

The Presidency

OCTOBER - 2021



Your Monthly Round-Up of State House News





H.E. GEN. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



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Dear Reader,

I have the pleasure to present to you the October edition of our monthly e-magazine, The Presidency.

In each edition, my team and I try and incorporate feedback that we have been getting from the readers since the first edition. Our vision is to see the magazine satisfying everyone's expectations; both the fast readers and the in-depth analysts. In this edition, we have extracted a quote or two from each story, to aid our fast readers. It will be easy for the readers to appreciate the President's position on a matter even without in-depth analysis.

The Government Citizen Interaction Centre (GCIC) was established to bridge the gap between the Government and the citizenry. We use different tools and platforms, including this e-magazine, to facilitate this interaction. Therefore, this e-magazine serves to bridge the gap between the Presidency and the public, by bringing you monthly news from the office and residence of the President.

In the month of October, the President travelled abroad for official duty, first, to officiate at the Uganda National Day at the ongoing Dubai Expo 2020 and also to hold discussions with the leaders of the United Arab Emirates. The President detoured through Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where he attended the inauguration of Ahmed Abiy, as the Prime Minister of Ethiopia. The President had cut down on his foreign travel due to COVID-19.

In this edition, we have brought you an analysis of the progress of Uganda Investment Authority, breaking down the strides they have made in establishing an industrial park in every corner of Uganda. In next editions, we shall be able to bring you analyses from different Ministries, Departments and Agencies, regarding Government projects, which the President has launched, visited or commissioned, and how they will transform our country.

Lastly, in this edition, we are publishing the President's powerful speech, delivered on Independence Day, on 9th October, at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

I now have the pleasure to present to you the fifth edition of The Presidency.



Marcella Karekye

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Quote of the Month

In conclusion, I seem to detect a linkage between Wealth-creation with Patriotism and Pan-Africanism and idleness with Parasitism, working for foreign interests and anarchism.



President Y.K. Museveni, 9th October, 2021



2nd October, 2021

President Museveni attends the Dubai trade Expo in UAE

ABU DHABI:

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni arrived in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE) for the 2020 Dubai trade Expo.

On arrival at Abu Dhabi International Airport, the President was received by H.E Sheikh Shakhboot Nahyan Al-Nahyan, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of UAE.

Others present at the Airport to receive the President were; H.E Abdulla Alshamsi, the UAE Ambassador to Uganda, Foreign Affairs minister Hon. Gen. Jeje Odongo, Finance minister Hon. Matia Kasaijja, Amb. Zaake Kibedi, Amb. Henry Mayega, Amb. Arthur Kafeero, and the Chief of Protocol, Amb. Charles Ssentongo, among others.

President Museveni received at Abu Dhabi International Airport by Sheikh Shakhboot Nahyan Al-Nahyan, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of UAE.

H.E Sheikh Shakhboot Nahyan Al-Nahyan the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation of UAE welcomed President Museveni to UAE and wished him well in all his engagements while in the UAE.

Expo 2020 is a World Expo currently hosted by Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, originally scheduled for 20th October 2020 to 10th April 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Expo was rescheduled for 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2022.

Over 192 Countries, Uganda inclusive are participating in this year's World Trade Expo taking place for 182 days.



2nd October, 2021

President Museveni, UAE Crown Prince discuss Investment Cooperation

“*You are welcome Your Excellency to Abu Dhabi. Now that you are here, I am going to benefit from your leadership experience and knowledge especially on security issues*”, **His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan** said.

ABU DHABI:

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni met and held bilateral discussions with His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Forces and Ruler of Abu Dhabi.

The meeting took place at the Crown Prince’s Al Meena Palace in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates and was attended by Uganda’s Minister of Foreign Affairs Gen. Jeje Odong and Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija.

The Crown Prince welcomed President Museveni to Abu Dhabi, UAE, and added that the President’s visit was a great opportunity for him to benefit from his experience, knowledge of security and country building.

“You are welcome Your Excellency to Abu Dhabi. Now that you are here, I am going to benefit from your leadership experience and knowledge especially

on security issues”, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan said.

The Crown Prince commended President Museveni’s contribution to peace building in the region and pledged to work with him in this effort. “My Government is willing to work together with Uganda for a peaceful region,” he said.

On the side of investment, the Crown Prince directed his Minister of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation, Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed, who was in attendance to lead a delegation of high profile business people to Uganda for investment opportunities.

On his part, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni thanked his counterpart for the warm reception accorded his delegation and invited him to visit Uganda which invitation the Crown Prince accepted.

“I am very happy to meet you and to visit UAE and Abu Dhabi,” President Museveni said.

President Museveni briefed the Crown Prince about the four major investment sectors that the UAE can interest themselves and they include: Production of steel, Fertilisers, Energy and Agro-processing.

The President said that Uganda has got good iron ore but still use the reconciled steel that is not good for strong steel.

“When we try to get strong steel, it comes from very far in China which is expensive because of the distance. We therefore, want to develop a steel industry using our iron ore,” he said.

The President said that with the peace in the country, good infrastructure and the market available, Uganda is a good destination for investment.

President Museveni invited H.H Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan to come and visit Uganda and the invitation was accepted. The Crown Prince will be visiting Uganda in January 2022.

The meeting was also attended by the UAE Ambassador to Uganda Amb. Abdulla Alshamsi, Uganda’s Ambassador to UAE, Amb. Zaake Kibedi among others.

President Museveni briefed the Crown Prince about the four major investment sectors that the UAE can interest themselves, including the Production of steel, Fertilisers, Energy and Agro-processing.

2nd October, 2021

President woos Arab investors

“*In 2018 Uganda was exporting products worth US\$600million to UAE, however, today, Uganda exports US\$1.25billion,*”

Amb. Zaake Kibedi.

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni has said that Uganda is one of the best destinations for investment in the world because of the good security, infrastructure, weather and markets among others.

“You can mobilise the rich people here to come and invest in Uganda mainly in the sectors of Steel production, Fertilisers, Energy, and Agro-processing,” said the President.

The President was meeting groups of prospective investors from different organisations at St. Regis Hotel in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

While meeting a group of investors from Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce, President Museveni emphasised the need for Hydro energy or Wind energy development

The First Chairman of the Board of Directors, Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Ali Saeed bin Harmal, revealed that they have a factory already in Uganda that exports fruits, vegetables, fish etc., to the United Arab Emirates.

Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce coordinates all business people in agriculture, industries, infrastructure and services in Abu Dhabi.

Others groups were from Abu Dhabi Development Fund, which finances big projects in infrastructure, and Streit Group, one of the largest armored vehicle manufacturers in the world.

Streit Group is currently constructing a factory for armoured vehicles in Nakasongola and will start its operations in November this year.

Apart from the market of 45 million Ugandans, the President said there is a market for the 1.4 billion Africans where one can sell their products if they chose to invest in Uganda.

According to Uganda’s Ambassador to the UAE, Kibedi Zaake, the Economic cooperation between Uganda and UAE has grown over the time.

“In 2018 Uganda was exporting products worth US\$600million to UAE, however, today Uganda exports US\$1.25billion,” Amb. Kibedi said.

The meeting was attended by the 3rd Deputy Prime minister, Rukia Nakadama, Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Matia Kasaija, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jeje Odong, Minister for Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, Frank Tumwebaze and the Minister for Tourism, Tom Butime among others.

3rd October, 2021

President Museveni presides over Uganda National Day at Dubai Expo 2020

“*We are here to talk about profit, how do you maximize profit? Because you can't do business when you are making losses. So, if you want to make profits, Uganda is the right place at the right time to invest in.*”
President Museveni

DUBAI EXPO2020:

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni presided over celebrations at the Uganda National Day at the Dubai Expo 2020 in the United Arab Emirates.

Arriving at the Expo leadership pavilion, President Museveni and his delegation were received by H.E Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, the Minister of Tolerance in the United Arab Emirates.

Dubai Expo 2020 is a World Expo currently hosted by Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, which was officially opened on the 1st of October 2021 and is to run for 182 day with over 192 participating countries, Uganda inclusive.

Speaking at the Expo, President Museveni said that Uganda is the right place at the right time for any serious business people looking for profitable investments.

“We are here to talk about profit, how do you maximise profit? You can't do business when you are making losses. So, if you want to make profits, Uganda is the right place at the right time to invest in,” President Museveni said.

The President told his hosts that Uganda has a highly-educated population amongst whom are scientists who can produce knowledge-based services.

On the side of the market, President Museveni revealed that Uganda has a market population of 42m people and is estimated to be 100m in 30 years.

“Uganda is not the only market we have. When you produce in Uganda, you can sell in all African countries, we have agreements to sell in USA, Europe, and China etc., therefore the market is there,” he said.

President Museveni commended the UAE government for organising the Expo event where the world can meet and discuss prosperity. He commended the visionary leadership of the forefathers of United Arab Emirates whose contributions have seen UAE growing economically.

“The UAE is a challenge to Africa because they have turned a desert into a center of affluence simply because of the vision of their leaders. They turned geography into an advantage,” he said.

President Museveni also commended the UAE for the seriousness in handling Covid19 pandemic and added that they are following his line of every one must test.

Speaking at the event, H.E Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, the Minister of Tolerance in the United Arab Emirates welcomed President Museveni to UAE and thanked him for sparing time to come and attend the function in person.

“Your Excellency, it is an honour to be with you today, to celebrate the National Day of Uganda, the Pearl of Africa. We are pleased to have your presence here”, Sheikh Nahayan said.

He commended President Museveni’s leadership for a remarkable role in peace and economic building of Uganda.

Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan noted that COVID-19 pandemic has presented many challenges globally even when mankind has become resilient.

Sheikh Nahayan said that the United Arab Emirates is looking forward to strengthening the bilateral economic ties between the two countries and are ready to continue investing in Agro-processing, Tourism, and ICT among other sectors.

After the remarks from their Excellencies, the host and guests were treated to a cultural folklore performance by the Crane performers, showcasing Uganda’s culture through music and dance.

Thereafter, President Museveni went on a guided tour of the Ugandan Pavilion together with His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Vice President and Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

In the Ugandan Pavilion, Uganda showcased her products ranging from tourism, beverages, tea, bird species, gorillas, etc.

