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Date: 6th October, 2023

Dr. Stephen Samuel Kaziimba Mugalu,
His Grace,
The Arch Bishop,
The Province of the Church of Uganda,
Kampala.

Your Grace,

Subject: Urgent Appeal for Intervention In Establishing Central Ankole Diocese for Sheema Area (CAD)

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I also trust this letter finds you well and in good spirit. We act as legal counsel for the petitioners representing the Anglican Christians of Sheema, who have been deeply affected by the protracted disputes surrounding the establishment of the Central Ankole Diocese (CAD). I wish to present the brief facts of this matter and implore you to take this issue seriously to prevent any further escalation of tensions within the Church.

Brief Facts:

- Background of Disputes:** The Anglican Church Community in Sheema has been experiencing standing disagreements and disputes with the West Ankole Diocese (WAD). These disputes have centered around various issues including the allocation of funds, selective and preferential treatment of certain members, and other matters.
- Reconciliation Attempts:** Over the years, numerous attempts at reconciliation have been made involving various commissions and initiatives. Unfortunately, these efforts have yielded no tangible results, leaving the Anglican Church Community of Sheema deeply frustrated.
- Secession and Application:** In response to the persistent conflicts, the Sheema Anglican community took the drastic step of seceding from the West Ankole Diocese (WAD). Subsequently, they submitted an application for the establishment of a new diocese, the Central Ankole Diocese (CAD), as a means to prevent future conflicts and to bring about lasting peace.

Hon. Otto Edward Makmot: LLB (Hons) - MUK, Dip. LP (LDC)
Mwesigwa Silverio: LLB (Hons) - MUK, Dip. LP (LDC)
Bwisha Said: LLB (Hons) - MUK, Dip. LP (LDC)

Naiga Swabulah: LLB (Hons) - MUK, Dip. LP (LDC)
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4. **Progress and Challenges:** The Anglican Church Community of Sheema has made significant progress in meeting the requirements for the new diocese. They have opened a CAD bank account, initiated construction projects for essential infrastructure, and identified 'Emmanuel Church Kabwohe' as the proposed cathedral. However, they have faced challenges in communication and trust with the Bishop's office, and there is confusion surrounding the submission of the Synod's approved resolution.

Implore for Your Intervention:

Your Grace, we implore you to intervene and resolve the matter. The disputes surrounding the establishment of CAD have not only caused divisions within the Church but have also led to chaos, confrontations, and the closure of churches and church projects. These conflicts have disrupted church collections and activities, and they threaten to escalate further if left unresolved.

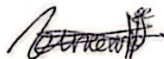
It is our humble request that you invoke clause 6, sec. C of the constitution of the Church of Uganda and take proactive steps to mediate and oversee the process of establishing CAD in the Sheema Area. Clear roadmaps and timelines are essential to ensure transparency and progress in this matter.

Your recent visit to the West Ankole Diocese (WAD) and your affirmation of hope for establishing CAD in Sheema brought renewed optimism to the Sheema Christians. We kindly request that you follow through on this commitment to bring about a peaceful resolution.

We believe that your intervention can prevent further tensions and divisions within the Church and can lead to a just and equitable resolution of this matter. For your perusal, please find enclosed to this letter the relevant documents concerning the dispute.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter, and we look forward to your prompt response within 14 days to enable us plan appropriately.

Sincerely,



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COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONERS

Cc:

1. The Provincial Secretary
2. The Provincial Chancellor
3. The Provincial Head of Laity
4. All Bishops of the Church of Uganda