

The Presidency

February, 2022



Your Monthly Round-Up of State House News





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





Highlights

President Museveni
presides over the
Final Investment
Decision into the oil
projects

07

President Museveni
writes about UK-
Africa Trade

09

President Museveni
addresses 31st
Summit of the Africa
Peer Review Forum

14

President Museveni
Commissions
Uganda's First Sugar
Refinery

17

President Museveni
arrives in Republic of
Congo for a working
visit

19

President Museveni
Visits Dakar, Senegal

23

President Museveni
meets US
Ambassador

29

President Museveni
meets State
Secretary and
Deputy Minister
of International
Development of the
Kingdom of Norway

31

President Museveni
attends Peace,
Security and
Cooperation Summit
in Kinshasa, DRC

33

Dear Reader,

This is to present to you the February edition of our monthly e-magazine, The Presidency. The magazine highlights the major engagements of His Excellency the President for the month of February, and its purpose is to keep you informed as a major stakeholder, on the activities in the office and residence of the President.

In every edition, we try to improve the format and presentation of the magazine to make your reading as comfortable as possible. Starting with the January edition, we have changed the colours and font of the magazine.

The month of February had very significant developments for Uganda, starting with the unveiling of the Final Investment Decision (FID) by Total Energies Chairman and Chief Executive, Patrick Pouyanne, on behalf of Total Energies and joint venture partners. This was witnessed by the President at Kololo. The Final Investment Decision will inject USD 10 billion into the Lake Albert Development Project; Tilenga, King Fisher and East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, creating jobs among other benefits. The President also addressed the 31st Summit of the Africa Peer Review Forum.

Lastly, we encourage the citizens to give us their feedback and suggestions about the magazine and our other services through our platforms; email: citizen@gcic.go.ug, Whatsapp: 0414670288 or through our social media handles; GCICUganda. We also encourage the citizens who have benefited from the different interventions, programmes and projects commissioned by the President to send us their experiences in form of articles. We shall publish them.

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



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Quote of the Month

“

When this oil project came, I was very happy to see that it goes through Tanzania so that our Tanzanian brothers and sisters also benefit something, given their great contribution through Mwalimu Julius Nyerere (RIP), to Uganda. Mwalimu Nyerere supported Uganda and Africa as a whole. It is good that his people will benefit from this pipeline.”

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President Museveni presiding over the Final Investment Decision into the oil projects, 1st February, 2022



PRESIDENT MUSEVENI PRESIDES OVER THE FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION INTO THE OIL PROJECTS

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“This project is a very important one for this region. You hear that for the next few years, Mr. Pouyanne (Total Energies Chief Executive) and CNOOC people are going to put in US\$10 billion in this effort. This money will boost our economy,” President Museveni.

KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni is optimistic that Uganda's oil and gas project will go a long way in boosting the country's economy.

This is after the French energy conglomerate Total Energies and the China National Offshore Oil Corporation - CNOOC reached a deal with Uganda and Tanzania to invest more than US\$10 billion in developing crude oil production between the two East African countries.

“This project is a very important one for this region. You hear that for the next few years, Mr. Pouyanne (Total Energies Chief Executive) and CNOOC people are going to put in US\$10 billion in this effort. This money will boost our economy,” the President said.

According to the President, whereas Uganda discovered crude oil reserves in 2006, oil exploration efforts in Uganda date back as far as 1920 by the British after seepage of oil was discovered at a place called Kibiro near Lake Albert. But their efforts to trace the origin of the seepage failed after 36 years of searching between 1920 and 1956. He resurrected the search for oil after taking power in 1986.

“When I came into the Government in 1986, I read the file where a British Commissioner of Geological Survey in 1956, wrote and said - it seems the oil was there but it evaporated and went away and closed the file. I wish that file could be found and put in the museum,” he said.

He later took it upon himself to train Ugandans in petroleum and geology after Shell BP, a British petroleum company, showed interest in exploring Uganda's oil at a time when no Ugandan had knowledge about exploration.

“This was the decision I took because I did not see how I could allow Uganda to be involved in something like this with ignorant people on my side,” the President said, before introducing historicals in Uganda's oil exploration journey that included among others; Ernest Rubondo, Executive Director - Petroleum Authority of

Uganda and former Permanent secretaries - Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Mr Fred Kabagambe Kaliisa and Robert Kasande, who he sponsored to train in oil studies.

These together with oil exploration companies like Heritage and Tullow Oil later succeeded in their discovery in 2006 but production has been repeatedly delayed by disagreements between the Government and oil firms.

Government geologists estimate that the country's gross reserves stand at 6.5 billion barrels (1 =159

litres), while recoverable oil is seen at 1.4 billion barrels.

The final investment decision was announced by Total Energies Chairman and Chief Executive, Patrick Pouyanne, in the presence of other joint venture partners.

“In the name of the joint venture partners and in the name of Total Energies, I declare the final investment decision for the Lake Albert Development Project; Tilenga, King Fisher and East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project”, said Total Energies Chief Executive, Patrick Pouyanne, at a ceremony also attended by a delegation from the United Republic of Tanzania, led by the Vice President, Philip Isidor Mpango.

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**Close to
160,000 jobs
are expected
to be created
during the
project's
development**

”



President Museveni (white shirt) with Ugandan, Tanzanian and Total Energies officials at the announcement of FID at Kololo

H.E. Mpango said with the implementation of this shared project, the two countries are set to increase their foreign direct investment flows in addition to the trade between the two countries that more than tripled to over USD 260m in 2020 compared to the average for the past 5 years.

“With this project, the two countries are projected to realise their record level of foreign direct investment flows to the tune of \$3.5 billion over the period 2022 to 2025, which is an increase of over 60% compared to the current levels of foreign direct investment flows,” Mr. Mpango said.

He reiterated commitment from the Government of Tanzania to support the project and urged the people of the two countries to take ownership of the project by ensuring security and safety of oil infrastructure.

President Museveni thanked the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, and his predecessor, H.E. John Pombe Magufuli (RIP), for accepting to be part of the project and buying 15% of the shares.

“When this oil project came, I was very happy to see that it goes through Tanzania so that our Tanzanian brothers and sisters also benefit something, given their great contribution through Mwalimu Julius Nyerere (RIP), to Uganda. Mwalimu Nyerere supported Uganda and Africa as a whole. It is good that his people will benefit from this pipeline,” President Museveni said.