President Museveni was also taken on a guided tour of the UAE pavilion by the H.E Sheikh Shakhboot Nahyan Al-Nahyan, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation of UAE.

“Your Excellency, it is an honour to be with you today, to celebrate the National Day of Uganda, the Pearl of Africa. We are pleased to have your presence here”, H.E Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, the Minister of Tolerance in the United Arab Emirates



President Museveni together with UAE Minister for Tolerance H.E Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs H.E Sheikh Shakhboot Nahyan Al-Nahyan and UAE and Ugandan officials enjoying a performance by Crane Performers

4th October, 2021

President Museveni meets Ugandans living in United Arab Emirates

“We talked about issues of child trafficking in cabinet and agreed to put a shelter where girls can be kept when they get problems here and also strengthen the rules governing the movement of people,” **President Museveni**

DUBAI, UAE:

President Yoweri Museveni said Government is working on strengthening laws governing the movement of people outside the country.

He was responding to concerns by Ugandans living in the United Arab Emirates about the increasing number of Ugandans being trafficked.

“We talked about issues of child trafficking in cabinet and agreed to put a shelter where girls can be kept when they get problems here and also strengthen the rules governing the movement of people,” the President said.

President Museveni met and held discussions with the executive leaders of Ugandans living and working in the United Arab Emirates, under their umbrella body, Association of Ugandans living in United Arab Emirates (AUU), led by the Chairperson Mr. Nsubuga Abdulbasit.

The meeting that was attended by the 3rd Deputy Premier, Rt. Hon. Rukia Nakadama, and other Ministers took place at St. Regis Hotel in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

The President advised the leaders to invite Ugandans living in the UAE to register with the association at a fee,

which will enable them to run activities of the association and monitor their members.

He pledged Government financial support to run their association and also contributed to their SACCO where members can save and borrow at a low a interest rate.

“We shall assist you with funds. I will put US\$100,000 in your SACCO so that you may borrow and start small business here. We shall also put US\$50,000 in your association,” President Museveni said.

The Chairperson Nsubuga Abdulbasit thanked President Museveni for sparing time off his busy working visit to meet them.

“Thank you Mr. President for this wonderful meeting. You squeezed us in your busy schedule to meet you and we are very grateful,” Nsubuga said. He commended the President for his tireless efforts in fighting COVID-19 in Uganda.

The association reported to the President an increasing number of Ugandans trafficked in the UAE and requested for support to be able to monitor them and help them where necessary.

“We have got many girls here who are trafficked and they end up on streets suffering. We have been helping them but we need more support,” Nsubuga said.

There are over sixty thousand (60,000) Ugandans living and working in the United Arab Emirates and they send home over usd 200 million every year, according to the Ambassador of Uganda in UAE, H.E. Zaake Kibedi.

4th October, 2021

President Museveni departs Dubai

“ We talked about issues of child trafficking in cabinet and agreed to put a shelter where girls can be kept when they get problems here and also strengthen the rules governing the movement of people,” **President Museveni**

DUBAI, UAE:

President Yoweri Museveni departed Dubai for Ethiopian Capital, Addis Ababa, for the swearing in ceremony of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed for a new five-year term in office.

Abiy's ruling party, Prosperity Party, won a landslide victory in national elections held in June.

The President left Abu Dhabi after a 3-day working visit during which he presided

over the celebrations of Uganda National Day at the Dubai Expo 2020 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The President also met and held bilateral discussions with the Crown Prince and leader of Abu Dhabi and also met the leader of Dubai.

At Abu Dhabi International Airport, President Museveni was seen off by H.E. Sheikh Shakhbout Nahyan Al-Nahyan, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of UAE in charge of Africa.

Others at the Airport were; H.E. Abdulla Alshamsi, the UAE Ambassador to Uganda, Foreign Affairs, Minister Hon. Gen. Jeje Odongo, and Uganda's Ambassador to UAE, Mr. Zaake Kibedi among others.



President Museveni seen off at Dubai International Airport by UAE's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, H.E. Sheikh Shakhbout Nahyan Al-Nahyan

“

I have been observing and participating in African politics for 60 years and politics of identity especially of tribes and religions have caused many problems to many African countries including Uganda. Uganda just came up after we had shunned politics of identity and substituted it with politics of interest and I would encourage Ethiopians to always remember that,” **President Museveni**

ADDIS ABABA:

President Yoweri Museveni urged African political leaders and the African people in general to shun the politics of identity that characterised most of the post-independence Africa, noting that politics of identity that was mostly based on tribes and religions were counterproductive, diversionary and led to the emergency of many failed states in post-independence Africa.

The President was speaking at Meskel Square in the Ethiopian capital, Addis-Ababa, where he addressed a mammoth rally of Ethiopian people that was also attended by many other African leaders to mark the inauguration of Ethiopian Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, for a new five-year term.

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed had earlier in the morning taken the oath of office at Parliament administered by the Supreme Court Chief Justice, Meaza Ashenafi.

President Museveni who made the opening remarks for the Heads of States and Government said as an observer of African politics for the last 60 years, he had identified politics of identity especially of tribes and religions as one that greatly affected democratic and political progress of many African countries and hindered the continent's social economic transformation and development.

He called upon the people of Ethiopia and the African continent in general to do away with politics of identity and focus on politics of interest and support leaders based on their political agenda as opposed to their tribes or religious affiliations.

“I have been observing and participating in African politics for 60 years and politics of identity especially of tribes and religions have caused many problems to many African countries including Uganda.

Uganda just came up after we had shunned politics of identity and substituted it with politics of interest and I would encourage Ethiopians to always remember that,” President Museveni said.

President Museveni commended the people of Ethiopia for conducting a credible and democratic election and congratulated Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed for winning the new five-year mandate to serve his people and country.

In his remarks, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed promised to work and bring about total peace for all Ethiopians

especially by ending the war in the Tigray region which he said had made Ethiopia pay a “heavy price”.

He pledged to work with all peace loving Ethiopian to bring about peace and prosperity for all Ethiopians.

The inauguration ceremony was also attended and addressed by Presidents of Nigeria, Senegal, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti and South Sudan as well as delegations from several African countries and representatives of the international community.



President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed chat with President Museveni in Addis Ababa

5th October, 2021

President Museveni returns from UAE, Ethiopia

ENTEBBE, VVIP:

Following a three-day busy schedule in the United Arab Emirates where he presided over the Uganda National Day at the Dubai Expo2020 and an official visit to Ethiopia's Capital, Addis Ababa, for the inauguration of the Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, for a new five-year term, President Museveni returned home.

During his visit to UAE, the President held a series of meetings with the leaders of UAE including His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of the Emirate of Abudhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the United Arab Emirates Forces and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, various prospective investors

and the Uganda diaspora in UAE.

The Vice President H.E. Jessica Alupo, the Minister for the Presidency Hon. Milly Babalanda and the Head of Public Service and Secretary to the Cabinet Ms. Lucy Nakyobe Mbonye, received the President at Entebbe International Airport.

Also at the airport to receive him were the service chiefs, the Chief of Defence Forces of the Uganda Peoples Defence Forces, General Wilson Mbadi, Assistant Inspector General of Police (AIGP) Andrew Sorowen and David Ahimbisibwe, Director Human Resource in Uganda Prisons representing the Inspector General of Police and Commissioner General of Prisons, respectively.



President Museveni is received by the Vice President, H.E. Jessica Alupo, at Entebbe International Airport

6th October, 2021

President launches probe into school ownership conflict between Catholic and Anglican Churches

“

We want to give the officials a chance to reform. If they fail, they will be prosecuted. They must provide information. It is a big shame for all those in public offices who have compelled religious leaders to lament. Accounting officers in Government and civil servants in the Ministry of Education have been implicated. How can head teachers and DEOs decide on who is to be in-charge of the schools? They came in to serve,”
Col. Edith Nakalema

GULU:

President Yoweri Museveni launched a probe into the ownership and management of schools between the Catholic and Anglican Churches in Acholi and Lango sub regions.

This follows wrangles between officials of the 2 denominations that emerged between 2006 and 2017. The dispute relates to the founding bodies of the schools, each claiming ownership of over 100 Primary and Secondary schools in Acholi and Lango sub-regions.

A meeting was held at the Comboni Animation Centre, St. Joseph Cathedral in Gulu District, following fears by stakeholders that the conflicts would affect the re-opening of schools in January.

The meeting that was chaired by the Archbishop of Gulu, the Most Reverend John Baptist Odama was attended by over 10 serving Bishops of the 2 denominations. Among them was the Church of Uganda Bishop of Northern Uganda Diocese, the Right Rev. Johnson Gakumba. Others in attendance were the Chief Administrative Officers and the District Education Officers.

The Head of the Anti- Corruption Unit of State House, Col. Edith Nakalema is leading the probe under the instructions of President Museveni.

“We want to give the officials a chance to reform. If they fail, they will be prosecuted. They must provide information. It is a big shame for all those in public offices who have compelled religious leaders to lament. Accounting officers in Government and civil servants in the Ministry of Education have been implicated. How can head teachers and DEOs decide on who is to be in-charge of the schools? They came in to serve,” she said, adding that civil servants have failed in their roles.

Nakalema cited Akwang Primary School where a family donated land to the Church of Uganda but the DEO decided that it was a community school and blocked the Church.

She urged civil servants to do their work else face Court for negligence of duty and revealed that DEOs or and head teachers would be investigated. She assigned a team of CID Officers to remain in the area with instructions to conclusively conduct investigations into the matter.

Col. Nakalema gave the heads of the Education Departments a 5-week ultimatum ending 16th November 2021, to show the status of all the schools being contested in the Acholi and Lango sub regions.

She called on the religious leaders to spearhead the drive to educate the communities about the value of education and urged them to strive towards solving the misunderstandings amicably.

She assured them that Government would ensure that the civil servants do their work efficiently. She urged them not to allow the politicians to mingle in Church matters.

The Archbishop of Gulu Archdiocese, the Most Reverend John Baptist Odama, thanked God for protecting them. He saluted President Museveni for supporting the meeting. He was optimistic that it would promote peace and unity. He also thanked Col. Nakalema for her efforts towards finding a lasting solution.

