

The Presidency

SEPTEMBER 2022



Your Monthly Round-Up of State House News





Yoweri Museveni

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





Contents

FORMER PRESIDENT OF IRELAND VISITS UGANDA.....	6
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI COMMISSIONS UPDF OFFICERS	7
PRESIDENTIAL INDUSTRIAL HUBS TAKE OFF	10
GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS NOVEMBER 2021 BOMB VICTIMS.....	12
NSSF UNVEILS STATE OF THE ART HOUSING PROJECT	14
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI COMMISSIONS VOICE MALL AND HOTEL.....	16
UK INDIAN COMMUNITY MARKS 50 YEARS	18
PRESIDENT WILLIAM RUTO ASSUMES OFFICE	20
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS COFFEE STAKEHOLDERS.....	22
NORTHERN UGANDA LAND OWNERS RECEIVE CUSTOMARY LAND TITLES.....	24
NRM CAUCUS ELECTS EALA REPRESENTATIVES.....	27
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI COMMISSIONS PROJECTS IN BUNYORO.....	29
UGANDA TO MOVE TO ELECTRIC CARS.....	32
SOUTH SUDAN ENVOY ENDS TOUR OF DUTY.....	34
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI DONATES TO BODA BODA RIDERS	35
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS TESO LEADERS	37
CHINA ENVOY FOR HORN OF AFRICA VISITS UGANDA	39
UGANDA TO BUILD A NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCES UNIVERSITY.....	40
LATE BENEDICTO KIWANUKA TO CARRY HIS FAMILY LEGACY ON	42
UGANDA COMMITTED TO THE EACOP PROJECT.....	43
UGANDA TO HOST BEATIFICATION CEREMONY FOR THE FIRST TIME	46
EMYOOGA TO TRANSFORM INTO A PEOPLE'S DEVELOPMENT BANK.....	49
PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS ON THE EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE OUTBREAK.....	51
PRESIDENT MUSEVENI LAUNCHES NEXT MEDIA PARK	53

Dear Reader,

This is to present to you the September edition of our monthly e-magazine, *The Presidency*. This monthly e-publication highlights the major engagements of His Excellency the President and the entire Presidency for the month of September.



In the month of September, His Excellency commissioned a number of development projects including the Solana lifestyle and residences project of National Social Security Fund (NSSF) in Lubowa, Voice Mall and Hotel in Bwebajja, Radio Seven and Masindi Hotel, both in Masindi District.

His Excellency also presided over the handover of over 1,500 customary land titles in Apac District and commissioned the professional officer cadets at Uganda Military Academy in Mubende District.

The President received and held talks with a delegation from India regarding setting up the first forensics university in Arica. He also received and held talks with China's Envoy for the Horn of Africa.

He was also in Nairobi, Kenya, where he joined other world leaders to witness the swearing ceremony of the country's fifth President, H.E. William Ruto.

As is the practice, in this edition, we have annexed His Excellency's address to the Nation of 28th September, 2022, following the Ebola outbreak in the country.

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. I now have the pleasure to present to you the 15th edition of *The Presidency*.



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Enhancing monitoring of **service delivery in a digitally connected world.**

The Government Citizen Interaction Centre (GCIC) operates under State House as a key contact centre between Government and citizens to enhance the monitoring of service delivery. We provide a channel for feedback and suggestions from citizens in a bid to promote open governance.

Through GCIC, citizens interact with Government through multiple channels including. The data generated through these interactions is analyzed to inform policy decisions, guide in the formulation of policy interventions.



STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni met and held discussions with the former President of Ireland, H.E. Mary Robinson, who made a courtesy call on him at State House, Entebbe.

H.E. Robinson was in Uganda for discussions related to climate change and to witness Uganda's climate solutions that increase resilience of communities and address adaptation, loss and damage ahead of the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference, more

commonly referred to as COP27, to be held this November in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt.

President Museveni welcomed H.E. Robinson to Uganda and encouraged her to visit the countryside to appreciate the beauty and the good climate of the Pearl of Africa.

He informed her that his government has embarked on efforts to restore the environment, especially keeping all water catchment areas intact to avoid effects that come with long drought seasons.



President Museveni meeting H.E. Mary Robinson at State House, Entebbe

“ *You are here to defend the legitimate interests of your country. You must know why you are defending your country. The NRM has managed to perform well because it has followed the set priorities. This enabled the Government to build UPDF. All we needed was food. From 1971 to 1986, we were building an army that worked without pay. In 1987, we had low pay. Three years ago, a private was given the same salary as a grade three teacher,” President Museveni.*

KABAMBA, MUBENDE DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni said that the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) soldiers are there to defend the legitimate interests of their country. Gen. Museveni made the comments at the Uganda Military Academy - Kabamba in Mubende District during the commissioning of professional officer cadets' intake 4 of the year 2022 (4c22) and 01/19-22.

In 2019, the Uganda Military Academy was affiliated to Makerere University to start running the three-year Officer Cadet Training Programme, leading to the award of Bachelor of Defence Studies Degree as per the East African Community Sectoral Council Protocol on Cooperation in Defence Affairs.

The President, who is also the Commander in Chief (C-I-C) of the UPDF, presented awards to the best performing students. The award of the best overall among the Cadet

Officers was scooped by Lt. Mark Nuwagaba. The one of the best in class was taken by 2nd Lt. Prima Tukamushaba, while that of the best in the field was taken by 2nd Lt. Mohammed Lumunya.

On the side of the Bachelor's Degree in Defence Studies, Lt. Joshua Byarugaba emerged the best in class. The second best overall was Lt. Bunungu Mugisha Isaac. The best in the field was Lt. Peter Kerotich. The one for discipline was scooped by Lt. Patricia Mpiirwa. The officers, thereafter, took the oath of secrecy and that of allegiance. President Museveni told them;

“You are here to defend the legitimate interests of your country. You must know why you are defending your country. The NRM has managed to perform well because it has followed the set priorities. This enabled the Government to build UPDF. All we needed was food. From 1971 to 1986, we were building an army that worked without pay. In 1987, we had low pay. Three years ago, a private was given the same salary as a grade three teacher,”

He reiterated that all the time the Government focused on providing training, food and other essentials. He said that the time was ripe for





UPDF officers mounting a parade during the pass out ceremony at Uganda Military Academy, Kabamba, Mubende District

the Government to pay officers from the rank of Brigadier upwards well. He added that officers from the rank of Major to Colonel would be given a 50% increment. He revealed that the privates would soon earn between Shs1 million and Shs1.5 million. Gen. Museveni said he was pleased to commission the cadets into service in the UPDF. He was impressed with the Bachelors Degree of Defence Studies. He commended the Makerere lecturers for the job well done.

In addition, he congratulated the specialist students and the Air Force personnel that he commissioned. He gave them a brief on the liberation war of the 1970s. He urged them to be eager to go to the field when there is an operation. He pledged to work on the infrastructure in the army.

President Museveni directed the commanders to consider the economic activities of the spouses of officers and men in the barracks and promised more funding to help them

in their work. President Museveni asked the cadets to take care of their health by avoiding alcohol, promiscuity and drugs. He reminded them to maintain discipline. He informed them that UPDF was able to win its struggles because it cooperated with Wananchi.

The Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs, Hon. Bamulangaki Ssempijja, saluted President Museveni for launching a protracted people's struggle and for training a disciplined UPDF that has won many battles. He observed that UPDF officers who retired recently retired with a lot of respect from the population. He further thanked the President for revamping the economy and commitment to nurture a professional force that is capable of protecting the mother land.

The Chief of Defence Forces (CDF), Gen. Wilson Mbadi, saluted President Museveni for blessing the commissioning ceremony. He said that the UPDF applauds the President's wise leadership that has promoted national patriotism

and cooperation of the African people. The CDF reported that the training has achieved the intended purpose. He called on the students to make use of the old cadres as a reference purpose. He reminded them that they have been trained to be better defendants of peace and security. He observed that a soldier without ideological training is a potential criminal. Gen. Mbadi revealed that UPDF has identified 60 Swahili language instructors. He reported that the army has started on providing decent accommodation for its soldiers.

The Commandant of the Uganda Military Academy, Kabamba, Brig. Charles Byaruhanga, said that the students acquired the officer's basic military skills and knowledge. He saluted President Museveni and the top UPDF leadership for sharing their experiences with the trainees. He also thanked the C-I-C for sparing time to commission the Cadet Officers.



“ This is a very transparent programme. We want to help the disadvantaged youths to acquire skills at no cost and to be able to help to create wealth and jobs in the future,”
Director, Industrial Hubs

MBALE: The Presidential Industrial Hubs constructed across the country are action-based and results-oriented. This was revealed by the Director Presidential Projects and Industrial Hubs, Eng. Raymond Kamugisha, after touring the Bugisu Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub, located in Mbale District.

“All the 19 Presidential Industrial Hubs in the country are now operational. They are action-based and results-oriented,”

Eng. Kamugisha said. He revealed this during a meeting with members of the Zonal and District Hub Committees of Bugisu Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub. The meeting took place at the Bugisu Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub located at Lukhonge Village, Nambwa Parish, Lukhonge Sub-County in Mbale District.

The Bugisu Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub covers 7 Districts of Jurisdiction; Mbale City, Sironko, Bulambuli, Manafwa, Bududa, and Namisindwa.

Eng. Kamugisha and members of the district and zonal committees toured the facility and met with the students who were learning carpentry, welding,



Learners at the Mbale Industrial Hub during a tailoring session

hairdressing, and tailoring. He said that this was a routine tour aimed at re-energizing management and students but also with the objective of inspecting and seeing the progress of the programme. “This is a very transparent programme. We want to help the disadvantaged youths to acquire skills at no cost and to be able to help to create wealth and jobs in the future,” he said.

