



**AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF AIDS ORGANISATIONS INC**

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Dear Minister Rudd

I have just been informed by very reliable sources that the Ugandan Anti-Homosexuality Bill appears likely to be passed at an extended Parliamentary sitting today unless there is urgent, high level diplomatic pressure on President Museveni exerted as rapidly as possible.

Can I respectfully urge you to undertake such an intervention as a matter of urgency, possibly in conjunction with the Prime Minister if you feel that President Museveni may take more cognisance of a joint representation on this issue.

A Confidential copy of the Ugandan Parliamentary Committee's report on the proposed bill is attached. While it recommends removal of several of the most outrageous and/or impractical clauses in the proposed bill, most of the egregious provisions of the bill remain and will, presumably, be enacted.

If Uganda proceeds with enacting this legislation later today I am gravely concerned that it will dramatically complicate the negotiations at the UN High Level Meeting on AIDS in New York and subsequently increase tensions in the events and proceedings associated with the CHOGM in October.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

**Don Baxter**

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