Rev. Charles Okello, the northern Uganda diocesan education co-ordinator said the issue of founding bodies and management of schools had caused a lot of tension which has affected education. He said some schools were changed during coding while others were taken over during the Northern Uganda conflict of the Lord's Resistance Army.

The Lira District Education Officer Ms. Frances Offungi attributed the conflict to the misplacement of records at the Lands offices in Lango sub region during the insecurity that was orchestrated by the LRA.



Col. Edith Nakalema posing for a photo with religious leaders from Acholi and Lango sub-regions during the meeting

6th October, 2021

President commends MTN on localisation, business promotion

“*Localisation is very important. It removes nationalism in business where all people become partners,*”
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

The strategy by telecom giant MTN Telecommunications Company of getting Ugandans involved as partners in its activities has been described as very important by President Yoweri Museveni who said it allows Ugandans and Africans to be partners in all the activities of the company.

“Localisation is very important. It removes nationalism in business where all people become partners,” he said

President Museveni congratulated the leadership of MTN for the strategy including that of the expansion of services to the rural areas as well as in business promotion.

The President was meeting MTN Group Officials led by the Chairperson of the Board, Mr. Mcebisi Hubert Jonas, who called on him at State House Entebbe.

Other members of the group included the CEO of the company, Mr. Ralph Mupita, and the officials of MTN; Mr. Yolanda Cuba, Mr. Wim Van Helleputte and Mr. Charles Mbire.

The Minister of State for ICT and National Guidance Hon. Kabyanga Godfrey as well as Uganda Communications Executive Director Ms. Irene Kagwa attended the meeting.

MTN Uganda recently announced its intention to proceed with an initial public offer (IPO) and subsequently list on the Uganda Securities Exchange (USE).

According to the telecom, this follows the requisite approval by the Capital Markets Authority and Uganda Securities Exchange for MTN Group to sell 20% of its shareholding in MTN Uganda to the public. MTN Group owns 96% of MTN Uganda.

The listing is in line with the Group’s strategic priority to create shared value, partly through ensuring broad-based ownership in its operating subsidiaries. It is also in line with the provisions of MTN Uganda’s NTO license, which require its listing by end of June 2022.

The Chairperson of MTN, Mr. Mcebisi, informed President Yoweri Museveni that they have made tremendous progress in the localisation strategy that will see Ugandans acquire shares as the company aims at ensuring that MTN is owned by the people of Uganda.

“The localisation process has started to ensure that MTN is owned by Ugandans. The overall new strategy is that as a company, it is owned by Africans,” he said.

He further announced that key positions are currently manned by Ugandans including that of CEO MTN in South Sudan.

He also said that MTN is committed to stay in Uganda and is set to invest US\$ 300 million in the next 3 years.

The Chairperson also promised to contribute vaccines against COVID-19 pandemic as well as roll out services to the people in rural areas.



The localisation process has started to ensure that MTN is owned by Ugandans. The overall new strategy is that as a company, it is owned by Africans”, Mr. Mcebisi Hubert Jonas



President Museveni poses for a photo with the MTN delegation and Ministry of ICT officials after the meeting

6th October, 2021

President Biden congratulates Uganda ahead of Independence

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni received a special message from the President of the United States of America, Joe Biden, congratulating him upon Uganda's 59th Independence anniversary celebrated on 9th October, 2021.

Uganda celebrated her 59th Independence anniversary under the theme "Celebrating our 59th Independence Day as we secure our future through national mindset change". The scientific celebration was held at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

The message was delivered to President Museveni by the USA Ambassador to Uganda H.E. Natalie Brown at State House Entebbe.

The President and the US Ambassador who was accompanied by the Deputy Chief of Mission at the United States Embassy in Kampala, Mr. Christopher Krafft, also discussed bilateral and regional issues.

President Museveni thanked the Ambassador for the message and also commended the Government of the United States for the contribution of COVID-19 vaccines sent to Uganda.

The United States delivered 1,674,270 doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to Uganda on September 20. These combined with the September 6 delivery of 647,080 Moderna doses, the United States has donated a total of 2,321,350 COVID-19 vaccine doses to Uganda. This tranche of 1,674,270 vaccines is part of the 500 million Pfizer doses the United States delivered to 92 countries worldwide, including Uganda, to fulfill President Joe Biden's commitment to provide safe and effective vaccines around the world and supercharge the global fight against the pandemic.

The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Henry Okello Oreyim, and the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Vincent Waiswa Bagiire, among others attended the meeting.



President Museveni chats with US Ambassador, H.E. Natalie Brown and the Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr. Mr. Christopher Krafft, at State House, Entebbe

8th October, 2021

World leaders congratulate Uganda on 59th Independence Day

“

On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Uganda, I wish to convey to Your Excellency my sincere congratulations and my best wishes for your health and happiness and the prosperity of the people of Uganda” **King of Sweden, His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf**

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

World leaders congratulated President Yoweri Museveni and the people of Uganda upon the 59th Independence Day that was celebrated on October 9, 2021.

“On behalf of the American people, I congratulate Uganda on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of its independence on October 9. The United States greatly appreciates the generosity of Uganda and its people, as demonstrated most recently by Uganda welcoming of Afghan guests, for temporary relocation, on their way to their new homes,” President Joseph R. Biden, said in a message to President Museveni.

He thanked Uganda for its leadership in promoting regional security, its contributions to the United Nations peacekeeping, and its cooperation in countering terrorism.

“We also value our long-standing partnership in building Uganda’s health sector, which is vital to efforts to end the COVID-19 pandemic. We look forward to working together over the coming year to advance democracy, protect human rights, and promote peace, prosperity and healthy communities,” President Biden said.

The Russian President Vladimir Putin in a message said the Russian-Ugandan relations have traditionally been friendly and constructive.

“Please accept sincere congratulations on the National Holiday of the Republic of Uganda – the Independence Day. The Russian-Ugandan relations have traditionally been friendly and constructive. I am confident that they will further develop for the benefit of the peoples of our countries and in the interests of strengthening the regional stability and security on the African continent. I wish you a sound health and further success. Peace and prosperity be with all the Ugandan citizens,” President Putin said.

The King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, in his message to President Museveni wished steady progress and prosperity to the government and brotherly people of the Republic of Uganda.

“It gives us pleasure, on the occasion of your country’s Independence, to convey to Your Excellency our sincere congratulations and best wishes for the health and happiness, and we wish steady progress and prosperity to the government and the brotherly people of the Republic of Uganda. Please accept, Your Excellency, our best wishes and regards,” he said.

The Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister/Minister of Defence, Muhammad Bin Salman Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, wished the people of Uganda progress and prosperity.

“I am pleased, on the occasion of your county’s independence, to express to Your Excellency best congratulations and honest wishes for your health and happiness, and I wish further progress and prosperity for the government and the brotherly people of the Republic of Uganda,” he said.

The King of the Netherlands, His Majesty King Willem-Alexander R., in a message to President Museveni wished the best for the well-being of the people of Uganda.

“On the occasion of your National Day I extend to Your Excellency my congratulations and my best wishes for the well-being of the people of Uganda.

As we mark this occasion, I must at the same time acknowledge the unprecedented challenge that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic presents to us all. I wish you, your government and your people strength, courage

and health as we continue our efforts to overcome the crisis,” Kind Willem-Alexander R. said.

The President of the Republic of India, His Excellency Ram Nath Kovind, said India and Uganda enjoy traditionally close and cordial ties, which have grown from strength to strength over the years. He said he is confident that mutually focused partnership between the two countries will continue to grow under Museveni’s leadership.

“On behalf of the government and the people of India, and on my own behalf, it gives me immense pleasure to convey warm greetings and felicitations to Your Excellency, the government and the people of Uganda on the occasion of your Independence Day. My best wishes for your personal health and well-being, and for the continued progress and prosperity of the people of Uganda,” he said.

The President of the Republic of Cuba, Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermúdez, congratulated President Museveni on the occasion of the 59th Independence Day.

“President, on the occasion of the 59th anniversary of the proclamation of the Independence of the Republic of Uganda, I extend my cordial congratulations,” he said in a message.

The President of the United Arab Emirates, Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, in his message wished President Museveni and the people of Uganda progress and prosperity.

“It is my pleasure and honour to express to Your Excellency the most sincere congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of commemorating the Independence of the Republic of Uganda, and to Your Excellency good health and happiness, and to the government and friendly people of the Republic of Uganda further progress and prosperity,” he said.

The Vice President of the United Arab Emirates and Prime Minister, Ruler of Dubai Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, wished Ugandans progress and prosperity.

“It is my pleasure and honour to express to Your Excellency the most sincere congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of commemorating the Independence of the Republic of Uganda,” he said in a message.

The Chairman of the Transitional Sovereignty Council of the Republic of Sudan, Lieutenant General Abdel Fattah Al Burhan Abdel Rahman, wished the President and the people of Uganda progress and development.

“I am honored, as your country celebrates its Independence Day, to convey to you, on behalf of myself and the Sudanese people, my sincere congratulations and best wishes for further progress and development to your friendly people and to you with good health and happiness,” he said in a message to the President, adding, “I also take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the sincere

brotherhood and distinguished relations of cooperation that bind our two countries, assuring you of my keenness to strengthen and upgrade them for the benefit and interest of our two friendly peoples.”

The President of the Republic of Italy Sergio Mattarella said the recurrence of the National Day celebration offers him the delightful opportunity to bring sincere wishes for the prosperous future of the people of Uganda.

“Our countries are bound by historical ties of friendship and fruitful dialogue on issues of common interest, starting with the stabilisation of the horn of Africa and the region of the Great Lakes. In sharing together with the rest of the international community, long term and shared responses to the great global challenges of our time, Kampala and Rome will find new ways for deepening and strengthening our collaborative ties,” he said.

The King of Sweden, His Majesty Carl XVI Gustaf congratulated President Yoweri Museveni and the people of Uganda on this day.

“On the occasion of the Anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Uganda, I wish to convey to Your Excellency my sincere congratulations and my best wishes for your health and happiness and the prosperity of the people of Uganda,” he said in a message from the Royal Palace of Stockholm.

