessing the Equal Opportunities Commission.

The second press release was on Women's Day. It was entitled 'Celebrating the Establishment of the Equal Opportunities Commission and Calling for the Realisation of Equal Opportunities for All." It was published in both the New Vision and the Daily Monitor.

The third press release was on World AIDS Day. It mentioned facts and myths about HIV and also emphasised the discriminatory nature of the EOC Act, which was likely to affect people living with HIV/AIDS

The fourth was issued on International Human Rights Day. The statement highlighted the need to have an EOC that embraces human rights for all people. This was published in the Daily Monitor newspaper.

#### e) Branding

HRAPF unveiled a new logo and used it on all HRAPF visibility materials including the sign post on the main gate, two pull-up banners, tyre covers, and business cards for all staff members. The new logo was also shared with all of our domestic and international partners after it was launched at the Annual General Meeting held in July 2013

#### Conclusion

The Advocacy and Networking Department is a new department but has moved significant miles during the course of the year. The engagement with the Equal Opportunities Commission stands out during this period.



# ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

This is the third and last program under the new HRAPF strategic plan.

#### Program objective

The major objective of the program is to create the appropriate institutional development and capacity framework for the efficient and effective implementation of the program activities and realisation of the program goal.

#### **Program activities**

The program focuses on five management priorities to achieve its objective. Below is the progress on implemented activities on the five management priorities.

#### 1. Policy Development

The following policies were developed.

- i. Security policy was developed and approved
- ii. Membership policy was developed and approved
- iii. Human resource policy was reviewed pending Board consideration
- iv. Legal aid policy was developed pending Board consideration

There were also internal guidelines that were developed. These are:

- i. Staff salary advance guidelines developed and approved
- ii. Staff work advance accountability guidelines reviewed pending approval
- iii. Financial reporting guidelines developed
- iv. Personal vehicle use guidelines developed and approved

#### 2. Human Resource Management and Development

During 2013, HRAPF focused on the following management priorities.

#### i. Staffing and staff recruitment

The organisation recruited three more new staff while 2 staff left the organisation to pursue further studies. The organisation maintained 17 members of staff during the year.

## ii. Staff welfare

HRAPF maintained a well-motivated staff. All staff had active contracts and their salaries were paid on time. Staff lunch was provided.

Recreation activities for staff were organized to refresh staff and cultivate a spirit of teamwork. These included the mid-year staff party and the end-of-year staff party. Staff also worked half day on every last Friday of the month and used the last half of the day for recreation activities such as sports.



#### 3. Staff training and capacity development

HRAPF continued to develop staff capacity through training in 2013. One general staff training was conducted at the beginning of the year at Enro Hotel Mityana. During the training, staff was trained in monitoring and evaluation, accountability in the NGO sector, and financial procedures. During the training, staff were also breifed on their roles and responsibilities in the organization.

The organisation also nominated 7 members to attend different trainings organised by different stakeholders.

#### 4. Outstanding staff for 2013 awards

HRAPF recognised two staff members who stood out during the course of 2013. The staff of the year award was won by Ms. Patricia Kimera, Legal Officer from the Access to Justice Department, and the most improving staff of the year award was won by Mr. Julius Ssentamu, Project Officer HIV/AIDS project. The two received their awards from the Executive Director during the staff annual review meeting held at Ivy's Hotel Kampala.



Ms. Pattricia Kimera and Mr. Julius Ssentamu display their awards in a photo with the Executive Director and Deputy Executive Director during the annual review at Ivys Hotel Natete Kampala.



5. Strengthening Governance Structures & Building Membership HRAPF has four major governance structures. These are:

#### a) General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme governaning body of the organisation. In 2013, HRAPF had 53 members and implemented that following activities to maintain a vibrant membership.