The Director said that it was intentional for the hubs to be run by someone from the local community who can speak the local language because majority of the learners mostly understand the local languages. “We want the hubs to be managed by the local people. We began on a small pilot project scale but we shall expand to admit more learners in the next phase,” Eng. Kamugisha said. Kamugisha revealed that the hubs will soon start producing goods for the markets. He congratulated the youth and women representatives who were elected to sit on the Zonal Hub Committee.

“The NRM Government is passionate about women and youth. That is why we decided to include them on the committee. We want everyone to be involved,” Mr. Mausio Brian from Mbale City was elected as the youth representative, while Ms. Wasike Eunice from Manafwa District was elected as the women representative to the committee.

The Resident District Commissioner (RDC) of Mbale who also doubles as the Vice Chairperson of the Zonal Hub Committee, Ms. Nasike Asumini, commended President Museveni and State House for such a well thought out programme that is benefitting the young people. “I thank the President and State House for the project and for identifying the young people on management. I also thank the manager and technical staff for a job well-done,” RDC Nasike said. She revealed and commended the citizen who donated land to the hub to expand their activities. “He has demonstrated a patriotic spirit. I pledge to see to it that the place is secure enough and that the students study well,” she said.

The Manager, Bugisu Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub, Mr. Woniala Phillip said that they officially started on 29th July, 2022, after admitting 210 students. “Among the 210 students we have, 116 are males and 94 are female. They all reside here at the centre free of charge in two detached dormitories. We feed them and give them skills,” Mr. Woniala revealed. Apart from the skills students learn in class, Mr. Woniala said that they also deal with mindset change in addition to giving them physical exercises for body fitness. Bugisu Zonal Presidential Industrial Hub is seated on 25 acres of land.



“The President sends his deepest sympathies and condolences to all of you and asked me to bring a financial contribution to help rebuild your lives,” State House Comptroller, Ms. Jane Barekye

KAMPALA: President Yoweri Museveni contributed cash contributions to fifty-seven victims and casualties of the November, 2021, bomb blasts in Kampala that killed five people, including a policeman. The money was handed over to the victims and the families of the deceased by the State House Comptroller, Ms. Jane Barekye, at a ceremony held at the Police Headquarters in Naguru, Kampala.

Present were the Director of Crime Intelligence, Brig. Chris Ddamulira and the Commandant of Kampala Metropolitan Police, SCP Steven Tanui. In her message to the bomb victims, the State House Comptroller, Jane Barekye, said President Museveni condemns all forms of terrorism that have led to loss of lives of Ugandans and left many others incapacitated.

“I can see a number of you with missing limbs, others on crutches and some with visible bodily scars left on your bodies as a result of the bombs. We condemn all forms of terrorism attacks on Ugandans,” said the Comptroller.

“The President sends his deepest sympathies and condolences to all of you and asked me to bring a financial contribution to help rebuild your lives,” she added.

The State House Comptroller advised them to invest this money into income

generating projects in order to improve their household incomes. She hailed the Police leadership for organising the ceremony and making it easy for her to reach the intended victims and beneficiaries.

The Director of Crime Intelligence in Uganda Police, Brig. Ddamulira who represented the IGP, disclosed that the country experienced three bomb attacks last year in which a total of five people were killed. He said the first bomb attack took place at Komamboga in which one person was killed, the other attack took place on a bus headed for Ishaka while two more suicide bomb attacks took place on 16th November, 2021 near the Central Police Station in Kampala and the Parliamentary Avenue.

“These were all suicide attacks and the bombers died in the attacks; however, several suspects were arrested and several bombs also recovered,” Brig. Ddamulira revealed.

He hailed President Museveni for his continued guidance to the Police force especially those countering crime in the country and appealed to Ugandans to always cooperate with the Police in countering and fighting crime in the country.

Kampala Metropolitan Police Commander, Steven Tanui, hailed President Museveni and the Government for taking care of Ugandans, saying the financial support that the President has extended to the victims of the November 2021 bomb attacks in Kampala is a clear testimony of the care that President Museveni and

Government have for Ugandans. “I want to thank our President and our Government for remembering these people. The financial support you have extended to them is a clear testimony that Government cares for her people,” Tanui stressed.

One of the beneficiaries, Fred Katongole, a Police driver who almost lost his limbs in the attack while on duty at Central Police Station and now uses crutches to move, thanked President Museveni for coming to

their rescue saying the money they have received will be put to good use as advised by the State House Comptroller. Those who died in the bomb attacks were Iraneza Josean who was killed from Komamboga while Isma Basibe, Sande Christopher, George Katana and Barnabas Binomugisha were killed near CPS Kampala. May their souls continue to rest in eternal peace.



State House Comptroller, Jane Barekye, hands over money to one of the victims at Police Headquarters, Naguru, Kampala



LUBOWA, WAKISO: President Yoweri Museveni commissioned the 72-million-dollar SOLANA lifestyle and residences housing estate built by the National Social Security Fund and used the occasion to appeal to all Ugandans to understand the importance of raising joint and collective capital which he said was the only way society can finance and undertake big projects.

The SOLANA housing project is located in Lubowa in Wakiso district. The 72 million housing project is the first phase of the 10-year housing project that will be on 600 acres when complete. It has 300 houses on 60 acres of land. The housing units include bungalows, apartments and villas.

The President said Ugandans need to grow into the culture of growing joint capital and be able to do big ventures reminding them the National Social Security Fund has been able to undertake big projects country wide overtime because of the collective savings of the Ugandan workers.

“Collective saving is important. That is how capitalists developed their countries by floating shares and raising capital to do big investments and venture that they could not do individually,” the President said.

President Museveni further said that because of the need to raise joint capital in the country, the National Resistance Movement Government has always promoted and encouraged the formation of Saving and Credit

Societies (SACCOS) country wide, so that Ugandans can be able to raise capital jointly and do big ventures together without necessarily going to banks for loans that are very expensive.

The President further said the pre-occupation of the NRM Government is to get the 39% who are still in subsistence way of life to join the money economy. He said that it is only when all 9 million families of Ugandans get into the money economy that they will be able to purchase all the houses in the many estates that NSSF is putting up or even build for themselves decent accommodation.

The President saluted the Board and Management of the National Social Security Fund for investing wisely and contributing to solving the housing shortage in the country. He said that the Government will look into the reported Value Added Tax levied on residential houses that are not commercial, as well as finding means of boosting availability of mortgages to Ugandans.

The Finance, Planning and Economic Development Minister, Hon. Matia Kasaija, commended the National Social Security Fund, which he described as an outstanding public enterprise. He pleaded on behalf of his ministry that they were to soon invite the management of the NSSF do discuss and find the solutions to the challenges facing the fund.

The Managing Director, National Social Security Fund, Mr. Richard Byarugaba,

said that the NSSF is committed to re-shaping the housing sector in Uganda. He said that with increase in rural urban migration and industrialisation and with 13 million Ugandans now living in urban centers and with the projection that 50% of the population of Ugandans will be living in urban areas by 2050, there is need to increase investment in housing to mitigate the housing shortage in the country. He added that the contribution of cities and urban centers to GDP had increased from 19% in 1995 to 43% today which he said calls for proper planning and increased

budgeting for cities and the urban centers.

Mr. Byarugaba said that Uganda needs to develop a mortgage development bank to enable Ugandans access mortgage so as to be able to buy and own residential houses noting that currently very few Ugandans can access mortgage. He called on the Government to look into the several land wrangles that are rampant in the country which he said had negatively impacted on the real estate developers NSSF inclusive.



President commissions the NSSF Solana Lifestyle and Residences Housing Project at Lubowa, Wakiso District

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI COMMISSIONS VOICE MALL AND HOTEL

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BWEBAJJA, WAKISO: President Museveni commissioned Voice Mall and Hotel at Bwebajja, off Entebbe Road. While addressing the gathering, the President said that Ms. Goodra Behakanira, the host and the owner of Voice Mall and Hotel is a focused woman who brought him some developmental ideas.

The President stressed that it was upon this background that he stood in for her and she was given money which she has used well as agreed and thereafter, applauded her, for not letting him down and also contributing towards the development of the country.

He added that the building has got a hotel which will attract tourists to bring

money in the country. He further stated that the Government will include offices where most Government workers will be operating from five years to come.

The President revealed that Goodra started in Kabale District, showing her capabilities through Magendo (black market) trade and then migrated to Kampala where she has invested in business and is now counted among the wealthy Ugandans. The President noted that it's this background which has exposed the lies that there are no opportunities in Uganda.

President Museveni thanked Goodra for being endowed with good qualities among them being trustworthy, visionary, determined and a woman who copies best



President Museveni poses for a photo with Ms. Goodra Behakanira and her family in front of Voice Mall and Hotel, Bwebajja, Wakiso District

practices and brings them to her country.

To Ugandans, the President urged them to copy Goodra by being good contributors to their communities which automatically will further develop the country.

To Goodra's children, President Museveni informed them that this is a challenge because their mother has played her role well and now it's their turn to emulate her.

Hon. David Bahati, the Minister of State for Trade, Industry and Co-operatives (Industry), stated that he acted according to the President's directive to assist Goodra purchase land which she has developed.

Hon. Bahati showed gratitude that Goodra used well the money she was given by the President and applauded her for being a trustworthy woman.

He went ahead and commended the President for the support he gave to the Behakanira family and for being such a developmental leader.

