





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



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### Dear Reader,

This is to present to you the June edition of our monthly e-magazine, The Presidency. The monthly e-publication highlights the major engagements of His Excellency the President for the month, and is one of our Open Government initiatives to bring Government closer to the citizens.

As is the practice, we bring you His Excellency's major speech of the month. In this edition, we have annexed the President's statement to the Commonwealth Business Forum on the theme: Ecosystems; redesigning global value chain in a post COVID world. The statement was delivered by the 1st Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Affairs; Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, at Intare Conference Arena, Kigali, Rwanda, on 22nd June, 2022.

In June, His Excellency's focus was on peace and security of the country and the region. He held meetings with security and political leaders from the sub-regions of Bugisu, Sebei, Lango, Acholi and Karamoja, to work out a plan to end the re-emerging cattle rustling in Karamoja. On regional peace, the President attended the third Heads of State Conclave on the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Nairobi, Kenya.

Lastly, we encourage the citizens to give us their feedback and suggestions about the e-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 twelfth edition of The Presidency.



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Through GCIC, citizens interact with Government through multiple channels including.
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## Quote of the Month

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If you conduct elections, the nation will not have arguments to answer-the questions of 'who and what' regarding governance of the country because the elections minimise arguments and internal quarrels."

Museveni meeting Speaker of South Sudan, Deputy Speaker of Rwanda, 8th June, 2022



### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS OFFICERS FROM THE NEW DELHI NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE



"By being sectarian, you fight against those who would provide you with a market for your goods and services." President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni said that there is need for African countries to unite for the sake of the continent's security. He made the remarks while delivering a lecture of opportunity to a 17-man delegation of officers from the New Delhi National Defence College, 10 of whom were accompanied by their spouses. The delegation was led by Brigadier Anil Pundir.

President Museveni addressed the participants with particular reference to the evolution of mankind and its development in Africa. He also highlighted the evolving situation over the India – Uganda relationship stand.

The President said that our countries must be formed into units that will ensure Africa's security citing that strategic security must be addressed. He noted that the first principle of the NRM Government is patriotism which calls on everyone to love Uganda more than anything else. "By being sectarian, you fight against those who would provide you with a market for your goods and services," Mr. Museveni affirmed.

He informed the delegation that when Idi Amin chased Indians out of Uganda, it created a big shortage of commodities. However, when the NRM Government took over power, Indians were invited to return and other measures were taken to attract more investors to improve the economy. This contributed towards our prosperity.

President Museveni noted that the second principle of the NRM is to promote Pan Africanism. He called on the African population to always think of Africa as a united continent.



President Museveni poses for a photo with officers from New Delhi National Defence College, at State House, Entebbe

He observed that this calls for the promotion of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA). He observed that socioeconomic transformation was a fundamental factor of development, pointing out that democracy was a sure case for attaining prosperity.

He informed his attentive guests that underpopulation has been Africa's problem. He noted that in 1960, the continent had a population of 400 million, however, today, this figure has tripled to a commanding 1.2 billion people.

He also informed his guests that the continent has got four language groups, namely the Niger Congo, the Nilo-Saharan, Afro-Asiatic and the Bushmen of South Africa and was pleased to note that Africa has got Kiswahili as its neutral language. He reiterated that language was very important for the future growth of the continent.

President Museveni said that Africa was mismanaged by the traditional chiefs and was highly manipulated by the colonialists. He said that for the case of Uganda, a new group of students emerged in the 1960s which played a leading role towards correcting the mistakes of the previous leaders. He said that this group addressed the issues pertaining to prosperity of the country noting that their view was that one becomes prosperous only by producing goods or services and having a buyer.

The President noted that previously our leaders practiced politics of identity along tribal and religious grounds. However, when the NRM came to power, it enlightened the people about their needs. "We discouraged the issue of identity and instead promoted and put emphasis on the collective interests of the people," the President said. He warned that

identity should never be used opportunistically since it was bound to cause challenges.

President Museveni later responded to some questions. On the issue of the disturbed World Order, he said that this was due to ideological, philosophical and domination mistakes. He reminded the soldiers that a war must be just in order to achieve durable results. He said that this was an opportunity for Uganda to work with India towards solving the global challenges. He reiterated that this is the time for sober-minded people to cooperate, warning that nobody should involve himself in a war that is not just.

He said that there was need to have more exchanges of students between Uganda and India. He looked forward to more training between the armies of Uganda and India.

President Museveni attributed the success of women in Uganda to affirmative action. He revealed that the NRM Government has among other measures enabled women to have Members of Parliament at the District level in addition to the open competition for Parliamentary seats.

The Indian High Commissioner to Uganda, H.E. Shri Kumar said that the visit of the military officers was a symbol of deep bilateral relations between the two countries. He was pleased to note that India has been training 40 Ugandans per year in various fields.

The leader of the delegation, Brig. Anil Pundir, revealed that they had spent 4 days in Uganda. He said that the delegation would visit Britain when it completes its tour of Uganda. He revealed that the officers present were from India, Nepal, Nigeria, South Korea and Vietnam.

#### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS H.E. DMITRY MEDVEDEV



We think the best way is to negotiate. This is the best way and everybody who wants peace in the world should support this so that this fighting stops and you get balanced peace that ensures safety for all."

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni called for negotiations between Russia and Ukraine and said everybody who wants peace in the world should support this position so that the fighting can stop and safety restored for all.

"We think the best way is to negotiate. This is the best way and everybody who wants peace in the world should support this so that this fighting stops and you get balanced peace that ensures safety for all," the President said.

The President was speaking to the former President of Russia and current Chairman of the United Russian Party, H.E. Dmitry Medvedev, via a zoom call recently during which he also expressed Uganda's gratitude to the Soviet Union for the support rendered to Africa during the anti-colonial endeavors in the 1960s and for facilitating Uganda's nation-building processes through trade, agriculture, industry and security support.

The meeting was also attended by Ambassador of the Russian Federation, H.E. Vladlen Semivolos, NRM Party Secretary General, Richard Todwong, Principal Private Secretary Kenneth Omona and Arsenii Golomido, Head of Consular Section at the Russian Embassy.

Regarding other co-operations, President Museveni said Uganda is ready to cooperate with Russia in many areas including vaccine development through scientific co-operation.

"We are ready to co-operate in vaccines development and other scientific co-operation. We are very much interested and we are already co-operating with Russia in many areas," he said.

President Museveni said Uganda has always worked with the Communist Party of the Soviet Union despite not having a Communist programme here.

"We worked with them because they had an anti-colonial position and now we are very happy to work with your party, our party is very happy to work with yours. I want you to know that we, the African Freedom Fighters, are forever grateful to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Russia," he said.

The President gave an in-depth history of Uganda's relationship with Russia since 1917 saying the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was supporting Africa in the anti-colonial struggle and was the only force outside supporting Africa.

"During the second World War, the Soviet Union did most of the fighting against Hitler. By 1943 the battle of Kursik, more than 200 divisions of the Germans were facing the Soviet Union while 10 divisions were in the West. So the defeat of fascism was done by the Soviet Union and the whole world community is grateful to the Soviet Union for that," he said.

President Museveni said Uganda is working with the Russia on other frontiers including in Agro-processing.

"Our two areas are complementary, the

Russian Zone is cold some parts of the year, our part of the world is always warm. So we can always produce products which you need and what we need. That trade should grow," he said.

On the issue of the international situation, President Museveni said Uganda abstained, and took a neutral position.

"We said no! Let us take a balanced position because we know all issues involved, there is nothing new, there is nothing we don't know," he said.

H.E. Dmitry Medvedev said the relationship between the two countries is dynamically developing, describing the inter-party agreement as a very significant interparty event.

He said the Soviet Union and the Soviet

Union Communist Party has always paid great focus to African countries and supported anti-colonial struggle.

"We aim to continue adopting, following the same cause agenda to develop. To continue developing and supporting sovereign policies, supporting positive bilateral relations with all our friendly countries on the African continent and especially Uganda," he said.

H.E. Dmitry Medvedev said they would continue developing and strengthening bilateral relations in the economic sector.

"I would like you to know that we greatly appreciate our interaction in International Institutions where we are participants, first of all this is the United Nations and also we value your well balanced position on International agenda issues", he said.



NRM Secretary General; Richard Todwong, Principal Private Secretary; Kenneth Omona, Russian Ambassador to Uganda; H.E. Vladlen Semivolos and Head of Consular Section at the Russian Embassy; Arsenii Golomido, at State House, Entebbe



## Republic of Uganda The Government Directory

#### Ministries, Departments & Agencies

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H.E. Dmitry Medvedev briefed the President on the conflict between Russia and Ukraine and said that they are prepared for peaceful negotiations.

"We are prepared for peaceful negotiations but they have to be independent negotiations. They have to be independent fully-fledged negotiations considering all the realities including territorial. This is the situation," he said.

In reference to the African continent and food security, H.E. Dmitry Medvedev called for discussions at the Government platforms. "Certainly, we are all concerned with the situation developing in the food sector. The last part of 7 years saw a dramatic rise in pricing, poor harvests and systematic mistakes that led to the less food stuffs in the market and growing prices. This was also exacerbated by the poor food reserves," he said.

H.E. Dmitry Medvedev said the conflict coupled with the overall situation in the world including food security and safety, diseases, pandemics because of the new corona virus infections, new diseases that are posing a threat to humanity have been challenging to the world.



### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS SPEAKER OF SOUTH SUDAN, DEPUTY SPEAKER OF RWANDA

If you conduct elections, the nation will not have arguments to answer-the questions of 'who and what' regarding governance of the country because the elections minimise arguments and internal quarrels."

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: The President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, held meetings with the Speaker of Parliament of the Republic of South Sudan, Rt. Hon. Jemma Nunu Kemba, and the Deputy Speaker Chamber of Deputies of Parliament of Rwanda, Rt. Hon. Edda Mukabagwisa.

In the meeting with Rt. Hon. Kemba and his delegation, attended by the Speaker of Uganda's Parliament, Rt. Hon. Anita Among and her Deputy, Rt. Hon. Thomas Tayebwa, at State House, Entebbe, President Museveni cautioned the people of South Sudan to plan for national elections in future.

"If you conduct elections, the nation will not have arguments to answer-the questions of 'who and what' regarding governance of the country because the elections minimise arguments and internal quarrels," the President said, adding that "elections are an approval for legitimacy expression".

On his part, Rt. Hon. Kemba assured the President that South Sudan is at peace.



President Museveni in a meeting with Rt. Hon. Jemma Nunu Kemba, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of South Sudan

Later, President Museveni met with Rt. Hon. Mukabagwiza who was accompanied by High Commissioner, H.E. Joseph Rutabana and Member of Parliament, Hon. Munyanjeyo Theogene. Discussions centered on the common socioeconomic and political ties that the two sister countries share since time immemorial.

President Museveni expressed his gratitude, on behalf of Ugandans, to the two visiting Speakers for honouring the occasion at which he presented the "State of the Nation Address" that took place on 7th June, 2022, at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds in Kampala.



President Museveni poses for a photo with Rt. Hon. Edda Mukabagwisa, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Rwanda, after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

## JUN

#### **PRESIDENT MUSEVENI SECURITY LEADERS IN SEBEI**

**L** Even without enough manpower, we can deal with that problem. The bigger man-power, the bigger wage bill. We can't build roads and other infrastructure if we have to deal with cattle thieves."

