

**PETITION
TO
ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF
UGANDA**

TELEGRAMS: "ADMINISTER"
DIRECT LINES:
ATTORNEY GENERAL: 0414-343841
MINISTER OF STATE: 0414-343401
SOLICITOR GENERAL: 0414-343941
UNDER SECRETA



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
P.O. BOX 7183
KAMPALA - UGANDA

RY: 0414-342261
GENERAL LINES: 0414-230538/9
FAX: 0414-230802/254829
WEBSITE: www.justice.go.ug

In any correspondence on this subject
Please quote No. **ADM.7/171/01**

9th February 2016

Executive Director
National Identity and Registration Authority
P.O.Box 7191
Kampala

LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF THE CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

Reference is made to letters to the Hon. Attorney General from the Rt. Hon Speaker, Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs and one from the Chairman Maragoli Community on the above captioned matter.

I have been instructed to inform you that we have advised the Chairman of the Maragoli Community on this matter as follows:-

1. That the "Maragoli" are not recognized under the 1995 Constitution of Uganda as an indigenous community as at 1st February 1926
Their inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the Constitution can only be handled by a Constitutional Amendment.
2. The Maragoli Community is however advised to get National Identity Cards as they had already registered, pending the Constitutional Amendment for inclusion of the Maragoli as one of the indigenous communities.

The Chairman of the Maragoli Community has been informed accordingly.


C. Gashirabake
FOR. SOLICITOR GENERAL

C.C Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament

Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs

District Identification Officer, Kiryandongo - District

The Chairman Maragoli Community

TELEGRAMS:
DIRECT LINES:
ATTORNEY GENERAL: 0414-343841
MINISTER OF STATE: 0414-343401
SOLICITOR GENERAL: 0414-343941
UNDER SECRETARY: 0414-342261
GENERAL LINES: 0414-230538/9
FAX: 0414-230802/254829
WEBSITE: www.justice.go.ug

"ADMINISTER"



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
P.O. BOX 7183
KAMPALA - UGANDA

In any correspondence on this subject
Please quote No. **ADM.7/176/01**

8th February 2016

The Chairman
Maragoli Community
Kiryandongo - District

LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF THE CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

Reference is made to your letter to the Solicitor General dated the 9th December 2015 on the above captioned matter.

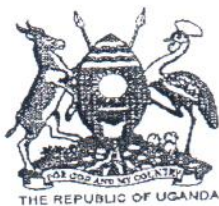
This is to inform you that we have considered your request and advise as follows:-

1. That the "Maragoli" are not recognized under the 1995 Constitution of Uganda as an indigenous community as at 1st February 1926. Their inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the Constitution can only be handled by a Constitutional Amendment.
2. The Maragoli Community is however advised to get National Identity Cards as they had already registered, pending the Constitutional Amendment for inclusion of the Maragoli as one of the indigenous communities.


C. Gashirabake
FOR. SOLICITOR GENERAL

C.C Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament
Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs

TELEGRAMS: "ADMINISTER"
DIRECT LINES:
ATTORNEY GENERAL: 0414-343841
MINISTER OF STATE: 0414-343401
SOLICITOR GENERAL: 0414-343941
UNDER SECRETARY: 0414-342261
GENERAL LINES: 0414-230538/9
FAX: 0414-230802/254829
WEBSITE: www.justice.go.ug



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
P.O. BOX 7183
KAMPALA - UGANDA

In any correspondence on this subject
Please quote No. **ADM.203/01**

9th February 2016

The Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament
Parliament of Uganda
P.O.Box 7178
Kampala

LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF THE CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

Reference is made to your letter to the Hon. Attorney General dated the 22nd
December 2015 ref. AB/199/199/01 on the above captioned matter.

I have been instructed to inform you that we have advised the Chairman of the
Maragoli Community on this matter as follows:-

1. That the "Maragoli" are not recognized under the 1995 Constitution of
Uganda as an indigenous community as at 1st February 1926
Their inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the Constitution can only be handled
by a Constitutional Amendment.
2. The Maragoli Community is however advised to get National Identity Cards
as they had already registered, pending the Constitutional Amendment for
inclusion of the Maragoli as one of the indigenous communities.

The Chairman of the Maragoli Community has been informed accordingly.


C. Gashirabake

FOR. SOLICITOR GENERAL

C.C Hon. Minister of Internal Affairs

The Chairman Maragoli Community

TELEGRAMS: "ADMINISTER"
DIRECT LINES:
ATTORNEY GENERAL: 0414-343841
MINISTER OF STATE: 0414-343401
SOLICITOR GENERAL: 0414-343941
UNDER SECRETARY: 0414-342261
GENERAL LINES: 0414-230538/9
FAX: 0414-230802/254829
WEBSITE: www.justice.go.ug



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
P.O. BOX 7183
KAMPALA - UGANDA

In any correspondence on this subject
Please quote No. **ADM.7/171/01**

9th February 2016

The Hon. Minister
Ministry of Internal Affairs
P.O.Box 7191
Kampala


LEGAL INTERPRETATION OF THE CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

Reference is made to your letter to the Hon. Attorney General dated the 21st December 2015 Ref.ADM 154/285/01 on the above captioned matter.