The President of the Republic of

Nicaragua, H.E. Commander Daniel Ortega Saavendra, and the Vice President of Nicaragua, H.E. Rosario Murillo, in their message congratulated the President, the brave people of Uganda and to the government of the Republic of Uganda on their day.

Allow us to express on behalf of the people and government of Reconciliation and National Unity of the Republic of Nicaragua and on our behalf, our most sincere congratulations,” they said.

“In celebration of your National Day, this reaffirms the right of the Ugandan people to chart their own destiny in freedom, sovereignty and self – determination to continue strengthening the historical bonds of brotherhood, solidarity and mutual cooperation that unite us. From our Nicaragua, always blessed and always free, receive our fraternal embrace, as well as the love and affection of all Nicaraguan families for the noble people of Uganda,” they said in a message.

The President of Malta George Vella said the people of the Republic of Malta join him in conveying sincere greetings to President Museveni and the people of Uganda.

“I am certain that the cordial relations that exist between our two countries will be further strengthened for the benefit of our two peoples, especially since the launch of Malta’s Africa Strategy (2020-2025) early last year.

I am also confident that cooperation between our two countries can also be further strengthened at multilateral level through our common membership in the United Nations and Commonwealth. We also look forward to cooperating through the EU-Africa dialogue to open new avenues of cooperation between our countries and regions,” he said, adding, “Above all, more than one year after the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we are still in the fight against the pandemic which spared no country. It is crucial that the entire international community continues to work together to combat this sad reality and join forces for an effective post-pandemic recovery.”

The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E. Seyyed Ebrahim Raisi, expressed his sincere congratulations to President Museveni and the people of Uganda on the occasion of Independence Day.

“I hope that, with regard to the available potentials and based on the political will of the two sides, we will witness the expansion and strengthening of mutual cooperation in all areas of mutual interest for the good of the two nations. I wish for your personal health and success and for the prosperity of the people of the Republic of Uganda,” he said.

Their Excellences the Captains Regent of the Republic of San Marino, Francesco Mussoni and Giacomo Simoncini extended their heartfelt congratulations to the President and the people of Uganda.

“On this auspicious occasion, I would like to convey, on behalf of the government of San Marino and in my name, the most sincere wishes of prosperity and success, confirming the essence of sincere friendship between the Republic of Uganda and San Marino,” they said in a message.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres, extended to the people of Uganda his warmest congratulations on the occasion of their Independence Day.

“In these challenging times, we are once again reminded of each country’s essential contribution to our global wellbeing. As we work together to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, we must use the recovery to build more resilient, sustainable and just societies. We must also take bold action to address the climate emergency and advance efforts to achieve sustainable Development Goals,” Guterres said, adding, “On this Independence Day, I count on the Republic of Uganda to help strengthen the United Nations and build a better and more peaceful world for all.”

Uganda celebrated its 59th Independence anniversary at a scientific ceremony at Kololo Independence Grounds on October 9, 2021.

9th October, 2021

Speech by H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, at the 59th Independence Anniversary Celebrations at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds

Countrymen and Countrywomen,

Today, the 9th of October, 2021, is the 59th Independence day anniversary of Uganda. In these past two years -2020 and 2021- the new Uganda, has shown that it can stand on its feet and defeat any challenge.

In these two years, as many of you know, we dealt successfully with problems of: Locusts' invasion; the rising levels of the waters of the Lakes (the floods); the landslides; the floating islands that were threatening hydro dams; and the Corona pandemic □ where we minimised the deaths, recording a total of 3,150 deaths (as of 5th October, 2021), hitherto, in spite of the onslaught of the terrible disease, for now one year and seven months.

All those challenges notwithstanding and in spite of the indiscipline of some actors, we successfully held the 2021 General Elections for President, Parliament and Local Governments, on time. Additionally, even our economy managed some growth in both the financial years 2020-2021 and the present financial year of 2021-2022.

In the former, we managed a growth rate of 3.4% and in the current one, it is estimated that we shall achieve a rate of growth of 3.8%, the Covid19-related shutdowns notwithstanding. By end of June, 2022, our GDP will be standing at USD 40.43BN by foreign exchange method and at USD 117.3BN by the PPP method. All this without including the contributions of the first oil to be pumped out of the ground. First oil to be pumped out of the ground, will be achieved by 2025, because all the agreements have been signed.

All these achievements, are in spite of the corruption of some public officials, including some of the political actors. I congratulate the whistleblowers who, patriotically, expose these criminals, parasites and traitors to their own people. I, therefore, congratulate the people of Uganda, the people of Africa (our brothers and sisters) and our partners in the World, because these achievements are not by our efforts alone. Our African brothers and sisters and our partners in the World, who buy our products (goods and services), contribute to this success.

However, we could have achieved more if it was not for the parasites that want to harvest where they have not sown (*baalya byengedde*). When you reflect deeply on the history of this part of the World, you notice the phenomenon of the two actors: the producers of wealth (goods and services) and the parasites – those who want to eat and even prosper, without working. Between 800 AD and 1400 AD, what is now Uganda and the surrounding areas of Africa, experienced stability and progress under the dynasty of the *Bachwezi*. That is why the *Wanainchi* transformed the known *Bachwezi* into *Lubaales* (small gods). These are: *Mukasa (Mugasha)*, *Wamala*, *Mugyenyi*, *Ndahura*, *Kagoro*, *Isimbwa*, *Kyomya* etc.

The area was united politically: Buganda, Bunyoro, Ankole, Tooro, Bukiri (Lango), Gani (Acholi), Busoga, as well as the surrounding areas that were put in the other sister African States by the colonial borders. During this time, the Wealth creators – Cattle-keepers (*Abariisa*), crop-farmers (*Abahiingyi*), blacksmiths (*Abaheesi*), Bark-cloth makers (*Abakomagyi*), Carpenters (*Ababaizi*), Clay-workers (*Abanogoozi*), Bow and Arrow makers (*Abatanagyi*), Lake and water specialists (*Abariimbi*), Healers (*Abafumu*), Surgeons (*Abagyeengyi*), Fore-tellers or prophets (*Abaraguzi*), Funeral service providers (*Abahitsi*), Fishermen (*Abajubi*) etc., could operate peacefully, it seems.

On account of some unclear reasons, this empire collapsed around 1400 AD and the smaller kingdoms that we know, succeeded this united political unit and came with the endless wars (*entaro*), raids for cattle (*kunyaga*) etc., fomented by these small kingdoms and their myopic managers; the wealth creators, were disturbed by these activities.

God always mercifully helps Africa. Having lost the hieroglyphic writing of ancient Egypt, our ancestors in the Great Lakes, depended on oral history. However, some natural phenomena help us to date events that would, otherwise, have been difficult to determine. Such a phenomenon, by divine command, was the eclipse of the sun (*Obwiira - Kabiri*) that occurred on the 17th of April, 1520 AD at Biharwe, Mile 9 from Mbarara, on Masaka road. When the eclipse occurred, the Munyoro King, Olimi, Rwiitamahaanga, as well as his Army, fled in terror and abandoned the large herds of cattle he had raided from Rwanda. The Banyankore took these cattle and are known as: “*Empeenda ya Munoni*” (whose translation is not clear to me) or *Endugahaiguru* (easier to translate because it means – gift of heaven). The ruler of Ankole that time was Nyabugaro, who was No.4 in the post – Bachwezi dynasty. The ruler in Buganda was Nakibinge, who was, later on, killed by the same Olimi, *Rwiita-Mahaanga* (translated as destroyer of neighbours).

This is just one example of how these post-Bachwezi rulers were disturbing the peace of the wealth creators.

The Capitals of the Bachwezi that are known are: *Ntutsi* and *Bigo bya Mugyenyi* – both in Ssembabule district and the archeological items from there have been dated by Prof. Sutton as having been used between 900 AD to 1350 AD.

“Whatever a man sows, that is what he reaps,” the Bible says. The small kingdoms could not survive when the imperialists arrived. Even in the colonial times, tribalism encouraged by the small kingdoms, continued, now reinforced by the new divisions “on behalf of God,” fomented by the newly introduced religions of Catholicism, Protestantism and Muhammadanism.

It is a tragicomedy, to read what Capt. Lugard wrote about events here in Uganda in the 1890s. In a booklet entitled: “British East Africa” on Page 13, Lugard writes as follows:

“A warm discussion arose on many points, but I waived discussion till the reading was done. Then the chiefs were for signing, but the king held back and giggled and fooled; he demanded time. I replied by rapping the table, and, speaking loudly, said he must sign now.” “On December 26th Mwanga signed the document.”

Here, Lugard was talking about how he forced Mwanga to sign some documents giving away Africa’s sovereignty.

These were the actors guarding our destiny at that time. On page 18, Lugard writes about more tragicomedy. He writes as follows:

“Next morning, early, I found the whole country under arms for war. Masses of armed men were pouring in every direction and preparing for battle, being drawn up on opposite hills, the French Party (as the Catholics are always called), having, I think, the French Flag.”

On page 32, it is written as follows:

“The next day, Sunday, February 24th, while Captain Lugard was reading a letter, war drums rang out from the Catholic camp. The two parties were arranged for battle!!”

On page 41, the booklet writes as follows:

“As in his negotiations with the Catholic Party, so in those now going on with the Mohammedans, Capt. Lugard was much annoyed and obstructed by the grasping selfishness of the Protestants, who, while anxious enough for peace to be concluded, wished to retain everything for themselves.”

These events were taking place around 1890. The other party being referred to, are the Protestant Party known as *Ingleza* (the English). These new religions, starting with Islam, had started coming to this area since the 1840s.

The Christians, only had started arriving in 1877 (Protestants) and 1879 (Catholics). By this time, Muteesa I was still alive and, indeed, he at one time, wondered whether the Protestants and the Catholics, worshipped the same God. The quarrels between Bishop Tucker and Father Lourdel amused Muteesa. In the Book by Bishop Tucker entitled: "Eighteen years in Uganda, East Africa", on page 9, he writes as follows:

"We were not interrupted by them, however, until prayers were over and I began to read the scripture. I had read only the first verse when Muteesa, in his usual abrupt style, called to a coast man present to ask the Frenchmen if they don't believe in Jesus Christ, why they don't kneel down with us when we worship him every Sabbath. Don't they worship Jesus Christ?"