Ms. Goodra Behakanira, while addressing the gathering, thanked President Museveni for bringing peace and developing the country as opposed to the old tough days

when they never had banks and kept sacks of money under the beds, no phones, insecurity during Magendo trade where their money and goods were grabbed by force.

She went ahead and appreciated the President for entrusting her with this project and giving her money to fulfil her desires of adding a stone to the development of the country through constructing The Voice Mall and Hotel.

She also thanked her children, Commissioner of Police (CP) Moses Kafeero, Resident District Commissioners (RDCs), Pastor Kisakye, Engineers, competent workers, among others, for contributing towards the achievement of the Voice Mall and Hotel project.

She revealed that the building is composed of 8 floors, 76 rooms, three conference rooms, a swimming pool, restaurants and gym, among others, and it was constructed using 80% of Uganda materials and also employed over 1,000 people during the lockdown, among them 300 women.



“There are many (of you) contributing to political, business, and cultural life. Trade between our two nations remains strong; we want to go further still. Through the Commonwealth, we have a unique means of doing so. We should use it to trade closer and better, and make it what it should be: the vehicle for our shared futures,”
President Museveni

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM: They sat in their chairs suppressing the urge to burst out with emotion, holding onto the deepest of the memories they have contained for 50 years, reminiscing the good times in Uganda before such a life was snatched from their grip, thanks to a sudden dream by then President Idi Amin Dada.

Exactly 50 years ago (1972), Idi Amin opened a dark and shameful chapter when he decreed that over 50,000 Ugandan Indians who had known nowhere but Uganda as their homeland should abandon their country to begin lives anew elsewhere.

Many of these would later end up migrating to the United Kingdom (UK) albeit haphazardly, some landing with less than a penny to their names.

Half a century later, on Sunday, September 11, 2022, at Anoopam Mission, Swaminarayan Temple in Denham, London, a section of these Indians and their families gathered to mark this day and pay homage to Queen Elizabeth II. Speaker after speaker expressed how the 1972 debacle pulled down a temporary curtain on their lives, while at the same time basking in positive testimonies regarding how that low situation, propelled them to greater heights.

Lord Dollar Popat, the UK Prime Minister's trade envoy to Uganda, spoke amidst cheers when he stated that: “This (UK) is my home but my heart is always in Uganda.”

Lord Popat, born in Busolwe, current Butaleja District and raised in Tororo District, thanked President Museveni for the good treatment of the Indian Community.

He urged the President to appoint more cabinet ministers and senior Government officials of Indian origin while at the same time praising the President for picking H.E. Nimisha Madhvani as the High Commissioner of Uganda to the UK, which he said galvanises the friendship between Uganda and the Indian Community.

“The friendship between Uganda and the Asian community was producing about 240million pounds. The British Government picked me to take charge of the trade in Uganda, and added on Rwanda and DRC, being Ugandan myself. I am happy that we are now at about 5 billion pounds. Of course, this is as well an effort by President Museveni for uniting the Asian community,” he said.

H.E. Nimisha Madhvani also commended President Museveni for fostering unity amongst the Indian community both in Uganda and the UK.

“President Museveni has reunited us here. For instance, I am a refugee but he has turned me into a High Commissioner,” she said.

Lord Rami Ranger, a successful British businessman was impressed with Uganda's choice to work with the Indian Community, adding that it would lead to shared success.

He also commended his fellow Asians for turning around the bad times following Amin's expulsion into very beautiful success stories adding that “the rejects of Uganda are doing very well in the United Kingdom.”

Speaking on behalf of President Museveni, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Gen. Abubaker Jeje Odongo, thanked the Asian community for maintaining faith in Uganda despite the 1972

disaster. “Many of you arrived here penniless and destitute but because of your resilience, not only did u survive but you thrived,” Gen. Odongo said.

He extended an invite to all of them for the upcoming celebrations on October 15 in Kampala, Uganda, to mark 100 years of the Asian community in Uganda.

This, he said, is a sign of how much the National Resistance Movement (NRM) fraternity appreciates the contribution of their community and the willingness President Museveni’s Government has to continue working with them.

Invited as a guest speaker, BBC journalist, Mr. Allan Kasujja, used his childhood example to relay a message of unity and patriotism to the audience. Kasujja said that he left Jinja for Kenya when the political situation was not favourable, only returning after the exit of Idi Amin. “My mother lived in Jinja and left for Kenya. The impact was not only on Asians but also on the Ugandans,” he said. “I speak forty languages today because I was trying to fit in all my life. Today, I would rather be Ugandan than anything else,” he added.

He thanked President Museveni for correcting the mistakes of Idi Amin, as well as ensuring peace to enable prosperity through investment. At this point, he called upon the Indian community to reward President Museveni by contributing to the social and economic development of the country.

“Forget about the Uganda you hear in the news, forget about all that. Uganda is no longer the same; it has changed a great deal. My call to you, therefore, is: let everyone here do what they can, let us invest in the country. We want to unleash the best version of the Pearl of Africa,” he said.

In 1986, President Museveni welcomed back the Asian community in Uganda and returned their properties to them. According to President Museveni, the Asian community

played a lead role in Uganda’s social and industrial development.

Already Asians like former High Court Justice Anup Sing Choudry have been appointed to serve at the highest level of Uganda’s judicial system.

Others, like swimmer Supra Singhal, have represented the country at the Olympics. Uganda’s strong reputation for academia is upheld by the likes of Prof. Mahmood Mamdani.

Others and their descendants have stayed in the countries such as Britain that welcomed them. From Home Secretary Priti Patel to the Liberal Democrats’ Lord Verjee, to Asif Din who played cricket for Warwickshire, scoring a hundred and winning the man-of-the-match award in the 1993 and Natwest Trophy Knal, widely regarded as the best domestic Knal.

President Museveni told the Asians:

“There are many (of you) contributing to political, business, and cultural life. Trade between our two nations remains strong; we want to go further still. Through the Commonwealth, we have a unique means of doing so. We should use it to trade closer and better, and make it what it should be: the vehicle for our shared futures.”

The event was also attended by the Minister of State for Investment and Privatisation, Hon. Evelyn Anite, the Presidential advisor for Special Duties, Mr. Odrek Rwabwogo, Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) Executive Director, Mr. Robert Mukiza, the UIA Board Chairman, Mr. Morrison Rwakakamba and seasoned legislator, Dokolo Woman MP, Hon. Cecilia Ogwal, among others.

As a symbol of renewed hope and friendships, five trees were planted at the peak of the event.



“ I appreciate the presentation and congratulate the UPDF under the leadership of H.E. Yoweri Museveni on the good job he has done with the soldiers. I am impressed with how the military is not only defending the country but also developing it using its own resources and know-how,”

H.E. Hassan Mohamud

NAIROBI, KENYA: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni challenged the African political class that as they seek their people's mandate to take leadership positions, they should bear in mind that their main preoccupations is how to bring prosperity to their countries.

President Museveni was speaking at the inauguration of new Kenyan President, H.E. William Samoei Ruto at Moi International Sports Stadium, Kasarani, in Nairobi where tens of thousands of jubilant Kenyans gathered to witness the outgoing President Uhuru Kenyatta hand over the reins of power to his former Deputy.

In his brief speech, Gen. Museveni told the cheering crowds that during the Kenya elections he watched KTN TV channel news programme “KTN News Kivumbi” and they were talking mainly about sharing resources and power, but one young man asked, “Where do resources come from?”

“On this inauguration ceremony, I would like to address you on an issue that is the real challenge of African countries and leadership and this is the issue of prosperity of our people. I would appeal to you to answer that question. Where does prosperity come from?” President Museveni asked.

“It is my considered opinion, and given my experience of 60 years, I would appeal to Africans that prosperity comes from wealth creation. Wealth is not equivalent to possession or presence of natural resources. You may have natural resources and but not get wealth out of them,” the President said.

He said wealth means commercial agriculture, manufacturing, services e.g., hotels and ICT, creating a linkage between wealth and jobs.

He congratulated H.E. Ruto whom he said he had known for a long time and met several times and had confided in him. “I have known President Ruto for a while and met him several times in Uganda. I am sure he is a good leader,” he said.

He also called on the new Kenyan leadership to work for the realisation of the East African integration which he said was the only sure way to strengthen the region and guarantee its future.

In his concluding remarks, H.E. Museveni said he didn't come to give a lecture “about this and that” but asserted that in order to catch up with USA, East Africa would better work for integration of the region.

“The more people buy, the better for business and prosperity,” he said. He, once again, congratulated President Ruto and the brotherly people of Kenya and also congratulated President Uhuru on a successful tour of duty.

On the occasion, H.E. Ruto introduced his

Ugandan counterpart as the “Father of the East African region.”

The inauguration was also attended by H.E. Paul Kagame of Rwanda, H.E. Samia Suluhu of Tanzania, H.E. Salva Kiir of South Sudan, H.E. Felix Tshisekedi of DRC and H.E. Philippe Nyusi of Mozambique.

Others were; H.E. Évariste Ndayishimiye of Burundi, H.E. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud of Somalia, and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) and former Chadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, among others.



President Ruto and President Museveni shake hands during the inauguration ceremony at Kasarani, Nairobi County

“Before we came to power; we wrote a 10-point program. Point No.5 was about building an economy, which is independent, integrated and self-sufficient. When it comes to coffee, from the beginning, I said we should add value to our products and it is still our stand,”

President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Museveni met and held discussions with Coffee Stakeholders at State House, Entebbe. The Stakeholders included coffee farmers, traders and processors.

In giving guidance to the stakeholders, the President said that Uganda should never sell its raw materials without adding value on them, adding that when you sell raw

materials you donate jobs to other countries.