President Museveni

KAPCHORWA STATE LODGE: President Yoweri Museveni who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Uganda Peoples Defence Forces made a clarion call to the security organs to nip in the bud, the threat of the return of the resurgence of cattle rustlers in the Karamoja Region.

The rustlers who have changed raid tactics in a network that involves criminals with guns, bows and arrows, stick-squads that drive the cows and collaborators (spy network) have recently wrecked havoc leaving a trail of death, rape and destruction and threatening the prevailing peace and security in the region.

The President met security organs including the UPDF, Police, Resident District Commissioners, Internal Security Organisation officers and Uganda Wildlife Authority officials over the security situation in Karamoja which has affected the neighbouring regions of Teso, Bugisu, Sebei and a spill over in Kenya, at the State Lodge in Kapchorwa.

President Museveni commended security forces in the region for their concept of a reaction force and intelligence-led operations to curb cattle rustling including profiling suspects.

In an earlier similar security meeting held at Morulinga State Lodge in Napak on 12th September 2021, the President had directed formation of kraal-based intelligence, reaction forces per district backed by enablers and 24-hour reconnaissance by day and night.

"We thought this could react and destroy raiding parties and abort their missions. However, cattle rustling is now commercial, when people steal cows, they want to sell them for slaughter. There are not many roads here, mount roadblocks so that they are intercepted," he said.

The President said with the increasing other crimes including murder and rape, there is a need for police to establish units per sub-county to enable police to quickly deal with that.

"Even without enough manpower, we can deal with that problem. The bigger man-power, the bigger wage bill. We can't build roads and other infrastructure if we have to deal with cattle thieves," he said.

On the issue of guns in the region, the President directed security chiefs in Bugisu, Sebei and Teso regions to deal with the internal problem of using guns in cattle rustling.

Museveni believes this will be the lasting solution to end cattle rustling among Ugandans and across in the neighbouring countries and asked security to intensify the effectiveness of hunting for guns to disarm rustlers.

"The issue of guns in Kenya and South Sudan should not concern us. The problem is internal. Because if you try to tie our internal security problem with what happens in the neighbouring countries, we shall never get peace," President Museveni said adding that, the Ugandan side of West Nile that is connected to the border of

Democratic Republic of Congo and South Sudan and also Western Uganda have no such issues because the Ugandan people at those borders don't support it.

He argued that the tribes in Kenya don't raid each other because of the effectiveness of the police in those countries.

"And as you say, within Kenya, they don't raid one another because of the effectiveness of the police. It's effective there that's why they don't raid among themselves. We need the same seriousness on this side," Gen. Museveni said.

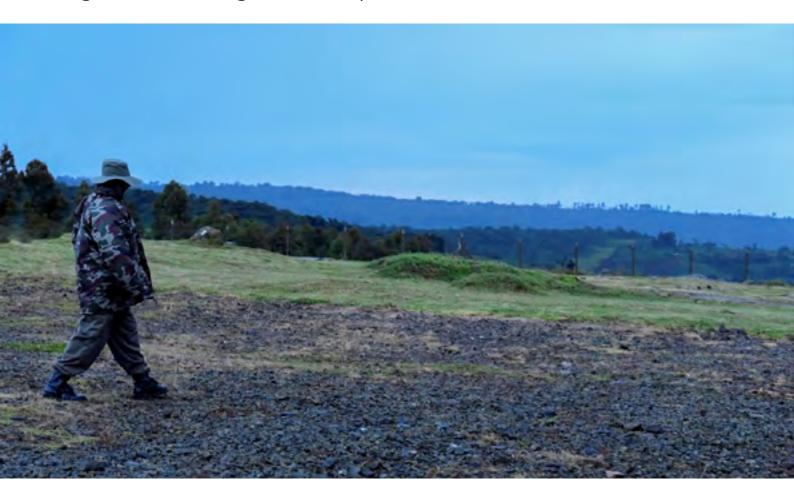
This was after the 3rd Division commander, Brig. Gen. Joseph Balikuddembe informed President Museveni that the problem starts with armed Ugandan rustlers, crossing over to raid from neighbouring countries.

Brig. Balikuddembe gave an example

of the criminal elements from Uganda like the Jie of Kotido, the Dodoth of Kaabong who normally cross over to Kenya especially Nakitong'o areas of Turkana West Sub-County and Orumu and they raid cows frequently.

"The Turkana carry out revenge attacks, if our people cross to raid. Otherwise, if our people don't cross over to raid, then the Turkana will not raid us, even the Pokot, but the problem starts with our people here who raid amongst themselves and after cross over to the other side," Brig. Gen. Balikuddembe said.

The Vice President, Major (Rtd) Jessica Alupo Epel, who hails from Teso region, hailed the disarmament process but called for more vigilance along the borders to prevent gun-wielding rustlers.



President Museveni arrives for a meeting with Security Chiefs at State Lodge, Kapchorwa

"We had almost believed we had put a complete stop to this challenge until raiders crossed into Teso in increased numbers, with guns and arrows, a departure from earlier raids. We registered deaths and rape in a long time and almost registered internal displacements. It was a very alarming situation," Alupo said.

The new concept, according to Brig. Gen. Joseph Balikuddembe, targets four (4) groups in these raids; including criminals with guns, those with bows and arrows, those with sticks to drive the cows, and collaborators who are in different districts but connected and linking up with the rustlers.

He said in their simultaneous operations, they identified and profiled youthful criminal elements in some sub-counties and many were arrested.

"Within the screening that started on 16th May, 2022, we recovered 22 guns within one week from the suspects that we arrested, the second week, we recovered 35 guns, the third week, we have 26 guns," Brig. Gen. Balikuddembe said adding that, the concept has completely seen the recent reduction of cattle thefts and raids in Karamoja.

He said many of the suspects are found in the manyattas (homesteads), in the grazing areas and trading centres where these criminals normally drink from.

"If you go to Karamoja now, some people will tell you that they don't need this operation, others are welcoming this concept and again the same people who were complaining say they need dialogue to end cattle rustling," Brig. Gen. Balikuddembe said.

The Deputy Chief of Defence Forces, Lt. Gen. Peter Elwelu noted the need to bring on board "fortune tellers", who he said are lead consultants in cattle rustling with powers to curse and bless rustlers.

He said according to the Internal Security Organisation – ISO, the group has a total membership of around 700 people who gather in a place called Morukajole in Nakapiripirit district where they perform their rituals.

"The Kajamajong believe a lot in spirituality and in these people of theirs. So, we need to know them and make them understand the need for peace in Karamoja," Gen Elwelu told the President who promised to handle the matter through the Office of the Prime Minister.

### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS SEBEI AND BUGISU POLITICAL LEADERS



First of all, you can get flour for food, that's what I eat myself, very nice food. You can get industrial alcohol, petrol, we can make industrial starch, animal feeds to support the dairy industry. So, I will definitely work on supporting cassava processing in Teso. That's what we are doing in Acholi with Mzee, Archbishop John Baptist Odama of Gulu Catholic Diocese"

President Museveni

STATE LODGE, KAPCHORWA: While President Yoweri Museveni, also the Commander in Chief of the Uganda Peoples Defence Forces hauled in the country's security apparatus to find lasting solutions to the pockets of insecurity caused by re-emerging cattle rustling, threatening to roll-back development

in Bugisu, Sebei and Teso sub-regions, regional leaders seem to be avoiding 'the elephant in the room', instead urging the President to review the government's cattle compensation programme, expand infrastructure and introduce commercial model farms in the region to grow trade with neighbouring districts and countries including Kenya and South Sudan.

While meeting political leaders and security personnel from the Sebei, Bugisu and Teso sub-regions at Kapchorwa State Lodge in Kapchorwa district in Sebei sub region, President Museveni learnt that during the insurgency in north-eastern Uganda nearly 20 years ago, parts of Bugisu and Sebei, also lost cattle and need to be compensated.



President Museveni addresses a meeting of political leaders at State Lodge, Kapchorwa

"Your Excellency Sir, we are very grateful for the compensation of cattle you have done for many of these regions. However, Bugisu region and Sebei were left out on the list of the districts to be compensated, so it's our request to Your Excellency that Bugisu and Sebei be considered on compensation," said Hon. Mr Richard Wanda, Member of Parliament for Bunghokho Central County in Mbale, who is also the Chairperson Bugisu Parliamentary Group.

Museveni pledged Government will compensate them like other areas.

"I will definitely take it up with the Government, because I know for sure that they were also raided. Yes, we have been talking about the three areas; Teso, Lango and Acholi, we shall now add Bugisu and Sebei, but not all areas were raided," Museveni said.

According to leaders in the region, from 1985 to 1990, residents of lower Bulambuli in the sub-counties of Bukhalu, Bunambutye, Bwikhonge, Bunalwere, Nabbongo, Buwanyanga, Muyembe and neighbouring districts of Teso and Sebei were also attacked by Karamojong cattle rustlers.

In March last year, President Museveni launched compensation payments in Soroti for at least 99,000 people in Acholi, Lango, and Teso sub-regions who lost cattle and property between 1986 and 2003. However, according to leaders from Teso, the compensation process has gaps that need to be addressed.

"One of the biggest issues we have now is the issue of communication gap between the Ministry of Justice with the people down. We have feedback from the population that some of them are compensated money as little as seventy thousand (70,000) shillings or even three hundred thousand (300,000) shillings. So, the figures vary and we believe this is something which can be handled," said Hon. Bosco Okiror, MP representing Usuk County, in Katakwi district.

In response, the Attorney General, Kiryowa Kiwanuka, assured residents that the process is on and the gaps are being handled. He said although they had little money (only 50 billion shillings), the Ministry wanted to make sure that everyone gets some of that money, but the formula used made a mistake and some people were getting less than one cow.

"But that has been corrected and we are making reports to the Vice President and the Speaker to lay before parliament every two weeks, with the names of the people who have been compensated and the amount of money they have received. We have sent one recently and we have so far sent out 32 billion shillings," Kiryowa Kiwanuka said.

At the same meeting, the UPDF 3rd Division commander, Brig. Gen. Joseph Balikuddembe, gave a report on the progress of their operation to end the threat of resurgence of cattle rustlers in Karamoja Region who have since changed raid tactics in a network that involves criminals with guns, bows and arrows, stick-squads that drive the cows and collaborators (spy network), leaving a trail of death, rape and destruction and threatening the prevailing peace and security in the region.

Gen. Balikuddembe said the resurgence of cattle rusting in 2019 in Karamoja also affected the nearby sub-regions of Teso, Acholi, Bugisu and Sebei, and prompted UPDF and intelligence organs to launch a disarmament operation code-named Usalama Kwa Wote in July 2021 and since then several efforts have been made to recover guns used in cattle rustling.

"A total of 309 guns and 2,592 rounds of ammunition have been recovered so far, while 441 criminals were arraigned in court and are serving sentences," Balikuddembe said.

He added that this was due to enhanced deployment in all the 9 districts of Karamoja with new tactics targeting five (5) groups in these raids; including criminals with guns, those with bows and arrows, those with sticks to drive the cows, the collaborators who are in different districts but connected and linking up with the rustlers and the suspects connected to the raids.

Cattle theft, according to leaders in the three regions, was partly perpetuated by poor infrastructure, specifically security roads which are in bad state hindering smooth security operations. Gen. Museveni assured the leaders that these are to be worked on.