I have been instructed to inform you that we have advised the Chairman of the Maragoli Community on this matter as follows:-

1. That the "Maragoli" are not recognized under the 1995 Constitution of Uganda as an indigenous community as at 1st February 1926
Their inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the Constitution can only be handled by a Constitutional Amendment.
2. The Maragoli Community is however advised to get National Identity Cards as they had already registered, pending the Constitutional Amendment for inclusion of the Maragoli as one of the indigenous communities.

The Chairman of the Maragoli Community has been informed accordingly.


C. Gashirabake
FOR. SOLICITOR GENERAL

C.C Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament

The Chairman Maragoli Community



PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA
Speaker's Chambers

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

P.O. BOX 7178
KAMPALA, UGANDA

Tel: +256-414-346 806
+256-414-377 100
Fax: +256-414-231 296

AB/199/199/01

22nd December, 2015

The Attorney General
Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
P.O. Box 7183
KAMPALA

**RE: REQUEST FOR LEGAL ADVICE IN RESPECT OF THE STATUS OF THE
MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA.**

On the 29th day of July, 2014, I received a petition from Asyabugwa Musa, on behalf of the Maragoli community. The petitioners sought to have the Maragoli community included in the 3rd schedule of the Constitution as one of the indigenous communities that existed in Uganda by 1st January 1962. The Maragoli claim to have arrived in Uganda in 1903 during the construction of the East African Railway.

On the 13th day of May, 2015, I referred the Petition to the Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee which was at the time considering Constitution Amendment Bill, 2015. The Maragoli community appeared before the Committee on 21st May 2015 and made their submission regarding the same.

In its final report to the House, the Committee reported that there was no sufficient time to effectively consider proposals to amend the Constitution that were outside the scope of the Bill presented by the Government and recommended that a Constitution Review Commission be set up to process the proposals received by the Committee outside the scope of the Bill.

The Maragoli Community has once again petitioned my office requesting for legal guidance on their status after some of them were denied National Identity Cards on ground that the Maragoli people are not citizens of Uganda since the Community is not among the indigenous communities in the third schedule to the Constitution.

Please advise on what steps they can take within the ambit of the Constitution to have their citizenship actualized to ensure their participation in the forthcoming elections.

Attached are copies of their petitions.

Yours faithfully,



Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga
SPEAKER, PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

Cc: Mr. Karubanga Jacob Ateenyi
Chairman Kigumba Town Council
Cc: Mr. Asyabugwa Musa
Chairman Maragoli Community



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

TELEGRAMS:
TELEPHONE: 4340700/4231188
Fax 4343088
Website: www.mia.go.ug

P.O. Box 7191
KAMPALA

In any correspondence on this
Subject please quote NO. **ADM 154/285/01**

December 21st, 2015

The Attorney General
Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
Kampala

**RE: LEGAL GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY
IN UGANDA**

I received a request from the Chairman Maragoli Community in Uganda, Mr Musa Asavugwa and the Chairperson Kigumba town council Mr. Karubanga Jacob Ateenyi on the above subject matter.

Attached are their self-explanatory memoranda addressed to me for ease of reference.

The purpose of this letter is to request you to peruse through and give a legal opinion that will provide a lasting solution on their citizenship status in Uganda and possibility to participate in the ongoing electoral process.

Thank you.

Hon Akol Rose Okullu (MP)
Minister for Internal Affairs

TELEPHONE:
WHITCHBOARD:

041-4 347854
041-4 347855

PERMANENT SECRETARY:

041-4 343572

FAX:

041 256374

E-MAIL:

ps@mglisd.go.ug

WEBSITE:

<http://www.mglisd.go.ug>



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Ministry of Gender, Labour
and Social Development
P.O. Box 7136
Kampala,
Uganda.

17 December 2015

The Attorney General
Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
Kampala


Dear Colleague

**RE: LEGAL GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI
COMMUNITY IN UGANDA**

I have received a request from the Chairperson Maragoli Community in Uganda, Mr. Musa Asavugwa on the above subject matter.

Attached enclosed their self-explanatory memorandum addressed to me for your ease of reference.

The purpose of this letter is to forward their complaint to you for a lasting legal guidance on their citizenship status in Uganda.


