

## **A SUMMARY OF LAST FRIDAY'S DISCUSSION AT PAN AFRICAN CLUB**

THE TOPIC WAS: ***"Xenophobic Attacks in South Africa; How Best Should the Crisis be Addressed?"***

### **Content Outline:**

- Presentation by **H.E Wendy Swartz**, the Deputy High Commissioner and Political Counselor from the South African Government in Uganda
- Address by **Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja**, a Senior Presidential Advisor of the Republic of Uganda and former minister of internal affairs
- Speech by **Hon David Pulkol**, a Former Director General of ESO.
- Comments by **Prof Edward Kakonge**, the national chairman of UPC.
- Remarks by **Mr. Nathan Byamukama**, a Director at International Conference on Great Lakes Regional Training Facility on Sexual Violence.
- **Participants' views.**
- Closing communication by **Ms. Wendy Swartz, Hon David Pulkol, Prof Edward Kakonge and Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja.**

NB: A story about this discussion was posted on the New Vision Website under the title: **"Kivejinja clashes with SA diplomat over xenophobic attacks"**. The website is [www.newvision.co.ug](http://www.newvision.co.ug)

### **PRESENTATION BY H.E WENDY SWARTZ, THE SOUTH AFRICA'S ENVOY**



*Figure 1: Ms. Wendy Swartz (standing) making her presentation as her co-panelists attentively look on(Source PAC) May 2015*

**Ms. Wendy** condemned actions of xenophobic attacks in South Africa and revealed that they are not actions reflecting South Africans per se but rather actions of a group of criminals who are simply breaking the law of South Africa. She explained that South Africans are much related with other Africans from other countries to the extent that they have intermarried, have children and that in fact, the People of South Africa are also much affected by the xenophobic violence which has been taking place in the country. She added that to prove this, South Africans have been marching against xenophobia and that they will continue to do the same because they are totally against xenophobia.

The Diplomat further said that in 2008 when there was xenophobic violence in South Africa, the government of South Africa swung into action to bring it to an end and that this time round; the government is doing even a lot more to make sure this problem ends. She added that even the South Africans are much more annoyed than ever before about xenophobia in their country and she hoped that the government of South Africa working with South Africans will for sure bring xenophobia to an end.

The envoy told Pan Africanists that originally, South Africa was cut off from Africa that but since 1994, South Africa opened up to the rest of Africa. She however added that South Africans have remained culturally closed but she reasoned that this would with time go away.

Giving reference to President Zuma's speech, the High Commissioner traced violence attitude of some South Africans to the long time suffering they underwent during apartheid regimes whereby the only way to liberate themselves was through violence. She argued that some South Africans therefore got a misconception that you will need to use violence in order to get what you want. She expressed sadness over this but again hoped that this violence attitude will gradually disappear.

Regarding government action, the Ambassador said that South Africa has set up a committee of key ministers to deal decisively with the xenophobic challenge and that in addition, a new minister has been appointed to be in-charge of small businesses' development aiming at finding a way to integrate the small businesses of foreigners into the community to promote harmony between foreigners and the locals in South Africa.

Ms. Wendy said that Ugandans living in South Africa and other foreigners will be invited by the government of South Africa to have sensitization seminars in which even the CSOs, government officials and the South Africans will participate aiming at educating the people of South Africa to integrate with other Africans.

Her Excellency further said that the government of South Africa is trying to help foreigners who are feeling scared to go home if that is their choice that however they will be welcome back at any time they decide to return to South Africa. She also revealed that Africa is the number one priority for South Africa in regard to integration. She gave an example that Europeans and Asians are working together in order to develop together and that Africa should do the same.

The High Commissioner explained that foreigners are an asset to South Africa's economy and also in various fields of service delivery including bringing in professional skills which add value to the development of South Africa. She also commended the hospitality of Ugandans and wished that the South Africans would also treat Ugandans in South Africa the same way.