"I know all those roads very well. The only problem is that the rains have started, making it difficult to work on them but we are planning on many of these roads. We know them like the Napak-Katakwi-Kaperabyong axis (North-South) and those inside Karamoja are all very important, so that vehicles are able to move fast and cut off cattle rustlers," Museveni said.

On issues to do with development, President Museveni promised to further develop Lwakhakha into a one-stop border post linking Uganda to Kenya through Manafwa district to expand business opportunities in the region now that the road connecting to the border has been worked on.

"This will enable some of the traffic going

to South Sudan not to go through Malaba and our people will benefit a lot," Museveni said.

He also reiterated his earlier commitment to set up a demonstration farm in the Sebei region to equip farmers with knowledge on commercial agriculture.

For the Teso sub-region, President Museveni supported the establishment of a cassava-processing factory, which will absorb their excess produce and address market gaps and the enormous products from it.

"First of all, you can get flour for food, that's what I eat myself, very nice food. You can get industrial alcohol, petrol, we can make industrial starch, animal feeds to support the dairy industry. So, I will definitely work on supporting cassava processing in Teso. That's what we are doing in Acholi with Mzee, Archbishop John Baptist Odama of Gulu Catholic Diocese," Museveni said.

The rallying point for the Teso farmers is that the sub-region is endowed with plenty of cassava, with each household estimated to have more than three gardens.

"This will be an income earner and shall provide jobs for the youth," Hon. Bosco Okiror said.

On the numerous calls for a regional referral hospital in the Sebei region, the President stressed that whereas this is critical, there is a need to focus on disease prevention so that people don't need to get sick to the level of getting admitted in hospitals.

He supported the idea of establishing a public university in Bugisu and Sebei because it is the Government's plan to establish such institutions in all the 16 traditional sub-regions of Uganda and some like Teso have already been catered for.

Leaders in Sebei in particular expressed gratitude to His Excellency the President for construction of Teryet High Altitude training facility for athletes in the region and the 12km road linking the centre to Kapchorwa town, which has already been completed.

The other mega project that is nearing completion is the 75km Kapchorwa-Suam road, which begins from Kapchorwa town to Suam at the international border with Kenya.

Mr Museveni said the NRM Government is ready to develop the infrastructure provided he is supported on budgeting accompanied with discipline in expenditure.

"I had pushed the budget of the Ministry of Works and Transport to UGX. 6,400 billion, but recently I found out it had gone back to UGX. 4,000 billion. It's not good. It should be maintained there, then we can cover more of these roads," Museveni said.

On the issue of inter-district boundary conflicts, President Museveni promised

to send the Prime Minister to settle the matters once and for all following the original map of 1962 when Uganda got independence.

He stressed the importance of following the NRM counsel of embracing modern commercial and calculated agriculture according to the four-acre model and reminded the people of the three regions to concentrate on intensive farming with enterprises that have high returns and leave extensive agriculture to farmers with huge chunks of land.

He reminded the people of the region to grow on one acre of land, fruits then coffee for those who can grow the crop, then on the third acre grow pasture for zero-grazing and on the fourth acre food crops like cassava.

The meeting was attended by among others; the Vice President Hon. Maj. (Rtd) Jessica Alupo Epel, Ministers, Members of Parliament, NRM District Chairpersons and LC V Chairpersons and religious leaders hailing from Teso, Bugisu and Sebei subregions.

## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS SECURITY LEADERS OF ACHOLI AND LANGO REGIONS



Coordinate with each other. In security, you must coordinate horizontally and vertically, that is the only way you can effectively provide a service. Blind deployment is tiring soldiers and costs more for nothing. This is not war, it is an intelligence led operation"

President Museveni

BARALEGE STATE LODGE, OTUKE DISTRICT: Rampant cattle thefts and the increasing cases of commercialised cattle rustling in the neighbouring districts of Karamoja region have led to an increase in daily cattle markets that security agencies say must be regulated to curb crime.

This was revealed in a briefing by security agencies to President Yoweri Museveni who was on a security assessment tour of the districts bordering Karamoja region. The President was meeting senior UPDF

officers, Police, Internal Security and RDCs of Lango and East Acholi sub regions at Baralege State Lodge in Otuke County, Adwar sub-county, in Otuke district to discuss ways of stemming the resurgence of cattle rustling that is now becoming commercialised and carried out by karachunas from Karamoja.

While Lango and parts of Acholi have not suffered serious cattle rustling, security agencies reported increasing cases of cattle thefts within the communities neighbouring Karamoja.

The President directed agencies to cooperate and coordinate their operations with their counterparts in the neighbouring districts to be more effective.

"Coordinate with each other. In security, you must coordinate horizontally and



Security chiefs led by Deputy Chief of Defence Forces, Lt. Gen. Peter Elwelu, salute during the meeting at Baralege State Lodge, Otuke District

vertically, that is the only way you can effectively provide a service. Blind deployment is tiring soldiers and costs more for nothing. This is not war, it is an intelligence-led operation," he said.

The President also challenged the police to plan and use Government systems including chiefs to fight crime instead of pushing for more manpower.

"Cattle thefts need a law enforcement operation. Manpower must be paid for, must be fed, must be clothed. We must sit as security and see the most effective way the police exploit its force," he said adding, "I challenge you to check the size of the force at Independence. The size of Uganda has not changed. The Uganda you are looking after is the same one handed over at Independence. They were managing huge areas with small numbers. What you need is to plan and to use Government systems like the chiefs."

During the meeting, the President noted the need for transport from controlled security points, the need to demarcate the border with South Sudan and the issue of Balalo and the habit of sending cows in the bush without herdsmen.

"The issue of Balalo has been dealt with for their indiscipline. If anybody wants to hire Balalo, they must have strong fences," he said.

Gen. Museveni and the Security Chiefs later agreed on improving the security roads, have watering points for security personnel, resolve the issue of daily cattle markets which should be monthly and tackle the corruption that is exacerbating

cattle theft in the region where trucks are used for ferrying stolen animals.

"If cattle-rustling has been commercialised that is why there is an increase in the daily cattle markets. If the roads are bad, where are the vehicles ferrying the cows passing," he wondered.

Gen. Museveni reiterated his call to all security agencies in the districts bordering Karamoja sub-region to embrace intelligence-led operations as opposed to reactionary ones to end once and for all, the cattle rustling and cases of animal thefts in the region.

"You must have intelligence-led operations not reactionary. This is not a war but a law enforcement operation. Discover the person before the raid, not to investigate after the raid. Cattle thieves are not very sophisticated people," he said.

The Vice President Rt. Maj. Jessica Alupo thanked President Museveni for his efforts to end cattle rustling in the region.

The Commander of the 5th Division Acholi Pii, Brig. Gen David Bainomugisha, gave a comprehensive report on the security situation in his area of jurisdiction adding that there was now relatively calm, save for the isolated cattle thefts by petty thieves and vowed to end the vice.

Those present included the Deputy CDF Lt. Gen. Peter Elwelu, Senior Police Officers, Resident District Commissioners and their deputies, Officers from the Internal Security Organisation and other Government officials.

#### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS NIGERIAN MILITARY DELEGATION



"Africa is inferior in all the four dynamic areas including Air, Land, Sea and Space. How then shall we ensure our strategic security?" President Museveni

BARALEGE STATE LODGE, OTUKE DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni said Uganda aims at adding value to coffee in order to tap on the global value that now stands at \$ 460 billion.

"The global value of coffee is now \$469 billion, all the coffee-producing countries share \$ 25 billion and Africa takes only \$ 2.4 billion out of which Uganda gets about \$ 800 million," he observed.

The President was delivering an Opportunity Lecture to a delegation of

21 visiting senior military officers from the Nigerian National Defence College, who were on a strategic tour to Uganda to learn more on agriculture with a particular emphasis on coffee production under the theme, "Agriculture and natural development with focus on coffee development, production and export".

The Nigerian delegation that called on him at Baralege State Lodge in Otuke County, Otuke District, was led by Brigadier General Obina Godwin Onubogu, the Director of Higher Defence Management Organisation in Nigeria.

The delegation was accompanied by 3 officials from the Nigerian Embassy in Uganda.



President Museveni receives a gift from Head of the Nigerian Military Delegation, Brig. Gen.
Obina Godwin Onubogu, at Baralege State Lodge, Otuke District

President Museveni who was happy to note that the visiting Nigerian military delegation was interested in the area of agriculture stressed the importance of the sector in all industries adding that it must be integrated and agro-based.

The President took his guests through the European history of how agriculture in some quarters was viewed as the source of wealth and how Adam Smith and other writers debated on the issue, noting that agriculture must be industrial-based to adequately benefit from the sector.

President Museveni told the delegation that coffee has 6 levels of processing and value addition that include; growing, dehusking, roasting, grinding, packaging and selling.

The President informed them that missing any of the last 3 stages of value addition to coffee would deprive the country of jobs in the roasting, grinding and packaging stages as well as lose out on the income.

He noted that Uganda has a big potential for agricultural production that is why some surpluses are now realised in food like maize, bananas and milk among others.

"People in Uganda have a culture of production. In Uganda we don't have pressure for food. Food production is good for stability," he said.

Commenting on some of the concerns raised by members of the delegation like the security situation in the Great Lakes Region, President Museveni pointed out that the issue can be resolved by sister countries cooperating and working together.

"Problems in the Great Lakes region can be solved if we work together," he said On the integration of Africa, he said the first important step is to work for prosperity where goods and services are produced and sold in a united market. He also stressed the importance of strategic security using fraternity as one of the factors that are required for meaningful integration given the world prevailing circumstances.

"Africa is inferior in all the four dynamic areas including; Air, Land, Sea and Space. How then shall we ensure our strategic security?" he said.

On the issue of fighting corruption, President Museveni said while Government has made various efforts to fight the vice, there are still challenges.

"Private people's money is difficult to steal. Corrupt people steal government money and property and in the process, denying services to the people. The people are victims. It is a fight that needs involvement of all stakeholders including the victims," he said.

President Museveni further noted that there is a huge potential of trade between Uganda and Nigeria in many products.

The Head of delegation, Brigadier General Obina Godwin Onubogu who is the director of Higher Defence Management Organisation, conveyed to President Museveni greetings from the Head of the College, Rear Admiral Mutala Bashir and that of the Nigerian Ambassador to Uganda.

He expressed his hope that the visit will further cement the existing cordial friendly relationship between Nigeria and Uganda.

The Nigerian military delegation was accompanied by Brig. Gen. Matthew Gureme, the Chief of Training and Recruitment in the UPDF.



### COMMERCIAL CATTLE RUSTLING: MUSEVENI TO CHANGE COMMANDERS

I can assure you, that by combining these ancient and modern methods, we are going to end cattle rustling. A cattle rustler will see a gun but not touch it,"

President Museveni

BARALEGE STATE LODGE, OTUKE DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni who spent his fifth day in pursuit of peace in the Eastern and Northern regions following the re-emergence of cattle rustling is taking drastic measures to handle the crime that is mutating daily and threatening to wipe out gains made in security and development in the 9 districts of Karamoja and the neighbouring Eastern and Northern regions.

"It seems that the ghost of stealing has remained with the Karimojong. We are changing the commanders in the area because I think some have been colluding with the rustlers to heighten the problem," he said.

