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## OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025

### PRESS STATEMENT

#### RESPONSE TO THE DAILY MONITOR ARTICLE "MAK DROPS MARKS"

Makerere University has noted with concern the article titled "Mak Drops Marks" published by the Daily Monitor Newspaper on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2025. The article raises issues that require clarification to ensure accurate information is shared with our stakeholders and the public. We wish to address the following key points:

#### 1. Misrepresentation of Ranking Data

The article inaccurately combines the Sub-Saharan African University Rankings and the World University Rankings to portray a misleading performance trend for Makerere University. For clarity, Makerere University was ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the 2024 Sub-Saharan African University Rankings. However, the 2025 Sub-Saharan African Rankings have not yet been released, making any comparison with the World University Rankings is misleading. This is a misrepresentation of facts aimed at tarnishing the University's reputation and causing alarm among stakeholders.

#### 2. Omission of Impact Rankings Achievements

The article fails to acknowledge Makerere University's outstanding performance in the 2025 Impact Rankings, which assess contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Makerere University significantly improved its global standing, moving from the 601–800 band in 2024 to the 301–400 band in 2025. Notably, the University ranked 17<sup>th</sup> globally in Decent Work and Economic Growth and within the 401–600 band for Quality Education. These achievements reflect Makerere's commitment to societal impact and sustainable development, which the article conspicuously ignores.

#### 3. Balanced Perspective on World University Rankings

While Makerere University acknowledges a decline in certain parameters in the World University Rankings, we view these as areas for improvement. At the same time, we celebrate our strengths, including high-quality research output and a robust international outlook, which continue to position Makerere as a leading institution globally.

Makerere University remains committed to excellence in teaching, research, and societal impact. We urge our stakeholders and the public to rely on verified information from credible sources and to engage directly with the University for clarity on such matters. We acknowledge the Daily Monitor's interest in Makerere University and implore them to report more accurately in the future.

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