“Uganda should produce from the garden to the table, however in the case of coffee it is being produced from the garden to Kampala which must stop,” the President said.

The President said that the NRM Government has been striving since 1986 to build an economy, which is independent, integrated and self-sufficient. He appealed to coffee stakeholders to join this Government effort.

“Before we came to power; we wrote a 10-point program. Point No.5 was about building an economy, which



President Museveni posing for a photo with coffee stakeholders after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

is independent, integrated and self-sufficient. When it comes to coffee, from the beginning, I said we should add value to our products and it is still our stand,” he said.

Mr. Museveni gave reference to products like milk and textile which they have succeeded in fully adding value to the last product.

“Milk is now covered. We have processed milk and its by-products. The milk line has moved. Textile is also moving,” he said.

The President said, he was happy to meet with the coffee stakeholders to discuss how they can add value to Ugandan Coffee. “In every sector, the struggle to get full value addition on our products is on,” he said.

In their presentation by the coordinator, Mr. Robert Kabushenga, coffee farmers, traders and processors want Government to support them build a factory that will add value to the coffee.

“We are here to get advice from you and to share ideas. Our aim is to ask Government to support our local indigenous companies to add value on our coffee,” Kabushenga said.

Kabushenga said that the group is fully in support of the President’s vision on coffee. “We would like to assure you that we are 100 percent behind you. We want to put a solid coffee plant in Uganda,” he added.

The Director, Uganda Vinci Coffee Company, Mr. Ahmed Sultan assured stakeholders of their company’s full support. “We are here

to work together and trade with you and increase productivity,” he added.

They agreed that stakeholders meet and come up with proposals to Government.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija and the Attorney General, Kiryowa Kiwanuka among others.



APAC DISTRICT: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni re-echoed the danger associated with land fragmentation saying its part of the hindrances to prosperity of the Ugandan people. According to the President, the culture of subdividing land among children especially when the owner dies cannot support commercial agriculture which is the backbone of Uganda's economy as children will resort to selling off the land instead of collective investment.

The President was speaking shortly after handing over certificates of customary land ownership to 1,537 families and communities in Northern Uganda, West Nile and Karamoja at a ceremony that took place at Ibuje Primary School in Apac District. "Now that you have got these titles, I want to point out to you one danger for Uganda as a whole. When the owner dies, there is the culture of subdividing the land; physical fragmentation of land is very dangerous for the development of the country. Because if the land is too small and you subdivide it among the children, in future they will have nowhere to cultivate," the President said, citing areas of West Nile where the average land ownership in Maracha District is two acres. "This is the problem of West Nile now. You have heard that the average land ownership in Maracha is two acres for both subsistence and commercial farming. They continued with tobacco growing of which the earnings from tobacco cannot go beyond 800,000 Uganda shillings per acre per annum. So how do you get out of poverty?" the President noted.

According to President Museveni, both in the colonial times and after independence, customary ownership was recognised and well known traditionally and it would be known by everybody who owns the land although some was owned communally especially in cattle grazing areas. "I congratulate the Ministry of Lands for getting out of sleep (niino in langi) and solving this problem. Because I am sure you know who owns what everywhere. So, why not capture it in a document? And that's what we have done here," the President said, adding that the Government will do the survey for all the poor people in Uganda. He thanked the European Union (EU) for supporting the initiative that will be rolled out to the whole country. The activity is being implemented by the Government of Uganda with financial support from the EU and United Nations Capital Development Fund. Other implementing partners include Cadasta Foundation and CEDP of the World Bank. The President said it will be easy for people with big land to do intensive and extensive agriculture which wouldn't be possible if the land is fragmented into four acres and less. "Here, I am really appealing to Ugandans when we're making wills to our children; this system of dividing land is a problem in future," the President said. He encouraged families to instead keep the land together and give shares to their children. "When they earn money, they share the profits accordingly," he said.

According to the Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Judith Nabakooba, the certificates being issued are mandated by law, and

recognised by Government institutions, financial institutions and the Courts of Law and the mapping of parcels has used both traditional and scientific methods of demarcation. “Even if the traditional boundary markers are uprooted or shifted, it is easy to retrace one’s boundaries because the boundary coordinates have also been provided for each title, using SMART technologies,” noted Hon. Nabakooba.

The National Resistance Movement (NRM) Government under the current Manifesto (2021-2026) pledged to process and give land owners legal documentation in terms of land titles and this is the basis for processing 4,006 customary titles for families in Greater Northern Uganda. More

customary titles are to be processed by the Government, targeting the registration of 275,000 families, 630 clans and indigenous and vulnerable communities within the next two years. “Our target shall be to reach out to land owners in 35 districts in the country. This is the best way to secure customary ownership rights and thereby prevent public outcry, including stopping the abuse, stealing or grabbing of customary land by unscrupulous individuals, speculators and land dealers,” the Minister said.

Hon. Nabakooba further informed the President that the act of registering customary land has moved many of the beneficiaries from the subsistence economy to the market economy where



President Museveni hands a certificate of land registration to an elderly lady at Ibuje Primary School in Apac District



they can now use their customary land titles to help them create wealth and break out of poverty.

“Because of this achievement, ‘Kuchi’ (peace) has returned. I am informed that families and communities have begun to engage in producing surplus food for sale, including growing palm trees, soya bean, cotton and sunflower, knowing that no one will destroy their cash crops through acts of illegal land evictions and destruction of their investments on land,” she said. A total of 6,393 beneficiaries from Apac district, of which 2,450 (38%) are female, received their titles. The average acreage or land holding for families in Apac district is 4.8 acres. In Maracha, it is 2 acres while in Agago it is 8 acres.

Mr Asanti Odongo, the District Chairperson Apac District, described the exercise as the final nail in the coffin to the rampant land conflicts resulting in death and constant court cases that affect development as much of the land has not been put into good use. “Your Excellency, Sir, research has shown that most of our magistrate courts within the region are occupied by land related cases. This, therefore, has made our communities poor and nonproductive,” Chairman Odongo said. He, however, cautioned land committees to desist from issuing certificates for land in swamps.

Ms. Caroline Adriansen, the EU Head of Cooperation and Development reiterated commitment of EU to provide resources amounting to £8 million to scale up this initiative to benefit Ugandans. “The European Union will continue to support the Government of Uganda in scaling up this project to most of the Northern and Eastern region where customary land tenure is dominant to further support customary land governance,”

Ms. Adriansen said. At the same function, President Museveni congratulated the people of Lango for taking palm oil growing seriously, joining those of Kalangala, Rakai, Bundibugyo and Mayuge, saying they are going to help Uganda solve the problem of lack of soap. The President also touched on irrigation, saying the Government has a plan to introduce irrigation in the whole country and protect all the swamps as water catchment areas. “We are going to encourage everyone in Uganda to preserve the wetlands and take water from the wetlands to the land. That’s what we are going to do in the whole of Uganda. We must end this business of hunger by providing water for irrigation so that we can grow crops all year round and reliably. We are going to intensify that,” the President said. He also promised to handle the issue of poor roads in the region.

Apac now joins Kasese, Nwoya, Pader, Adjumani, Soroti, Katakwi, Butaleja, Kabale, Kisoro, Mbale, Dokolo and Amolatar districts in helping landowners to benefit from land registration using modern and scientific methods of securing their customary land rights and being able to prove their land ownership. The 1995 Constitution under Article 237(1) & (3) provides that land in Uganda belongs to the citizens of Uganda and shall be held under four tenure systems which include; Customary, Freehold, Mailo and Leasehold. The Constitution further provides under Article 237(4) (a) that all Ugandan citizens owning land under customary tenure may acquire a certificate of ownership in a manner prescribed by Parliament. This manner was prescribed by Parliament in 1998 under the Land Act and the procedures for implementation were laid down in the 2004 Land Regulations.

“The reason we recommended that we maintain these six are two: one, the precedent that we started in the past is that when we send representatives to EALA, we give them a second chance,” President Museveni

KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS: The National Resistance Movement (NRM) Parliamentary caucus unanimously approved the recommendation made by the party’s Central Executive Committee (CEC) to retain the six incumbent representatives at the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). The six representatives are Hon. Rose Akol, Hon. Kakooza James, Hon. Mugenyi Mary, Hon.

Musamali Paul, Hon. Namara Denis, and Hon. Odongo George Stephen. President Yoweri Museveni, also the National Chairman of the NRM told the Caucus what informed CEC’s decision to retain the current members. “The reason we recommended that we maintain these six are two: one, the precedent that we started in the past is that when we send representatives to EALA, we give them a second chance,” President Museveni said.

The President said that the other reason was the cohesion shown by the six members during their concluding tenure.