**PRESENTATION BY RT HON KIRUNDA KIVEJINJA, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA AND FORMER MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS**



*Figure 2: **Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja** (standing) emphasizes a strong point during his Key Note Address at the Pan African Club Discussion. On the left is **Ms. Wendy** followed by Mr. John **Ngabirano** and on the right is **Mr. Byamukama** (Source PAC)*

**Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja** began by thanking Ms. Wendy for explaining well and also thanked the Pan African Club Management and Members for sustaining the forum for many years now.

The Rt. Hon reminded participants that South Africa was the last to be liberated in Africa and to him; because of the short time so far South Africa has spent independent after a long period of disintegration under apartheid that such problems like xenophobia are bound to happen. He said that what the whites did not realize during apartheid is that even themselves were under siege because both South Africans and whites each believed that unless the other one goes, we will perish. He reasoned that the 1994 climax of liberation was also liberation of the whites living in South Africa.

Muzeyi KK told participants that the idea of consciousness of the suffering people started from abroad and gave a specific example of transportation of human beings from Africa to America which had lasted for 400 years uninterrupted. He said that the ports on which the African slaves were rested in Europe on their way to America are the today's capitals of Europe.

Then he joked: *"If you do not understand, you will misunderstand forever"* and went on to say that the first to misunderstand was Marcus Gavi for thinking that the solution to the Africans' plight was to get back to Africa, to Muzeyi KK, you can't reverse a history of 400 years by simply a few ships moving to Africa. The Rt. Hon said that Dubois understood the problem and decided to organize hence the first Pan African Congress in Manchester which took place in 1947. Only two people who were living in Africa attended I.e.; Kwameh Nkrumah from Ghana and Jomo Kenyatta from Kenya and that the duo came back to Africa to begin Africa's liberation. He said that overtime, the whites have understood that colour does not matter and hence Africa donated to them Mr. Barrack Obama who was well groomed in a Muslim family in Kenya with the name Hussein and is now the president of America. He said that therefore by organizing, the likes of Dubois were building strength for Africa because they had properly analyzed that the strong will always dominate the weak just like it is a natural law that the clever will always be on top of a fool.

Regarding the long time suffering of the Africans in slave trade, the Rt. Hon reminded his audience that slave market places were set up all over Africa and that even today when you go to areas like Zanzibar and Senegal, you will find that the routes they used still exist, that Africans were tortured on their way to America and that if you died on the way, you are food for the animals on sea and that if you managed to reach your destination, you remain there.

Muzeyi KK told us that African slaves were not allowed to carry anything from Africa whether a fruit or musical instrument. He caused laughter when he said that the Africans became desperate, turned spiritual and sung for centuries; **“I will tell the Lord what you do to me”!**

Muzeyi KK advised participants not to blame Nelson Mandela over the economic imbalances in South Africa arguing that Mandela’s job was liberation and that he did it adding that economic emancipation is for the generation living today. He emphasized that the rule against perpetuity is that the dead cannot rule the living and so as Mandela rests, the living in South Africa working with their strategic partners must work to solve the remaining challenges in society. To him, Mandela did his part and he should rest in peace.

He strongly argued that South Africans engaged in xenophobic crimes were not born criminals but rather situations have made them so. He said that a country still fresh from colonialism, South Africa is still yet to come to peace with itself because integration is still limited, the economic structure is not in the hands of the majority except the majority just have the vote and that this is causing misunderstandings.

Rt. Hon Kivejinja suggested that the solution is to inculcate an ideology of Pan Africanism to encourage integration not only in South Africa but for the whole Africa.

### **REMARKS BY HON DAVID PULKOL, FORMER DIRECTOR GENERAL OF ESO**



*Figure 3: **Hon David Pulkol** (standing) making his speech. Seated on the left is **Prof Edward Kakonge** (Source PAC)*

Hon Pulkol said that the xenophobic attacks in South Africa are a leadership problem within South Africa. He explained that the challenge of leadership is always that you are sitting in a position where others have ever been before and where even better citizens could sit and therefore you must show relevancy why you should keep sitting there. He further asked whether governments especially in Africa are there for the people or the people are there for the governments. He wondered whether some people upon getting into power get complacent with the situation and forget why they went into leadership. That people get into power in order to change situations that but sometimes upon getting there, situations change the leaders instead!

