

Top court addresses term-limit issue

Uganda's Constitutional Court, sitting in the eastern city of Mbale, is hearing an opposition attempt to annul a constitutional amendment which removes presidential age limits. As previously reported in [Legalbrief Today](#), MPs last year overwhelmingly voted to scrap the age limit of 75. It meant 73-year-old President Yoweri Museveni, in power for more than 30 years, could seek re-election in 2021. [BBC News](#) reports that opposition lawyers argued that the amendment was 'smuggled' into law, and Parliament had not followed proper procedures when adopting it. It marks the first time a major constitutional petition is being heard in a regional city. The hearing was moved from Kampala to avoid drawing too much public attention to it. The report notes that **the petitioners include opposition MPs, the Uganda Law Society and civil society groups**. They say the amendment is invalid because it was passed during parliamentary sessions marred by brawls and plain-clothes security operatives assaulting and dragging MPs out of the chamber.