#### i) Annual General Meeting (AGM):

In 2013, HRAPF held its fourth AGM on 27th July at the Secretariat. The meeting received and approved the Annual Report 2012, audited accounts for 2012 and appointed new auditors for the year 2013. It also launched the second HRAPF Strategic Plan and the new logo. The AGM was attended by 60 participants and among them were HRAPF members and both national and international partners. Participants noted that in just five years of its existence, HRAPF had earned, HRAPF had earned wide respect as a key organisation in the protection of the rights of the most marginalised persons in Uganda. Participants commended staff and management for the job well-done and implored them to keep it up.



HRAPF members and staff in a group photo after the AGM held at HRAPF Secretariat.

ii)

## Involvement of members in the organisations's activities.

In order to keep members up to date with the organisation's work, two HRAPF members who are lawyers were involved training of paralegals in 2013. HRAPF continues to focus on devising means of involving all members in its activities since it is a membership organisation.



#### b) The Trustees:

HRAPF continued to work with the trustees in all its work. The organisation has two trustees. These are: Ms. Kewodi Fridah and Mr. Jacob Bukenya.



Ms. Fridah Kewodi



Mr. Jacob Bukenya

#### c) Board of Directors

The organisation has 7 members of the Board of Directors. During 2013, three BOD meetings were held. The BOD Members are as shown below.



Ms. Sheila Muwanga Chairperson



Mr. Kafuruka Biryomumaisho Vice Chairperson



Ms. Patricia Atim Member



Mr. Walter Aliker Treasurer



Ms. Nuruh Nakiwala Member



Mr. Stuart Kamya General Secretary



Mr. Adrian Jjuuko Ex-Officio



d) The secretariat

The secretariat continued to operate with 17 members of staff.



Mr. Adrian Jjuuko Executive Director



Mr Francis Tumwesige Ag. Head of Department Access to Justice

Mr. Anthony Mutimba Deputy Executive Director

Ms. Fariida

Ikyimaana

Legal Officer



Ag. Head of Department Advocacy and Networking

Ms. Patricia

Kimera

Legal Officer



Ms. Fridah Mutesi Legal Officer



Ms. Zabbinah Nakirya Administrative Officer



Mr. Julius Ssentamu Project Officer



Mr. Gerald Isabirye Ag. Finance Officer

HRAPF ANNUAL REPORT 2013



Ms. Rashidah Nakasagga Legal Associate



Mr. Mwebaza Edward Project Officer



Ms. Catherine Mukankusi Administrative Assistant









Mr. Patrick Kyagaba Office Assistant/ Driver



Mr. Wabwire Charles Law Clerk



Mr. Nyakatura Clovice Paralegal



Mr. Kato Muyinda Hussein Legal Volunteer

#### 6. Strengthening HRAPF's Monitoring and Evaluation

Under monitoring and evaluation, the following activities were implemented:

- i. Weekly staff reporting and planning meetings
- ii. Monthly project review meetings for both staff and management
- iii. Quarterly project progress review meetings
- iv. Board of Directors Quarterly meetings
- v. Mid-year progress review meetings
- vi. Annual progress review meetings
- vii. Bi- annual staff appraisals

All these activities are conducted to review progress of activities to projects and to review staff performance for monitoring and evaluation.

#### 7. Increased Resources for Increased Needs

Under this management priority, HRAPF continued to fundraise for funds to implement the organisation's activities. The following were implemented.

### i. Fundraising

HRAPF maintained all the existing donors and also actively sought new ones. The organisation also fundraised for a staff fundraising training that is due to take place in 2014.

HRAPF also attended five donor meetings, developed a strategic plan budget, an institutional annual budget and work plans.

#### ii. Auditing

HRAPF conducted the fourth annual financial audit for the year ending 31st December 2012. The audit was done by BIZ & CO Certified Public Accountants. It was completed in May this 2013 and results were presented to the Fourth Annual General Meeting held in July 2013.

This year, HRAPF's financial statements were 'unqualified' in the Auditors' opinion. This means that the financial statements presented a true and fair view of the financial position of the organisation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 and of its financial performance and funds for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.