The agreement between the Government of Uganda and Total Energies will cover the development of oil fields, processing facilities and a pipeline network in Uganda, plus an export pipeline through Tanzania to carry landlocked Uganda’s crude to a port on the Indian Ocean.

Out of the \$10 billion, \$3.5 billion will be spent constructing a heated pipeline linking oil fields in western Uganda to the Indian Ocean port of Tanga in Tanzania. At 897 miles, the pipeline will be one of the world’s longest.

“This milestone puts us on the path to first oil in 2025”, Minister of Energy and Mineral Development, Ruth Nankabirwa Ssentamu, said in a speech ahead of the signing adding that close to 160,000 jobs are expected to be created during the project’s development.

At the same ceremony, a Memorandum of Understanding on Renewable Energy between the Government of Uganda and Total Energies EP Uganda was signed. Hon. Ruth Nankabirwa signed the MoU with Philippe Groueix, General Manager of Total Energies EP Uganda.

The ceremony in Kampala, marked by fanfare, was also attended by the Vice President of Uganda Maj (Rtd) Jessica Alupo, Ministers and stakeholders in the oil and gas from Tanzania and Uganda.

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI WRITES ABOUT UK-AFRICA TRADE

“A UK-Africa trade deal could be fair wind for African economic unity,” **Yoweri K. Museveni**.

In Uganda, schools recently reopened to face-to-face teaching for the first time in 24 months. Buying time through various forms of lockdown, the vaccines we need to safely reopen have begun to arrive in recent months and we are on our way back to the mend and to the growth that has been constricted by the pandemic.

Amongst others, credit is due to the African Union (AU) securing the doses for equitable distribution across the continent. It means today twenty percent of Uganda's 46 million population – the majority of adults – have at least one dose. Though the battle before us remains uphill, these achievements reveal both how Africa can succeed through collective effort, and how prospects for our 1.3 billion citizens and our continent's place in the world are entwined.

As we meet virtually for the UK-Africa summit, the United Kingdom too is alive to the promise of African unity. Since the inaugural event two years ago, the UK has become the first non-African nation to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). For the AU, it offers our continent – a \$3 trillion market – more bargaining power with a developed country in the

global economy such as Britain, which post-EU departure has revealed new-found determination to build positive trade relations back in Africa.

The inheritance of colonialism has meant our countries do not trade as they should. In the past, it has caused us to look outwards alone. Our infrastructure is geared toward extraction of commodities and export, whilst our intra-continental trade is the least developed in the world.

Moreover, given the position of each country or even regional bloc, the power differentials made any decent trade terms impossible. Taken together, they are a failure of our potential; shackling our common prosperity across the continent – a rising tide that could lift all nations more than any single one could through their own bilateral. In hindsight, former deals may look short-sighted. But when unfavourable terms are the only terms on offer, there is little other choice.

Now there is another way: an economic new deal for Africa founded on unity



vested in AfCFTA. Countries will still try to pick off trading partners to gain favourable agreements. Preferential access for a few agricultural goods to the markets of rich economies may be threatened. In response, Africa nations must reject the short-term incentives and speak in one collective voice. Only then can it avoid the iniquitous terms that have stifled the continent's development and industrialisation.

A UK-Africa Free Trade Deal could light the path for others to follow. And once there is this first precedent, reversion to the old will become increasingly difficult. Already, the current United States administration has now shown interest in negotiation with Africa as one – a stark change in direction from its predecessor.

But we should not simply wait for global powers or blocs to come with their own agendas; Africa must proactively set out its “red lines” for negotiations.

The first must be reciprocity. Attempts to cajole African nations into lopsided bilateral trading terms must be rejected, like the EU's economic partnership agreements that required African countries to open to Europe, but not the other way around. These are not partnerships, but supply contracts: Africa as a raw commodities producer, a role she has sadly played since 1885, without the market access required to provide incentive to develop beyond.

Second must be job creation. Boosting employment across the continent requires not only the lowering of tariffs on African raw commodities for export, but also for processing and manufacturing. From animal feeds to cement and steel, from mobile phones to mRNA vaccine

development and electric vehicle production, Africa is proving itself the final frontier for industrialisation. Any trade negotiations must consider how FDI into Africa will create additional jobs.

Third, collective pressure should be brought to bear on western countries to reconsider their blanket ban on fossil fuel investment in Africa. Ruling out funds for gas and carbon capture while encouraging it in Europe smacks of double-standards. It forces poverty on Africans whilst doing nothing to increase access to power, reduce electricity costs, or wean dependence from heavy fuels such as diesel.

Fourth, restrictions on visas for Africans studying and seeking to do business in the West must be on the table. When citizens – particularly from Europe – are effectively free to roam and trade as they please in Africa, it is unacceptable that African nations accept the highest hurdles of entry into other countries both for goods and people. Europe increasingly negotiates for entry rights to non-EU countries for their citizens collectively. So should Africa for their own.

Protecting Africa's citizens against Covid without easy access to vaccines and medical supplies has come at enormous social and economic cost. While the beginnings of African unity predate the pandemic by decades, its potential power has only been forged in this crisis. A UK-Africa trade deal would speed our recovery, chart the course for others to follow, and be fair wind for consolidating African economic unity.

The writer is President of Uganda.

HIGH COURT, KAMPALA: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni launched the New Law Year 2022 at a colourful ceremony held at the High Court Grounds in Kampala.

Speaking at the function, President Museveni congratulated the Judiciary and Law Society in general upon completing the outgoing year and for the great work done.

“I would like to use this occasion to congratulate the Judiciary on the beginning of the New Law year. I want to thank you for the great work you have done for all the years in spite of some challenges”, President Museveni said.

“Transforming the Judiciary”, President Museveni said, is a very good theme for this New Year, adding that Judiciary needs to transform so that the people get the judicial services and eventually justice.

“In this transformation, you should not only transform the administration but also you should reflect on the what? What is the substance of this judicial service? The judicial service you are rendering must be for people,” Museveni said.

The President said the primary task of organically bringing together these constituencies (the people) is primarily with parliament, who must make sure

that they legislate policies in favor of the people.

“Myself I represent the freedom fighters, and the Army, I also represent the population (Wanainch). Somehow, I also represent the private sector (manufacturing and services).

These are the groups I came from to come to Government,” he said.