During the security briefing ahead of the meeting with the Acholi and Lango leaders, President Museveni was informed that the cattle rustling had turned commercial with rustlers collaborating with other actors including security operatives to sell animals that have been rustled. The issue of cattle thefts, especially in Acholi region was also on the rise, and according to reports, the Police canine unit has been vital in fighting the vice but there are still limitations.

"Whether day or night, we are going to end this cattle rustling. There is something the Police has not exploited, the canine unit for cattle thefts. I can see why some Government programmes don't perform. When seniors don't supervise, what do you expect," he said referring to reports that the region has only one canine unit and that requests to Police headquarters to beef it up have remained unanswered.

President Museveni later announced various stringent measures designed to end, once and for all, the indiscipline of cattle rustling in the country including installing more CCTV cameras at check points including at Karuma, Paara and Masindi Port Ferry to monitor cows being moved from the North to the South and in the region and the use of digital markings of all vehicles that will be centrally monitored.

"I can assure you, that by combining these ancient and modern methods, we are going to end cattle rustling. A cattle rustler will see a gun but not touch it," he vowed.

President Museveni who has been on a fact-finding mission and assessment of the security situation in the districts bordering Karamoja region affected by the cattle rustling was meeting leaders of Lango and Acholi sub-regions at Baralege State Lodge in Otuke County - Otuke Distrct.

Those in attendance included; the Vice President, Rtd. Major Jessica Alupo and the Secretary General of NRM, Hon. Richard Todwong.

Others were cabinet ministers from the 2 regions of Lango and Acholi, Members of Parliament, RDCs and RCCs and Religious leaders among others.

President Museveni said the measures will allow soldiers who are in operations to apprehend wrong characters found in



President Museveni addresses Acholi and Langi leaders at Baralege State Lodge, Otuke District

possession of fire arms, bows and arrows, sticks for driving the animals or those suspected to be involved in cattle rustling. He said the use of police canines would also be intensified.

President Museveni urged Ugandans to cultivate a culture of peace for economic transformation.

President Museveni who welcomed the leaders to his home in Baralege and told them the history of his occupation of the area also used the same occasion to mobilise leaders to sensitise their people on how to eradicate poverty through modern calculated commercial agriculture.

He said leaders must use the vast experience they have of what is happening around the world to wake up their people to abandon subsistence agriculture in favour of modern commercial and calculated farming.

The President stressed the need to guide wanainchi on proper enterprise selection in relation to land holding per family strongly recommending intensive agriculture for those with 4 acres of land.

"We strongly recommend coffee because of its global demand which is still growing, fruits, dairy cows, poultry, piggery and fish farming at the periphery of the swamps. Do not grow rice in the middle of the swamps because we need the water," he said.

Museveni said that families with huge chunks of land can go in for extensive farming especially for crops like cotton, maize and sugar cane among others.

The President at this juncture invited leaders from the region to visit his demonstration farm at Baralege and convey the message from the farm to people in their areas that will help them get out of poverty.

"Leaders must see for the people. You have a vast experience of what is happening in the world like Europe that changed through agricultural revolution," he said.

Commenting on the concerns raised by the leaders of the 2 sub-regions of Lango and Acholi, President Museveni noted that all the socioeconomic requests by leaders require funds adding that with proper budgeting in Parliament and prioritisation of programmes, all those needs would gradually be met including infrastructure development, power extension, hospital expansion, school enrollment etc as not all of them can be fulfilled at once.

"We cannot solve everything at once. Many of the issues raised here are issues that need money. Many of you know the budget, you should know that everything you talk about needs money. Listen to my advice on budgeting. When you listen to my advice, achievements are made," he said.

On the issue of the Akii Bua Stadium, President Museveni pledged the prioritisation of Akii Bua and Muhinga National Stadiums to promote sports.

"We need at least those two; Akii Bua and Muhinga in case of competitions. We have only Namboole," he said.

On the issue of the Apaa land conflict, President Museveni urged leaders not to be misleaders.

"The issue of Apaa will be decided by the colonial maps which are available. We agreed on a judicial commission of inquiry which I will appoint soon. I will work overnight on this. It is not good for leaders to be misleaders. This issue will be solved." he said.

The Vice President Rtd. Major Jessica Alupo once again thanked President Museveni for peace and security prevailing in the country that has enabled wanainchi to carry out their duties normally.

# JUN

#### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI LAUNCHES GOAT PROJECT FOR KARAMOJA YOUTH

**66** Once you have insecurity, health workers fear to extend services and our people continue to die from diseases. You're also killing time for education. So really, all leaders should tell you that this must stop," President Museveni

MOROTO DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni launched a campaign that will not only end cattle rustling in Karamoja but also improve the lives of those who have decided to follow the right path of prosperity.

The improved goat project in Karamoja under the Ministry of Karamoja Affairs is aimed at supporting rehabilitated karachuna (youth who have abandoned rustling), as one of the packages which can enable them settle and rehabilitate themselves through improved livelihood and to support the process of disarmament.

This according to President Museveni, is the only way to prosperity for Karamojong who have always been engaged in cattle rustling with no information of how to be prosperous.

"You can't be prosperous this way. Because when you steal a cow, there's no way you can be prosperous," Museveni said.

Museveni who identified himself as a wellknown cattle keeper, said the best way to be prosperous is to avoid mixing cows through stealing. He noted that like human beings, the best way to fight coronavirus was to avoid mixing with one another and this also applies to mixing animals.

The President's tone at the ceremony was set by one of the beneficiaries, Ms. Lomonyang Silvia, a 32 year old resident of Lokitumo, Mogoth Parish in Moroto

District, who said she convinced her husband Keem Akol to surrender his gun to the UPDF for the sake of her family and for peace.

After her testimony, the President handed her the Uganda flag for her patriotisim and urged the region to cultivate a culture of peace for prosperity.

He told the Karamojong, that cattle rustling using guns not only threatens insecurity but also hinders development because social services like education and health can not be accessed.

"Once you have insecurity, health workers fear to extend services and our people continue to die from diseases. You're also killing time for education. So really, all leaders should tell you that this must stop," Museveni said, adding that those using guns to kill will not get away with it because security has been sharpened to bring total peace in the region.

"I'm telling you, this one will stop now. The soldiers are going to hunt for anybody with a gun, they're going to hunt anybody with an arrow and bow, arrest all the suspects and collaborators, they have started and this one is producing very good results," Museveni said.

The President said all the above efforts will be boosted with the installation of more cameras along the major routes and security roads and later a law against cattle rustling which will be the last nail in the coffin to completely end the vice.

"We're going to make a law and also to make it a criminal offence to raid cattle or assist or conspire. So, this is just the beginning, tell everybody to bring out the gun," Museveni said.

According to the Minister for Karamoja Affairs, Hon. Dr. Mary Goretti Kitutu, a total of seventy one thousand five hundred and fifty goats (71,550), will be distributed to beneficiaries from all the 9 districts that make up Karamoja. Each beneficiary will receive sixteen (16) Galla goats, 15 female and 1 male galla Boer. In addition, they will also receive 26 iron sheets each, of which 22 are for the house and 4 for the pit latrine.

"This project is both for fighting poverty and improving nutrition. They also have a very good commercial market in the middle East. Altogether, 100,000 iron sheets and 74,400 goats are being distributed to 7,155 beneficiaries accross the 9 districts of Karamoja region," she said.

Minister Kitutu said a total of other interventions like peace-building meetings in hotspots of cattle rustling have been held to encourage more peaceful disarmament.

"Under the peace building initiatives, we held a regional council meeting, focusing on the security situation in the region and resolutions were made and shared. We also held inter-district meetings between warring clans to bring together stakeholders at the grassroots to talk peace," Minister Kitutu said.

She added that in Kaabong, they're working together with the Catholic Church and many rustlers have voluntarily surrendered their guns.

Apart from the goats project, President Museveni suggested that the reformed worriers form groups that will be supported to make cement bricks that will later be bought by Government and business people in the region who are in the construction sector.

The ceremony was attended by among others, the Minister of State for Karamoja Affairs, Hon. Agnes Nandutu, Members of Parliament, hailing from the region and beneficiaries.



President Museveni hands over the Uganda flag to Ms. Lomonyang Silvia. In the background, are the Galla goats to be handed over to the youth

# JUN PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS KARAMOJA SECURITY LEADERS

**66** From what I have heard, I will do my part on facilitation. Even in the past they were against disarmament but we have got live examples of other regions bordering South Sudan, Congo where there's no gun violence and are peaceful," President Museveni

MORULINGA STATE LODGE, NAPAK DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni believes that the current efforts to end commercialised cattle rustling in Karamoja and the surrounding areas will not only restore peace and sanity but also credibility of the state which a section of leaders in Karamoja seem not to be seeing.

While meeting security personnel from Karamoja region at Morulinga State Lodge

in Napak District, Karamoja sub-region, Gen. Museveni who is also the Commander in Chief of the UPDF was shocked to learn from the 3rd Division Commander, Brig. Gen. Joseph Balikuddembe, that some political and clan leaders in Karamoja are engaged in the business of selling of guns to facilitate cattle rustling and blocking justice to prevail hence hindering efforts by Government to pacify the region.

"Your Excellency, there is an on-going covert campaign by some leaders across the sub-region, targeting kraal-based informers by urging them not to cooperate with security forces in disarmament operations. They accuse kraal-based informers of betraying their people. A gun trafficker in our custody who has been



Vice President, H.E. Jessica Alupo, addresses the security meeting at Morulinga State Lodge, Napak District

supplying guns to the warriors' network in Kotido district, revealed criminal links with some of these political leaders," Brig. Gen. Balikudembe told the President.

He added that the campaign is spreading across the entire sub-region as has so far resulted into the killing of two Gombolola (sub-county) Internal Security Officers (GISOs) in Napak and Kotido respectively.

Museveni said this should not intimidate security forces from doing their work of restoring credibility of the state.

"What you're talking about is what happens when the state is no longer respected. That's when alternative groups like elders, witch doctors, become an authority because they are not sure whether this Government can defend you. This is not surprising at all. We should do our work so that the authority of the state is respected," Museveni said, blaming Members of Parliament acting negatively, as opportunistic, with no clear vision of what they want to be and their people.

According to reports, Karamajong strongly believe in their governance system of elders and fortune-tellers where elders from different power positions influence and control social and political setup of the Karamajong Community called Akirikit. This governance system contradicts the Central Government system where elders are considered an alternative Government.

"For example, as Government advocates for children's education, the elders on the other hand influence the staying home of children to look after cattle," Brig. Gen. Balikuddembe said.

According to Gen. Balikuddembe, they are also concerned about the suspicious movement of some leaders of Kotido district to Nakitongo in Turkana Kenya, since the launch of simultaneous Usalama Kwa Wote operations across the sub region on 16th May, 2022.

"They have travelled 3 times to Kenya. Intelligence information shows that these leaders are in advanced stages of convincing Turkana to renew the broken alliance and have peace with them in order to pave the way for fugitive warriors to get where to hide from the on-going disarmament operations," Gen. Balikuddembe said.

In Karamoja, a gun is exchanged at a rate of 3 to 5 cows or one to two bags of sorghum or purchased with a minimum of 3 million shillings.

