

## FREEDOM AND ROAM UGANDA

## **IDAHOBIT DAY STATEMENT**

For immediate release 17<sup>th</sup>-May-2025

FARUG Marks IDAHOBIT 2025 with Call for Solidarity, Resistance, and Community Power.

On this year's International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Transphobia, and Intersexphobia (IDAHOBIT), commemorated annually on 17 May, Freedom and Roam Uganda (FARUG) re-affirms its commitment to advancing the rights, dignity, and safety of lesbian, bisexual, and queer (LBQ) womxn across Uganda and beyond.

Under the global theme "The Power of Communities," IDAHOBIT 2025 highlights the critical role of collective care, resistance, and solidarity in the face of rising anti-rights movements.

"In Uganda, LBQ womxn continue to experience systemic discrimination, criminalization, gender-based violence, and exclusion from critical resources," said, Team Lead "Yet despite these challenges, our communities remain resilient and united. We build networks of care and resistance that reflect the true meaning of feminist solidarity."

FARUG expresses deep concern over recent regional developments, including the Pan-African Conference on Family Values and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Conference held in Entebbe from 9–11 May 2025. Backed by conservative groups such as Family Watch International, the event promoted anti-LGBTQ+ policies that threaten to reverse years of progress in human rights, women's equality, and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) across Africa.

"We are witnessing an organized rollback on our freedoms," the statement continues. "The rights of LBQ womxn are being strategically undermined, not only in Uganda, but across the region. It is more urgent than ever that we come together to protect the gains we have made and ensure no one is left behind."



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## **FARUG** calls for:

- Advocacy and protection of LBQ womxn's rights across all spheres of life.
- Investment in safe, inclusive, and affirming spaces.
- **Collective resistance** against homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, and all forms of discrimination.
- **Visibility of LBQ womxn's lived realities** and leadership in policy and community spaces.
- **Solidarity and collaboration** among LGBTQ+ individuals, feminist allies, and civil society.

As we mark this day, FARUG honors the courage, creativity, and resistance of LBQ womxn. We celebrate our queer joy and recommit to building a world where identity, love, and autonomy are never grounds for discrimination or exclusion.

To every LBQ womxn in Uganda: You are seen. You are valid. You are powerful. You are not alone.

#IDAHOBIT2025 #LBQVoices #QueerLiberationUG #PowerOfCommunities

Happy IDAHOBIT