President Museveni re-echoed the need for Judiciary to look into the issue of bailing out criminals with offenses like rape, defilement, murder etc, saying this is a provocation to the people.

“I have been complaining about the issue of bail. This bail is a provocation and you would not want people to kill themselves over it,” President Museveni said.

The President explained the crucial elements that the Judiciary must look at keenly including; protection of life with no extrajudicial killing, protection of people’s property and thirdly no raping women and children.

“Protect our women. Anybody who rapes a woman or defiles a girl must die,” he said.

President Museveni added embezzlement of Government money and corruption, as another vice which the Judiciary must fight.

The President also spoke against

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***The other thing
I must warn
you against is
attacking the
army.***

”

provocations from the sections of the public saying this must stop.

“The Chief Justice was talking about attacking the Judiciary. The other thing I must warn you against is attacking the army. The soldiers are people. So, for you to attack them and think things will remain the same, you are lying,” the President warned.

President Museveni pledged Government commitment to increase the budget for the Judiciary to enable it transform better.

The Chief Justice of Uganda, Hon. Justice Alfonso Owiny Dollo, revealed that in 2021, the Judiciary embarked on a grand agenda to transform the judicial landscape in Uganda by providing a meaningful access of justice to the people of Uganda in fulfillment of their aspirations and desire.

“This mission can only be realised when there is equitable visible presence of a functional judiciary within reach of our people throughout the country,” Justice Owiny Dollo said.



President Museveni is received by the Chief Justice, Deputy Chief Justice and Ag. Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Hon. Muruli Mukasa, at High Court Square in Kampala

He also said, the Judiciary must be true to its duty to do justice to all manner of persons and lays emphasis on the principles of integrity, impartiality, and zero tolerance to any vice that negates the requisite principles of justice.

The Chief Justice revealed that the Judiciary has dedicated energies to fighting delays in rendering justice, notoriously known as case backlog through bringing courts nearer to the people, advancing ICT and other technologies at all stages, enhancing human resource capacity in terms of numbers, skills, motivation and commitment among others.

The acting Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs who is also the Minister of Public Service, Hon. Muruuli Mukasa, commended the President for always standing by and with the Judiciary which has seen this arm of government transform over the years.

“We need more financial support and resources so that more judicial officers are recruited,” the Minister said.

He appealed to the President to approve the structure of the judiciary to take care of the non-judicial staff in the office of DPP, IGG etc, because they too play a very important role.

The Attorney General of Uganda, Hon. Kiryowa Kiwanuka commended the Judiciary for a great job done even during the COVID-19 pandemic.

He warned lawyers who fail to account for their client’s money and those involved in corruption in and outside the judiciary.

“Some of you are involved in land fraud transactions, corruption and even failing to account for your client’s funds. Please stop this unethical conduct,” Kiwanuka said.

The President of Uganda Law Society, Ms Phiona Nabasa Gladys Wall, commended the President for the financial support rendered to them in building the Law Society House.

Ms Wall spoke against the recent security brutality towards some opposition politicians who were allegedly beaten and tortured in the hands of the security forces. She called upon security officers to always respect court orders.

“Thank you for setting the record straight about torture when you spoke against the vice during your recent address. Unfortunately, security is not listening. They are continuing to torture people. They should respect the human rights of the citizens of Uganda,” Ms Phiona Wall said.

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI ADDRESSES 31ST SUMMIT OF THE AFRICA PEER REVIEW FORUM

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4

His Excellency, Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa,
Chairperson of the Forum;

Your Excellencies, Heads of State and
Government;

The APRM Focal Points;

The APR Panel of Eminent Persons;

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen.

At this 31st Summit of the African Peer Review (APR) Forum, Uganda presents its **“Second Annual Progress Report on the Implementation of the National Programme of Action for the period July 2019 – June 2021”**. This is in line with the APRM objectives and processes. As we near to mark the 20th anniversary next year, I wish to congratulate all the 41 Members Countries that have now assented to Africa’s home-grown governance initiative.



President Museveni virtually addresses the 31st APRM Forum from State House, Entebbe

During this period, Uganda is the second African Union (AU) Member State, after Kenya, to have completed a second governance review under this mechanism in 2018. The National Programme of Action (NPOA) was developed that has mobilised and guided actions of government and other stakeholders towards improving good governance. This Programme of Action has been integrated in the Third National Development Plan (NDP III) 2020/21 – 2024/25 and budgeting framework to ensure its implementation and monitoring.

Your Excellencies, Uganda remains committed to the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) process.

Your Excellencies, allow me to provide some highlights on Uganda’s Second Annual Progress Report on the Implementation of the National Programme of Action for the period July 2019 – June 2021. This report documents the progress made towards implementing the findings of the Country Review Report 2018, identifies areas of notable achievements, best practices and highlights some of the remaining governance challenges.

Below are highlights of some of the areas where Uganda has registered progress during the period under review presented as per thematic area.

Thematic Area 1: Democracy and Political Governance

- Uganda has continued to consolidate and deepen constitutional democracy. For example, the Country conducted peaceful general elections, the COVID-19 Pandemic notwithstanding;
- Independence of the Judiciary has been strengthened with the enactment of the Administration Judiciary Bill in 2020;

- Promoting Pan-Africanism. Strengthening relations with our neighbours including Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) - joint efforts to eliminate the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF); bilateral relations with Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania and South Sudan.
- There have been improvements in infrastructure provision in terms of the total paved roads network as a percentage of total national roads that has more than doubled from 8% (1,000km) in 1986 to 21.1% (5,419 km) as of February 2021; rail rehabilitation and power generation and distribution.

Recommendations to accelerate Progress

- Strengthen enforcement of laws and implement the National Anti-corruption Strategy (NACS), 2019/20 – 2023/24 to effectively curb corruption.
- Prioritise establishment of a Constitutional Review Commission. Government needs to fast track formation of Constitutional Review Commission to consider various constitutional reforms.