Wilson Muruli Mukasa (MP)
MINISTER

c.c. H.E the President of the Republic of Uganda

c.c Mr. Musa Asavugwa
Chairperson – Maragoli Community Uganda



The Republic of Uganda

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS
 OFFICE OF CHAIRPERSON KIGUMBA TOWN COUNCIL
 P.O. BOX 788, KIGUMBA
 Chairperson LC III 0775904016
 Town Clerk 0782910107
 Head of Finance 0772513353

16 DEC 2015

P. O. BOX 7191 KAMPALA

RECEIVED

MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY OF



Kigumba Town Council
KIRYANDONGO

14th December 2015

The Minister of Internal Affairs
KAMPALA

REQUEST FOR LEGAL GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

Madam Minister, on 29th July 2014 I on behalf of the Maragoli community presented to the speaker of the 9th parliament a petition seeking their inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the 1995 constitution as one of the indigenous communities that existed in Uganda by 1st January 1926 whose copy we submitted to your office on 10th December 2015. On 13th May 2015 she referred the petition to the legal and parliamentary affairs committee of parliament for scrutiny and eventual reporting. Accordingly the legal and parliamentary affairs committee invited the community representatives for a hearing on 21st May 2015. It was hoped that this would pave way for parliamentary debate to resolve the matter. However, because it was not one of the cabinet constitutional amendment proposals, it was left out of those to be debated then. This puts the Maragoli community in a very big predicament as they cannot acquire the national Identity Cards and enjoy the attendant benefits especially the ongoing elections yet all along they have been participating. Some of them have parents who belong to some of the indigenous tribes as listed in the 3rd schedule to the constitution and were duly registered but have been denied to access their IDs even when their names appear in the register with the cards available but confiscated just because they feel they should maintain their tribe.

We tried to follow up the matter with the Attorney General for a legal opinion on 9th December 2015. He said he had never got a request to that effect and that he would provide his opinion once it is put to him.

In this connection therefore, given their history as outlined in the petition, this is to request for your intervention to seek for Attorney General's legal opinion on their status and whether they really cannot participate in these elections given that they have been participating in all the previous election before the ID project was launched.

UHA 340 700

177554 2906 - Sarah

Yours in solidarity,

14 DEC 2015



Karubanga Jacob Ateenyi
CHAIRMAN KIGUMBA TOWN COUNCIL

Cc. HE. The President of the Republic Of Uganda

Cc. The Attorney General

Cc. Chairman Maragoli Community

MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

C/O Kigumba Town Council, Kiryandongo District

Tele: 0775904016/0702139210

10th December 2015

10 DEC 2015

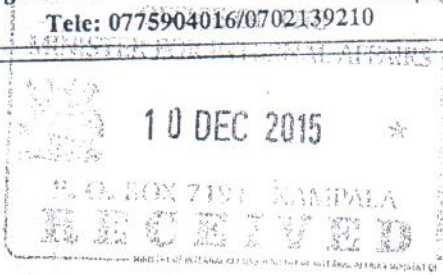
OHIN 340 700

0775 - 54 2906

Namhili 2005 @ yahoo.com

Handwritten notes and signatures on the right margin, including "M.A." and "Serrah".

The Minister of Internal Affairs
KAMPALA



REQUEST FOR LEGAL GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

On 29th July 2014 we the Maragoli community petitioned the speaker of the 9th parliament seeking inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the 1995 constitution as one of the indigenous communities that existed in Uganda by 1st January 1926. Attached is a copy of the petition.

On 13th May 2015 the speaker referred the petition to the legal and parliamentary affairs committee of parliament for scrutiny and eventual reporting. Accordingly the legal and parliamentary affairs committee invited the community representatives for a hearing on the 21st May 2015. It was hoped that this would pave way for parliamentary debate to resolve the matter. However, because it was not one of the cabinet constitutional amendment proposals, it was left out of those to be debated then. This put us in a very big predicament as we cannot acquire the national Identity Cards and enjoy the attendant benefits including participation in the ongoing elections. Some of us have parents who belong to some of the indigenous tribes as listed in the 3rd schedule to the constitution but have been denied to access our IDs even when we registered and all our names are in the register with the cards available but confiscated just because we feel we should maintain our tribe.

When we followed up with the attorney general on 9th December 2015 he said he would only respond to a request made by a government body especially one that is involved in internal affairs.

In this connection therefore, this is to seek for your intervention to enable an interpretation of our status as outlined in our petition to parliament to be made by the Attorney General.

