



## **EFF NOTES UGANDAN PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI’S DECISION TO REVIEW ANTI—HOMOSEXUALITY BILL**

Saturday, 22 April 2023

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) has noted the decision by the President of Uganda Yoweri Museveni to return the anti-homosexuality bill to the Ugandan Parliament for review. Museveni’s call for a review of the bill is rooted in deep-seated homophobia that characterizes homosexuality as an illness that can be “rehabilitated”, and such hateful logic should be rejected with the contempt it deserves.

The Ugandan anti-homosexuality bill, which was adopted by the Parliament of Uganda on the 21st of March 2023, proposes sentences that range from life imprisonment to a death sentence for anyone who identifies as part of the LGBTQI+ community.

The bill marks one of the most regressive laws against the LGBTQI+ community, as it effectively condemns those within the community to persecution due to their sexual preferences and gender identity.

Museveni’s call for a review of the bill must be noted with caution, as he has not rejected the bill for its hateful and anti-human rights propositions, but in actual fact demands amendments that would make it possible for those who seek so-called rehabilitation from homosexuality to come out without fear of persecution. The notion that homosexuality is a condition that can or must be rehabilitated is dangerous, as it places sexuality and gender identity that is not cis-heterosexual in the realm of illness.

The review may in the interim provide an opportunity for continued mobilization against the anti-homosexuality bill, but human rights activists and organizations around the world should be gravely concerned with the emergence of the idea of rehabilitation from homosexuality, as it is the stepping stone to sadistic experimentation on homosexual people and most likely harmful practices and torture in the quest to achieve so-called rehabilitation.

The EFF, which led a protest against the anti-homosexuality bill on the 4th of April 2023 reiterates that the bill which is a fundamental undermining of human rights must be scrapped in its entirety. There can be no human rights so long as there are those in our society who are criminalized because of who they are.

**ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS**

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