Thematic Area 2: Economic Governance and Management

- Maintained macroeconomic stability, despite of the COVID-19 threat on the operations of the national economy, particularly on the disruptions of various value chains. We have registered big progress in terms of new innovations in areas of import substitution and export diversification during this period. Gold exports alone have exceeded USD 1bn annually. Coffee exports have increased by 1.32 million 60kgs of coffee between 2018 and 2020;
- Uganda has made significant progress in the Oil sector including the construction of the Crude Oil Pipeline, the Oil refinery and the airport, the final investment decision has been reached;
- Introduction of the Parish Development Model for ensuring balanced development across the Country through inclusive growth and hence, “no one is left behind”;
- Government established Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) recovery fund to help enterprises affected by the COVID-19 containment measures;

Recommendations to accelerate Progress

- Deepen investments in the productive sectors for jobs and wealth creation: Commercial agriculture; Industrialisation; Services; and Information and Communications Technology (ICT);
- Increase capitalisation of the Uganda Development Bank (UDB) to enable investors in the productive sectors access long term and low-interest loans;
- Government should continue pursuing the ongoing efforts in rolling out the Parish Development Model (PDM) to further support the 39% homesteads in subsistence farming to commercialise and create wealth for themselves and raise household incomes.

Thematic Area 3: Corporate Governance

- Uganda global ranking in the ease of doing business has improved from 135th to 116th out of 190 countries; the ease of doing business index for Uganda also improved to 60 from 56.94 in FY 2018/19;
- Uganda has made impressive advancements in online services provision with Uganda’s online index now standing at 58 percent above the African average of 34 percent;
- Amendment of several laws to aid corporate governance.

Recommendations to accelerate Progress

- Further address the bottlenecks to investment and doing business. For instance, high cost of credit, electricity and transport;

- Strengthen enforcement and protection of patent rights and industrial designs to earn the confidence of potential investors.

Thematic Area 4: Socio-economic Development

- Provision of equal opportunities amongst women, youth, elderly and the disabled. We now have more representation of women in Parliament. The older persons are also represented in the 11th Parliament as a Special Interest Group;
- Progress on creating productive employment and decent work for all, particularly young people and women;
- Expansion of the scope and coverage of social protection services to improve the resilience and productive capacity of vulnerable persons;
- Increased electricity access and utilization now standing at 28 percent while unit cost for ordinary consumers stood at 8.3 US cents from 13.8 US cents. Uganda's installed generation capacity was 1,252.4 MW, an increase from 984 MW in 2018 and 150MW in FY1986/87. In light of this, electricity generation is no longer a problem. However, the challenge remains transmission, distribution and cost to further increase access and utilisation. There have also been achievements in expanding the National Backbone Infrastructure (NBI) that stands at 3,918 Km after the connection of an additional 524 km by June, 2021;
- Enhanced support to various research and innovation projects that has led to overall proportion of adopted prototypes to increase from 11 percent between FY2018/19 to 77.8 percent over the same period.

Recommendations to accelerate Progress

- Government should continue with the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda of increasing access to quality health

care services. While there are several achievements in health such as, reducing the Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births) from 506 in FY1986/87 to 336; Life expectancy increasing to 63 years from 43 years in 1995, expanding health care access is important in the human capital development agenda;

- Address the critical and systemic barriers to youth employment. For instance, further building demand-driven skills interventions for young people so that training is responsive and relevant to market needs.

Your Excellencies, Uganda continues to progress well in the implementation of the Program of Action (POA). While there is mixed progress due to the global COVID 19 challenges, the Country continued to innovate and build resilient systems in the implementation of the Program of Action (POA).

The details of the progress on implementation can be found in the copies of Uganda's Second Annual Progress Report that has been distributed to you.

I pledge my government's commitment to ensure that issues identified in this report are addressed within our existing legal framework and available resources. We are also keen to learn the best practices from member Countries.

Finally, I would like to appreciate the Forum for accepting to consider review of Countries along the Strategic Bottlenecks hindering effective socio-economic transformation of the African Continent. Africa needs to eliminate these bottlenecks.

I thank you.

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI COMMISSIONS UGANDA'S FIRST SUGAR REFINERY

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5

KINYARA, MASINDI: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni said Uganda has been losing US\$50Million through importing refined sugar that is used in factories for production of soft drinks and medicines among other uses and described Uganda's first Sugar Industrial plant at Kinyara Sugar Ltd as a step in the right direction.

The President is optimistic that once production increases, Uganda's refined sugar will have a ready market both locally and throughout East Africa whose demand for industrial sugar is 150,000 metric tons.

"I will negotiate with these East African countries to buy our industrial sugar. And for us here we are going to put a tax as



^ *President Museveni gestures to the proprietors of Kinyara refined sugar factory during its commissioning*

✓ *Sample of Kinyara refined sugar displayed during commissioning*



soon as possible on the imported industrial sugar,” Museveni said.

President Museveni was commissioning a US\$15 million Kinyara Industrial White Sugar Refinery plant in Masindi District.

The refinery, the first in East Africa constructed by Kinyara Sugar Ltd in Bujenje County, Masindi District, will produce 60,000 metric tons of industrial white sugar annually, consuming about 70,000 metric tons of mill brown sugar as raw material.

However, this is still below the local demand for industrial sugar which ranges from 78,000 metric tons to 90,000 metric tons annually, according to the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Francis Mwebesa.

President Museveni assured Ugandans of the market for their surplus sugar amounting to 220,000 metric tons out of the 600,000 metric tons produced annually yet local consumption remains at 380,000 metric tons.

“Our East African brothers can buy this sugar because the deficit they have is much bigger than this surplus. So, I am working with them, talking with H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya, H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan of Tanzania and now with Rwanda to solve this issue,” President Museveni said.

Consumers of industrial white sugar such as beverage manufacturers, bakeries, confectionaries, pharmaceuticals, etc, will be able to obtain white sugar due to the reduced time between order and

delivery. Relatedly, in addition to the 12,000 directly and indirectly employed persons, the refinery will provide an additional 150 jobs.

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. Francis Mwebesa, says his Ministry has licensed six other companies to produce refined industrial sugar and are at different stages of implementation. They include Sugar Corporation of Uganda, GM Sugar Ltd, Mayuge Sugar Industries, Kamuli Sugar Ltd and Uganda Group of Industries Ltd.

He however, decried the unpredictability of the National Sugar Policy of 2010 and the National Sugar Act of 2020 which he said don’t bring enforcement of zoning, leaving farmers unsupported.

“To address this, my Ministry is drafting legislations to deal with registration of sugar cane farmers and millers. This will ensure the sector is well regulated,” Minister Mwebesa said.