Yours in solidarity,

Musa

MUSA ASAVUGWA
CHAIRMAN MARAGOLI COMMUNITY- 0782-620,577
Cc. HE. The President of the Republic Of Uganda
Cc. The Attorney General

MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA
KIRYANDONGO DISTRICT

9th December 2015

THE SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT
RT. HON REBBECA KADAGA
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
KAMPALA

**FOLLOW UP ON THE PETITION FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE MARAGOLI
AS INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY IN THE 3RD SCHEDULE OF THE 1995
CONSTITUTION OF UGANDA.**

Madam you will recall on 29th July 2014 the Maragoli community presented the above mentioned petition to you and on 13th/5/2015 you routed the same to the legal and parliamentary affairs committee. On follow up we were informed that this would be handled together with the other amendments upon putting in place the constitutional review commission. In the mean time we felt it would be wise to seek an interpretation from the Attorney General and probably meet the president over the matter. This is because as mentioned in the petition, while the community has been participating in all the civil and legal activities, this time round there is a challenge of accessing the national IDs. Whereas some of us have parents whose tribes appear in the constitution of Uganda and were dully registered and our names appeared in the National voters register, we have been denied to access our national Identity cards. A number of us who have been in political leadership for decades in various regimes have this time round been denied participation. This puts us into a situation of statelessness.

In this connection therefore we request that a legal interpretation of our situation be made. We also request you to help link us up with H.E the president as he prepares to come to Kiryandongo district for campaign so that we share the matter at length.

Yours faithfully



Ndooli David Sec. Maragoli Community
0782 470 574 / 0775904016

Speaker's Office
0414 377 100

0414 346 806

Received 10/12/2015

MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

C/O Kigumba Town Council- Kiryandongo District
Tele: 0775904016/0702139210

10th December 2015

The Minister of Gender Labor and Social Development
KAMPALA

REQUEST FOR LEGAL GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

On 29th July 2014 we the Maragoli community petitioned the speaker of the 9th parliament seeking inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the 1995 constitution as one of the indigenous communities that existed in Uganda by 1st January 1926. Attached is a copy of the petition.

On 13th May 2015 the speaker referred the petition to the legal and parliamentary affairs committee of parliament for scrutiny and eventual reporting. Accordingly the legal and parliamentary affairs committee invited the community representatives for a hearing on the on 21st May 2015. It was hoped that this would pave way for parliamentary debate to resolve the matter. However, because it was not one of the cabinet constitutional amendment proposals, it was left out of those to be debated then. This put us in a very big predicament as we cannot acquire the national Identity Cards and enjoy the attendant benefits including participation in the ongoing elections. Some of us have parents who belong to some of the indigenous tribes as listed in the 3rd schedule to the constitution but have been denied to access our IDs even when we registered and all our names are in the register with the cards available but confiscated just because we feel we should maintain our tribe.

When we followed up with the attorney general on 9th December 2015 he said he would only respond to a request made by a government body especially one involved in Social Development.

In this connection therefore, this is to seek for your intervention to enable an interpretation of our status as outlined in our petition to parliament to be made by the Attorney General.

Yours in solidarity,

MUSA

MUSA ASAVUGWA
CHAIRMAN MARAGOLI COMMUNITY - 0782-620,577
Cc. HE. The President of the Republic Of Uganda
Cc. The Attorney General

*Hon. Musuli Mukasa 0776 999944
0114341031*



MARAGOLI COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

C/O Kigumba Town Council

P. O. Box 63

Kiryandongo District

Kigumba

Tele: 0775904016/0702139210

10 AUG 2015
RECEIVED
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
P.O. BOX 7133 KAMPALA

10th August 2015

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KAMPALA

REQUEST FOR LEGAL GUIDANCE ON THE STATUS OF THE MARAGOLI
COMMUNITY IN UGANDA

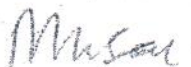
On 29th July 2014 we the Maragoli community petitioned the 9th parliament through the speaker seeking inclusion in the 3rd schedule of the 1995 constitution as one of the indigenous communities that existed in Uganda by 1st January 1926. Attached is a copy of the petition.

Subsequently the speaker referred the petition to the legal and parliamentary affairs committee of parliament for scrutiny and eventual reporting on 13th May 2015. Accordingly the legal and parliamentary committee invited the community representatives for a hearing on the on 21st May 2015. It was hoped that this would pave way for parliamentary debate to resolve the matter.

However, because it is not one of the cabinet constitutional amendment proposals, it has been left out of those to be debated currently. This puts us in a very big predicament as we cannot acquire the national Identity Cards and enjoy the abundant benefits including participation in the ongoing elections.

In this connection therefore, this is to seek for your interpretation of our status as outlined in our petition to parliament.

Yours in solidarity,



MUSA ASAVUGWA
CHAIRMAN MARAGOLI COMMUNITY- 0782-620,577
Cc. HE. The President of the Republic Of Uganda
Cc. Speaker of Parliament- Kampala
Cc. Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
Cc. Minister of Internal Affairs- Kampala

10 AUG 2015