"This is the main reason why there's a continuous recycling of gun violence in Karamoja," Balikuddembe said, but was quick to add that from the 500 profiled criminals, a total of 317 guns with 2,807 rounds of ammunition have been recovered. A total of 22,541 livestock was recovered out of 40,000 reportedly stolen since the launch of operation Usalama Kwa wote

President Museveni commended security forces for their concept of simultaneous operations, targeting the armed rustlers with guns, those with bow and arrows, the informers, those with sticks chasing animals and any other suspects. He promised to continue supporting them.

"Basing on what I have heard, I will do my part on facilitation.

Even in the past they were against disarmament but we have got live examples of other regions bordering South Sudan, Congo where there's no gun violence and are peaceful," Museveni said.

The meeting was also attended and addressed by the Vice President Maj Gen (Rtd) Jessica Alupo Epel and the Deputy Chief of Defence Forces, Lt. Gen. Peter Elwelu. Others in attendance were senior UPDF officers, Resident District Commissioners from the districts of Karamoja and Police Commanders.

#### JUN 14

### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS KARAMOJA POLITICAL LEADERS

"You Government leaders should stop that habit of not listening carefully to your people and failing to expeditiously solve their problems without any explanation," Gen. Museveni said.

MORULINGA STATE LODGE, NAPAK DISTRICT: "My reason of coming here is because of the resurgence of insecurity in Karamoja and in the neighbouring districts but emanating from Karamoja," President Museveni said, as he started addressing political leaders, security personnel, religious leaders and opinion leaders from Karamoja region, at Morulinga State Lodge in Napak District.

In a meeting aimed at devising means of ending cattle rustling, that has wreaked havoc leaving a trail of death, destruction and threatening the prevailing peace and security in the region and the surrounding areas, President Museveni says the mutating crime, which has now turned commercial and involves an intricate network of criminals in the region is fuelled by illegal guns and must be stopped.

According to Mr Museveni, the main problem is lack of orientation in many elements of the population of Karamoja who up to now have not appreciated the need for peace and prosperity despite Government intervention.

He said whereas over 40,000 guns have been recovered through both peaceful and forceful means, many Karimojong have continued to illegally own guns and have become a security threat.

Museveni vowed to end commercial cattle rustling and asked leaders in Karamoja to

help change the attitude of their people through preaching prosperity.

"We are going to roll out a very powerful response to eradicate this vice. But I would like to appeal to the Karimojong people to help us get rid of this mistake, by solving their own mistake which is thinking that you can be prosperous through cattle rustling and secondly, wanting revenge for yourself", Museveni said.

Museveni noted, that through an intelligence-led operation now rolled out by the forces in all the 9 districts of Karamoja (Moroto, Napak, Kotido, Nakapiripit, Kaabong, Abim, Amudat, Karenga and Nabilatuk) and targeting five (5) groups including criminals with guns, those with bows and arrows, those with sticks to drive the cows, the collaborators who are in different districts but connected and linking up with the rustlers and any other suspects connected to the raids, they will not leave any stone unturned.

"I would like the leaders to support this effort. If any of the five categories wants to surrender, he should bring the gun voluntarily so we don't have to look for them and then he will benefit from amnesty," Museveni said.

The UPDF 3rd division commander, Brig Gen Joseph Balikuddembe said since the launch of Usalama kwa wote operation in Karamoja and the neighbouring districts a total of 106 guns and 82 rounds of ammunition. In addition, several suspects have been arraigned before Court while others are pending to appear before court martial. The guns recovered are distributed by district as follows; Abim (00), Amudat

(1), Kaabong (29), Karenga (3), Kotido (17), Moroto (26), Nabilatuk (7), Nakapiripirit (2) and Napak (21)

"As a result of this intensified operation, there's a drastic reduction in criminality both in Karamoja and the neighbouring sub counties," Gen Balikuddembe said.

President Museveni called upon security forces to ensure anybody caught raiding is apprehended.

"I'm here really to make sure this time we end this. My aim is to have no raiding at all. There should be no raiding at all", Museveni stressed, adding that they are going to increase the capacity of the canine units of the Police because dogs have proven capacity to trace criminals involved in cattle rustling, especially using guns.

The President also blamed some elements in Government for not listening to people's grievances.

"You Government leaders should stop that habit of not listening carefully to your people and failing to expeditiously solve their problems without any explanation", Museveni said.

On prosperity, the President noted that the population of Karamoja would be much bigger than it is now if peace in the region was maintained but it has been let down by its own people. He said the infant mortality rate of Karamoja now stands at 72 deaths per 100,000 live births, way higher than the national figures of 43 per 100,000 births.

Statistics also indicate that in Karamoja, mothers who die while giving birth (maternal mortality) are 588 out of 100,000,

way above the national figures of 336 per 100,000.

On education, Museveni said despite the fact that 38.5% of children in Uganda complete primary education, in Karamoja only 6.8% complete primary seven, partly due to insecurity and interference with Government programs. "So, how is the gun helping you?" Museveni wondered.

He supported the idea of free and compulsory education in the region as suggested by leaders, who said poverty is hindering many from finishing primary education.

"That's a very good idea. It's not only good for Karamoja but even other parts of the country which need free and compulsory education. In the coming years, let's discuss it within the NRM party and see how to really budget for it. Because when we introduced Universal Primary Education (UPE), it was supposed to be free," Museveni said.

Other requests to which the President agreed to with the leaders include establishment of Karamoja University, construction of security roads for which a contractor has already been secured and establishment of a cement factory in Moroto.

"We are going to put a cement factory here. I was struggling with the power, but now that it has come, the factory will be set up," the President said.

## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS UPDF AIR FORCE COMMANDERS

**66** The lion lives in the jungle, not on the roads, the road lion is for the zoo. Our Airforce can do many things easily. This is a capacity we should enhance," President Museveni

AIRFORCE BASE, ENTEBBE: Following on the heels of a successful Operation SHUUJA in the Democratic Republic of Congo, President Yoweri Museveni buoyed up the Men and Officers of the Uganda Airforce Wing for their exemplary performance in neutralising the ADF, as security forces now turn to combing the Rwenzori Mountains to pursue remnants that fled the onslaught in the DRC.

"The lion lives in the jungle, not on the roads, the road lion is for the zoo. Our Airforce can do many things easily. This is a capacity we should enhance,"

President Yoweri Museveni who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF) addressed the Airforce, congratulating them on their build up on the force nucleus that was started in 1986 and is now a formidable force in modern warfare.

"You have done a good job in operation SHUUJA. Aircrafts hit targets quickly, accurately, in surprise attacks and quite devastating. The artillery and infantry were all doing great. Let me take this opportunity to thank you and to encourage you all," he said.

The Commander-in-Chief made the remarks this afternoon while meeting a contingent of Men and Officers of the Uganda Air Force Wing at Entebbe Air Base that recently participated in Operation



President Museveni arrives at Entebbe Air force Base for the meeting

SHUJUA in the DRC. This was the first of a series of meetings that the President held with the forces to appraise himself with progress of the SHUUJA Operations and situation on ground and among forces.

"Defence has two sides, Offensive and Defensive. We have both capabilities. Be very sure that you are on standby duty 24 hours to ensure the shield (Defence) is in place all the time and the Spear (Offensive) is ready when required," Museveni said.

Operation SHUUJA that is being conducted jointly by UPDF and the DRC Army made huge achievements in dislodging ADF rebels from their camps in the DRC leaving some of them scattered and on the run in the mountains.

General Museveni congratulated the leadership of the Air Force upon the buildup of the Force, observing that in 1986 the Army had to start a fresh by recruiting new soldiers into the force.

He was however glad to note that the force now has a nucleus which he recommended to be expanded.

"I think we now have a good nucleus which you should expand quickly to fill the gaps. I came to thank you, check on what you have and what is happening as well as to encourage you," he said.

The General pledged to address concerns raised by the leadership of the Uganda Airforce including upgrading the Nakasongola Airfore Base, procurement of aircraft parts in view of the Ukraine-

Russian war and army welfare.

The CDF General Wilson Mbadi commended the Commander in Chief for interacting with the forces especially those that participated in Operation Shuuja.

"The Airforce played a big role in Operation Shuuja, bombing bases of the enemy and softening the grounds helped in the delivery of supplies and troops in isolated areas. This coupled with air defence, intelligence, surveillance reconnaissance, battle assessment and combing the Rwenzoris to pursue remnants of ADF so that we don't leave any enemy behind us to cause havoc when we go ahead," he said.

Gen. Mbadi said the great range of the Air Force assets made it possible to strike bases were the ADF had camped for years freezing their actions and dispersing them.

The meeting was also attended by the Deputy CDF, Lt. General. Peter Elwelu, as well as the Commander of the Air Force, Lt. Gen. Andrew Lutaaya, who made a detailed report of the forces progress in the operation.

Also present was the Chief Presidential Advisor on Security matters, Lt. General Proscovia Nalweyiso, and other Senior Army Officers.

#### JUN 16

### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS UPDF MOUNTAIN BRIGADE

Signature of the successful operation that we started on the 30th November 2021. It was well planned and executed. I want to thank the Commanders and troops. UPDF has now understood the importance of combined arms. Your commanders must understand the concept of combined assault. This Operation was very good. Everything was there. The food, the salt and the water. You started with accurate reconnaissance, artillery and air force," President Museveni.

MUHOTI BARRACKS, KABAROLE DISTRICT: To describe the successful execution of Operation Shuuja in the Democratic Republic of Congo against the ADF bases, President Yoweri Museveni used 'the food' metaphor to drive his point home.

"War is like eating food. Food is food but without different elements added to it, it can be a problem. It can even kill you. Food like cassava can choke you. Food can be good but if you take only one element, it can be disastrous. In order for you to eat successfully, you get the cassava, sauce, salt and other additives. You can't get salt and eat it alone. You can end up in hospital. Everything must be combined properly and washed down as food. This is the same as war, a combined assault," Museveni said, praising the Commanders and men of the UPDF for the operation that involved Air power, Artillery and accurate reconnaissance that saw ADF bases in the Eastern DR Congo neutralised and remnants scattering into the vast Rwenzori Mountains and jungles.

A combined UPDF section is in pursuit and the President who is also the Commanderin-Chief assured the forces has said, "You should not stop pounding (Kusekula) until you achieve your desired grade (Kunoza)."

President Museveni commended UPDF officers and men for the successful Operation Shuuja that was launched on the 30th November, 2021. This was during his visit to the Mountain Division headquarters at Muhoti Barracks in Fort Portal, Kabarole District, where he congratulated the Mountain Division Specialised Force for the successful operation in the D.R. Congo against the ADF rebel training camps and positions.

"I came to congratulate you on this very successful operation that we started on the 30th November 2021. It was well planned and executed. I want to thank the Commanders and troops. UPDF has now understood the importance of combined arms. Your commanders must understand the concept of combined assault. This Operation was very good. Everything was there. The food, the salt and the water. You started with accurate reconnaissance, artillery and air force," he said.

He urged the UPDF leadership on more training for confidence in tactical operations and using weapons in difficult terrains.

"I want you to tighten the loopholes. Don't send people who are not psychologically prepared. All officers must be there with them, don't train with stick. Training, training, training and confidence. The NRA built a lot of confidence, this is the confidence we want for our soldiers," he said.

He cautioned that every soldier must understand the structure of the war and that once they are confident as individuals, they should work as a group in order to achieve the set goals. "Each soldier should have enough bullets, know the terrain and coordinate as a group. This is the confidence we want," he said.