President Museveni is received by NRM Party Leaders for the party caucus meeting at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds

“In the past, we have had disharmony of our members but this group has behaved differently. They have been cohesive. They have performed well as a group,” President Museveni said. The motion was then moved and seconded. The Caucus, thereafter, unanimously approved the recommendation. On the remaining three that come from other parties with representation in Parliament, the Caucus agreed to support those from the friendly parties like Uganda People’s Congress (UPC), Democratic Party (DP) and Justice Forum (JEEMA). The NRM Secretary General, Hon. Richard Todwong, said that CEC received 130 applicants for the EALA slots and after sometime, 64 decided to withdraw. According to Hon. Todwong, Resolution 9 of the 4th CEC meeting resolved that CEC recommends to retain the incumbent members. The NRM Chief Whip in Parliament, Hon. Hamson Obua, revealed that since the last caucus meeting held on August 19, Parliament has passed nine bills. These include The Anti-Terrorism Bill, The Companies Bill, The Trustee Incorporation Bill, The Anti- Money Laundering Bill, The Cooperative Societies Bill, The Partnership Bill, The Excise Duty Bill, and the Museum and Monuments Bill. Hon. Obua rallied members of the Caucus to support the party candidates when they are presented to Parliament. “The road map is out; nominations are on September 19 and 20, 2022, and polling

day is September 29, 2022. Please, commit to ensure that the decision of the Caucus is upheld as we move towards the voting day,” Hon. Obua said. The Chief Whip thanked President Museveni and the CEC for the wise guidance given to the party. The six incumbent EALA representatives all thanked the President, CEC and Caucus for supporting their candidature. “We will not let you down, or our country or East Africa,” they said. They requested the MPs to vote for them come the polling days in Parliament. At the same meeting, H.E. the President assured MPs that the European Union (EU) resolution that TOTAL ENERGIES stops the oil pipeline project won’t happen because the Government of Uganda has a well detailed agreement and contract with them. “I saw in the papers that the EU parliament passed a resolution directing TOTAL not to proceed with the East African Crude Oil Pipeline. Please, don’t waste your time thinking about that. We have a contract with TOTAL written very well. The oil will come out in 2025, the first batch. The Oil project will go on and no one can stop it,” President Museveni said. The meeting held at Kololo Independence grounds was attended by, among others, the Vice President, H.E. Maj. (Rtd) Jessica Alupo and the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Museveni.

“If the Government wants to have parastatals, have money making parastatals, so that when you say you have got a board, it is a money-making board, not money eating board. Have no board where there is no money making,”
President Museveni

MASINDI DISTRICT: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni said it is high time Ugandans thought outside the box by knowing that Government jobs are not enough to employ all the unemployed. According to the President, the four sectors of wealth creation (commercial agriculture, industries/manufacturing, services and Information Communication

Technology-ICT) are well known and Ugandans, especially the youths, should find their passion among them and become wealth creators.

The President who was accompanied by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Museveni, was speaking to political leaders, clergy and the people of Bunyoro at Boma grounds in Masindi shortly after commissioning several projects owned by events promoter, Mr. Balaam Barugahara, that included Radio 7 and laying a foundation stone for the construction of Masindi 5



President Museveni and First Lady, Janet Museveni, greet the proprietor of Radio Seven, ahead of commissioning the radio in Masindi District

Star Hotel whose construction is in advanced stages.

“This should become a culture for all the youths in Uganda. You select what you have passion for and create wealth. I thank Balaam Barugahara for seeing far and listening to the message of the NRM, away from events management,” President Museveni said, adding that Balam’s Hotel upon completion, will provide service to tourists and business people in the oil and gas sector.

The President said Government has brought peace, developed infrastructure like roads and electricity to enable everybody to do business. He said Resident District Commissioners (RDCs) should sensitise the public about wealth creation channels and not waiting to be employed by the Government.

“If someone tells you to wait for a government job, they’ll be lying to you. Government jobs are few - only 480,000, benefiting only 2.6 million people and these RDCs should be educating our people all the time,” he noted.

Mr. Baruhagara thanked the President for investing in Bunyoro especially in oil and gas that has come with other developments in various sectors like the roads in addition to the conducive environment for investment.

He said the COVID-19 pandemic that shut down almost all sectors of the economy prompted him to invest in the hotel and media industry to provide

a service.

“We started this hotel two years ago following your guidance that we should follow the four-sector model, services inclusive. During the COVID-19 time, I could not earn a shilling because events management was down,” he said.

On commercial agriculture, President Museveni told the people that on several occasions, many people do commercial agriculture without proper calculations and end up not benefitting from the business and, therefore, should invest wisely following the 4-acre farming approach where a farmer can get at least Shs100 million per year.

“Our mathematics of the four-acre model- one acre for coffee, fruits (citrus and mangoes, pineapples), one for pasture for feeding the livestock and fourth acre for food crop growing. In the backyard, one would put piggery, chicken for eggs, and fish farming for those around swamps,” President Museveni explained, adding that this approach will directly be assisted under the Parish Development Module (PDM) under which each parish in the country will be getting a total of Shs100 million every financial year.

The President was happy to learn from Rev. Vincent Kirabo Amooti, Bishop of Hoima Catholic Diocese that the church has woken up to engage in commercial agriculture specifically in coffee, saying it helps people not to sit on their talents.

“As a former President of the Scripture

Union at Ntare School, I had to challenge religious leaders who never encouraged the prosperity of believers. This was misleading our Christians yet even the Bible talks about those who get rewarded after utilising their talents well,” President Museveni said.

The Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija, thanked Barugahara for creating wealth and employing fellow youths who have made it a habit to flock to Arab countries looking for greener pastures.

Earlier at the meeting with political and religious leaders, the President promised to intervene and resolve the burning issue of Bagungu community who want to break away from Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom. This was after the Kingdom Prime Minister (Omuhikirwa), Mr. Andrew Kirungi Byakutaga, warned that this is a move spearheaded by external forces who want to compromise the unity of the kingdom. The Bagungu community which speaks Lugungu language has been pushing for their own kingdom “Obukama Bwa Bugungu,” claiming that they have a different cultural heritage from Bunyoro’s.

“Bunyoro Kitara Kingdom shall not accept this proposed secession by the Bagungu community who are being misled by opportunists who have selfish interests,” Omuhikirwa Andrew Kirungi Byakutaga told the President.

Bagungu is an ethnic group located in Buliisa District and some parts of Hoima and Masindi districts. They live on the North Eastern shores of Lake Albert along the Rift Valley and their major economic activities are fishing and farming.

On his third visit to Masindi since the 2021 elections, the President was hailed for developing Bunyoro, especially setting up infrastructure like the roads and Bunyoro University.

In attendance at meeting, were Ministers including the Minister of State for Bunyoro Affairs, Hon. Jenipher Kacha Namuyangu, the Minister of State for Transport, Hon. Fred Byamukama; Hon. Dr. Asiimwe Florence (Masindi Woman MP) and other MPs hailing from the region. Others were religious leaders, senior UPDF, Police and Prisons Officers, district chairpersons and RDCs from the eight districts of Bunyoro.



UGANDA TO MOVE TO ELECTRIC CARS

“We don’t want to hear of assembling, assembling is out of date. So, on one hand we will use clean energy and stop pollution and on the other hand we are now finding out that electric vehicles are cheaper in the long run,”
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: His Excellency expresses happiness with migration efforts to renewable energy and a reduction of environmental pollution

President Yoweri Museveni received a group of innovators and manufacturers that will spearhead the transition of the country from

the use of fossil fuels to E-Mobility.

The group that was led by the Minister of Science and Technology Dr. Musenero included private sector players, University researchers on E-Mobility, financiers as well as service delivery players.

President Museveni highly commended the group for their efforts in fabricating and manufacturing vehicles and pikipikis here in the country. He noted that this will not only promote the use of clean energy and stop pollution



President Museveni poses for a photo with public and private players in the e-mobility sector after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

but will also in the long run provide cheaper vehicles.

“We don’t want to hear of assembling, assembling is out of date. So, on one hand we will use clean energy and stop pollution and on the other hand we are now finding out that electric vehicles are cheaper in the long run,” he noted.

President Museveni noted that the move will shift the country from the use of fuel energy to electric clean energy that will involve big buses of the sitting capacity of 90 passengers and mini buses as well as electric pikipikis.

He said this will also decongest the city that is flooded with small vehicles as well as bodabodas as commuters will abandon their cars in favor of the buses whose fares will be pocket friendly.

President Museveni however pointed out that although Uganda will be processing its oil in a few years to come this will not stop the effort of having clean energy. He added that the oil will be used for textiles, polyesters, plastics, aviation fuel and

fertilizers among others.

He therefore strongly encouraged members of the group to move in the sectors of fabricating and manufacturing adding that the only challenge now is the manufacture of electric batteries that must be manufactured in the country as all the required materials are available. He pledged governments support in this endeavor.

“Batteries now is a very crucial step. We shall give you all the support,” he assured members of the group. “In the medium term, we shall have to make the batteries here, so I am very glad to hear that there is some body among you who is already involved in electric batteries,” the President noted.

President Museveni disclosed that the Government will soon develop a vertically integrated industry in steel manufacturing as the country has a high grade of iron ore, 70% pure, the best in the world next to that of Peru which is only 58%.



STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni received the outgoing Ambassador of South Sudan to Uganda H.E. Simon Duku who called on him at State House, Entebbe.

The outgoing South Sudan envoy who was accompanied by his wife Mrs. Duku was bidding farewell to President Museveni at the conclusion of his 4 years and 9 months tour of

duty in Uganda.

Ambassador Duku will be taking up his new assignment as the new South Sudan envoy to South Africa.

President Museveni thanked the Ambassador for his role in strengthening the existing friendly ties between Uganda and South Sudan and wished him good luck in his new posting.



President Museveni gestures to H.E. Simon Duku and his wife during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

LUGOGO, KAMPALA: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni gifted twenty-four bodaboda riders operating at Kingdom Kampala stage with brand new motorcycles.

During an event held at Verma House, Lugogo bypass in Kampala, the State House comptroller, Ms. Jane Barekye, handed over the brand new motorcycles to beneficiaries including; Wasswa Husein, Tugume John, Mugerwa Benard, Byakatonda G. William, Sekabira Fredrick, Kamukama Patrick, Muyanja Abud, Wabwire Noah, Nfuko Emmanuel, Wasswa Henry, Twinomujuni Onesmus,

Sekaja Juma, Twinamasko Henry, Asimwe Gilbert, Tamale John, Ntume Joseph, Wafula Bernard, Daki Moses, Wasswa Fazil, Walyaula Godfrey, Muwonge Ramathan, Muhereza Nicolas, Mutebi Medi and the late Galiwango Robert.

