

Uganda: There can be no scientific justification for discrimination

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Sexual Rights Committee: Yuko Higashi & Tommi Paalanen

World Sexual Health Day committee: Luis Perelman & Nadine Terrein-Roccatti

Youth Initiative Committee: Antón Castellanos Usigli

To the President Yoweri Museveni and the Members of the Ugandan Parliament:

World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) condemns the Anti-Homosexuality Act passed by the Ugandan parliament and signed into law by President Yoweri Museveni on February 24th, 2014. There is no scientific evidence to support the rationale upon which the President's decision was based. There is strong evidence that homosexuality is no more a choice than heterosexuality.

As clearly articulated in our statement issued in December 2012, we strongly protest any laws prohibiting homosexual acts as they are unquestionably discriminatory in nature and deny a large group of people their basic human rights. All people are entitled to security of person and freedom of sexual expression. The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995) also promotes tolerance and guarantees human rights to all citizens.

WAS urges you to take immediate action to dismiss this bill in order to protect important freedoms and demonstrate to your citizens a commitment to tolerance and human rights.

World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) promotes sexual health throughout the lifespan and through the world by developing, promoting and supporting sexology and sexual rights for all. WAS accomplishes this by advocacy actions, networking, facilitating the exchange of information, ideas and experiences and advancing scientifically based sexuality research, sexuality education and clinical sexology, with a multi and trans-disciplinary approach.

WAS represents over 100 sexological and sexual health organisations around the world.

Kevan Wylie
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