On 15 September 2010, RRT Country Advice lodged a request for information from DFAT on the treatment of unsuccessful asylum applicants upon their return to Uganda. On 13 October 2010 DFAT provided the following information:

1. **Is Post aware of any instances where the fact that a returnee has made an asylum application has become known to the Ugandan authorities?**

A diplomatic contact at a like-minded mission in Kampala advised Post that they were not personally aware of any instances where a subject’s prior asylum application had become known to the Ugandan authorities. The contact said that in reality, there are only limited reasons why someone would be deported but this is never officially stated.

A representative from an international non-government organisation dealing with migration issues was not aware of any examples where Ugandan authorities have been made aware of a returnee’s asylum application. According to the representative, the only means for Ugandan authorities to be made aware is if Australian authorities notified them or if the asylum applicant’s travel documents had expired and needed to be renewed.

2. **Is Post aware of any instances where the details of a returnee’s unsuccessful asylum application have become known to the Ugandan authorities?**

A diplomatic contact at a like-minded mission in Kampala advised Post that they were not aware of any instances where the details of a returnee’s unsuccessful asylum application have become known to the Ugandan authorities. The contact said that if the authorities do become aware, it would be due to the subject releasing that information themselves.

A representative from an international non-government organisation dealing with migration issues told Post they were not aware of any known examples.

3. **Is Post aware of any instances where Ugandan returnees have experienced ill-treatment by the Ugandan authorities (or third parties) simply due to having made an asylum application in Australia?**

A diplomatic contact at a like-minded mission in Kampala advised Post that they were not aware of any ill treatment that results from an asylum application in a foreign country. The contact said...
that in the vast majority of cases, provided the required information is presented, the Ugandan authorities were very accepting of returnees. They also said that in several cases that they were aware of, returned individuals have gone on to start successful businesses.

However, a representative from an international non-government organisation dealing with migration issues told Post that they believed that if a Ugandan had sought asylum for political reasons it would be very difficult for that person to return to Uganda and live a ‘normal life’. The representative said that the unsuccessful applicant would, in the representative’s view, be subjected to harassment if local authorities were made aware of their asylum application.²

Attachments