It is so sad to see brothers and sisters agreeing to be torn apart by external influences in such a manner and after such a short time as to act against their own interests such as peace, wealth creation etc.

All these interfere with the Wealth creators. It is, therefore, very important for the NRM to continue to crystalize this focus on the Wealth creators- farmers, industrialists, crucial service providers (e.g. medical) and ICT. Those who seek power and influence -Kings, Priests and Politicians etc. should have the sensitivity to ensure that their activities should never interfere with the work of the Wealth creators.

There was rinderpest in 1893 where a lot of cattle died in the Ankole-Kigyezi area and may be in other parts of the World. My great grandfather, Kashaanku, managed to save 7 cows, on account of their strong immunity.

By the time he died around 1915, those cattle had multiplied. My grandfathers, who were never in the Government, continued to multiply those cattle. Our fathers, who were never in the Government, continued to multiply those cattle. I have continued to multiply these cattle along with my children, many of whom are not in the Government. It is us (the crop-farmers, the cattle-keepers, the fishermen, the manufacturers, the service providers, the artisans etc.), that feed the country and provide the other goods needed, that earn foreign exchange for the country, that create jobs, that pay taxes etc. The attitudes of the wealth creators are, actually, captured in the four NRM Principles: Patriotism, Pan-Africanism, Social-economic transformation and Democracy. Genuine wealth creators, cannot believe in sectarianism because their economic activities will have exposed them to the importance of the market of a united Uganda. They soon also understand the importance of the wider African market –in other words, the importance of Pan-Africanism.

Here, in Kampala, I have two testimonies □ that of James Mulwana and that of Burahimu Kibirige-both the late. Neither of them was in politics.

However, Mulwana was always fundraising for the NRM because he understood well that it is only that force, that could guarantee peace in Uganda and render her safe for business. It also had private-sector friendly policies, like the ban we imposed on the export of used batteries, which was what Mulwana asked me to do for his company, so that he gets batteries to recycle.

One time, I had gone to Hotel Africana for a meeting. Burahimu Kibirige was worried. When I inquired from him what the problem was, he told me. The problem was, that the Basongora herdsmen in Kasese, had poisoned and killed lions in Queen Elizabeth National Park in revenge for Lions eating their Cattle. Kibirige was worried that, that act, would damage tourism. As you know, he built a hotel in Moroto, Karamoja. His concerns were national and his investments were national and, I hear, even Pan-Africanist. He understood the usefulness of Uganda and Africa.

As we go on, the difference between Wealth creators and parasites will become clearer. The ranks of the Wealth-creators are going to be swelled by the Parish Development Model and the Emyooga programmes. These plans are aimed at converting the remaining 39% of the homesteads from okukolera ekidda kyonka (subsistence farming), to commercial farming and other money generating enterprises, with ekibar

(cura, aimar, otita) proper enterprise selection. They all must join the ranks of wealth-creators. It will improve our politics, incomes for homesteads, purchasing power for buying products of goods or services produced by our factories, create a wider tax base, creating more jobs for the youth and being able to support the places of Worship and political actors of our choice.

In conclusion, I seem to detect a linkage between Wealth-creation with Patriotism and Pan-Africanism and idleness with Parasitism, working for foreign interests and anarchism.

Mao Tse Tung, had detected something similar in China; that is why he talked of the unity of the 4 social-classes, including the national bourgeoisie and isolating the comprador bourgeoisie (those whose economic interests were in service of foreign interests). I think the four positive classes in Maotse Tung's strategy were: the National bourgeoisie, the Workers (the Proletariat), the Peasants and the Patriotic petty bourgeoisie (teachers, health workers etc.). The Feudalists and the Comprador bourgeoisie, were the parasitic group.

The wealth creators support peace because they do not want their economic activities to be disturbed and when they decide to fight, it is for a big reason- like when we decided to fight Idi Amin- because he had no capacity to understand Patriotism or Pan-Africanism which are crucial for

our survival and prosperity. In 1970, I decided to work with the UPC, although we did not fully agree on all issues. However, with UPC, there was some possibility to push for some wealth creation efforts, e.g. restructuring the ranches and also some Pan-Africanist efforts - e.g. the East African Federation. To consolidate peace durably, expand and strengthen the ranks of wealth creators. Right from the beginning, the NRM emphasized the point of "Protecting life and property." It was actually point No2. in the 10 points programme. Principle No. 3 in the four principles of the NRM, is socioeconomic transformation. You cannot transform society, without wealth creation. The NRM returned the properties of the Indians because the country was using the entrepreneurship of these Indians to contribute to the transformation of our society.

Let everybody embrace wealth creation and the principles and strategies that support it (Patriotism, Pan-Africanism, Social - economic transformation and Democracy) and avoid idleness, dependency and parasitism.

I congratulate the OWC for, in the last 8 years, helping us to reduce *abakolera ekidda kyoonka* (subsistence actors) from 68% of the households to 39%, according to the latest UBOS survey. Let us use the Parish Development Model or the *Emyoga programme* to convert all these into operators in the money economy with ekibaro. The USA, which is a new country, only born long after our own fratricidal actors of 1520 AD in the persons of Olimi Rwiita Mahaanga, Nyabugaro and Nakibinge, is now a super power. Why? Partly, for the very reasons I have been telling you in this speech: respecting the wealth creators, creating a big market for them through integrating the former British Colonies into the nucleus of the USA in 1776, ensuring peace etc. The NRM believes in reconciliation always. However, reconciliation must be around healthy principles that can create growth and transformation, not stagnation and sterility. Let us not repeat old mistakes. Africa has suffered enough. The future is bright if we act right.

I congratulate everybody and wish you a prosperous 60th year of Uganda's Independence.

I thank all of you.

10th October, 2021

President commissions UPDF's infantry vehicle 'Chui'

“

I am happy that you are towing this line. Uganda spends over \$550 million each year on importing vehicles from Japan and Europe. All the money we get from selling coffee, which is about \$500 million, goes back to Europe through the importation of vehicles. This must stop,” **President Museveni**

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni commissioned the latest infantry fighting vehicle code named Chui, designed and manufactured in Uganda by the UPDF.

“I am happy that you are towing this line. Uganda spends over \$550 million each year on importing vehicles from Japan and Europe.

All the money we get from selling coffee, which is about \$500 million,

goes back to Europe through the importation of vehicles. This must stop,” he said.

The ceremony was held at State House Entebbe where the vehicle was unveiled and was attended by the Commander Land Forces, Lt. Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba.

UPDF Motorised Infantry (MOI) is a specialised Brigade under Land Forces, with infantry fighting vehicles (IFVs) as its basic equipment. It forms an important element of the army in combined arms and an essential assaulting power of the UPDF.

In joint operations, motorised infantry supports infantry but it can also operate independently. Motorised infantry's role is to provide its technical and combat capabilities of its equipment to deliver fire power, shock action, armour protection, mobility and manoeuvrability during combat.

The Brigade is headquartered in Nakasongola District, 120 km north of Kampala city, on Kampala – Gulu highway.

Lt. Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba salutes President Museveni who is also Commander-in-Chief of UPDF ahead of commissioning of Chui



13th October, 2021

President commends UJCC for uniting followers

“*I am very happy that you have come together. You must correct the old mistakes whose origin was from Europe - the 30 years' war. You have really followed the foot path of Jesus, of love your neighbour as you love yourself*” **President Museveni**

STATE LODGE, NAKASERO: President Yoweri Museveni commended members of the Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC) for uniting as well as nurturing their followers not only spiritually but also empowering them economically.

“I am very happy that you have come together. You must correct the old mistakes whose origin was from Europe - the 30 years' war. You have really followed the foot path of Jesus, of love your neighbour as you love yourself,” he said.

The President was meeting members of the Joint Christian Council led by the Co-Chairperson and Executive Secretary of the Council Rt. Rev. Archmandrite Constantine Mbonabingi who paid a courtesy call on him at State Lodge, Nakasero.

Other members of the delegation included the Archbishop of Church of Uganda, His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Samuel Stephen Kaziimba Mugalu among others.

President Museveni thanked them for involving young people in the work of God and also taking care of the welfare of the followers.

The Archbishop of Church of Uganda His Grace the Most Rev. Steven Mugalu appreciated President Museveni for his support to the council.



President Museveni for a photo with members of Uganda Joint Christian Council at State Lodge, Nakasero

14th October, 2021

President closes cabinet retreat

KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS:

President Yoweri Museveni has strict guidelines for members of Cabinet to follow and implement that will expeditiously steer the nation into a middle income country.

“After the Corona, I want our economy to grow very fast to 7 or 8 %, converting Uganda to a middle income country,” he said.

The President who was flanked by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Janet Kataaha Museveni, was closing a 2-day cabinet retreat held at Kololo ceremonial grounds in Kampala.

The induction retreat was organised by the new Secretary to Cabinet and Head of Public Service, Mrs. Lucy Nakyobe Mbonye.

A two minutes silence was observed for the two freedom fighters that passed away today, one of them, a mother to Major General Samuel Waswa of Bukomero.

The President reiterated his call to all the people of Uganda to continue adhering to his guidelines and those of the Ministry of Health on how to fight COVID-19 as signs now show that the methods adopted are working.

“I want to clarify that when we are talking to the public, we are talking

of things that are based on scientific analysis. We don't want to gamble with people's lives,” he said

The first guideline is to zero tolerance to corruption by neither asking nor accepting any bribe from anybody or even a favor especially from investors.

The President implored political leaders as well as Members of Parliament especially those on committees and civil servants to shun the vice.

“This culture must stop. It will kill the future of our country and scare away investors. If you don't stop this will slow down the growth of our economy,” he noted.

President Museveni advised them to immediately report to the IGG in case anybody approaches them with an inducement as a favor or bribe.

He told the retreat that on coming out from the bush many people from his home area wanted to give him 2,000 heads of cattle in appreciation for liberating the country. He said he refused the offer and sent the animals to the government farm in Ngoma that are now donated to the poor.

On the issue of justice, the President pointed out murder and village theft that can affect the growth of the economy and asked judiciary to address that issue firmly.

“The Judicial system must come up and side with the people,” he stressed.