The motorcycle belonging to the late Galiwango Robert was handed over to his sister, Eva Nabakire who delivered the late's motorcycle to their mother.

According to Wasswa Hussein, the Chairman of Kingdom Kampala bodaboda, Galiwango Robert died while trying to save a child from being hit by a speeding vehicle and



Boda boda riders standing on their newly acquired motorcycles



he became the victim.

After handing over the motorcycles, the State House Comptroller informed the beneficiaries that they were gifted by his Excellency with intent to boost their business.

Barekye said the motorcycles came as an appreciation for the great love they have shown the President also as a fulfillment of his pledge he made to them on the 25th day of March 2022.

In his speech read by the State House Comptroller, President Museveni stated “I have given you these motorcycles because of the great love you shower me whenever I bypass your bodaboda stage. In addition to this, it is an incentive to boost your business,” His Excellency further advised them not to sell their brand-new motorcycles, avoid drunkenness and focus on working for the betterment of their lives and their families.

The President advised them to let their wives get involved in developmental activities which will further increase their household income thus developing Uganda their mother land.

The Comptroller was gratified by the bodaboda riders for attending the function with their wives who

witnessed their husbands receiving brand new motorcycles.

She informed them that the President has a lot of love for them and the country and further advised them to be patient while working for they will achieve their desired goals.

Major Emma Kuteesa advised the youths to emulate the bodaboda riders operating at Kingdom Kampala stage through hard work. In response the beneficiaries showed happiness after receiving their brand-new motorcycles. Wasswa Hussein, the Chairman for Kingdom Kampala bodaboda applauded His Excellency for showing empathy to the poor. “These brand-new motorcycles have saved us working for the rich people who were taking our wives’ money for Kameza (money given to wives to cater for house hold issues like buying food)” said the Chairman.

Mark Kakembo the Verma company manager revealed that the motorcycles given to the beneficiaries are brand new in the market, strong, with low fuel consumption with one liter going for 60 kilometers and so the beneficiaries will benefit a lot of income while riding them.

“Cassava flour is needed in pharmaceuticals for the making of drugs instead of relying on expensive imported cassava flour. Ethanol can also be got from cassava,” President Museveni.

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni reiterated his call to leaders in Teso sub-region in particular and Uganda in general to carry out massive mobilisation of the population on programs designed by the central Government and monitor their implementation for the eradication of poverty.

“The mandate of the zonal ministries is to mobilize, the masses to implement programs already designed by the central Government, to monitor what is being done and to plan for the sub-regions,” he counseled.

The President made the remarks this afternoon while meeting with a delegation of leaders from Teso sub region led by the Minister of Teso Affairs Hon. Dr. Ogalo Obote at State House Entebbe.

Mr. Museveni and his guests discussed a wide range of issues related to the development of Teso.

The President however urged leaders to act as super mobilisers in the region in implementation of Governments programmes like the Parish Development Model that will get people out of poverty.

He also reminded leaders of the economic activities that can be embraced by wanainchi with small land holdings that include among others crops of high value such as coffee, fruits and also dairy cattle for milk and especially fish farming.

“What I really want is fish farming for the people of Teso. There is big demand for fish in the whole world,” he observed.

Commenting on some of the concerns raised by members of the delegation, President Museveni assured them of Governments commitment to construct more cassava processing plants in the country.

“Cassava flour is needed in pharmaceuticals for the making of drugs instead of relying on expensive imported cassava flour. Ethanol can also be got from cassava,” he said.

On Universal Primary Education, the President urged political leaders to support Government in enforcing the programme that was started in 1996 targeting the children of the poor.

Earlier, the Minister for Teso Affairs, Hon. Dr. Ogalo Obote, appraised the President on the achievements registered by his Ministry in Teso and together with members of the delegation appreciated President Museveni for Government development programmes in the sub-region.





President Museveni poses for a photo with some of the new envoys to Uganda at State House, Entebbe

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni received the visiting Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China; H.E. Xue Bing, who called on him at State House Entebbe.

The special envoy who was on his last leg of his tour to the countries of Eritrea, Djibouti and Sudan in the Horn of Africa, was accompanied by the Ambassador of China to Uganda, H.E. Zhang Lizhong.

Mr. Xue Bing who is based in Beijing, China hailed the existing cordial relations between China and Uganda and expressed the need to strengthen further the economic cooperation between the two countries especially in the area of Infrastructure Development.

He also cited the Health Sector; adding that China will continue to provide Uganda with COVID-19 vaccine support.

On the side of Agriculture; the special envoy

H.E. Xue Bing announced his country's readiness to support the Osukuru Fertilizer Project in Tororo. He also recommended the opening of passenger and cargo flights between the two countries.

He proposed the setting up of bamboo and mushroom projects in Uganda and to train Ugandans on how to make various products from bamboo.

President Museveni on his part welcomed the envoy to Uganda and praised the cordial relations existing between Uganda and China describing the relations as a very clear story since the 1950s and 60s that is premised on fraternity and mutual support.

"The relation between Uganda, Africa and China has been excellent since the 1960's. China supported African freedom fighters in the 1950s. Therefore, the story between China and Uganda as well as Africa is very clear. It is based on fraternity and mutual support", he observed.

President Museveni also commended China for the development projects established in the country citing the infrastructure projects such as the Mandela National Stadium Namboole and the Osukuru project that is very important for the production of fertilizers needed in the agricultural sector.



President Museveni greets Mr. Xue Bing during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

UGANDA TO BUILD A NATIONAL FORENSIC SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

“A federated East Africa will address the issue of strategic security and a common language – Swahili will be a game changer. We need a Center of gravity for the African race,”
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: Uganda will become the first country in Africa to provide specialised training in forensics to security and law enforcement agencies as well as other sectors of Government and the Private Sector. This was disclosed after President Yoweri Museveni gave a green light to the establishment of the National Forensics Science University Campus in Uganda. The University will be the first in Africa. It will be affiliated to the National Forensic Sciences University (FSU) of India, a premium and the world’s first and only University with world-class training dedicated to forensic, behavioral,

cyber security, digital forensics, and allied sciences.

“That’s a very good plan because it deals with capacities in forensics of cyber, biochemistry and UAVs which are all needed for security, defense but also anti-crime,” H.E. Museveni said, adding that if the University starts operations in November this year, we will have a high potential of cost recovery where people especially Government departments and private businesses like banks will pay to boost capacity for their staff in forensics.

According to Gen. Museveni, establishing the FSU campus in Uganda will significantly improve the efficiency of security agencies in Uganda and the region at large as the institution will also attract students from the region and beyond.

Up to 130 acres of land have been allocated



President Museveni poses for a photo with the Indian and Ugandan officials after the meeting at State House, Entebbe

between the Uganda Junior Command and Staff College Gaddafi, Mpumudde and Kimaka where the university structures will be established; according to the chief of training in Uganda Peoples Defence Forces, Brig. Gen. Mathew Gureme.

Brig. Gen. Gureme informed the President that the establishment of the National Forensics Science University in Africa will take 4 phases with the first one expected to start this November 2022 to March 2023 with four post-graduate diploma courses in cyber security, digital forensics, homeland security and the fourth in fingerprint science and question document. He said that more ten (10) different courses which will be targeting the judiciary, law enforcement agencies like the police, UPDF, the Banks, Insurance and Uganda Wildlife Authority will also be introduced.

The Indian visitation team has identified seven 7 technical staff who comprise of 3 civilians and 4 staff who are already working with the Ministry of Internal Affairs. All these are qualified with Master's Degrees in Forensic Science from India.

"We request Sir, that they be attached to the Ministry of Defence for this period because they want to develop them as the future professors who will run the school," Brig. Gen. Gureme said, adding that 23 people who have already done the course have been identified to start as teaching assistants in the university.

"The University has encouraged us to start a roadmap for a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) with these people so that they become the future professors in the next 5 years to run the university," Brig. Gen. Gureme noted.

He further informed the President that the team also hopes to start Africa's first toxicological botanical gardens to facilitate investigations into Africa's first Drone

Forensics Air strip, the first outside Europe and Asia. "They also plan to put a state of art cyber defence centre, the first one to be established outside India," Brig. Gen. Gureme said. The establishment of the Defence centre is expected to cost about 20 billion dollars.

Prof S. O. Junare, Director at National Forensic Sciences University, assured the H.E. the President that they will conduct specialised programmes for defence to the army, police and students.

The delegation was led by the Minister of Defence and Veteran Affairs, Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempijja. He was accompanied by Maj. Gen. Leopold Kyanda, Maj. Gen. Edgar Kalyebara and Maj. Peter Atugonza who is the coordinator of the National Forensics Science University in Uganda.

The Indian delegation was had Brig. Gen. PS Bhaiti, Prof. Nilay Mistry and Captain Gupta Vivek

President Museveni said he will invite the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Damodardas Modi to come and commission the University once its construction is done. For the start, the university will be housed in the renovated structures at the Uganda Junior Command and Staff College Gaddafi.

Last month the Government of Uganda signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Forensics Science University (NDSU) in Gandhinagar Gujarat, India.

Hon. Vincent Ssempijja, the Minister for Defence and Veteran Affairs, signed on behalf of Uganda while Professor JM Wyas, the vice chancellor of the NFSU, signed it on behalf of the Indian Government.



“The Education system must be used to instill confidence in the Africans and for global exposure to enable society metamorphosis,” President Museveni.

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni met and held discussions with the family of the late Chief Justice of Uganda, Benedicto Kiwanuka at State House, Entebbe.

