



REMARKS BY THE SENIOR TECHNICAL ADVISOR (JLOS) AT THE CLOSURE OF THE COURT INTERPRETERS TRAINING WORKSHOP, AT THE ANKRAH FOUNDATION MUKONO - June 29, 2011

June 29, 2011

I would on behalf of the sector like to thank DANIDA for sponsoring the training of interpreters. I also thank the Refugee Law Project (RLP) for conducting the training. The training couldn't have not come at any better time than now, when we shall soon have the first trial in the International Crimes Division. It is thus important for Uganda to conduct the trial in accordance with international standards commensurate with the standards in the International Criminal Court.

This training will therefore enable the International Crimes Division and the participants to raise the level of interpretation in the court besides promoting dialogue between the witnesses, the lawyers, judges and the community that will be participating in the trial. Needless to say that the training will improve the quality of justice by ensuring that evidence is presented as nearly as possible like what the witness expressed himself or herself both in words and actions, as witnesses are known to use gestures in Uganda.

The sector will therefore continue to support the training of interpreters to improve service delivery in the administration of justice through more training and advocating for the creation of a professional cadre of interpreters within the Judiciary.

The sector therefore, welcomes the creation of an interpreter's forum, which will raise awareness about the need for interpretation services within the Judiciary and advocate for improved working conditions for interpreters.

Last but not least, I thank the Refugee Law Project, the trainers and the owners of the Ankrah Foundation for making the training a success.

I wish you a safe journey home. Thank You.