He was pleased to note that Operation Shuuja was progressing well and thanked them for the good relationship they have with the people and the Congolese soldiers.

The Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Wilson Mbadi, said that the preliminary aim to destroy the ADF camps was achieved. He reported that UPDF was now uprooting the remnants that are currently retreating in small groups into the mountains and jungles.

He saluted the President for his guidance in building the UPDF into a formidable force and revealed that the army was constructing more buildings to address the housing requirements of the soldiers. He revealed that plans were underway to acquire more modern machines so that we may have a more effective force.

The Commander of the Mountain Division, Major Gen. Kayanja Muhanga, saluted President Museveni for recognising the efforts of the Mountain Division. He said that the main operation was in Mukakati, adding that their target was to degrade the ADF capacity to create war and to disable the rebel group.

He was pleased to note that the rebel group was defeated in the triangle of death in Eastern Congo and reported that there was a tremendous reduction of killing and abducting civilians in the UPDF operation areas.



President Museveni arrives at Muhoti Barracks for the meeting the UPDF Mountain Brigade

#### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS ALGERIAN ENVOY

There has been a crisis in Africa and part of the problem was Africans thinking of depending on Europe. The solution is to work together,"

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni met and held discussions with a Special Envoy from Algeria, H.E. Ramtane Lamamra, who is also the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria.

The meeting that was also attended by the State Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uganda, Hon. John Mulimba, took place at the President's country home in Rwakitura. H.E. Lamamra had brought a special message and fraternal warm greetings from the President of Algeria, H.E. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, to President Museveni.

President Museveni and his guest discussed bilateral cooperation between the two sister countries of Uganda and Algeria in the fields of Trade, Agriculture and Security, among others.

H.E. Museveni lobbied the Algerians to come and invest in Uganda especially in agricultural value addition.

The President said that Uganda produces a lot of agricultural products like maize and milk, and so Algeria should stop importing milk from Europe and buy it from Uganda.



President Museveni poses for a photo with the Algerian Special Envoy and other officials after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

"We have a lot of milk here. Please, come and buy our milk because I am told you import it from Europe. We don't have any food problem in Uganda. The only problem we have now is fuel prices," the President said.

On the issue of conflicts in some African countries, President Museveni said that the problem has been overdependence on the foreign countries. The solution, therefore, he said, is working together as Africa.

"There has been a crisis in Africa and part of the problem was Africans thinking of depending on Europe. The solution is to work together," he said.

The President gave an example of border conflicts, and said that if one country wants to revise colonial borders, they should do it diplomatically.

"When we decided to form the regional blocs like COMESA here, the plan was to bring Africa to work together. The progressive States of Africa should not listen to divisions," he said.

H.E. Museveni commended Algeria for being on the right side of the liberation struggle and said they will continue being good allies.

H.E. Lamamra said he had brought a special message and fraternal greetings from the Algerian President, H.E. Abdelmadjid Tebboune to President Museveni. He also extended an invitation from H.E. Tebboune to President Museveni to attend the 60th Independence Anniversary of Algeria slated to take place on July 5th, 2022.

"My President is inviting you to the celebration of our 60th Independence Anniversary. Ten African leaders have been invited and, Your Excellency, you are one of them," he said.

He further said that Algeria is regaining its strength and economic independence. He revealed that Algeria and Uganda need to do more when it comes to cooperation especially in the field of trade. "We need to do more on bilateral cooperation and increase on trade," he said.

The Envoy said that a business council has been established to discuss what Uganda can sell to Algeria and what Algeria can sell to Uganda.

He said Algeria would continue to give scholarships for both civilians and military in Uganda to exchange experience.

The meeting was attended by, among others, the Ambassador of Algeria to Uganda H.E. Oualid Cherif, and the Ambassador of Uganda to Algeria, H.E. Alintuma Nsambu.

# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS UPDF SECOND DIVISION



I am happy to be here peacefully. In the past, around 1972, I used to come to attack this barracks when we were struggling for liberation. I want to congratulate you for doing your duty well because I don't hear any problem this side," President Museveni

MAKENKE BARRACKS: The President of the Republic of Uganda who is also the Commander-In- Chief (C-I-C) of UPDF, H.E Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, commended the officers and men of the Second Division Infantry Headquarters for a job well done.

"I am happy to be here peacefully. In the past, around 1972, I used to come to attack this barracks when we were struggling for liberation. I want to congratulate you for doing your duty well because I don't hear any problem this side," Gen. Museveni said.

The President made the remarks this while giving an opportunity lecture to the Second Infantry Division at Makenke Barracks in Mbarara City.

The C-I-C advised the Division commander and UPDF as a whole to prioritise regular training of soldiers to acquire the necessary skills which will in turn give them confidence to perform their duties well.

"Regarding training, you should start with the individual soldier. The individual soldier must be confident. If you are very well trained you have confidence, as an individual soldier," he said.

Once a soldier is trained well and gains confidence, Gen. Museveni said, and then you get them to the group of about three, then you combine elements to have a strong force that can defend any threat.

"In order for a well-trained individual to be effective, they need a group. This is the spirit we want in all of you. Don't fear. Be confident. If you have confident infantry soldiers, you succeed and win," the President added.

On the challenges raised by the Division Commander, Maj. Gen. Francis Takirwa, that include establishing a Kadogo Technical Training School, fencing of the barracks land and establishing a reserve Brigade, President Museveni promised to handle them all because they are crucial issues.

"What I want to emphasise to you is that each soldier must be confident. But also he or she must know how to act in a group, and must combine arms. I am happy to be here. I just came to congratulate you, on a job well done," Gen. Museveni said.

The Chief of Defence Forces (CDF), Gen. Wilson Mbasu Mbadi, welcomed the C-I-C to the 2nd Division Headquarters, and thanked him for building the UPDF into a formidable force that is widely respected around the globe.

"Allow me to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 2nd Division Headquarters to interact with these brave men and women charged with the defence and security here. We thank you for building UPDF into a formidable force that is now widely respected," Gen. Mbadi said.

He revealed that the UPDF administration is putting more efforts in all sectors to build

a force that will become more effective and efficient and accountable to the population as long ago guided by the President.

"We also have plans of capacity enhancement in areas of training so that we can give our troops the knowledge and skills they require in their different areas of operation so that they can serve the UPDF better." the CDF revealed.

On the issue of logistical support especially in the area of improving the mobility of commanders and troops, the CDF assured them of the Force's willingness to support them for the effective performance of their work.

The Division Commander, Maj. Gen. Takirwa, revealed that the security situation within the Division area has been calm save for a few isolated cases of local criminality, theft and poaching among others.

"Also, the influx of Congolese refugees caused by hostilities continue to pose big security, social and economic threats to the region. However, this has been handled by screening of these refugees at the entry points," Gen. Takirwa said.

He revealed that the Division intends to engage in large-scale farming at Makenke, Kyamugashe, Kateretere and Ruhengyere. He also said that they want to intensify training in order to upgrade their readiness in various fields.

The Second Infantry Division is situated in south-western Uganda and borders with Tanzania to the south, Rwanda to the south-west, and DRC to the west. The Division remains charged with the security of this region that covers 18 districts and Mbarara City.

Thereafter, President Museveni led soldiers to a bull-roasting session.



President Museveni leads soldiers to a bull-roasting session at Makenke Barracks, Mbarara City

## UGANDA COMMEMORATES AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY



"We are very happy and thankful for the continued consideration State House has accorded Nakasero Primary School over the years, both financially and morally. We are here now because you have given a helping hand somewhere as neighbours," HeadTeacher, Nakasero Primary School

Uganda joined the rest of the African continent to commemorate Africa Public Service Day (APSD) as part of its annual celebrations.

In Kampala, the State House team led by the Under Secretary, Ms. Hope Nyakairu, held a series of activities at Nakasero Primary School that included painting classrooms, guidance sessions on career, health, security and environment. The sessions were held under the theme: "Bringing Citizens and Government Closer-Service Delivery For Socio-Economic Transformation."

Ms. Nyakairu spoke to the pupils about the importance of preserving and protecting the beauty of nature, saying it isn't just about the trees and birds, but it is also paramount for human survival. She urged pupils to engage in environmental protection activities like tree planting and to minimise the use of paper.

"Because you're the people of the future, you're going to live in this environment. So, we all have to take care of the environment," Nyakairu said.



State House Under Secretary, Ms. Hope Nyakairu, and other officials pose for a photo with pupils of Nakasero Primary School

She also sensitised them about exercises not only to keep fit but also to protect the environment.

"Vehicles, bodabodas produce smoke that destroys the environment. So, when you walk, you'll be reducing the fumes that come from cars and, therefore, you'll be preserving the environment," she said.

The Head teacher, Nakasero Primary School, Mr. Nambuli Rogers, thanked the Government for the Universal Primary Education (UPE) program which created an opportunity for the 2,126 learners and 80 members of staff to access the institution for knowledge, skills and values, plus employment.

"We are very happy and thankful for the continued consideration State House has accorded Nakasero Primary School over the years, both financially and morally. We are here now because you have given a helping hand somewhere as neighbours," Nambuli said.

He appealed to the Government to support the refurbishment of the school to a status it deserves for a conducive learning environment for the children.

The Assistant Commissioner Human Resource Management at State House, Mr. Benon Twinobusingye, urged pupils to be focused and to know what they want to be in future, for example in leadership, business and other fields.

"The message today is to start now to build what you want to become and then focus on those things that you must do in order to get where you want to go. Be disciplined children, respect your teachers and then continue making good choices," Twinobusingye said.

Maj. Dr. David Magoba, the In- Charge Medical at State House urged pupils to continue observing Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.Ps) against COVID-19 and to keep up with the habit of hand washing to avoid diseases.

On security, Maj. James Turinawe urged the pupils to always be careful while away from school and their places of residence and to avoid accepting gifts from strangers.

"Don't accept gifts from a person you don't know. Life and security are very important. Let us accept that we can get everything we need from our parents," Maj. Turinawe said.

This year's continental celebrations will be held under the theme: "Rebuilding the State and Restoring Trust and Pride by Tackling Human Capital Development Challenges for Social and Economic Development".

The African Public Service Day is an annual event held on 23 June. It is an entrenched strategic programme on the African Union (AU) calendar, and part of the collaborative work of the Pan-African Ministers programme aimed at enhancing governance and public administration across the continent.

# JUN

#### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS UNATU LEADERS

**LL** I don't accept the idea of scattering resources. Negotiate new targets, not deadlines. Your disruptive plans are not acceptable. It is not correct. We shall not stop from implementing our plans," President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni asked teachers in the country to call off their industrial action as Government is committed to give civil servants good remuneration.

"In principle, we shall pay everybody well but as of now, let us concentrate on one aspect. Don't tell me about this industrial action. Go and work. Our aim is to pay civil servants well." he said.

The President made the remarks at a meeting with members of Uganda National Teachers Union (UNATU) at State House, Entebbe, while flanked by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Museveni.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Public Service, Hon. Muruli Mukasa, the Minister of State for Primary Education, Hon. Dr. Joyce Kaducu; the National Chairperson of UNATU, Mr. Zadock Tumuhimbise and the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Ms Catherine Bitarakwate as well as Mr. Patrick Muhereza.