The Hon Pulkol said that nothing whatsoever can justify xenophobic violence in South Africa, that things must always be discussed in order to arrive at an amicable solution that however, there should be cause to understand why people resort to such actions of violence because without understanding their cause, you cannot solve the problem. To him, the xenophobic South Africans have grievances which the leaders must understand and address.

He also reasoned that in the course of interventions, South Africa has made enemies and friends and that the enemies may want to undermine the peace, cohesion and stability in South Africa. He added that many people supported South Africa out of apartheid but said that some might have done so for different reasons which now they may not see forthcoming and decide to undermine the government through such violence. He gave the example of Uganda saying that we have been dealing with such problems like the ADF, LRA, who were trying to take advantage of certain situations to destabilize the country. The other example he gave was the recent Garisa attacks in Kenya where a few Muslims attempted to sow hatred between Christians and Muslims by killing Christians and sparing Muslims adding that we must not allow such criminal actions of a small group to break the spirit of unity in our society. He concluded on this that he is happy that the government of South Africa has responded well to the criminal xenophobic actions by which unity in South Africa is bound to stay.

Hon David Pulkol said that South Africa is a country where 1<sup>st</sup> Class world is coexisting with 3<sup>rd</sup> world Class of people in regard to living conditions i.e.; the extremely minority wealthy and the extremely majority poor. He suggested that the government of South Africa must invest where poor people are and specifically that there should be positive bias in investment expenditure in favor of the poor. He advised that the people must be put at the center of decision making and particularized that ordinary people who will never be presidents, ministers and the like, the leaders should always be there for them instead of leaders merely thinking about themselves and in effect abandoning the rest of the population.

Using the example of Mosques where all the believers irrespective of status leave their shoes behind before they enter and then all become humble in the House of Allah, he advised leaders to be humble as opposed to bringing with them all kinds of mannerisms such as greed on state resources by which they end up diverting public resources for personal selfish goals thereby creating problems yet they should be the ones solving problems! He said that with the kind of greed existing among some leaders of wanting to eat everything and eating big all the time which he termed as eating in upper case / capital letters thereby leaving the ordinary people To Whom It May Concern is a betrayal of Africa's cause by those leaders which he strongly castigated.

He questioned where the Black Empowerment Program which was meant to economically emancipate the ordinary South Africans went. He wondered whether the South Africans who went to government have been co-opted by the rich enterprise class thereby abandoning the ordinary South Africans! He said that when in government, you can easily forget who you are, where you are coming from and begin to view yourself as the most important human being that because the luxuries at your disposal by which life is Christmas every day, you might get a distorted view of life and that this is why some people do not want to leave power and have henceforth become a liability to society in Africa.

Hon Pulkol advised the government of South Africa to introduce a land fund and then progressively help South Africans to acquire land. He further suggested that there should be an annual report on how far progress has been made.

He also proposed a mentorship program for the South Africans whereby when a technician who is non-South African takes over a job, he should train a South African who in turn like say after five years should take over.

David Pulkol advised the non-South Africans doing business in South Africa to integrate with the locals short of which, they risk being targeted by the South Africans. He gave an example of the Indians back here in Uganda who in the early years used to walk alone with their wives on Sundays that this provoked certain feelings which isolated the Indians from the locals. He also gave an example of the Mabira protests a couple of years ago when an Indian was killed and questioned how Mehta could ask for the whole forest of Mabira wondering where did he miss the lesson when God was teaching on what to ask!

Finally, he called upon East Africans to draw lessons from what is happening in South Africa and called for joint ventures in enterprises with the East African Community to encourage integration. He also advised on proper language reminding Pan Africanists on the saying that we shall not wait for the Karimojongs to develop and wondered if

you put yourself in the shoes of a Karimojong like he is; how would you feel when you hear such. He said fortunately, the Karimojongs today are not asking for anyone to wait for them but rather they have brought themselves and are now celebrating Karimojong integration into the Ugandan economy.