The seven-member team was led by Ms. Imelda Kiwanuka, the late Kiwanuka’s elder daughter. Others were Ambassador Maurice Kagimu Kiwanuka and his wife, Rebecca Kagimu; Ms. Regina Kiwanuka and their children.

The President and the family discussed ways of accomplishing a number of

projects set up in memory of the first Ugandan born Chief Justice who was appointed in 1971.

The President this month officiated at the commemoration of the fifth Ben Kiwanuka Memorial Day at the High Court grounds in Kampala where he explained that it was a mistake for Kiwanuka to work under President Idi Amin who was never trusted.

It is now 50 years ever since Kiwanuka was murdered during President Amin’s regime on September 21, 1972, after he was abducted from his chambers at the High Court in Kampala. The whereabouts of his remains is still a mystery.



President Museveni gestures to the Ben Kiwanuka family during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

“They should calm down. Because this is a wrong battleground for them. The plan will be implemented according to schedule and I hope our partners join us firmly,”
President Museveni

SERENA HOTEL, KAMPALA: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni remains committed and set on seeing Uganda’s oil exploration project and development plan concluded as stipulated; including advancing with the mega oil pipeline project across Lake Albert.

While addressing the 7th Annual Uganda International Oil & Gas Summit (UIOGS) at Serena Hotel in Kampala on the theme: Harnessing Uganda’s Investment & Growth; His Excellency the President vowed that plans to build a cross-border export pipeline to carry crude Oil from Uganda’s Lake Albert basin to Tanzania’s Indian Ocean Coast will not be derailed by criticism from the European Union (EU).

“The main point is that we’re moving forward with our programme. The European Parliament has got enough work to do in their own place. I would advise them to spend a bit more time solving the problems of our people there. East Africa has got more capable people who know what to do,” H.E. Museveni said.

Recently, the EU Parliament passed a resolution that essentially called for the development plan to be changed

— including a re-routing of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) — to protect the environment, climate and human rights in Uganda, where two oilfields will be tapped, and Uganda and Tanzania, across which the EACOP will run.

France’s Total Energies and the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) signed a \$10 billion agreement earlier this year to develop Ugandan oilfields and ship the crude through a 1,445-kilometre (900-miles) pipeline to Tanzania’s Indian Ocean port of Tanga.

According to the President, although he did not initially support the idea of a pipeline; given the 12.7 American cents that will be charged as tariff transportation for each barrel, East Africa has got numerous energy needs and therefore both a refinery and pipeline will be of great value and urged players in Uganda’s oil and gas sector to support both the refinery to be constructed in Hoima and the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

“That’s why we settled on the idea of both a refinery and a pipeline. So, therefore, I encourage the oil companies to move on the two, on the refinery and on the oil pipeline,” Gen. Museveni said, adding that the European Union should respect the same.

“They should calm down. Because this

is a wrong battleground for them. The plan will be implemented according to schedule and I hope our partners join us firmly,” H.E. Museveni noted.

It should be noted that the President recently warned Total Energies that if its commitment to the country’s \$20 billion oil project begins to waver under pressure from the European Union, he will quickly find a new investor to work with.

Gen. Museveni said Uganda will continue to work with Tanzania, not only in the spirit of brotherhood but also other benefits like gas which Uganda will get from there.

“While we have oil here, we don’t

have so much gas. Tanzania and Mozambique have got more gas and the Tanzanian Government has agreed that the corridor through which the pipeline will pass, can bring a return pipeline to bring gas from either Tanzania or Mozambique for our area here,” H.E. Museveni said.

Uganda and Tanzania signed an agreement over construction terms for a 1,450 km heated oil export pipeline to Tanzania’s Indian Ocean Port of Tanga.

The President also assured the country that electricity tariffs will continue to go down to spur economic growth through industrialisation. “The Government power must be preferably 5 cents per unit or not more than 8.16



President Museveni poses for a photo with leaders in the Oil and Gas Sector during the Summit at Kampala Serena Hotel

cents,” Gen. Museveni said, adding that he’s in touch with some groups who are willing to provide even power cheaper to Ugandans.

The Minister for Energy and Mineral Development, Hon. Ruth Nankabirwa, told members at the summit that having achieved the FID this year for the upstream and EACOP, Uganda is at a point where the projects have significantly matured and are progressing in time for the First Oil in April 2025.

“The summit is therefore very timely. It presents a good opportunity for Uganda to share the current developments in the oil and gas sector together with the energy and mineral sectors including available investment opportunities,” Minister Nankabirwa said.

She said that the expectations from the Oil and Gas sector are enormous and include but are not limited to revenue generation, employment, and infrastructure development, among others.

Hon. Nankabirwa further informed the gathering that Uganda is aware of the global push for energy transition and is developing her oil and gas resources with this in mind, calling for patience as countries are not on the same pace of development

“Uganda calls for understanding and patience so that we arrive where countries are now, namely those that are transiting. I hope that we will be given an opportunity to play our part

responsibly,” Minister Nankabirwa said, adding that “as a country we’re earnestly pursuing energy integration before we can talk about energy transition.”

In the spirit of making the East African region a hub for Petroleum and Energy, Minister Nankabirwa said Uganda will be hosting the East Africa Premier Petroleum Conference and the East Africa Petroleum Conference and Exhibition from 9th to 11th May 2023, where participants will be able to meet and interact with leaders, policy makers and potential business partners from East Africa Member States.

The two-day summit which was the seventh of its kind, brought together all prospecting oil majors, with representatives from ministers, the petroleum authority, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), lead service providers, contractors and investors among others.

Uganda has approximately 6.5 billion barrels of oil reserves, with at least 1.4 billion barrels estimated to be economically recoverable. French firm Total Energies, Chinese firm; China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), and U.K. firm Tullow have production licenses to develop Uganda’s oil reserves for export. In addition to producing and exporting crude oil, Uganda plans to build a refinery to produce petroleum products for the domestic and EAC markets.



“*Tumwine was a resilient man. Because he was injured badly at Bukomero but healed and came back and continued with the liberation struggle,” President Museveni*

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni assured the Catholic Church of Government’s support towards the beatification ceremony of Fr. Dr. Giuseppe Ambrosoli, a Roman Catholic priest under the Comboni Missionaries Society, who died 35 years ago.

The President made the assurance during a meeting with a delegation from Gulu Archdiocese led by Archbishop John Baptist Odama at State House, Entebbe, who came to brief him about the upcoming ceremony that will be taking place for the first time in Uganda.

The archbishop also officially extended an invitation to His Excellency the President for the event scheduled for 20th November, 2022, in Agago district in the Parish of Kalongo of the Archdiocese of Gulu, located 130 Km from the city of Gulu.

According to Archbishop Odama, the Archdiocese of Gulu has earmarked up to Shs 923 million as a budget to organise the beatification ceremony and about Shs 150 million to support Kalongo (Dr Ambrosoli Memorial) Hospital, a facility that gained a reputation for excellence for almost

31 years, until 1987 when he died.

“We shall manage. We shall have to do it because the people there may not manage all these Ugandans who come there and the foreigners from abroad. This is good news because these good works of people are now coming because of the peace we have in Uganda. So, I will be very happy to come to Kalongo,” H.E. Museveni assured.

The President also directed the Ministry of Works and Transport to work on the roads leading to the celebration venue.

“We are ready to do the two roads; the one from Corner Kilak to Patongo and Agago and the Kitgum-Kalongo-Patongo road. We shall definitely struggle with these,” H.E Museveni added.

President Museveni further hailed the work of missionaries in Uganda, equating them to freedom fighters.

“These missionaries were really committed people. Although there was colonialism which we fought with, within it, there were people of conviction like Fr. Lordel (Mapeera) who died at 37 years. These were people coming from comfort to danger but you would see something was driving them. As a freedom fighter I appreciate them,” Gen. Museveni said.

In the past, beatification was done only

in Rome (Vatican), however, the Church later revised the protocol to have the exercise performed where the persons considered to be blessed, served and according to Archbishop Odama, Pope Francis issued a concession to the Archdiocese to conduct the event.

This will be celebrated under the theme, “In God Servant to The Suffering People” and will be the first time for Uganda to witness beatification at the origin of the blessed person.

Pope Francis who on November 28th, 2019, granted the publication of the decree on the miracle obtained through the intercession of Father Giuseppe Ambrosoli, is expected to

send a representative from Rome to represent him.

“The Pope himself was supposed to come for it but he decided that this stage of beatification could be done in the area where the one to be beatified worked,” Archbishop Odama said, adding that it will be a great honor to have H.E. the President attending the event.

The Chief Justice of Uganda Alfonse Owiny-Dollo who was among those who accompanied Archbishop Odama informed the President that the upcoming event is a great opportunity for Uganda since it’s happening for the first time in his tenure as Head of State



President Museveni poses for a photo with the delegation organising the beatification ceremony after a meeting at State House, Entebbe



and was happy that the Government has accepted to take charge.

“Although our colonial masters were British, in terms of education, health and infrastructure in Northern Uganda, it was the Comboni missionaries and the person we’re talking about (Fr. Dr. Giuseppe Ambrosoli) who combined both priesthood and medical work,” Chief Justice Owiny-Dollo said.

On the other hand, the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Hon. Norbert Mao who hails from Acholi sub-region thanked the President for mobilising the Government to fully embrace this international event and for accepting to attend in person.

“The event in Kalongo will be all over the world and it is an opportunity for you to send a strong message to the young people to emulate the sacrifice you referred to earlier of people leaving behind comfort to work for the future like you who chose the hard path just like Rev Fr. Dr. Ambroselli,” Minister Mao said.