# **FINANCIAL OVERVIEW**

Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF) Audit Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2013

#### Statement of Management's Responsibilities

Management accepts responsibility for the financial statements, set out on pages 8 to 22, which have been prepared using appropriate accounting policies supported by reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates. Management is of the opinion that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the financial affairs of Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (the Organisation) and of its excess of receipts over payments and that they are in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. Management further accepts responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records that may be relied upon in the preparation of the financial statements, as well as adequate systems of internal financial control.

The financial statements were approved by management of the Organisation on 30. Apr. 2014 and were signed on its behalf by:

Mr Adrian Jjuuko Executive Director

Ms. Shiela Muwanga Chairperson, Board of Directors



# BIZ & CO.

#### **Certified Public Accountants**

The Board of Directors, Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF), P. O. Box 25603, Kampala.

# Report of the Independent Auditors to the Board of Directors of Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF)

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum ("the organisation"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2013, and the statement of Income and Expenditure. for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013, and the accompanying significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

#### Management Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an 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 judgment, 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 control relevant to the entity'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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements. We obtained all the information and explanations that to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit and believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion

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MWANJA JOSEPH MBA(US), Bsc (Stat-Econ), FCCA, CPA(U) Partner JAMES K. B. KAMANYIRE MBA(Oxford Brookes; UK), B.Com (Acc) FCCA, CPA(U) Partner ALFRED KABUCHU MSc(Finance) Manchester Business School, UK (B.Stat, FCCA, CPA(U), CFA Partner

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#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of HRAPF as at 31 December 2013 and of its financial performance and its statement of cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

B128 60

BIZ & CO Certified Public Accountants

Date: 30 , 0472014





#### Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF) Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2013

# Statement of Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 December 2013

Income	Notes	2013	2012
Grants	3	721,499,630	1,034,202,970
Less: Funds Returned to Donors	4	(1,272,392)	1,004,202,070
Total Grants		720,227,238	1,034,202,970
Members' subscriptions	5	650,000.00	472,000
Consultancies	5	8,643,300.00	2,810,000
Other incomes earned	5	153,000.00	0
Total Income received during the year		729,673,538	1,037,484,970
Expenditure			
Non Project Expenditures	6	8,268,420	2,236,500
Emergency Relocation project (UHAI)	7	15,000	48,113,738
Support to legal Aid and awareness of the rights of marginalised groups (HIVOS)	8	163,854,689	109,854,982
Legal Aid Infrastructure project (AJWS I)	9	-	203,773,724
Legal Aid infrastructure project (AJWS 2)	10	358,593,583	174,594,356
Access to Justice for marginalised groups (AJWS)	11	68,207,143	34,690,358
Research on S.145 of penal code Act (CSCHRCL)	12	2,033,072	5,812,000
Resource Mobilization project (AJWS)	13	25,200	-
HIV/AIDS Human Rights Advocacy project (PACF)	14	107,229,071	49,802,115
Registration of Organisations project (US Mission-Kampala)	15	160,000	42,893,320
Beyond strategic litigation project (FOSI)	16	125,781,728	316,250
Documentation project (RLP)	17	4,190,500	-
Total Expenditure		838,358,406	672,087,343
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		(108,684,868)	365,397,627



Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Forum (HRAPF) Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2013

# Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2013

	Notes	2013	2012
ASSETS			
Cash at hand	18	3,503,300	4,353,400
Cash at bank	19	370,790,261	477,457,387
Prepayments	20	7,672,179	7,100,000
Staff advances	21	6,641,651	140,000
Total Assets		388,607,391	489,050,787
Represented by:			
Current liabilities	22	22,043,497	13,802,025
Accumulated reserves	23	366,563,894	475,248,762
Total Accumulated Fund		388,607,391	489,050,787

The financial statements on pages 8 to 22 were approved by the Board of Directors of HRAPF

Mr Adrian Jjuuko Executive Director

*Ms. Shiela Muwanga* Chairperson, Board of Directors

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