



Dear Reader, today, we mourn a great ActionAid partner and friend, Afande Felix Kaweesi who was brutally murdered last week together with his body guard and driver. May their souls rest in peace. [Click here](#) for the last weekly edition featuring Afande Kaweesi!

Felix Kaweesi, ActionAid will miss you!



Above-Left: AAU deputy Governing Board Chairperson Nicholus explains the Civic Charter to Kaweesi. **Centre:** is Kaweesi launching the charter and **Right:** is Kaweesi signing the charter. **Below-Left:** Kaweesi with the women Rights team at the Women's day function earlier this month. **Centre:** is Kaweesi with the Civic space advisor during one of the partnerships meeting. **Right:** is the Programs Director with the Police Council at the launch of the I paid a bribe platform in the Police.

People die every day of one cause or the other. Death, unwanted as it is, happens to be part and parcel of our human life. The other day we mourned our former Governing Board Chairperson, the late James Otto with so much grief. Not long later, we lost several parents and spouses to colleagues and friends. Here now we see Police Spokesperson and ActionAid's friend, Andrew Felix Kaweesi's life cut short by gunshots. Of course this is, as we may say "a High profile death", but lots of Ugandans and indeed people everywhere die every day due to diverse causes. It seems quite probable that the pangs of death are simply unavoidable.

Yes, as human beings we feel overwhelmed when a person so close leaves us in the most heart breaking circumstances as have claimed Afande Kaweesi, but truthfully, it seems an inalienable fact that human life operates on a clock far different from the clocks on our walls or the watches on our wrists. Who could have known that on 17th day of March 2017, we would wake up to such heart breaking news?

I first met Kaweesi in August 2013. At that time, ActionAid was planning to launch the Tax Power campaign and among other things needed Police clearance to conduct a match on the streets of Kampala. For some reason, I was tasked with this assignment. I met the jovial and professional kaweesi. He gave the clearance. Before I left, I asked that we be friends since our CSO work would need so many of his approvals.

From that moment forward, ActionAid and the Uganda Police have developed a strong partnership. To call the Police ActionAid friends is an understatement. They are actually our partners. This partnership was made possible by Afande Kaweesi. Some of his last engagements with ActionAid were the launch of the I paid a bribe digital platform in the police. As a result, ActionAid has installed ipaid a bribe boxes at police stations in and around Kampala. Ugandans will be using these to report cases of bribery at Police stations. Afande kaweesi also signed to the civic charter at a breakfast meeting where he called on CSO actors to cooperate with the police to ensure that the Charter is upheld. Just last week, Kaweesi was with the Women Rights team, commemorating International Women's day. He commended ActionAid for its strong partnership with all units of the Police and challenged other CSOs to learn from ActionAid.

Felix' death is no doubt a great shock and was it within our control; everyone should have done their best to avert it. I knew him as an amiable gentleman, always smiling even in the most difficult circumstances. He was a humane through and through, even when carrying out the most challenging assignments. He never minced his words even when they would not please some people. He looked an innocent man even with his job so precarious. I watched him admirably severally address angry crowds and brave stone-throwing incidences. He clearly loved his job and served with diligence.

On the flip side, the deceased died together with his driver and body guard. These (innocent I should say) Ugandans, often go unsung. They had families to care for and deserved to live, but they found themselves having to die alongside their boss. They may not get as much visibility, but the lesson we ought to draw, is that we are all one, irrespective of our respective status in society. Often we overlook this reality until death strikes.

May the souls of the deceased Andrew Felix Kaweesi, his escort and driver rest in eternal bliss.

The anti-corruption caravan is Back!



Harriet Gimbo receives flag at the flag off of the western leg of the caravan

On Thursday this week, ActionAid will flag off the Northern leg of the anti-corruption caravan. The caravan will be flagged off by the Chief Justice of Uganda, Justice Katureebe.

According to Charles Muloozi, the caravan team leader, this year's caravan will be building on the several anti-corruption campaigns including the last three caravans.

"We have over time built a commendable network of citizens; youths, women and elderly playing an oversight function to address the poor social service delivery emanating from the wanton misuse of public resources with impunity.

Hope has however been ignited. We want to take it to another level", he stated in an interview.

This year's Caravan will be flagged off from the ActionAid Kampala head office and will run through the districts of Soroti, Katakwi, Lira, Gulu, Apac, Masindi, Amuru, Pader and Dokolo. The caravan is expected back in Kampala on 30th March next week. Upon Arrival, the Caravan crew will join in the citizens debate on corruption and social service delivery at Nsambya Sharing Hall.

As the caravan slogan goes; **Keep your corrupt feet off UG, get on board and let us drive to a transparent and honest Uganda.**

We shall keep you informed every step of the way.

GBV Coalition secures office space



The DPCs of Pallisa and Kubuku draw the community policing plan during the meeting

Pallisa Gender Based Violence Shelter team closed off last week with excitement. After months of lobbying, the shelter finally secured office space for the Gender Based Violence Coalition of the greater Pallisa.

According to stella Atunyo, the Pallisa GBV shelter Program officer, it has been hard for the coalition to work without an office.

"Coordination, reporting and mobilization has not been easy. We are grateful to the District officials that they have given us space for an office", she said in a phone call interview.

In a review meeting attended by the Greater Pallisa GBV coalition members, the officials commended ActionAid for the work they are doing and pledged their continued support to the Organization.

"We want to commend ActionAid for its close partnership with us. We shall do everything in our powers to support the interventions as we work towards a society free from abuse of women and children", stated the Chief Administrative officer of Pallisa.

In order to scale up GBV prevention and response, the district Police commanders of Kibuku and Pallisa promised to conduct community policing camps to educate the communities to avoid and report criminal acts especially those against women and children. They pledged to protect the shelter staff whose lives are at times under threat by the perpetrators of GBV.

The ActionAid Pallisa GBV Shelter is currently housed by the ActionAid Pallisa local Government. The district provided the space in bid to ensure sustainability of the services to the women. Kumi district also donated shelter space to the Kumi GBV shelter.



GBV Coalition members clap after the district granted them a coordination office

Reflections from Washington



Our Country Director, Arthur Larok has set the bar so high for all staff who intend to go for fellowships; he writes, writes and continues to write. Its not about his birth day today, not even about the death of Afande Kaweesi. He rather asks a rhetoric question, "**what if Trump was president of Uganda!**"

"So how come, the most powerful person in the world, President of the United States of America cannot not just pursue his plans? It is difficult to predict what Trump's presidency will look like eventually but what if President Trump was the president of Uganda, what would his first 100 days look like? Well there is more to contrast than to compare between the two countries, but perhaps, Trump would be a lot more successful as president of Uganda than the US", he writes.

[Read Arthur's blog here](#), and also look out for my blog on; "**What if Arthur was the president of Uganda**". "In his first 100 days,..." Blog still under editorial!

WEEK AHEAD:

- As we flag off the Northern leg of the anti-corruption caravan, look out for timely updates from the communications unit. We shall take you on the caravan with us!
- There will be a multi-stakeholder meeting at Hotel Africana to review Draft one of Country Strategic Paper five(CSPV) that is currently under development