The Board Chairman Kinyara Sugar Limited, Jaswant Singh Rai, thanked the President for the vision and the guidance towards the tremendous progress of the Ugandan sugar industry. He said the expansion and addition of the new production line of refined sugar will not only increase production but also employment opportunities at the factory whose number of employees has increased from 4,000 to 12,000.

The function was attended by among others; Members of Parliament from the region, Masindi District leaders, sugar cane out growers and religious leaders.

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PRESIDENT MUSEVENI ARRIVES IN REPUBLIC OF CONGO FOR A WORKING VISIT

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11

OYO-OLLOMBO, REPUBLIC OF CONGO: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni arrived in the Central town of Oyo-Ollombo in the Cuvette Region in the Republic of Congo, on a working visit at the invitation of his counter-part, Republic of Congo President, H.E. Denis Sassou Nguesso.

H.E. Denis Sassou Nguesso received

President Museveni and his delegation at Oyo-Ollombo International Airport.

The two leaders later held a bilateral meeting at the President Sassou Nguesso's official residence in Oyo-Ollombo ahead of their formal delegations meeting the following day.



*President Denis Sassou Nguesso (blue suit) receives President Yoweri Museveni
at Oyo-Ollombo International Airport*

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI ATTENDS CONGO MINI-SUMMIT ON REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

“The four Heads of State were delighted by the success already realised by the Ugandan and Congolese armed forces. While congratulating one more time, the salutary initiative taken by their peers from Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the President of the Togolese Republic and the President of the Republic of Congo reiterated their full support to the military joint operations engaged by the two countries”, the Communiqué.

OYO, CONGO BRAZAVILLE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni joined Heads of State including President Felix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo of the Democratic Republic of Congo, President Faure Essozimna Gnassingbe of the Republic of Togo and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Republic of Congo, the host, at a mini-summit on Regional Peace and Security in Oyo, Congo Brazzaville.

According to a final communiqué of the Oyo Mini-Summit on Peace and Security in Africa, the four Heads of State were essentially focused on the evolution of the political and security situation in the Great Lakes Region, Central Africa and Western Africa.

The Heads of State also referred to joint operations carried out by Uganda and the DRC's armies in the Eastern part of the latter, in order to eradicate rebels belonging to Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), Muslum Tabliq Movement (MTM) and the other negative forces which are threatening peace and stability in both countries.

“The four Heads of State were delighted by the success already realised by the Ugandan and Congolese armed forces. While congratulating one more time, the salutary initiative taken by their peers from Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the President of the Togolese Republic and the President of the Republic of Congo reiterated their full support to the military joint operations engaged by the two countries”, the communiqué said.

The Heads of State saluted and encouraged the joint approach taken by the Uganda and Rwandese Governments for the effective opening of their common boundaries.

On the situation in the Central African Republic, the four Heads of State saluted Angola, assuring the Presidency of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and mediation efforts of H.E Joao Manuel Goncalves Lourenco.

They also talked with interest about holding of the 10th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Framework Agreement for peace, security and cooperation for the Republic of Congo and the region scheduled on 24th February, 2022.

The four Heads of State reiterated their total support to the Economic Community of West Africa (ECOWAS) in the framework of measures taken towards Mali, Guinea and Burkina Faso.



*Heads of State: H.E. Yoweri Museveni (Uganda),
H.E. Denis Sassou Nguesso (Republic of Congo), H.E.
Faure Gnassingbe (Togo) and H.E. Felix Tshisekedi
(DRC) during a mini summit in Oyo, Congo*

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI VISITS VALUE-ADDITION PROJECTS IN CONGO

“If you add value through making powdered milk, you can have a bigger market,” President Museveni

OYO, REPUBLIC OF CONGO: President Yoweri Museveni said they are looking to boost trade cooperation through strong regional cooperation with Congo Brazzaville.

The President was speaking during a hectic tour of various projects in Oyo where he was on a working tour at the invitation of

H.E. Denis Sassou Nguesso, the President of Republic of Congo.

President Museveni visited a bio-milk processing unit, a large cattle ranch at Ranchikila and an ostrich farm at Olenga. The ranch has over 1,900 cattle and employs over 200 people. The President also visited the Bon Beeuf abattoir, which adds value to the meat products.

President Museveni told his host that with value addition on milk, they can have a bigger market for their produce.

“If you add value through making powdered milk, you can have a bigger market,” President Museveni said.

Later, the two Heads of State held a bilateral meeting where they discussed various trade opportunities between the two countries.

Congo Brazzaville is the fourth largest Sub-Saharan oil producer, with an output of 360,000 barrels-per-day from reserve estimates of around 1.6 billion barrels according to reports. It produces around 240 million cubic feet of gas daily from reserves estimated at 111 billion cubic feet.

Congo is endowed with tropical rain forests and vast uncultivated arable land accounting for around a third of its total area.

Later in the day, President Yoweri Museveni and his host President Dennis Sassou Nguesso were joined by President Felix Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of Congo and President Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé Eyadéma of Togo for a mini summit on peace and security.



President Museveni tours the ostrich farm at Olenga, Republic of Congo

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI VISITS DAKAR, SENEGAL

DAKAR, SENEGAL: President Yoweri Museveni arrived in the Senegalese Capital, Dakar, on a two-day working visit at the invitation of his counterpart, President Macky Sall.

The President was received by his host President Sall discussed a wide range of continental issues of mutual interest between the two countries of Uganda and Senegal.

President Sall who is the current Chairperson of the African Union also discussed with his guest, President Museveni, the security situation on

the continent as well as the economic development of the African countries.

President Museveni was received on arrival at Leopold Sedar Senghor Military Airbase in the Capital, Dakar, by his host President Macky Sall.

Others at the Military Base to receive President Museveni included the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ms. Aissata Tall Sall, the Minister of Defence, Sidiki Kaba, the Minister of Internal Affairs, Mr. Antoine Felix Diome and the Governor of Dakar, Alhsane Sall.

After their meetings, President Yoweri Museveni was seen off by President of the Republic of Senegal Sonore Macky Sall at the Léopold Sédar Senghor Military Airport, Dakar.



President Museveni (left) is received by H.E. Macky Sall, the President of Senegal at Leopold Sedar Senghor Military Airbase, Dakar

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MOURNS EMORIMOR PAPA ITESO

KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS, KAMPALA: President Yoweri Museveni led Ugandans as chief mourner to celebrate the life of His Highness Emorimor Papa Iteso, Augustine Kadugala Osuban Lemukol, who died on February 5, 2022, from Mulago Hospital.