On the Parish Development Model President Museveni strongly urged Ministers to implement the programme as all citizens will be converted into the money economy and it will be a turning point for the better.

The President noted that once the Parish Development Model takes root, markets will be needed for the products and this will urgently call for regional integration. He urged members of the committee concerned to ensure the fast tracking of the programme.

On tax collection, Mr. Museveni noted that a lot of mistakes have been made citing borrowing from foreign countries, adding that if the tax collection is at 20% , no borrowing would be required.

“Out of the Shs. 45 trillion revenue collected, much of it, the 16 trillion is for paying off debts and the problem with borrowed money is the interest that accrues. If we collect 20%, there will be no need to borrow. We should minimise borrowing,” he said.

On civil service, President Museveni noted that if the service was serious, it would help the country to stabilise. He asked the civil service to guide cultural and religious leaders who at times act outside the constitution. He urged the civil service to ensure that the constitution is followed.

President Museveni assured the nation of security adding that nobody will disturb the peace of Uganda unconstitutionally. He said those who will try are only wasting their time.

President Museveni told Cabinet of the need to lower electricity tariffs to US\$ cents 5 that will attract many investors who are very willing to come and open up factories in Uganda. He disclosed that during his recent visit to United Arab Emirates many potential investors expressed their interest to come and do business in Uganda.

He said with these guidelines the economy of Uganda will gallop. Once it gallops we shall then handle the issue of jobs and the market in Uganda, regionally and internationally.

18th October, 2021

President Museveni meets Pope Theodoros II

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni and the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Janet Kataaha Museveni, received the Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa, His Beatitude Theodoros II, who paid a courtesy call on him at State House Entebbe.

The visiting Beatitude is in the country to condole with the people of Uganda and the followers of the Orthodox Church in particular upon the death of the late Archbishop Yona Lwanga and to commemorate 40 days after Lwanga's death on September 5 in Athens, Greece.

His Beatitude was accompanied by a delegation of Bishops who included His Eminence Metropolitan Markarios, the Archbishop of Nairobi in Kenya, His Eminence Innocentios Byakatonda the Archbishop of Burundi and Rwanda, His Grace Neophitos Kongai the Bishop of Nyeri and Mt. Kenya, His Grace Silvestros Kisitu the Bishop of Gulu and Eastern Uganda and

Archmandritellunga Musunganyi Chariton the patriarchal Vicar Diocese of Goma in the DRC.

Others were Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Mbalire a priest from Athens Greece, Rev. Fr. Paul Mutaasa Vicar Metropolis of Kampala and Hon. Theodore Ssekikubo the Chairperson Development Commission of Orthodox Church.

The Beatitude Theodoros II told President Museveni the history of the Orthodox Church whose followers are estimated to be over 350 million worldwide.

The Orthodox Pope who has been to Uganda 6 times expressed his love for the country, pointing out that the mission of Orthodox in Africa starts in Uganda.

"One great person who inspired us was our first Bishop Obadia who was the grandfather of the late Metropolitan Yona Lwanga. Uganda is considered the mother of Orthodox Mission in Africa and we are lucky to have a good President who loves us and protects us," he said.

He pledged to send through the Uganda Embassy in Rome 2,000 Covid-19 vaccines and continue to mobilise more vaccines for Uganda.

President Museveni thanked the cleric for coming to commemorate the death of Metropolitan Yona with the people of Uganda and commended His Beatitude Theodoros the 2nd for the vaccines.



President Museveni and First Lady pose for a photo with Pope Theodoros and his delegation at State House, Entebbe

19th October, 2021

Pope Francis congratulates Uganda on its Independence Month

“

I send cordial greetings and good wishes to Your Excellency and your fellow citizens on the occasion of Uganda's Independence Day. With my prayers that all in the Republic will be sustained in unity and peace, I invoke upon the country the abundant blessings of the Almighty God,” Pope Francis

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

World leaders have continued to send in their congratulations to President Yoweri Museveni and the people of Uganda upon their Independence Day celebrations, this month.

The latest messages to President are from His Holiness Pope Francis, H.E Sheik Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Amir of the State of Qatar, H.E Abdullah Bin Hamad Al-Thani, the Deputy Amir of the State of Qatar, H.E Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius and H.E Paul Biya, the President of the Republic of Cameroon.

Others include Mrs. Salome Zourabichvilli the President of Georgia, H.E Armen Sarkissian, President of the Republic of Armenia and H.E Mr. Volodymyr Zelensky President of Ukraine.

Pope Francis invoked upon the country the abundant blessings of Almighty God.

“I send cordial greetings and good wishes to Your Excellency and your fellow citizens on the occasion of Uganda's Independence Day. With my prayers that all in the Republic will be sustained in unity and peace, I invoke

upon the country the abundant blessings of the Almighty God,” he said.

The Amir of the State of Qatar Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani said the people of Qatar join him in extending to the President and the people of Uganda, on the anniversary of the country's Independence Day, their cordial greetings and felicitations.

“Coupled with our best wishes for Your Excellency's good health and well-being and further development and progress for the people as well as more enhancement of the friendly relations between our two countries,” he said.

H.E Armen Sarkissian, President of the Republic of Armenia congratulated Ugandans on their day and said he was hopeful that through joint efforts, the relations between the two countries will develop and strengthen for the benefit of the two peoples.

“I wish you good health and success, as well as peace and prosperity for the people of Uganda,” he said.

The President of Georgia, Mrs. Salome Zourabichvilli congratulated President Yoweri Museveni and Ugandans on the Independence Day and confirmed her readiness to support the development and deepening of relations between the two countries.

“Mr. President, please accept the assurances of my high consideration along with the wishes for peace, health and prosperity to the friendly people of Uganda,” she said.

The Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, H.E Pravind Kumar Jugnauth congratulated President Museveni and the people of Uganda on their day.

“Mauritius and Uganda share cordial relations. We look forward to strengthening further these bonds and working closely with you on issues of common interest in the years ahead,” he said.

Other world leaders to congratulate President Museveni and the people of Uganda on their Independence day include, H.E Khurelsukh Ukhaa, President of Mongolia, H.E Moon Jae-In, President of the Republic of Korea, H.E Dr. Arif Alvi, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H.E Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, H.E Gotabaya Rajapaksa, President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, Sultan of Oman, H.E Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Republic of Seychelles, H.E Mr. Aleksandr Lukashenko President of Belarus, H.E Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, H.E Nicolas Maduro Mors President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, H.E Md. Abdul Hamid President of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and H.E Sheik Hasina, Prime Minister of the Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, H.E Sheik Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Jaber, the Amir of the State of Kuwait, H.E Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al Sabah the Deputy Amir and Crown Prince, H.H Sheik Sabah Khaled Al Hamad Al Sabah the Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait, H.E Mr. Aleksandar Vučić president of the Republic of Serbia, H.E Mr. Kaïed President of the Republic of Tunisia, H.E Paula-Mae Weekes, President and Commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, His Majesty King Abdullah II Ibn Hussein the King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and H.E. Rodrigo R. Duterte the President of the Republic of Philippines.

“

Coupled with our best wishes for Your Excellency's good health and well-being and further development and progress for the people as well as more enhancement of the friendly relations between our two countries

”

H.E. Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar

20th October, 2021

President Museveni meets outgoing UN Women Country Representative in Uganda

“

You know the NRM line is organic structural change of society with emphasis on the substantive. What is important is basic education for all which benefits girls more and if they can do business and have an income. Other interventions to lighten the burden like access to clean water, energy instead of firewood, milling technology and food processing; all these emancipate women from the backbreaking drudgery. Our line is a multi-faceted approach, starting with education and business,”

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni said that while his government has been symbolically appointing women in high offices, the NRM line is to organise structural change in society by implementing programs at the base including education and financial inclusion of girls and women which will organically empower them to reach any level of development that they desire.

“You know the NRM line is organic structural change of society with emphasis on the substantive. What is important is basic education for all which benefits girls more and if they can do business and have an income. Other interventions to lighten the burden like access to clean water, energy instead of firewood, milling technology and food processing; all these emancipate women from the backbreaking drudgery. Our line is a multi-faceted approach, starting with education and business,” he said.

The President was speaking during a meeting with Dr. Maxime Houinato, the outgoing UN Women Country Representative in Uganda since 2018. Dr. Houinato was appointed as the Regional Director

for Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office Nairobi, Kenya, with effect from 1 September 2021.

President Museveni singled out the issue of teenage pregnancy which he said can't be defeated by legislation alone but through organised changes in society.

“In the Banyankore culture, if a girl menstruates two times, she is deemed to be a woman and is married off. You can't tell them otherwise and you can't defeat this by legislation. It has to be a multi-faceted approach starting with education and income generation. If women have no access to land, help them through none agriculture lines including access to SACCOs, training in skills like knitting, bakery and computer-based programmes,” he said.

Dr. Houinato who is based in Nairobi and overseeing 28 countries in the region particularly praised the government for the achievements of women projects in Uganda that include among others; entrepreneurship as well as those related to violence against women and helping the victims.

He commended the firm stand the NRM government has taken in the emancipation and empowerment of women in Uganda economically, socially and politically.

The The Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Jeje Odongo attended the meeting.



President Museveni bids farewell to Dr. Maxime Houinato at State House, Entebbe

22nd October, 2021

President Museveni meets Nordic envoys

“

“We are also developing our own vaccine. The pandemic has shown us the dangers of dependency. Those with the reagents like beta-Propiolactone used for vaccines were reluctant to sell. When we went deeper, we realised that we could make it here from Ethanol. Please tell your countries to sell us the reagents in the medium term and cooperate with us in making the vaccines,”

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni called for a stronger collaboration with partners in the development of vaccines and said building a strong pathogenic economy will not only promote human and animal health but will also make money and help the economy to recover post COVID-19.

The President was meeting envoys from the Nordic countries led by the Norwegian Ambassador to Uganda, Her Excellency Elin Johansen, the Danish Ambassador to Uganda, Nicolaja Hejberg Petersen, that of Sweden, Maria Hakansson and the Charge de Affairs of Iceland, Thardis Sigurardottir. The President and his guests discussed challenges related to COVID-19 and the economy, COVID-19 vaccines roll out capacity ahead of schools reopening and regional peace and security.