**REMARKS BY PROF EDWARD KAKONGE, THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN OF UPC AND FORMER MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**



*Figure 4: Prof Edward Kakonge (standing) making his comments during the discussion (Source PAC)*

He began with a question; what failed South Africa? Adding that what failed South Africa has failed many of us. He said that what defines a human being is not race, place, tribe nor nationality adding that if you find what defines us as human beings, you have found the solution to conflicts like xenophobia.

The Professor said that some people behave as if the people they are trying to kill are not human beings which is a tragedy. He challenged participants that: "Imagine being in a situation where there are no human beings; how would you define yourself?" He argued that as a human race, we are much more integrated than one may think.

He regretted that what is happening in South Africa is not new, it happened in countries like Rwanda and Somalia where people are of the same culture and language. To him,

the solution is to understand what it means to respect another human being and respect human life. He added that for you to define the life of others as expendables, you are impliedly defining yourself as not a human being which is very unfortunate.

He said that a lot of cotton industries in Europe and cities like Liverpool were built by slaves from Africa which was against the respect for human beings as sovereign entity of themselves.

### **COMMENTS BY MR NATHAN BYAMUKAMA OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION**



*Figure 5: **Comrade Nathan Byamukama**(standing) delivering his speech. Seated on his right is **Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja**, one of his co-guest speakers (Source PAC)*

He began by saying that the cause worth leading is the cause of ordinary people adding that more importantly, the cause of human rights is a struggle you can fight and you should never give up. He said that in defending human rights, there are always three categories of people; the pretenders, the followers and the victims adding that surprisingly, the pretenders who are also the violators of peoples' rights, when they are communicating with you the investigator, they appear to be serious human beings with clear thinking but you wonder why they can't do the right things!

Comrade Nathan added that those who have been violators of others rights and perpetrators of tribalism, genocide thereby causing suffering have usually ended up badly and some like Hitler hanged themselves while others such as Habyarimana of Rwanda had no choice but to end the way they ended.

He thinks that what is happening in South Africa is not xenophobia but rather xenophobia is a mere scapegoat because a black is not a foreigner in Africa and that moreover, we look alike. To him there are other fundamentals in the economy and governance that are the real cause but not merely hatred of a Black against another Black. He gave an example that there are killings in South Sudan, DRC, then we had Banyoro versus the Bakiga, the Bararo are being harassed in Soroti and that we had deaths in Northern Uganda and asked whether those were foreigners.

Mr. Byamukama further said that human rights are an ideological issue. He wondered that in the experience of Rwanda, people were very religious but after leaving church, they would go and kill others.

He added that learning from Rwanda's genocide and the negligence of the same by the UN, the Great Lakes Region has found solution by putting in place a protocol on prevention of genocide and other forms of discrimination.

About the violence in South Africa, he suspects that there must be some big people who are morally bankrupt with populist mindset and other objectives that could be behind the attacks and that these could be politicians, religious or clan leaders.

Mr. Byamukama quoted King Goodwill Zwelithin of the Zulu whose remarks are said to have triggered the violence in which he called upon foreigners to leave South Africa and part of the Kings words were: "Most government leaders do not want to speak out on this matter because they don't want to lose votes, as a king; I can't allow leaders who do not have a view whatsoever.....I know you were in their countries but the fact is you did not establish businesses there.....". This could seem to mean that the king was against foreigners doing businesses in South Africa and thus "inconveniencing" locals. Comrade Byamukama said that we must not allow populism because it can be harmful to cohesion in society and lead to loss of life and property. He said that we need proper leaders and that they can be found only that you won't find them by steering up and exciting everybody devoid of proper objectivity. He called upon participants never to allow any person to incite them.

He advised the government of South Africa to apply early warning mechanisms and then take early action in circumstances that are likely to spur violence in the country. He wondered how come the Zulu king made inciting statements on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2015 in presence of a police minister and then he came to deny on the 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 which was close to a month and asked why wait for all that period and why didn't the minister and the government in general analyze the statements, predict what was likely to happen especially given that xenophobic violence had ever occurred in the country in

2008 and take pre-emptive measures? He argued that it matters what the leadership communicates to the people, when and how it is communicated.

