

**PRESS BRIEFING REPORT**  
**KANUNGU MEDIA ASSOCIATION**  
**Mulago Guest House, Kampala**

**5th /2/2026.**

The Kanungu Media Association on Wednesday held a press briefing to review the conduct of the recent elections in Kanungu District, assess factors that influenced the outcomes, and discuss the role of media, political actors, and institutions in the electoral process.

During the briefing, speakers emphasized the importance of responsible social media use. It was noted that young people should engage on digital platforms constructively and avoid practices such as blackmail, misinformation, and character assassination. Participants called for value-driven politics that prioritizes ideas, service delivery, and integrity over propaganda and intimidation.

Concerns were raised regarding the conduct of the recent elections in Kanungu District, with calls made for presidential intervention to address reported irregularities. Reference was made to the NRM Woman Member of Parliament flag bearer, **Betty Kataba**, whom speakers said was cheated in broad daylight.

Election observers who attended the briefing talked about the influence of what they described as deep state politics on the electoral outcomes. According to the observers, hidden power structures operating outside formal party and electoral frameworks played a big role in shaping results. They noted that covert mobilization, selective deployment of resources, internal sabotage influenced voter behavior and disadvantaged some official NRM party candidates.

The observers further stated that such covert influence weakened internal party cohesion, confused voters, and undermined confidence in the electoral process. They argued that the absence of clear accountability for these actors continues to pose a challenge to transparent and fair elections in the district.

Members of the press unanimously acknowledged the contribution of Hon. Jacqueline Kyatuheire in Kanungu District, citing her extensive mobilization efforts in support of the President. The members agreed that she demonstrated commitment and dedication despite facing internal challenges, including alleged sabotage by some members of the NRM District Executive Committee (DEC) who supported independent candidates.

The briefing criticized the conduct of the NRM DEC leadership, particularly the reported support for independent candidates, which members said weakened party unity and contradicted party principles.

Additionally, press members discussed the role of religious institutions in influencing voter decisions during the recent elections, noting that religious leaders and affiliations played a visible role in shaping public opinion in Kanungu District.

The Kanungu Media Association concluded the briefing by calling for transparency in electoral processes, and protection of democratic institutions from both overt and covert interference. The association reaffirmed its commitment to professional journalism, responsible reporting, and accurate coverage of electoral processes in the public interest.