This was during an official requiem mass held for the Emorimor at Kololo Independence Grounds in Kampala.

Speaking during the ceremony, President Museveni saluted the role of Teso Cultural Institution in particular and other cultural institutions in Uganda for promoting unity and culture that has contributed to the development of Uganda.

The President, however, appealed to the cultural leaders to desist from forming alternative governments in their communities, noting that they should instead play their role of adding value to Uganda.

“I am here to say goodbye to Mzee Osuban but most importantly, to bear testimony to his contribution which others can emulate. Do not form alternative government; your role is to add value to Uganda which is coming up,” President Museveni said.

He said that the problem of Africa has never been anything else but, rather, poor governance.

“Yesterday, I was coming from Dakar, Senegal. It took us seven hours and seven minutes. This is Africa. It’s huge,

great with everything (rivers, forests, etc). Therefore, the problem of Africa has just been governance. “How are we managed politically?” Is the question, he said.

The NRM, the President said, is a group of people that came because of what was going on at that time to change the destiny of Uganda and Africa.

“We came here after a bit of study as a student movement which made us to embark on a serious long journey of trying to change the destiny of Uganda and also to change the destiny of Africa,” Museveni said.

He pointed out the three points they singled out as their focus including; prosperity, strategic security and brotherhood.

“How can the people of Uganda and Africa become prosperous in a modern way, through production of goods and services and marketing them? We realised that to achieve number one and two,

we must emphasise the brotherhood of African people,” he said.

He said that Uganda is on a long journey of development and whatever Government does is deliberate and well-thought out.

“If you are going to help us in the three areas, we are going to work with you. When we restored the cultural institutions, our analysis was, if they are used properly they can play a contributory role,” he said.

“

***We are
here to
celebrate
the life well
lived by the
Emorimor
Papa Iteso***

”

The President saluted the cultural institutions for promoting culture and language.

“These cultural institutions can help us connect with our other people in different countries. This is why we restored these cultural institutions,” he said.

The President commended the late Emorimor Osuban for uniting the people of Teso in Uganda and others living in countries like Kenya, South Sudan and Ethiopia.

“He played his roles very well. He united his people the Iteso, not only the Iteso of Uganda but also the ones in Pallisa, Bukedi, Tororo, and even in Kenya, Ethiopia, etc,” the President said.

On the issue of development, President Museveni saluted the late Emorimor for working towards developing his community in particular and Uganda in general.

“I have never heard that Mzee Osuban was meddling in these issues of politics, legislation, etc. I express my condolence to family, the Iteso community and all Ugandans and wish him eternal rest in the afterlife”, the President condoled.

He called for a policy to purchase new vehicles for cultural leaders every five years instead of depending on donations.

The Vice President, Rtd. Major Jesca Alupo, thanked the President for attending the official funeral in person and commended him for restoring the cultural institutions which have played a big development role.

“You deliberately revived the cultural institutions and ensured that matters of cultural institutions are enshrined in the Constitution. Your being here confirms that you are a man of your word because

you have come here physically to honor our leader. Thank you,” Alupo said.

She added, “Papa Emorimor lived up to our expectations. He lived the aspiration of his title. He united his people. He visited all his people from all these countries around like South Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya,” Alupo, herself hailing from Katakwi in Teso, said.

She appealed to cultural leaders to reciprocate on the affirmative support to promote the Government’s socio-economic transformation programme.

The Minister for Gender, Labor and Social Development, Hon. Betty Amongi, thanked Government for according Emorimor an official burial.

“Thank you for commiserating with the people of Teso. We are paying tribute to a person with a rich understanding of leadership, a custodian and promoter of unity and the culture of the people of Teso,” Amongi said.

Amongi said that the late Emorimor embraced the principle of inclusiveness and unity of his people.

“I call upon people especially the cultural leaders to emulate this noble role,” she added

The Prime Minister of Teso Cultural Institution, Mr. Omare Augustine Okurut, thanked President Museveni and his Government for the support, both moral and financial, given to the late Emorimor during the time he was sick in hospital until he breathed his last.

“We are here to celebrate the life well-lived by the Emorimor Papa Iteso. Thank you, Your Excellency, for the support during the time he was in hospital and also according him an official burial,” Omare said.

Born on the August 12, 1934, to the late Isirairi Okalebo, the late Emorimor Papa Iteso Lemukol was a retired professional Agricultural Specialist with vast experience in Agronomy, Agricultural policy and Agricultural institutions.

In 1998, Lemukol was elected unopposed by over 2,000 delegates from Teso- Uganda and Teso Kenya during a delegates conference held in Soroti, to become Emorimor Papa Iteso, a position he has held till death.

Emorimor is a traditional cultural office which has been in existence amongst the Iteso from time immemorial. The main responsibility of Emorimor is to nurture all Iteso to ensure that the value system they observe is protected and promoted. The holder of the revered portfolio ensures that unity and harmony prevail amongst the Iteso and their neighbours.



President Museveni pays his last respects to the late Emorimor at Kololo Independence Grounds

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI WELCOMES NEW ORTHODOX ARCHBISHOP

“ I am very happy to meet you and definitely we shall support you,”
President Museveni.

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni reiterated his commitment to support the developmental and humanitarian efforts of the Orthodox Church in Uganda.

The President was meeting a 22-member delegation of Uganda Orthodox Church at State House, Entebbe, where he welcomed His Eminence Metropolitan Jeronymos Muzeeyi, the new Archbishop of the Metropolis of Kampala.

Metropolitan Muzeeyi was recently appointed to replace the late Metropolitan

Jonah Lwanga who passed away in September 2021.

Metropolitan Jeronymos was introduced by His Eminence Metropolitan Tillyrides Andreas Makarios, the Archbishop of Nairobi and Representative of the Patriarch of Alexandria who urged the President to support him as he graciously supported his predecessor, the late Metropolitan Yonah Lwanga.

“Your Excellency, today, I have the joy on behalf of our Pope and Patriarch, to present to you the new Metropolitan of Kampala and all Uganda, His Eminence Jeronymos Muzeeyi. He is an outstanding theologian and an accomplished Canonist



President Museveni bids farewell to the Orthodox delegation led by Metropolitan Jeronymos Muzeeyi, after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

of the Church. I am confident that with your support and that of the Orthodox fraternity of Uganda, His Eminence Jeronymos has the potential to steer his church to greater spiritual heights,” Metropolitan Makarios said.