## **PARTICIPANTS' VIEWS**



*Figure 6: A cross-section of **participants** listening attentively to the Guest Speakers submissions shortly before the plenary (Source PAC)*

**Muzeyi Peter Wankulu** called upon Africa to be solution oriented and taking action against challenges facing the continent. He expressed displeasure that Africa keeps talking and that in fact we talk a lot but implement nothing. He wondered for how long we should talk about Africa's unity without implementing it!

**Nandala Gidudu** said that what is happening in South Africa is like a husband quarreling with a wife and then one of them transfers anger to the children yet they are not a party to the quarrel. To him, the challenge of South Africa is income inequality and poverty among majority Blacks, for them to think that their problem are foreigners is a misnomer.

Mr. Nandala suggested that South Africa is strategically positioned to be the vanguard of Africa's economy and gave an example that the colonial masters had wanted to establish a railway from Cape Town to Cairo and asked why South Africa for example cannot engage in that today! He also said that we have River Congo in DRC which can supply electricity to the entire Africa and again wondered why not engage in such more

useful projects to Africa instead of harassing their fellow Africans! That the current trend by South Africa of exporting shops, mtn and apples are not worthwhile compared to the aforementioned.

**J.J Opondo** said that the government of UPC did not only support South Africa's liberation by resources both finances, manpower and hardware but also they lost government in 1971 because of involvement in the South Africa's struggle. It should be remembered that President Obote had been told of a likely coup in case he left for Singapore in the 1971 Common Wealth meeting but because of pressure from other African Heads of State who had chosen him to represent the continent about apartheid in South Africa mainly due to his outstanding eloquence and Pan Africanism; he despite the coup threats went to Singapore because of South Africa and in effect Amin took over. Mr. Opondo also suggested that empowering Blacks requires involving the youth at early stage for sustainability and lasting cohesion.

**Archibald Kakuranga** suggested that we should try to understand our problems before beginning to devise solutions short of which we risk getting the solutions wrong. He also said that what defines a human being are the genetics and that African human systems which are fundamental in running society are largely absent today. He also advocated for calling a spade a spade whereby in his view, a pretender in the chain of abuse of human rights is actually the violator and he should be called that instead of creating another word; 'pretender'

Mr. Kakuranga disagreed that the South Africans engaged in xenophobic violence are not South Africans but rather criminal; to him by dehumanizing them, you escalate the problem, that instead, they should be accepted as South Africans and then work out a strategy of rehabilitating them. Comrade Kakuranga clarified that Pan African Movement was started by Paul Karfe and then Marcus Gavi came in later.

**Silver Turamye** called for mutual respect and support. He said that in case of a campaign to restore Pan Africanism, it should be all inclusive of the Pan Africanists because they are willing to sacrifice for Africa.

**Mwido Mohammed** said that it is wrong to think that when you use a gun, you create stability that because even with the gun, some things which are beyond it can still make you unstable. He said that we have had a problem in Africa where revolutionaries come to power when they are poor only to become rich all of a sudden and then marginalize the poor. He said in the case of South Africa, those who were rich are today richer while those who were poor are poorer and that the failure to address the economics of South Africa was a major shortfall of Comrade Nelson Mandela.



*Figure 7: **Mr. Mwidu Mohammed** popularly known as shadow RDC (standing) causes laughter during his brief submission as a participant (Source PAC)*

**Comrade Mwidu** further said that our leaders do not listen and that they have a lot of money amidst highly poverty stricken and hungry people which is against Pan Africanism. Comradeship is in words but in the pocket, there is a very big difference and no comradeship at all! He said that the rich will always be fought by the poor because they must survive.

**Peace Busingye** said that it is sad that one decides to condemn another to death like is happening in South Africa. She said that regretfully, killings of innocent people are happening in many parts of the world and that they will always happen. She also advised African leaders to stop being shortsighted and try to learn from history. She added that when there is a problem, leaders should not rush to solutions without digging out the root causes because by so doing, their solutions are likely to be shallow and ineffective.

