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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT ON SECURITY SITUATION IN UGANDA'S PROTECTED AREAS

Kampala, November 3, 2023 - Uganda Wildlife Authority greatly appreciates the recent efforts by the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF), which resulted in the elimination of the people believed to have killed two tourists and their guide on Katwe, Kabatoro road in Queen Elizabeth National Park and the arrest of their leader.

We are deeply saddened that innocent people were targeted in this unfortunate incident. This obviously raised concerns among potential visitors to Uganda and specifically the wildlife protected areas.

The elimination and arrest of the culprits goes a long way in confirming that UWA's collaboration with other security agencies especially the UPDF is bearing fruit. We would like reassure all potential visitors to Uganda's wildlife protected areas that these remain safe destinations for international and domestic tourists alike. The collaboration between the UWA and UPDF in addressing security challenges has been exemplary, and we are confident that we will maintain a safe environment for our visitors to enjoy their time in our protected areas.

UWA places the highest priority on the safety and well-being of visitors to our protected area and ensures that all necessary measures are in place to prevent and respond to any security risks. Our dedicated rangers, in close collaboration with security agencies, diligently patrol the parks and reserves to safeguard our precious wildlife and those who come to witness their magnificence. Furthermore, the use of modern technology such as earth ranger and deployment of drones is boosting our surveillance capability over the protected areas to ensure timely detection of threats and deal with them accordingly.

We understand the importance of tourism as a vital contributor to Uganda's economy, and we remain committed to providing an exceptional and secure experience to all visitors. We encourage tourists, both local and international, to continue exploring our diverse array of wildlife destinations.

Uganda's unique biodiversity and remarkable wildlife continue to be a source of national pride. We assure you that your safety is our utmost concern, and every effort is being made to maintain a safe and secure environment in all our wildlife protected areas.

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