“We are also developing our own vaccine. The pandemic has shown us the dangers of dependency. Those with the reagents like beta-Propiolactone used for vaccines were reluctant to sell. When we went deeper, we realised that we could make it here from Ethanol.

Please tell your countries to sell us the reagents in the medium-term and cooperate with us in making the vaccines”, he said.

He urged the development partners to help build a pathogenic economy for Uganda and promote human health and financial growth.

“Help us build a pathogenic economy. It is both for health and money. In this way, the economy will recover. The only problem will be companies with debts owed to banks which are the most vulnerable,” he said.

“There is some structural problem. How do we support these companies? We may have many companies going bankrupt. If there are soft loans put in UDB, it will help them recover. Farmers are affected by schools and hotels closing because nobody is buying their produce, but they will manage,” he said.

Responding to concerns by the development partners that while the vaccines are coming in, the vaccine uptake is slow, the President said they aim at vaccinating 21 million people by the end of December and pledged to mobilise the elderly people aged 50+ so that they can quickly get their jabs and ensure their good health.

He tasked the Ministry of Health to work out a written plan for mass sensitisation with the partners.

“Previously, the message was don’t move, but now, we must encourage the people to come to the health centres because the solution is there,” he said.

On the issues of regional peace and security, President Museveni said some of the ADF and ISIS rebels have linkages and many have been arrested while transiting. He disclosed that Uganda today is hosting over 400,000 Congolese refugees who are victims of insecurity in the neighbouring country and that over 700,000 people were displaced due to disturbances in Mozambique.

“The Security Council should hold bilateral and multilateral engagements and emphasize that Eastern Congo is a breeding ground for these groups in a weak country. It is a problem of a vacuum created by ideological disorientation,” he said.

On the issue of climate change, the President urged the development partners to help deal with micro issues of climate change including preserving wetlands, forest reserves and ridding steep gradient mountains of settlements to stop landslides.

“Help with wetland and forest reclamations and recovery of steep gradients. We need money for encroachers to leave peacefully by giving them alternative livelihoods,” he said.

The Norwegian Ambassador, H.E. Elin Johansen who led the delegation expressed their interest of cooperating with Uganda in fighting the COVID pandemic, regional issues and issues of climate change. She said that they were keen to know Uganda’s challenges especially in its efforts to fight against COVID.

The Iceland Charge de Affairs, Thordis Sigurardottir, informed President Museveni that her country provided 236,000 Corona vaccines in July 2021.

The envoys looked forward to continued good relations between their block and Uganda.



President Museveni posing for a photo with Nordic envoys after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

22nd October, 2021

President mourns Hope Kivengyere

“

She created a good rapport between me and the media fraternity by holding these regular meetings. She managed to woo the foreign media and she dedicated herself to building bridges to a better future. She was a great freedom fighter, a patriot and a peacemaker. On behalf of the Government, my family and on my own behalf, please accept my heartfelt condolences”

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni paid glowing tribute to the late Hope Kishande Kivengyere, his first and longest serving Press Secretary (1986-2001) who passed on Wednesday from Nakasero Hospital.

“She was very professional, that is why I chose her to start my Press Office and be my Spokesperson. She carried out this duty with a high sense of professionalism and an outstanding sense of commitment. She was resilient and was never taken aback whenever she came across any challenges,” he said in a message read by the Minister for Presidency, Hon. Mariam Dhoka Babalanda, at a funeral service at All Saints Cathedral, Nakasero.

President Museveni said the late Kivengyere came up with a lot of initiatives on media management and many times, arranged meetings between him and the media fraternity; always imparting to him the important role of the media in any endeavour.

“She created a good rapport between me and the media fraternity by holding these regular meetings. She managed to woo the foreign media and she dedicated herself to building bridges to a better future. She was a great freedom fighter, a patriot and a peacemaker. On behalf of the Government, my family and on my own behalf, please accept my heartfelt condolences,” he said.

The President gave a detailed background about Hope Kivengyere’s role in the liberation struggle and said she joined the struggle to liberate Uganda quite early in her life as an undergraduate student at Makerere University during Obote II.

“She helped some of the undergraduate students who had earlier joined the struggle but faced grave danger of being killed by the plundering soldiers. Hope, at that tender age, had already exhibited bravery. She helped the young freedom fighters to escape and hence saved their lives.

Eventually, she also went into exile and fully joined the struggle to liberate her country. Her political acumen was unmatched,” he said.

The President said Hope devoted the prime years of her life to the service of Uganda through her extraordinary career and worked tirelessly to serve our country in the finest traditions of the civil service and she served with such distinction.

“Hope was very practical. I discovered that she used to drive herself while on safari, I think to Gulu. She had gone with the advance team. When my convoy was on the Gulu highway, one of the guards pointed out that he could see Hope’s car parked by the side of the road. I told the driver to stop and there was Hope fitting a tyre on the car.

The car, I remember, was a Santana. I asked why she was changing a tyre herself and not the driver. She replied that she did not have a driver, never had one and would never have one. I asked her why not, and she replied that she believed she was her best driver. She said she knew all about cars and could fix things herself if anything went wrong. That was Hope; very practical and self-reliant,” he narrated.

The President said good upbringing matters a lot in one’s life and that he could always detect the noble character of Hope’s parents in her.

“It was easy to see a reflection of our renowned evangelists, Bishop Festo Kivengyere and his wife, Merabu Kivengyere. Their great legacy is timeless. Hope had a long and untainted career. We were privileged to associate and work with a person of her caliber and vision. She was known for her efficiency at work and above all, that incredible simplicity which endeared her to people of all walks of life.

Her unwavering loyalty and service was exemplary and self-evident. Her devotion to national cause and values will remain etched in our minds,” he said.

The President said they will always be grateful for the crucial role Hope played and pray that her outstanding service will be a source of inspiration and motivation to many leaders.

“As we mourn this great daughter of Africa, let us also celebrate her life and achievements.

I pray that the Almighty God will comfort the family at this most difficult time. May the Soul of Hope Kishande Kivengyere Rest in Eternal Peace,” he said.

“She helped some of the undergraduate students who had earlier joined the struggle but faced grave danger of being killed by the plundering soldiers. Hope, at that tender age, had already exhibited bravery. She helped the young freedom fighters to escape and hence saved their lives. Eventually, she also went into exile and fully joined the struggle to liberate her country. Her political acumen was unmatched,” **President Museveni**

22nd October, 2021

President flags off 282 trucks for COVID-19 surveillance

“

From the 1960s, NRM always believed in Africans having capacity to solve their problems. The doctrine of self- sufficiency is the correct one. We have been able to survive the COVID-19 effects because we have been self- reliant especially in food and industrial products. Self- sufficiency is the way to go. The 282 vehicles are from the spirit of self- sufficiency. The purchase and allocation of these vehicles is part of accountability”

President Museveni

KOLOLO INDEPENDENCE GROUNDS: President Yoweri Museveni said that NRM government believes that Africans can solve their problems and be self-sufficient.

“From the 1960s, NRM always believed in Africans having capacity to solve their problems. The doctrine of self-sufficiency is the correct one. We have been able to survive the COVID-19 effects because we have been self-reliant especially in food and industrial products. Self- sufficiency is the way to go. The 282 vehicles are from the spirit of self-sufficiency. The purchase and allocation of these vehicles is part of accountability,” he said.

The President was speaking from Kololo Independence Grounds where he handed over 282 double cabin pick- up trucks to Chief Administrative Officers (CAOs) under the COVID National Response Fund. The vehicles were purchased at US\$22,000 each and they were received from donations

from the public and stakeholders targeted at fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. The fund which is chaired by Mr. Emmanuel Katongole, received a total contribution valued at Shs 69.2 billion of this Shs34.2 billion was received in form of goods in kind.

The President commended the COVID-19 National Response Fund committee for having worked for free and noted that the committee has shown that they can be blessed for working without pay.

He advised government officials to practice the culture of bulk purchases from the manufacturers, saying this helps in fighting the culture of tendering through middlemen. He revealed that government spent US\$ 22,000 per vehicle as compared to the showroom price of US\$ 50,000 per pick-up truck.

He emphasised that the donations that he flagged off were strictly for Corona district surveillance teams and cautioned the health officials that they should be used in a good way.

President Museveni, while referring to the national budget, noted that Uganda today had allocated Shs 45 trillion to cover its expenses and that out of this, Shs15trillion covers debts.

The President said the actual budget was Shs 30 trillion and told officials present that if we are to increase tax collections from Shs 20trillion to about Shs35 trillion, we could cover our budget without borrowing.

He paid tribute to Prime Minister Nabbanja, Prime Minister emeritus Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, the Minister of Health Jane Aceng and State Minister for health Margaret Muhanga for the job they have done well since the outbreak of the pandemic.

The Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja saluted President Museveni for sacrificing time to flag off the vehicles.

“Because of your visionary leadership, Uganda is among the best in the region and the world in managing the COVID-19 pandemic,” she said.

She thanked Ugandans and friends for the vehicles and other facilities they have donated. She saluted the President for leading the negotiations and succeeding in getting the vehicles at a good price.

The former Minister in Charge of General Duties in the Office of the Prime Minister, Mary Karoro Okurut, said that we are celebrating exemplary leadership of President Museveni because of the low death rate attributed to COVID-19 in Uganda.

The Minister of Health Jane Ruth Aceng said that it has been a challenge to transport test samples from the 53 land border points.

The Chairman of the COVID-19 response committee, Emmanuel Katongole, said that the delivery of the pick-ups demonstrates that the contributions of the people of Uganda were put to good use.



President Museveni hands over double cabin pick-ups to District COVID Taskforces at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds

“Because of your visionary leadership, Uganda is among the best in the region and the World in managing the COVID-19 pandemic,”

Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja

23rd October, 2021

President Museveni commissions Port Health Facility

“The testing process should commence since the missing items in the facility are few. We shall complete as we proceed with the tests. I thank Prime Minister Nabbanja for taking the NRM line. If you have got the basics, move on. During the protracted people’s struggle, NRM had only 27 guns and we confronted an army that had 60,000 guns,” **President Museveni**

ENTEBBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: President Yoweri Museveni directed the Ministry of Health to immediately start conducting Covid-19 mandatory tests at Entebbe International Airport shortly after he commissioned the newly built Port Health Facility.