Makarios expressed gratitude for the reception and assistance accorded to him when he was sent as the caretaker of the Archdiocese of Kampala following the repose of his co-celebrant Metropolitan Jonah Lwanga and the generous hospitality during the visit of the Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and all Africa, Theodore II, which “made us feel at home and greatly cemented further relations of the State and the Orthodox Church here in Uganda. On behalf of the Pope and Patriarch, accept our heartfelt gratitude,” he said.

On his part, the new Archbishop of the Metropolis of Kampala, His Eminence Metropolitan Jeronymos Muzeeyi, thanked the President for his support to the Orthodox Church and its previous leaders and pledged to work with his Government.

“As we assume the leadership of Uganda Orthodox Church, we commit to support and work with you and your Government to improve the quality of life of all Ugandans and to support you in all your development programs for the betterment of our Uganda as a country. We shall continue to pray for your good health and long life so that as a country, we continue to reap the fruits of your good leadership,” Jeronymos Muzeeyi said.

President Museveni welcomed the new Bishop and pledged full support.

“I am very happy to meet you and definitely we shall support you,” President Museveni said.

The President promised to mobilise more resources from his Orthodox friends in countries like Russia and Egypt, to boost the on-going projects like the construction of the Uganda Orthodox Cathedral at Lubya Hill, in Rubaga Division in Kampala. In May 2019, President Museveni donated Uganda shillings 300 million towards the same project.

He also asked the Orthodox Church to identify Orthodox founded education institutions like primary schools, secondary and technical institutions especially in areas where Government has no school so that they can be supported as requested by the head of development commission and head of the laity in Uganda Orthodox Church, Hon. Theodore Ssekikubo.

“If the school is in an area where there is no Government school, we shall take it over to become a Government school but Church founded as a foundation body. We normally have that formula,” President Museveni said.

The Government policy is to have one Government primary school per parish, one secondary school per sub-county and a technical school per constituency.

The meeting was also attended by His Eminence Metropolitan Innocentios Byakatonda, the Archbishop of Burundi and Rwanda, His Grace Bishop Silvestros Kisitu of the new Diocese of Jinja and His Grace Bishop Nektarios Kabuye, the new Bishop of Gulu among others.

His Eminence Metropolitan Jeronymos Muzeeyi was born on March 18, 1962 in Bulopa, Kamuli District, Uganda into an Orthodox family of Mr. Augustinos Kakombe and Mrs Agnes Biribawa. He is the first born among the four children of the couple.

“We said 22million people should either have gotten 2 doses of the other vaccines or one of Johnson and Johnson. Then, a booster for those of my constituency of 50 years and above. In my constituency, there are about 3.5million, plus security personnel, teachers, health workers, boda bodas, bar maids/workers etc. This comes to over six million people for the booster. Let the people know,”

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni called on the Ministry of Health to provide informed sensitisation messages to the public and encourage mass vaccination in the fight against COVID-19 and a fully reopened economy.

“We said 22million people should either have gotten 2 doses of the other vaccines or one of Johnson and Johnson. Then, a booster for those of my constituency of 50 years and above. In my constituency, there are about 3.5million, plus security personnel, teachers, health workers, boda bodas, bar maids/workers etc. This comes to over six million people for the booster. Let the people know,” the President said.

The President also said the message about children aged 12 years and above (about 6million) who are eligible for vaccination should be emphasised.

The President was speaking at a meeting with the USA Ambassador to Uganda H.E. Natalie Brown during which she announced a USA financial support of US\$ 27million to Uganda’s vaccination efforts.

“I thank the USA Government for this contribution. The USA is a friendly country. Our relatives (the Black people) in the

USA now are about 45million there. The American Government works with us in many areas. We share the same position against terrorism because of our own experience here. We are a frontline state against organic terrorism. I am very happy that they have made this contribution,” the President said.

H.E. Natalie Brown said they aim to increase vaccination efforts globally to at least have 70 percent of the countries’ populations vaccinated by end of December this year

“The initial effort, there are 11 countries in sub-Saharan Africa where the United States of America is focusing its attention including Uganda. The initiative of global Vax goal is to have 70 percent vaccinated by end of September. We have launched this in eleven countries in sub-Saharan Africa including Uganda where we have

donated over 12million vaccine doses in addition to support in terms of oxygen, outfitting emergency centres and funding public health fellows,” she said.

Amb. Brown said Uganda was chosen following its very successful vaccination awareness campaign.

“After the Delta variant, working together, we re-invigorated efforts to get people vaccinated and raise awareness. This made quite a difference and that is why Uganda was chosen for this initiative. The success of that effort made us realise that if we intensify what we are doing, we can reach that target by September. We have a total of US\$ 27million and we are already in discussions with the Ministry of Health to see what is needed in terms of logistics

and all it takes to get shots into the arms of Ugandans so that people can go back to activities and engagements that we enjoyed before the pandemic that has affected us all,” she said.

The State Minister for Health in charge of General Duties, Hon. Anifa Kawooya Bangirana, said in 2021 the Ministry set a target of having 22 million Ugandans fully vaccinated against COVID19.

So far 13.5million have got the first dose and while 7.4million are fully vaccinated.

“We still have over 8.7million people who are not yet vaccinated and 6.1million who are partially vaccinated. We welcome the support from the American Government which is our biggest vaccine donor and urge them to align their funding with Government’s vaccination plan of 2022 for a successful exercise,” she said.



President Museveni (left) posing for a photo with US Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Natalie Brown after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS STATE SECRETARY AND DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY

FEB
22

“If you can help us with the European market; remove the distortion that was introduced by the European Union when they introduced European Agriculture Policy where you maintain artificial farmers in Europe with subsidies. Here, we don't need subsidies. I am a farmer, I have never got any subsidies from anybody and I produce food cheaply for Ugandans. You wonder why the Europeans could not get cheap food from here instead of having that distortion,” **President Museveni**

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni called on the European Union to open up its market to Africa's food products and improve farmers' incomes for sustained food security on the continent.

“If you can help us with the European market; remove the distortion that was introduced by the European Union when they introduced European Agriculture Policy where you maintain artificial farmers in Europe with subsidies. Here, we don't need subsidies.