**Makoha Sharif** said that some governments in Africa have made it a habit not to listen to peaceful engagement and only listen when violence is applied. He gave an example of Makerere University where he is a student that if they have a grievance, the government can't hear unless they strike and so it has become a habit. He added that some governments value foreigners than citizens. He said that in Makerere University for example, foreign students pay higher tuition and alleged that this causes the government to value them than the locals.

**Moses Kakama** said that the African Union has failed to do its work and that African leaders have failed their countries with exception of a few such as Ghana. To him, the solution is that African leaders must embrace true democracy.

**Allan Kisiro** said that the issue is individual character; he said if foreigners misbehave or are arrogant on the nationals, they may be attacked by the nationals. He also said that sometimes the language used is inciting and insulting to the locals, he gave an example that if you say one Kenyan is equal to five Ugandans that what message are you sending?

**Moses Earth** appealed to the South Africa's government to revisit its governance model. To him, when the head is in pain, the entire body system is not fine, adding that what is happening in South Africa shows that here is a problem in South Africa and that government must solve it. That in Uganda Amin turned things for the better because he put the economy in the hands of the nationals no matter the challenges that arose.

Mr. Earth also advised the South African government to release the detainees and use negotiation and education to the attackers. He added that people go to other countries either as diplomats, refugees or investors but asked what do you expect when you go in another country and you are a driver, a watchman, then what should the local poor person do?

**Musana Jafali** said that the AU has done nothing and that the African Court is redundant instead of handling very urgent crimes against humanity on the Continent. Quoting John F. Kennedy, Comrade Jafali said: "Poverty is the mother of the revolution". He argued that the problems happening in South Africa are due to poverty among the Blacks and that the leaders in that country must address poverty first before they can expect cohesion and peace to prevail.

**Lutwama Africas** said that criminalizing people when they are expressing their anger no matter through violence is not correct, he reminded comrades that Mandela was once called a criminal and wondered whether he was really one, so to him one man's criminal may be somebody else's hero! He also advised the government of South Africa to address the extreme effects of capitalism by promoting principles of equity. He added that in technical terms, liberation is over in South Africa but the need for transformation of society is still at large.

Comrade Lutwama said that for we have all sinned and fallen short of the glory befitting a human being, he gave example that American civilization was built on criminal genocide by whites against fellow whites.

**Oyaka Makmot** challenged the dismissive attitude of the South African government calling the xenophobic attackers a gang / criminals, he argued that those they have captured are those they have managed to reach that but rather the problem is very big and cannot be dismissed as merely small group. He said that 25% of those born after attainment of independence in 1994 are unemployed and reasoned that liberation to vote is not enough but rather addressing economic injustices, poverty and landlessness are key in a liberation for it to be said as real liberation.



*Figure 8: **Comrade Oyaka Makmot** (standing) giving his views during the plenary discussion (Source PAC)*

## **CLOSING REMARKS BY PANELISTS**

### **Comments by Ms. Wendy Swartz**

The High Commissioner appreciated comments and questions from participants and panelists. She said it was good to learn from one another and that some of the points made during the discussion were valid points. She said that the cause which the ANC fought for is against xenophobia, racism and stands for equal opportunities for all. She added that the government of South Africa in pursuance of the above will continue from where the Truth and Reconciliation Commission ended and ensure holistic lasting solutions to the challenges in South Africa.



*Figure 9: Ms. Wendy Swartz (standing) giving her closing remarks (Source PAC)*

The Envoy added that the government of South Africa is aware of the economic structural problems of imbalance and unemployment and that this the government knows is a time bomb if not addressed, that indeed it is not enough to have the vote without experiencing equality that however, the government of South Africa is dealing with these challenges. That the government in South Africa is doing many incredibly good services like generation and distribution of electricity, infrastructural development only that the task is huge but also the government is trying to work very hard and she is very optimistic that these challenges will gradually be solved.