UNATU leaders meeting President Museveni at State House, Entebbe

President Museveni told members of UNATU that Government is committed to raising the pay of all civil servants but priority should go to science teachers as they are very critical in the development and transformation of the economy of Uganda.

The President who was commenting on the issues raised by teachers in a memo read by the Secretary General of UNATU, Mr. Filbert Baguma, assured arts teachers that they are not being discriminated against as they are equally important but focus should first be on science teachers who are now much needed for the growth and the expansion of the economy.

The President explained that three quarters of the economy involves science like in Agriculture, ICT and services that are shared in the medical and entertainment industry, among others.

He appealed to teachers not to divert and disrupt Government's plans of strengthening the economy through the development of infrastructure but called on them to continue discussions with the relevant ministries and stakeholders in order to strike a win-win situation as regards the pay rise of all teachers.

"I don't accept the idea of scattering resources. Negotiate new targets, not deadlines. Your disruptive plans are not acceptable. It is not correct. We shall not stop from implementing our plans," he vowed.

He reassured teachers that the pay rise is being done according to priority focusing first on science teachers and later arts teachers emoluments will also be augmented.

The President cited IT engineers who have to monitor activities in the phone sector and levy revenue for Government's coffers.

The President dismissed as incorrect the argument raised in school staff rooms that arts teachers are comedians and of no value, describing that argument as an ignorant one.

On her part, Hon. Janet Museveni, told the UNATU leadership that as a family they should sit down and solve any challenge amicably. She said Government has been playing its role in the pay rise since 2016 and is continuing to be faithful in that area to date. She added that teachers are disciples supposed to teach patriotism.

"Leaders are supposed to be light on the hill," she counselled.

"This year, salary enhancement for teachers has been done. Government decided to start with scientists, then later come back for the rest of the civil servants. Teachers are supposed to be patriotic; to shepherd little children. They are supposed to nurture them into upright citizens and teachers must be the light on the hill," the First Lady added.

Hon. Muruli Mukasa assured teachers that the window for further discussions with all the stakeholders is still open.



#### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI TRAVELS TO NAIROBI FOR THE THIRD HEADS OF CONCLAVE ON DEMOCRATIC **REPUBLIC OF CONGO**

ENTEBBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda left for Nairobi, Kenya on a one-day official visit where he joined other East African Heads of State to discuss Regional issues and matters connected to security.



President Museveni with the President of the Republic of South Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport VVIP Lounge



President Museveni receives a gun salute upon arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Kenya



President Museveni is received by the Vice President, H.E. Jessica Alupo, at Entebbe International Airport, upon return from Nairobi, Kenya



STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni received a delegation from Germany led by Minister of State and Head of the State Chancellery, Mr. Oliver Schenk.

H.E. Museveni and his guests discussed possible business opportunities as well as cooperation in the areas of medicine from plants between Uganda and Germany.

The meeting was also attended by the German Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Mathias Schauer, who introduced the group to the President.

President Museveni told the group that comprised of Members of Parliament, Civil Society, Academicians, Media and NGOs that Africa has a lot of natural resources with big business opportunities that need to be utilised.

He noted that the Chinese have undertaken a lot of business investments in Africa than European investors.

He, however, said that he is glad that the Europeans have woken up and started to invest in some of the African countries like Uganda.

The President said that one can undertake a lot of production with little input in Uganda but there must be somebody to buy what is produced, saying that is why there is need to integrate the markets in Africa through blocs like COMESA.

He told the German investors that they can undertake production in Uganda and sell their products in Uganda, East Africa, Africa and to countries like US, Germany, among others.

He thanked the Ugandan Ambassador to Germany, H.E. Danny Ssozi, for bringing the delegation to Uganda.

He noted that antibiotics resistance and medicine from plants has a very big potential, adding that this cooperation is wonderful for the two countries. He noted that Penicillin and Covidex are some of the medicines made from plants which he said have worked well.

The President further asked the German entrepreneurs to co-invest with Uganda in the area of processing bananas for food.



President
Museveni
meeting the
German
Investors at
State House,
Entebbe



### PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS DANISH INVESTORS

STATE LODGE, NAKASERO: President Yoweri Museveni welcomed investors from Denmark who expressed interest to invest in Uganda.

The President extended the invitation during a meeting with the Danish Minister for Development Cooperation, Hon. Flemming Miller Mortensen, at Nakasero State Lodge in Kampala. The Minister was accompanied by the Danish Ambassador to Uganda.

The President assured Danish investors of the available markets of Uganda, East African, Africa, US and China, among others. He noted that there is great market potential to purchase their products. He saluted Denmark for commercialising milk in Uganda.

He asked the visiting Minister to give Uganda support in the area of irrigation in order to stabilise agriculture.

President Museveni and his guests also discussed issues on cooperation in the areas of agriculture and water, among others. Hon. Mortensen told the President that Denmark will establish new programs in Uganda in the areas of Human rights, Civic education and Accountability. He said that Denmark has a lot of focus on the relationship with Uganda.

The Minister said that Denmark will be a good partner to Uganda and that they will continue to support development projects in Uganda for better life.

In the same meeting, President Museveni agreed to lift the ban on Democratic Governance Facility (DGF), a civil society funding body, whose activities were suspended last year, with a condition that Government is represented in its decision-making structures.

The President's promise came following an appeal by Hon. Mortensen and the Danish Ambassador who said that the project has only six months left to elapse.

The President said he would formally communicate the position to the relevant Government departments.



Members of the Danish delegation during the meeting at State Lodge, Nakasero

# STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI AT THE COMMONWEALTH BUSINESS FORUM



Delivered by Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, under the theme; Ecosystems: redesigning global value chain in a post covid world

His Royal Highness Prince Charles (representing Her Majesty the Queen)

Your Excellency President Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda,

Excellencies, the Presidents and Heads of Government,

Distinguished Business Leaders,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The day's session is titled "Ecosystems: Redesigning Global Value Chains in a post –Covid World."

I would like to introduce an economic ecosystem as a dynamically stable network of interconnected firms and institutions within a bounded geographical space. Suppose you take Regional economic networks as 'ecosystems'. In that case, you assess the advantages gained from belonging to a region or regional grouping, the role of entrepreneurs in regional development, and the determinants of resilience in regional economic systems. We can frame regional economic change in terms of ecosystem dynamics, with reference

to ecologically-derived concepts of succession, speciation, diversity, resilience, and adaptation.

We have for long, lived with the Global Value Chains (GVCs), seeing the international production sharing, where production is broken into activities and tasks carried out in different countries dating back to Adam Smith's time.

We are witness to production becoming fragmented into networks across many locations, with implications for industrial development.

In the famed example attributed to Smith, the production of a pin was divided into a number of distinct operations inside a factory, each performed by a dedicated worker. In GVCs, the processes are spread across national borders (instead of being confined to the same location), and the products made are much more complex than a pin.

In the Global value chain, we see a full range of activities (design, production, marketing, distribution and support to the final consumer, etc.) that are divided among multiple firms and workers across geographic spaces to bring a product from its conception to its end use and beyond. Cross-border production has been made possible by the liberalization of trade and investment, lower transport costs, advances in information communication and technology, innovations in logistics (e.g. containerization). While cross-border production may not be new, it has expanded rapidly many industries in recent decades. This development primarily been has driven by transnational corporations (TNCs) in industrialised economies, which continuously restructure their businesses and reorganise/ relocate their operations for reasons of competition. We have also witnessed situations where the procurement of material inputs or services by a firm from another, the outside supplier being located in another country in the case of international

outsourcing.

Countries can participate in GVCs by engaging in either backward or forward linkages. Backward linkages are created when country A uses inputs from country B for domestic production.

Products cross several borders in GVCs in different stages of production before they are turned into final goods. As such, trade in intermediate goods, which require further processing and are used as inputs for production - is often used as a proxy measure of GVCs. Since 1995, intermediate manufacturers have consistently accounted for around half manufactured exports and imports globally, providing evidence of the existence of GVC trade.

Covid-19 pandemic, however, disrupted the GVC, adversely affecting the World economy and reversing the hard earned economic gains. In the thick of events, we recall that Governments across the World adopted mobility restrictions that have continued in one form or another as an alternative to containing the virus.

However, these restrictions further stimulated serious ramifications on the

complex productionsharing literally referred Global Value Chains. It also became a stack reminder of the vulnerabilities associated with these global value chains. We saw countries coming up with vaccine nationalism tendencies to try to serve their people before others. African countries could not access the Vaccines, and they had to go through the EU, particularly the Covax Facility and other countries that bilaterally donated to us. Uganda could not be able to place an order even if we had the money! It created a dependency on those ready to donate!

Uganda as a country realised the need to be creative and innovative. The vaccine nationalism sort of awakened us to stop dependency on outside pharmaceuticals. When Uganda could not get even the Sanitizer and face masks from China and elsewhere. we turned our industries producing alcohol to produce Sanitizers that we sold in the region. Equally, we started to make face masks. Uganda also begun to produce therapeutics like Covidex and others that helped many people heal very fast. We recalled

age-old cures that kept our forefathers disease-free and the need to give them attention.

Moreover, Uganda started efforts to produce her own vaccine. But in this process, we found the Global value chains were not helpful. Because the researchers soon found they needed cells from Green monkeys to grow the virus but found problems accessing the raw material which those that had gotten the cells and multiplied them were not ready to share. We eventually got them and proceeded but soon also found that it was impossible to get some reagents which we eventually got and proceeded. Therefore, we are encouraging our regional scientists to work together and create a united front. We, therefore, request the whole of the Commonwealth to find a way of working together in this and to help encourage regional approaches in this regard as the Commonwealth.

The persistent uncertainty related to the shift of the epicenter of the pandemic from region to region, and the parallel instability affecting production costs, further exacerbated the situation, making it difficult to resume business on a

global scale, leading many firms to reduce or stall their production activities.

At the same time, temporary surges of demand for certain critical commodities have not been met by increased supply since, under the current model, dramatic changes in the scale of production might not be easily absorbed after a return to normality.

This notwithstanding, harnessing the full potential of international trade for LDC's Uganda inclusive faces considerable challenges, as is witnessed in the uneven distribution of gains from GVC and foreign investment. This has primarily been propagated by inter-alia Commodity Dependency of these countries, and even those in manufacturing or services have remained tied to the lower valueadded activities.

Furthermore, supply chain and travel disruptions caused by COVID-19 have potentially undermined economic integration and encouraged self-sufficient economic systems, at least in strategic sectors such as medical equipment and drugs or the production of inputs for assembling sophisticated machines,

the final production of which still occurs in high-wage countries. This tendency is reflected in the growing number of temporary export bans and restrictions on critical goods enacted by numerous countries after the outbreak.

It does not come as a surprise, therefore, that most analysts concur that the current pandemic will reinforce relocation and reshoring trends.

How do we redesign the ecosystem to build resilience for equitable and fair distribution?

GVCs have proven resilient and will play a significant role in the recovery. In addition, they have played a vital role in producing personal protective equipment and vaccine components as COVID-19 recedes. But shall require fit-for-purpose remodification to bring about the prosperity of those countries in most need without leaving anyone behind. Some of the solutions to this end shall include:

 Reinvigorating a trading system that serves and improves the lives of everyone and ensures that everyone gets a fair share from trade. As stated in the Global Value Chain Development Report 2021: Beyond production, understanding where value is created in these chains and how it is distributed among participants is central to ensuring fair distribution since small-scale farmers in developing economies connected are multinational to corporations and consumers in advanced economies by GVC.

