

# Media Statement



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**TO: ALL MEDIA**

**DATE: 22 OCTOBER 2015**

**RE: ISAAC DIBETSO SENTENCED TO TRIPLE LIFE PLUS 195 YEARS  
BY THE HIGH COURT**

Isaac Dibetso was convicted and sentenced on 3 counts of rape to 3 life sentences, on 7 counts of Robbery with aggravating circumstances to 15 years imprisonment on each count, on 6 counts of rape where life imprisonment was not applicable to 10 years imprisonment on each count, on 9 counts of kidnapping to 3 years on each count and on 3 counts of sexual assault to 1 year imprisonment on each count.

Life imprisonment is applicable in respect of the 3 counts of rape because the accused raped the victims more than once. The 6 counts of rape fall under Part III of Schedule 2 of Act 105 of 1997 hence the minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment was imposed.

Between May and September 2012, the accused approached vulnerable and unsuspecting women in Ga-Rankuwa and offered to take them to a place where they will be hired. He will use a road that pass through a bush. Once in a secluded place he raped and robbed them. He will thereafter bind them with wires and material. Some of them were bound to a tree and gagged with their own panties.

The state represented by Advocates Juliet Makwatha and Bakedi Maoke argued that the offences were premeditated and planned, committed in the most savage and brutal manner. They argued further that there were no substantial and compelling circumstances justifying a deviation and that the prescribed minimum sentences ought to be imposed.

He was effectively sentenced to serve 3 life sentences as the other sentences will run concurrently with the sentences of life.

The NPA welcomes the sentences. The heavy sentences are in line with our commitment to combat sexual offences and gender based violent crimes. We further commend Advocates Juliet Makwatha and Bakedi Maoke for meticulously presenting the state case.

Kind Regards,

**Adv. Luvuyo Mfaku**

**NPA Spokesperson**

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