



## **Kenya Hospices and Palliative Care Association (KEHPCA) and Worldwide Hospice Palliative Care Alliance**

Dr Zipporah Ali, Kenya – in solidarity with people experiencing serious illness and their carers globally. In March this year, Joseph Egolet, a Ugandan man with rectal cancer talked about how to make palliative care within UHC a reality. Joseph's cancer affected his daily life. Unable to get a colostomy bag, he used a plastic bag and tape which leaked and smelt. He was in pain. He was ashamed but told his story openly because he wanted better care for others. Hospice Africa Uganda helped him to live his life with dignity until he died in June. Unable to travel, Joseph gave permission for his story to be told for the April civil society hearing. But the statement was not called and his story remained hidden, like it does for millions of adults and children. We give this statement now in memory of him, of his dignity and his solidarity with millions like him. As he did, we call on those here today to not leave people like Joseph behind. UHC must mean access to essential palliative care for all with serious conditions as a fundamental part of the healthcare continuum. We ALL matter until the very end of our lives.