The facility built by the UPDF Construction Brigade is expected to ease the inconvenience of passengers at the main gateway into Uganda and will initially attend to all the arriving passengers.



Prime Minister, Robinah Nabbanja, conducts President Museveni at the Entebbe Airport COVID-19 testing centre during its launch

“The testing process should commence since the missing items in the facility are few. We shall complete as we proceed with the tests. I thank Prime Minister Nabbanja for taking the NRM line. If you have got the basics, move on. During the protracted people’s struggle, NRM had only 27 guns and we confronted an army that had 60,000 guns,” he said.

President Museveni called on leaders to internalise the NRM strategy and understand the services that must be run by the Government. He said that the UPDF Construction Brigade should construct all the government run facilities in order to reduce costs. He said that it is a mistake to bring the private sector in building such a facility as the one he was launching.

“This COVID-19 testing centre should be run by the government health staff and it should immediately embark on the task of testing the arriving passengers,” he said.

The Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja saluted President Museveni for protecting Ugandans against COVID-19 and revealed that the centre cost Shs 15 billion to complete and equip.

She said that passengers have been paying Shs 250,000/= (about US\$70) for testing and that she was pleased to note that the charges have now been reduced to Shs 100,000/= (about US\$30). She said that arrangements have been made to ensure that tourists are given a dedicated service point in order to prevent delays.

The Minister of Health, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, said that the facility has got 8 PCR machines that can handle 548 samples every 2 hours with 150 personnel from the Ministry of Health and UPDF who have been deployed to serve.

25th October, 2021

President Museveni meets France's Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness Minister

I am pleased that President Macron has sent an investment delegation to Uganda. This is the correct way to go. Uganda has land, natural resources and labour. We have got capital but not too much. From Europe we need capital and entrepreneurship. Uganda has about 5,000 industries in operation. We are aiming at prosperity for our nation and prosperity means having income, jobs, producing goods and services”

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni welcomed President Emmanuel Macron of France decision to send a trade and investment delegation to Uganda, describing it as the correct way of boosting their bilateral cooperation.

The President received and held a meeting with the French Minister delegate for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness, Mr. Frank Riester, who led a delegation comprising of 12 small, medium and large-scale enterprises which have expressed their interest in investing in trade, investment, construction, ICT and health sectors in Uganda.

“I am pleased that President Macron has sent an investment delegation to Uganda. This is the correct way to go. Uganda has land, natural resources and labour. We have got capital but not too much. From Europe we need capital and entrepreneurship. Uganda has about 5,000 industries in operation.

We are aiming at prosperity for our nation and prosperity means having income, jobs, producing goods and services,” he said.

President Museveni said this also involves the marketing of goods and services and that if the European companies come and produce goods and services, they would have access to a market of 41 million in Uganda alone.

“There is also a market of 200 million in East Arica and 1.4 billion people in the African continent,” he said.

The President assured the French Foreign Trade Minister and his delegation that Uganda was endowed with the AGOA market in the United States of America where we call sell 6,500 products tax-free including the European market and the tax free market in China for a wide range of products.

Museveni said while we have all these lucrative markets, the target is to create jobs for Ugandans and creating a middle class where people would have purchasing power.

He was pleased to note that the two countries have got several sectors where they can work together in the production of goods and services including in agro-processing, infrastructure, solar and hydro-electric power production.

The French Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic attractiveness, Mr. Frank Riester, expressed his sympathy to President Museveni and Ugandans at large over the recent bomb attack in Komamboga, Kampala and said his country was ready to work with Uganda in eliminating terrorism.

He expressed their interest in building capacity with Ugandan enterprises and work towards the export of goods and services.

Minister Frank Riester said that President Macron is interested in investment collaboration with Uganda and noted that their oil company, Total, was committed to be a socio-economic partner in its oil industry.

“It is very important and good to note that the people affected by the oil project in Uganda were being taken care of by both the Uganda Government and Total,” he said.

Minister Riester congratulated President Museveni for Uganda’s decision to buy 2 Airbus planes for Uganda Airlines. He revealed that France was ready to work with Uganda in various sectors including the production of oxygen for the medical sector, treatment of cancer, agro-processing and the provision of a fiber optic project in Kampala City. He also said they are ready to work with Uganda in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting was attended among others by the French Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Jules-Armand Aniambossou, the Minister of Defence Bamulangaki Ssempijja, the Minister of Health Jane Aceng, the State Minister of Foreign Affairs John Mulimba and the State Minister for Trade Harriet Ntabazi, Mr. Quentin Teisseire, the adviser in charge of Diplomatic Affairs and the Africa Roadmap and Alexis Du Boisberranger, the Junior adviser for exports and strategic partnerships and for the Africa roadmap among others.

“It is very important and good to note that the people affected by the oil project in Uganda were being taken care of by both the Uganda Government and Total,”

Mr. Frank Riester



President Museveni chats with Mr. Frank Riester at State House, Entebbe

26th October, 2021

President meets UN Special Representative on D.R. Congo

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni received and held a meeting with Mrs. Bintou Keita, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Head of MONUSCO, at State House, Entebbe.

The President and the U.N. official discussed matters pertaining to the security situation in the region, one year after a similar meeting in which the envoy had assured the President of the UN's new approach to address the peace process in the DR Congo, following conflicts that had displaced thousands of people in eastern parts of the D.R. Congo

Bintou Keita, who heads the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), briefed the President about the situation in DR Congo among other things.



President Museveni greets Mrs. Bintou Keita, at State House, Entebbe

26th October, 2021

President Museveni meets Turkish investors

“I am happy to receive you and I want you to bring me more investors. I want you to come and tap into the fruit processing sector and agro-production,” **President Museveni**

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni urged a Turkish investment delegation to tap into Uganda’s vibrant fruit processing sector and promote agro-production in the country.

The President was meeting a Turkish delegation of investors that was led by the Turkish Ambassador to Uganda H.E. Fikret Kerem Alp at State House, Entebbe.

“I am happy to receive you and I want you to bring me more investors. I want you to come and tap into the fruit processing sector and agro-production,” he said.

The delegation gave him an update of roads construction projects that they working on in Uganda.

Uganda and Turkey have a strong commitment to development cooperation in the sectors of Infrastructure, Manufacturing, Education, Tourism and Health.

According to reports, Turkey’s bilateral trade volume with Uganda was 41 million USD in 2019 and the trade volume with Uganda increased to 63 million USD in 2020; Turkey’s exports were 54 million USD while their imports were 9 million USD in the same year.

The Turkish Ambassador to Uganda, H.E Fikret Kerem Alp, said that bilateral trade between the two countries has greatly improved, adding, that the construction sector was the driving force of the Turkish economy. He said that he has brought the top notch in energy and construction.

Amb. Kerem Alp said that they employ 4,000 Ugandans in the ventures that they are involved in and expressed interest in the Turkish construction firms being allocated more roads.



President Museveni gestures to the Turkish delegation after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

"I thank Saudi Arabia for the US \$68 million donation for humanitarian support. I also want the Uganda Investment Authority to give Saudi Arabia all the support it needs to enable it invest in agro- processing. We have broad opportunities in mining. You can build a steel industry that will reduce the cost of steel in Uganda," **President Museveni**

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE:

President Yoweri Museveni paid tribute to King Mohammed Bin Salman of Saudi Arabia for pledging a donation of US \$ 68 million towards humanitarian support with particular reference to the refugees hosted in Uganda.

The President was speaking during a meeting with the Saudi Arabia Minister of State for African Affairs, Mr. Ahmed Abdulaziz Kattan, who was in Uganda for a 3-day official visit.

During the meeting, Uganda and Saudi Arabia signed a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and an agreement for cooperation. Uganda's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jeje Odongo, signed for Uganda and the visiting Minister Ahmed Abdulaziz Kattan signed for Saudi Arabia.

"I thank Saudi Arabia for the US \$68 million donation for humanitarian support. I also want the Uganda Investment Authority to give Saudi Arabia all the support it needs to enable it invest in agro- processing.

We have broad opportunities in mining. You can build a steel industry that will reduce the cost of steel in Uganda," he said, adding that currently the country was using recycled steel which is not strong enough to erect big structures such as dams.

He urged the Saudi Arabia delegation to invest in tourism and promised to visit Saudi Arabia soon noting that Arabs are part of Africa as was the case in countries such as Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco and Mauritania most of which are linked both in North Africa, the East African Coast and through religion.

President Museveni commended the Saudi Arabia government for its donation of US\$7million, which was used in the construction of the King Fahd Plaza in Kampala. He said that the facility was built to work as an endowment to support the Islamic University in Uganda.

The President thanked King Salman for sending the State Minister for African Affairs to visit Uganda.

Briefing his guest on the recent acts of terrorism in the country, the President said that Uganda's stand on terrorism was very clear, pointing out that a terrorists target soft targets.

“If one fights an army, we recognize him as a fighter, but if a group fights against civilians then it is an act of terrorism,” he said.

He commended Saudi Arabia on the establishment of the Counter-terrorism centre.

The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) was established in September 2011 to promote international counter-terrorism cooperation and support Member States in the implementation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy through a voluntary contribution of the Government of Saudi Arabia.

The visiting Saudi Arabian Minister of State for African Affairs Mr. Ahmed Abdulaziz Kattan saluted President Museveni for the warm reception accorded to his delegation and reaffirmed the cooperation between his country and Uganda. He pledged a donation of US \$ 68 million towards humanitarian aid and said that they want to support Uganda in dealing with the refugees coming from the neighbouring countries.

The Minister thanked the Uganda Government for appointing Saudi Air as the official airline serving the 2 countries. He revealed that Saudi Arabia was the founder of the Counter- terrorism Centre.

He invited the President to attend the Afro –Arab Summit.



President Museveni with Minister Ahmed Abdulaziz Kattan during a meeting at State House, Entebbe

End of Quarter

NEWSLETTER 2021/22



JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER

Government Citizen Interaction Centre
State House, October, 2021

#GCICNewsLetter

**We're bringing Gov't
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