2. Addressing the Digital Divide. The physical distancing policies brought to the fore the role of the Digital economy anchored on new ICT development platforms have boosted the participation of MSMEs, developing countries and other players. Search engines such as google and market places including Alibaba, Jumia etc. and application platforms such as android have scaled the connection of business, consumers suppliers. UNCTAD 2021 placed the estimated value of online shopping, facilitated by a number of these platforms to steadily having grown

in recent years, at \$26.7 trillion in 2019 or some 30% of global gross domestic product. Digital platforms further reduce time and financial costs providing an enabling environment. Moving forward, we should prioritise investment in ICT and skills development to harness this potential.

- 3. Structural transformation and building of productive capacities to fully harness the linkages in manufacturing, services and Agriculture. That is to say, strive to move from lower manufacturing activities to the next level as a country. This also calls for investing infrastructure in such as energy and transport network. For example, facilitating rail interconnectivity from Cape to Cairo and West Africa to Kinshasa on top of accessible and cheaper energy is set to reduce business costs.
- 4. Access to markets and doing away with NTBs. Building regional economic blocks to expand market outreach, such as EAC, COMESA, and SADC are pragmatic solutions to

promote intra-Africa trade, including import substitution and forging acceptable standards. The concept of the Africa Continental Free Market Area (AfCFTA) is premised on a more significant market and trade on the continent. It offers a good bargaining ground for future economic negotiations, in this case, with the external World, UNCTAD estimates **AfCFTA** to bring in 16 billion dollars in its first year of initiation.

The global response to climate change has also created challenges for low- and middle-income countries. As high-income nations implement policies to reduce carbon emissions, less developed economies dependent on carbon-intensive GVCs will have to adapt quickly. The EU's Green Deal, for example, could result in a 75 per cent reduction in coal imports.

As I conclude, I wish to state that Global Value Chains have played an essential role in driving recovery from the Covid-19 induced global trade collapse.

It is also true that many high-income countries, including China, are realising the need to reshoring production. Still, this approach is likely to hurt both advanced and developing economies alike and this might push further many into extreme poverty by 2030. Yet, on the other hand, if trade costs are lowered, over 200 million people will be lifted out of this extreme poverty.

Therefore, there is a need to redesign the global value chains in post-Covid19 to address the challenges identified. The Commonwealth forum could be the starting point in these efforts. We need to make these Global Value Chains work for all of us. The Commonwealth could help spur an industrial revolution among its members; while some parts of the World are on the verge of the 4th Industrial Revolution, many parts of Africa have not yet entered the 1st Industrial revolution. Hence, we cannot relate well to the Global value chains. Let's have a win-win for all by adopting the best approaches to deliver the best rewards.

I thank you!
YOWERI K. MUSEVENI
PRESIDENT



# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI ARRIVES IN KIGALI FOR CHOGM

KIGALI, RWANDA: President Yoweri Museveni arrived in Rwanda's Capital, Kigali, for a four-day working visit during which he joined other Heads of State and Government, for the ongoing Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

The meeting was held under the theme, "Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating, Transforming".

President Museveni who travelled by road from Uganda was received at the Gatuna One Stop Border Post by the Minister of Infrastructure of the Republic of Rwanda, Eng. Erneste Nsabimana, Uganda's High Commissioner to Rwanda, H.E. Maj. Gen (Rtd) Robert Rusoke, Governor of Northern Province, Mr. Danielle Nyirarujero, Mayor of Gicumbi, Mr. Emmanuel Nzabonimpa, Deputy Head of Mission, Ms. Anne Katusiime, Defence Attaché at the High Commission of the Republic of

Uganda in Rwanda, Maj. Gen. Emmanuel Burundi Nyamunywanisa and Col. Deo Rusanganwa, Brigade Commander 501. Hundreds of people lined the streets of Kigali to receive him and almost blocked roads.

The President later attended the Commonwealth Business Forum Heads of Government and Business Leaders Roundtable at the Intare Conference Arena. Later hosted various bilateral meetings at his residency.

Leaders of Commonwealth countries meet every two years for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), hosted by different member countries on a rotating basis. Since 1971, a total of 24 meetings have been held including in Uganda in 2007, hosted by President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, with the most recent being in the United Kingdom in 2018.



Residents of Kigali wave at the convoy of President Museveni upon arrival in Kigali, Rwanda Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2022 took place in Kigali, Rwanda. The official opening of CHOGM took place on Friday 24th June and was followed by the main high-level meetings of Heads of Government on Friday 24th to Saturday 25th June. They were preceded by four forums, ministerial meetings, side events and other activities.



## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI CONTRIBUTES UGX 80M TO BUSOGA DIOCESE

JINJA: The President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, contributed Shs 80million towards the construction of St. Mary's house for Mother's Union of Busoga Diocese which is to be built at the headquarters of Busoga Diocese in Bugembe town council, Northern Division, Jinja city.

The President's contribution was delivered by the Minister for Presidency, Hon Babirye Milly Balabanda, during Mother's Union day celebrations and fundraising for Busoga Diocese at Christ's Cathedral, Bugembe grounds in Jinja city. In her remarks, Hon. Babalanda appealed to the clergy in Busoga to be ambassadors of the Parish Development Model (PDM), Government's renewed program for getting Ugandans out of poverty.

"I wish to appeal to the members of the Mother's Union of Busoga Diocese to support the struggle of defeating poverty by being ambassadors of the Parish Development Model. This programme is non-partisan- it is for everyone to embrace," she said.

"Your messages provide the relevance of God's word but, significantly, they also ask the people to develop their social



The Minister for the Presidency, Hon. Milly Babalanda, hands over the contribution from President Museveni to the leaders of Busoga Diocese

skills; especially, to build strong families and be useful citizens in their localities," she added.

She appealed to the people to put their eyes on PDM money when it gets to the villages, the parishes and lower level governments where the problem is, saying lower level corruption directly affects the people because it stops the services from getting to the people.

"This is why the Parish Development Model is targeting the parish purposely to defeat the influence of the dealers from the centre. Majority of our people had been left out of knowing what is going on, the civil servants and other leaders took the chance to steal the public funds and left everyone poor.

Going forward, we should use the Parish Development Model to ask for accountability, to question the application of public resources and to benefit from what is available for our individual and group development. The PDM concerns all of us; Christian and non-Christian and we should all actively participate."

She appealed to leaders in Busoga to unite effort to see to it that this programme succeeds and the people fully benefit. She asked RDCs to take up the challenge and educate the citizens about funds received.

Babalanda said President Museveni wishes all the people of Busoga the best of opportunity for social development, family life and worship of the Almighty God through St. Mary's House whose construction she was there to support.

"This campaign of building St. Mary's House is an effort of very many years which I am glad is coming to bear fruit under the NRM Government leadership. We thank God for this achievement," the Minister said.

The President of Mother's Union, Busoga Diocese, Mrs. Natasha Isabirye Kagoya, applauded the Minister for finding time on her busy schedule to bless the occasion. She commended the President for sending them their own Maama to represent him also awarding her a fitting office to serve the nation.

She explained that St. Mary's House will be a skills development centre to impart knowledge and marketable skills for the socio-economic transformation of all. It will have vocation training facilities offices, chapel, a canteen, conference halls, guest rooms, a restaurant and others costing Shs3.5billion.



President Museveni with Cuban Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Bruno Rodriguez, and other officials in Ntungamo

JUN 28

# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS CUBAN DELEGATION

There are good areas of business collaboration like the pathogenic industry in the manufacturing of vaccines that can capture the market in Uganda, East Africa and Africa," President Museveni

NTUNGAMO: President Yoweri Museveni received and held a meeting with a Cuban delegation led by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Bruno Rodriguez, and discussed matters pertaining to strengthening bilateral relations between the two countries.

The Cuban Foreign Affairs Minister was accompanied by the Cuban Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Tania Perez Xiques, among others.

The meeting was also attended by the Minister of State for International Affairs, Hon. Henry Okello Oryem, at the President's country home in Ntungamo District.

President Museveni expressed need in investment in areas of science.

manufacturing and barter trade.

"There are good areas of business collaboration like the pathogenic industry in the manufacturing of vaccines that can capture the market in Uganda, East Africa and Africa," he said, adding that it would also be good to do barter trade with the private sector or deal directly with Government. He said Cuba can buy food products like maize, powdered milk and beans from Ugandan farmers in exchange for Cuban products such pharmaceuticals just by exchange without money, what the President termed as "easy trade".

The Cuban Foreign Affairs Minister expressed Cuba's gratitude to President Museveni over African relations with Cuba through African Union (AU) solidarity.

He informed the President that Cuba's economy thrives on manufacturing, with a high level of efficiency in pharmaceuticals, international tourism and industry.



# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH CEO

What we are doing is to tell them to use legal solutions by educating the forces about standing orders of managing society while handling criminal acts and suspects," President Museveni

NTUNGAMO: President Yoweri Museveni received a report from a delegation from Human Rights Watch (HRW) led by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. Kenneth Roth, containing findings of investigations on alleged torture and human rights violation incidences in Uganda.

In the meeting that took place at the President's country home in Ntungamo district, the President assured the delegation that cases of illegal detention, torture and human rights violation will end, and they will not be tolerated.

He, however, cautioned the delegation that: "No one can teach me about the

subject of human rights because that is what I fought for, to have a democratic society in Uganda. I spent sixteen solid years of my life to put in place human rights observance and correct what the regime of Idi Amin distorted. When handling human rights issues, be careful!" the President said.

The President assured the HRW officials that Government will act accordingly on proven torture and human rights abuse cases.

He also assured them that he will use the report and verify its findings as a case study to strengthen human rights recognition in the country.

He explained to the officials that the Government will also battle unnecessary acts by security institutions like the police force of beating, illegally detaining and



President Museveni gestures during a meeting with Human Rights Watch CEO, Mr. Ken Roth, at Ntungamo

interrogating people, because when they do that they are not doing their work properly.

"What we are doing is to tell them to use legal solutions by educating the forces about standing orders of managing society while handling criminal acts and suspects," he said.

H.E. Museveni applauded HRW saying, "With the findings revealed to me, I can see the organisation has some good value now because you have discovered some rot on human rights according to the discussion that summarises the report and I assume it is evidence-based," said President Museveni.

The HRW Chief who has led the global organisation for nearly three decades has transformed the organisation from a small regional one to an international human rights organisation with global influence.

In attendance at the meeting was Ms. Mansion Segun, the HRW Executive Director for Africa, Ms. Carbine Caneza, the Advocacy Director for Africa, Mr. Oryema Nyeko, a researcher, and the Chairperson of Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), Ms Mariam Wangadya.

Since its inception, HRW has embraced possibilities of bringing perpetrators of human rights violations to justice.

Under Mr. Roth's management, HRW has also been able to change the way human rights advocacy is done. After being globalised and operating in most European countries, US and spearheading its work with the UN, HRW now renders services to most African countries, including Uganda.

The organisation's CEO told President Museveni that the purpose of human rights enforcement is to make sure that the law takes its course.

He commended the President for his pledge to "Zero Tolerance" against torture and human rights violation allegedly by armed forces. "This is a signal that you are doing a good job," he said.



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