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THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**Ministry of Gender, Labour  
and Social Development**  
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**Kampala,**  
**Uganda.**

In any correspondence on  
This subject please quote No. **LEI 74/286/01**

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**PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL  
DEVELOPMENT ON ORGANISATIONS/INDIVIDUALS CHARGING MONEY TO  
FOLLOW UP ON DISTRESSED MIGRANT WORKERS**

1. It has come to our attention that there are some unscrupulous individuals and organizations purporting to offer a variety of services to Ugandan migrant workers in the Middle East particularly those in distress. The services among others include repatriation, rescue of migrant workers who have escaped from their employers, follow up on the sick migrant workers and filing complaints with the Ministry.
2. The said individuals/organizations have circulated registration forms calling upon migrant workers or Ugandans with relatives working in the Middle East to pay registration fees for services they offer. Other organizations collect money from relatives of distressed migrant workers and then file complaints with the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.
3. We have further noted that ever since the Government allowed stranded Ugandans abroad to return, there are false alarms in respect of migrant workers on some social media platforms possibly propagated by these organizations and some relatives of migrant workers who want their relatives to return.
4. The public is informed that the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, as the regulator of externalization of labour, has not authorized and/or accredited any individual or organization to offer repatriation, rescue, follow up, monitoring or any other service to Ugandan migrant workers in the Middle East.

5. Together with the responsible licensed external recruitment agencies, their umbrella association UAERA and the respective Ugandan Missions abroad, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development receives and follows up complaints of distressed/stranded migrant workers working at no cost. Indeed, the Ministry has successfully resolved several cases of distress and the migrant workers have been repatriated.
6. The Ministry calls upon members of the public that have relatives who migrated to work in the Middle East and are under distress or might be stranded due to the current lockdown to lodge complaints with the recruitment agencies that externalized the migrant workers and subsequently with the Ministry if no assistance is extended.
7. Members of the public are therefore warned against registering and/dealing with these unscrupulous individuals/organizations. Whoever deals with them shall do so at their own risk.



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**FOR: PERMANENT SECRETARY**