President Museveni bids farewell to H.E. Bjorg Sandkjaer, the State Secretary and Deputy Minister of International Development of the Kingdom of Norway after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

I am a farmer, I have never got any subsidies from anybody and I produce food cheaply for Ugandans. You wonder why the Europeans could not get cheap food from here instead of having that distortion,” the President said.

The President was meeting H.E. Bjorg Sandkjaer, the State Secretary and Deputy Minister of International Development from the Kingdom of Norway at State House Entebbe. The two leaders discussed various issues pertaining to food security, income generation and social economic transformation among other things. Minister Sandkjaer hailed Uganda’s efforts to ensure that people have food and said Uganda is doing this very well.

“It would be fantastic if that distortion was removed. In 1955 when I was in grade three at school, I was educated that the biggest producer of wheat and beef in the world was Argentina. By 1900 Argentina was the 10th richest country in the world, but now it is in a very bad situation. The main reason was the EU market. When Argentina, Australia and New Zealand had their products blocked from the EU Market, that is how Argentina declined. Australia maneuvered and diversified,” he said.

The President said Europe and Africa would greatly benefit if the market is opened up.

“If you are to link Europe and Africa on issue of food, you will be well off. Africa would be well off and Europe would get cheap food. In Uganda, we do things easily. Right now, we are in a little war with Kenya; the war of eggs and chicken.

Our chicken when it goes to Kenya, it is cheaper and better so our people under-sell the Kenyans. In order to have eggs, you need maize for chicken feed. Uganda produces maize cheaply. Kenya farmers are now crying and using non-tariff barriers”, the President said.

The President said with two rainy seasons a year, even without irrigation, Uganda grows food twice a year which is quite unique.

“Even a culture like my group, there is *obugyegashe*, a small harvest in June. You plant in March and harvest in June with the rain only, without irrigation. Then the big harvest is the one of August. We plant in September Nyakanga (a month that you must not see seeds in the house. They must have been planted by September) and harvest is in January. That is why January in our language *biruru* (the month when people are making alarms to chase birds from eating the millet,” he said, adding that with a bit of mobilisation, people have been waking up to commercial agriculture. “Ugandans like sleeping. They have been producing food for eating but since some time now, we have been waking them up to produce food for eating and for the pocket. This is the big war,” he said.

President Museveni said in terms of food production, especially if we add irrigation even now, Uganda has surplus of maize, milk, sugar, etc.

“We are one of the biggest producers of bananas in the world, have surplus milk, everything is surplus, including beef and sugar. The problem is the market,” he said.

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI ATTENDS PEACE, SECURITY AND COOPERATION SUMMIT IN KINSHASA, DRC

FEB
24

“*If we cooperate, there is no security problem we cannot defeat. I am telling you this because I know it,*”
President Museveni

KINSHASA, DRC: President Yoweri Museveni said that the Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework has not worked well to deal with the growing security threats in the Great Lakes Region.

“I want to inform you that the mechanism has not worked well for 4 reasons,” President Museveni said, identifying the four (4) reasons as being; the imported pseudo-ideology of exclusion and sectarianism, handling of security in the region, lack of cooperation, poor infrastructure and lack of social economic transformation among others.

The President was addressing the 10th Heads of State Summit of the Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Addis Ababa Framework Agreement in the Democratic Republic of Congo’s Capital, Kinshasa. President Museveni who took pride in being among one of the most indigenous groups in the Great Lakes, termed as “ideological bankruptcy” the thinking that the groups causing insecurity in the region don’t belong here.

“In the Great Lakes, we know the people who live there since time immemorial. The ones who live in the grasslands, in the mountains and forest regions, but some have been promoting a pseudo ideology of exclusion. This is what caused big problems in Rwanda and Burundi and other parts.

President Museveni, who was also the outgoing Chairman of the Summit, said this has led to mishandling of security issues causing suffering and displacements

“We are very rich in refugees. We (Uganda) have got 1.7 million refugees. These refugees are not coming from the moon but from the Great Lakes Region, caused by insecurity and attacks by criminal groups,” President Museveni said.

According to the President however, the groups causing insecurity in the Great Lakes Region can all be defeated from what he has observed in the 60 years.

“This problem of insecurity in Africa which is becoming bigger and bigger can be defeated. Our elders like Mwalimu Nyerere (Tanzania), Kenneth Kaunda (Zambia) and others with friendly fighters from Angola, Mozambique, South Africa, Zimbabwe, defeated bigger problems. We were able to defeat the Whites in Southern Africa and Namibia. How can we fail to defeat these reluctant groups? That means there is something that is missing which our elders did and we are not doing,” the President said, adding that there is now more capacity than Tanzania, Botswana and Zambia had in 1974 when the African armies defeated the Portuguese Army in Africa.

The President saluted President Felix Tshisekedi of the DRC for cooperating to eliminate the rebels of Allied Democratic Forces - ADF

“I can tell you, if we cooperate, there is no security problem we cannot defeat in Africa. I am telling you this because I know it,” President Museveni stressed.

At the same summit, Uganda's President Museveni handed over Chairmanship of the Mechanism to the Democratic Republic of Congo's Felix Tshisekedi Tshilombo.

Tshisekedi saluted President Museveni and that of Rwanda Paul Kagame for the successful reopening of Katuna-Gatuna border for the smooth flow of business in the region.

The two-day meeting at State House Kinshasa, attracted Heads of State and representatives from the 13 countries under the Great Lakes Region including Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Congo Brazzaville, Ethiopia, Gabon, South Africa, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Zambia, Tanzania, and Uganda.

In attendance were among others; Republic of Congo Brazzaville President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, Ali Bongo Odimba (Gabon)

President of Angola Jose Eduardos Santos, that of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa, Évariste Ndayishimiye of Burundi and Jean-Pierre Lacroix - UN Under secretary on Peace operations.

The Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework is a structure formed with a determination to end the cycles of conflict and violence that had characterised Africa's Great Lakes region.



Heads of State and Government pose for a photo during the Peace, Security and Cooperation Summit in Kinshasa, DRC

“ *Protect our women.
Anybody who rapes a
woman or defiles a girl
must die,*”

President
Museveni at the
Launch of New
Law Year 2022





Stay Well! | *Stay Safe!*



@KagutaMuseveni



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