### **Comments by Mr. Nathan Byamukama an official of the Great Lakes Region**

He called for positive ideology for Africa's transformation as opposed to negative ideology of the terrorists who for example believe that once you kill and even commit suicide, you will find good things waiting for you in heaven! He wondered how in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century people could still have such false negative ideological conviction for which they are willing to die. He called upon African leaders to ensure optimum utilization of our resources so as to move Africa forward. He also thanked the Pan African Club Management and members for maintaining the discussions which he said are immensely contributing in making level headed people.

### **Comments by Hon David Pulkol, former Director General of External Intelligence**

He said it is all about hope, that if you take hope from me, what do I remain with! He said in the case of Uganda, in the old days under the NRM, whenever there was a challenge; the word was '*Chama napanga*' implying that the Movement is planning that but today they tell you openly that there is no money yet billions are stolen and no one is apprehended. He gave an example of the recent pensions scandal where 165 billion Ug Shs is said to have been robbed but for two years, no arrests, no prosecution of anyone and no nothing and wondered how such could happen in a functioning state.

Hon Pulkol added that after coming out of the bush, the talk was *wananchi* meaning the people but today they call them hooligans and problems for police tear gas which all in all he said implies a lot has changed to the negative in terms of governance in Uganda.

### **Comments by Prof Edward Kakonge, the national chairman of UPC**

He told us that the biggest enemy you have is yourself; if you organize yourself bearing critical thinking; you have got the solution to your problems. He also advised against adopting concepts which have no meaning to us which are usually either imposed or copied.

### **Closing remarks by Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja, Presidential Advisor**



Figure 10: **Rt. Hon Kirunda Kivejinja** making closing remarks at the Pan African Club discussion. On the left is **Ms. Wendy Swartz**, the South Africa's envoy (Source PAC)

**Muzeyi KK** told us that in a revolution they say *Alluta Continua* which means that the struggle continues; he explained that the fact that we hoisted our national flag, the AU being formed, Nelson Mandela ruling and leaving did not mean that that was the end of the revolution. That therefore, the revolution we have to undertake today is the economic revolution and it is those present to take up that struggle. He said that unfortunately, the world moves very speedily with things which are wrong and that sometimes people who are correct are isolated!

The Rt. Hon warned that unless African minds are organized to address African problems, we will not have holistic solutions to our problems. He added that all people who liberated societies never used the front door; they worked unseen. Injustices were being felt but people feared speaking out. He said that we have come to Pan African Club to learn from the South African problem and tell ourselves that the problem can be worse and prepare to do something. He advised participants not to go home and sleep but think of solutions.

He advised the participants to learn from President Yoweri Museveni whom he called a good shooter and argued that when you have a good shooter you do not change him

simply because you want to shoot. He said Uganda has defeated terrorist groups totaling 25 in number because of good leadership under Mr. Museveni.

He called upon participants to always face any situation with hope and confidence that because situations are bound to call for solutions and then after, society can live better. He also praised former president Idi Amin for removing the economy from the hands of foreigners to the hands of Ugandans. He even posed a question whether there has ever been a leader who allows that the economy of his country should be in foreign hands and to him there has been none.

Muzeyi KK advised the youth never to give up on a good cause. He gave the example of our former Chief Justice Wako Wambuzi who did medicine for six years in Makerere University and he was told he had passed highly that but being awarded a degree was pending a decision by the Board which was managed by colonialists, the Board cancelled his degree and put to waste his six years because he was too clever to be tolerated! That however, he did not give up and that Rt. Hon Kivejinja helped him to acquire a scholarship from Local Government and went and did law and became one of the best lawyers to the extent that he became even a Chief Justice who is known to have performed very well and he has lived a successful man, full stop.

Muzeyi KK donated a book to Pan African Club library titled: "Seasons of African Holistic Development" by Asher Birabwa. Other copies are available for sale. He also suggested that there should be a continental organization of the nature of Pan African Club where young people throughout Africa meet and discuss matters of interest to the African people. This suggestion, the Pan African Club is interested in taking it up with Muzeyi KK and other possible eminent Pan Africanists in Uganda and beyond.

**Compiled by:**  
Staff, Pan African Club