



**A PRESENTATION ON “CONNECTING COMMUNITIES OF DISCOURSE:  
HOW THE JUDICIARY, ACADEMIA, GOVERNMENT & INTERNATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS FURTHER THE WORK OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.**

**AT BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY PROVO, UTAH  
ON OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2009**

**PRESENTED BY  
HON MUSA ECWERU  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR RELIEF, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS &  
REFEGEES**

**CONFERENCE ON “CONNECTING COMMUNITIES OF DISCOURSE: HOW THE JUDICIARY, ACADEMIA, GOVERNMENT AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FURTHER THE WORK OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM”.**

Leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Later Day Saints who have been kind to facilitate this conference.

The Managers of the Brigham Young University which was kind to host this crucial event.

All of you friends and distinguished Lady's and Gentlemen.

My name is Musa Ecweru a Member of Parliament and a Minister of State for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees from Uganda.

Uganda is a former British Colony in East Africa; it got its independence in 1962. It sits in a very volatile region of Africa known as the Great Lakes Region.

It is also a few hours away by air from the countries that form what is known as the Horn of Africa.

It is a region characterized by fragile states and in some cases totally failed states.

Uganda has had its share of both man made and natural calamities and most of the man made are as a result of attempts to expand

radical Islam down south along the mighty Nile River particularly from Khartoum in the Sudan.

It is worth noting that from 1971 to 1979 an illiterate President in the name of Gen Idi Amin ruled the country with an iron fist dismantling all democratic institutions, murdering and exiling a number of academicians and suppressing all other religions denominations except Islam.

The consequences of Dictator Amin's rule and the scars he created are still being healed today.

The motto of my country is "FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY" and the Government that I represent today tries to aspire to the calling of our motto.

The NRM (National Resistance Movement) Government tries to strengthen the 3 arms of Government; The Executive; The Judiciary and Legislature. Civil Society organizations and faith based organizations work closely with the media as the 4<sup>th</sup> estate playing a complementary role in the development of the country.

It is clear today that any society or country however strong economically or militarily, if it is morally weak is doomed.

Hence the need not only for freedom of worship but for active participation of faith based organizations in the day to day affairs of the country/society.

It is also clear now with global warming and climate change presenting a new challenge to Governments, Policies must be founded on research. The role of the academia is therefore extremely critical.

No democracy can survive without robust Justice, Law and Order institutions.

**Conclusion:** Government; Judiciary; Academics and Faith based organizations are partners in promoting our civilization.

THANK YOU  
FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY