

NATIONAL

Varsity students told to participate in presidential term limit debate

KAMPALA

University students should join the campaign for the restoration of the presidential term limits and effective management of the nodding disease syndrome, the country director for Action Aid International, has said.

Speaking during the launch of the National Association of the Higher Education Community (NAHEC) at Makerere University in Kampala yesterday, Mr Arthur Larok, asked: "What have our universities done about the nodding disease problem? How about the talk about restoration of presidential term limits? Where is the position of the university?" He added: "Imagine if tomorrow all the universities say they support the restoration term limits, imagine what impact this will have."

Several other speakers at the event urged students to revive the 1960s and 1970s active involvement in socio, economic and political issues in the country.

The body

Mr Ndebesa Mwambutsya, the NAHEC interim research and public relations secretary, said: "Students talk more about events like Manchester United playing and leave the talk about which policies have been taken."

The newly-launched student association, will among others, provide forum for the students in collaboration with the public and civil society organisations to advance what they have called 'citizens' active participation in public affairs'

The call for students participation in the campaign to restore term limits follows last week's National Resistance Movement's ban on party members from discussing the issue.

The debate was recently sparked off by Western Youth Member of Parliament Gerald Karuhanga and a group of other legislators. The debate has gained momentum with various stakeholders like civil society groups and the clergy backing the idea.

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