The meeting was also attended by among others; the Woman Member of Parliament for Agago District, Hon. Beatrice Akori Okello; the Minister of state for Works and Transport, Hon. Fred Byamukama; the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Gender, Labour

and Social development, Mr. Agrey Kibenge and Rev Fr. Charles Onen, the Member of Parliament for Laroo-Pece Division.

According to the Catholic Church, beatification implies a procedure of determining and proclaiming that a deceased person is one of “the blessed”, or has gained the second degree of holiness, usually a stage in the process of canonization into sainthood.

Upon beatification, Fr. Dr. Ambrosoli will become the third blessed person in Northern Uganda after Jildo Irwa and Daudi Okello.

Fr. Dr. Ambrosoli was a Roman Catholic priest and a member of the Comboni Missionaries. He was born in 1923 in Ronago, a small town in the Province of Como, Italy and came to Uganda in February 1956. He is best known as a doctor, surgeon, philanthropist, and educator in the missions in Uganda.

The Priest also founded Alito and Morulem medical centers in 1972 for victims of leprosy. At the height of the Holy Spirit Movement War in the mid-1980s, he was relocated to Lira District where he died and his body was returned to Kalongo where he wanted to be buried.

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni believes that if Emyooga programme is well managed with a clear strategy, it has the capacity to transform Uganda into the money economy.

Emyooga, a presidential initiative was rolled out in 2019 as part of the broad Government strategy aimed at lifting at least 68 percent of Ugandans from subsistence to market-oriented production through wealth and job creation.

It is intended to support 18 categories among which include; market vendors, welders, taxi drivers, carpenters, boda-boda riders, women, performing artists and restaurant owners who come together in the form of Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies (SACCOs).

While meeting Emyooga Regional Coordinators at state House Entebbe, H.E. the President urged Emyooga beneficiaries to specialise and concentrate on their product so that they join the business of import substitution and export promotion in exception to just borrowing and returning the money.

“So that they stop us from importing. Where are the products? For instance, we shall say; don’t import furniture anymore because the Emyooga people are now producing enough furniture for the country and they’re now beginning exporting to somewhere else,” H.E. Museveni said.

The President said SACCOs should not only be borrowing and returning but also developing that product the group is engaged in and then the Government will have to market the product internally

and externally.

The Minister of State for Microfinance and Small Enterprises, Hon. Haruna Kasolo Kyeyune, said although the programme is intended to fight poverty which cannot be fought in a day, the team of coordinators deployed countrywide is engaged in continuous preaching to achieve the desired objective. He said the programme has been embraced countrywide.

“Even opposition Members of Parliament cannot miss when we are in their area because many beneficiaries have embraced the saving culture and are giving successful testimonies,” Minister Kasolo said, adding that a total of 4,114,200 Ugandans have embraced the saving culture and are actively mobilised in small associations and SACCOs (6,748) at parish level.

“As we speak today, a total of 72 billion shillings has been mobilised as savings courtesy of this programme. Initially they didn’t understand it but now they feel it’s their program and are appreciating you,” Minister Kasolo told the President.

He further informed President Museveni that they intend to officially launch the programme in November this year at Kololo Independence grounds where beneficiaries across the country will exhibit their products.

“We want you to see with your own eyes Your Excellency,” Minister Kasolo remarked.

Each Parish SACCO receives a revolving seed capital of 30 million shillings as startup fund and many have grown



this fund to a tune of 300 to 400 million shillings and many are no longer going to money lenders to get credit, according to Hon. Kasolo.

He added that they have a proposal to elevate and upgrade the Microfinance Support Centre into a People's Microfinance Development Bank where each Mwooga (SACCO group) will be a shareholder.

The Executive Director for the Microfinance Support Centre-MSc, Mr. Peter Mujuni said the most exciting experience about the Emyooga is that it has stimulated the saving culture among the poor.

"Originally, we thought the poor cannot put money together but actually they can if they're given good guidance and direction. We are excited about the saving experiences that we have seen in the rural communities," Mr. Mujuni said, adding that the tremendous success has been registered in areas where they have had good leadership in the communities and SACCOs should be guided on picking the right leaders.

The Permanent Secretary Ministry of Finance, Mr. Ramathan Ggoobi, said the ministry has observed that the performance of Emyooga has improved and they will continue supporting them.

The Emyooga initiative is financed by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development through the Department of Microfinance. The Microfinance Support Centre Ltd (MSC) is responsible for the planning, management, budgeting, reporting and accountability of all funds disbursed for the programme, including disbursements to the groups.

The meeting was also attended by among others; the Deputy Executive Director of the Microfinance support centre-MSc, Mrs. Hellen Petronilla Masika, the Chairperson Emyooga coordinators, Mrs. Ritah Namuwenge and other regional coordinators some of whom gave successful testimonies about the performance of the programme in their areas.



President Museveni poses for a photo with the delegation organising the beatification ceremony after a meeting at State House, Entebbe

EBOLA PRESIDENTIAL INTERVENTIONS EFFECTIVE 28TH SEP 2022

SEPT
28

Risk Zones

CATEGORY 1 Very High risk

Mubende,
Kyegegwa,
Kassanda



CATEGORY 2 High risk

Kakumiro,
Kyankwanzi,
Kiboga, Mityana,
Kibale, Kazo,
Gomba,
Sembabule, and
Kyenjojo Districts,
Kampala, Wakiso

CATEGORY 3 Moderate risk

Rest of the
country

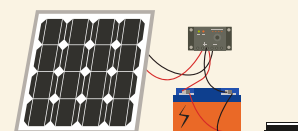
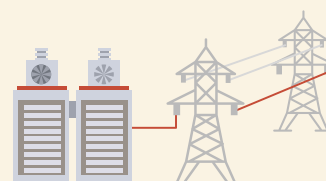
Experts that previously handled Ebola outbreaks in Gulu, Bundibugyo, Kibaale and Luwero have been deployed to Mubende, Kassanda and Kyegegwa districts.

Ebola Treatment Unit at Mubende Regional Referral hospital is currently at 51 bed capacity for confirmed cases and 80 beds for suspect cases.

Government will;
Set up an additional Ebola Treatment Unit of 30 beds at Madudu Health Centre III.

Immediately connect Madudu sub-county to the National Electricity grid.

A solar powered borehole will be sunk at Madudu Health Center III to provide running water.



24



Confirmed
cases

06

Healthcare workers exposed to the index case between 15th and 18th have tested positive, are being managed.

05

Deaths



“Our healthcare workers will do all it takes to save lives and bring the situation under control. I call upon the public to cooperate with the healthcare workers and report anybody with signs and symptoms similar to that of Ebola.”

Report any Suspicion to **0800 203 033**

“

I want to reassure Ugandans and all Residents that Government has capacity to control this outbreak as we have done before. Therefore, there is no need for anxiety, panic, restriction of movements or unnecessary closure of public places like schools, markets, places of worship e.t.c, as of now.”

NAGURU, KAMPALA: President Yoweri Museveni encouraged Ugandans to use the opportunities created by the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government to engage in activities that create wealth for socio-economic transformation.

While launching the Next Media Park located at Naguru Hill in Kampala, His Excellency the President, said the policy of liberalisation was aimed at among others things; bettering service delivery through wealth creation because the previous Governments had not correctly analysed how to create wealth and jobs.

Next Media services is a multimedia company with a range of brands in Television, Radio and Communications which include among others; NBS Television, Sanyuka TV, NBS Sport, Nile post, Salam TV and Next Radio and are employing over 500 Ugandans, mostly the youth.

The President re-echoed the four (4) sectors of jobs and wealth creation namely; commercial agriculture, manufacturing/industries, services like communication and entertainment, transport, hospitality and the fourth one being Information Communication Technology-ICT

which some Ugandans like Kin Kariisa, the group Chief Executive Officer of Next Media and colleagues have taken advantage of.

“So, therefore, those who are wasting our time talking about everything, this is the way to go. NRM has created all these opportunities. What the Kariisa’s have done is “Okulembeka”-to take opportunity and create wealth through service provision. And by creating wealth they have also created jobs. I want to salute Kariisa and his colleagues,” the President said.

According to the President, the past Governments had monopolised some of these services like the business of hotels and transport but later they were given to the private people to run them both for efficiency but also as a signal for private investors to come in and build more.

He further noted that he stood his ground amidst a big cabinet debate to allow private media to operate in Uganda especially at a time when Light House Television, a Christian channel wanted to provide TV and radio services in Uganda.

“The debate was, if you lose the monopoly of information, the Government will collapse. I said

no, I cannot collapse unless I had a heart problem in the first place. They would tell lies, I would answer them,” Gen. Museveni noted, adding that by that time they did believe that the Government should not block/obstruct (okutarirana-in Runyankore) the private sector but to give them freedom to move into these businesses including the media.

“By encouraging liberalisation, you can see how much energy we have unleashed, like this group of Mr. Kariisa and his colleagues. They have now come in because it’s a free space, you can come and start a private radio and a TV station. Both the law and the policy allow it,” H.E.

Museveni said.

On the issue of content, the President called upon media houses to promote Uganda and stop de-campaigning policies aimed at transforming the economy.

“I have not been watching NBS recently but I hope as Mr. Kasumba has said, that they’re promoting Uganda, and if they are doing that, that’s very good,” President Museveni noted.

He made mention of his initiative of adding value to coffee so that Uganda can earn more which was misunderstood and therefore received negative publicity from the media.



President Museveni is received by the CEO of Next Media services and other officials during the ceremony at Naguru, Kampala

The President said the coffee business in the world is 460 billion US dollars but the coffee growing countries in the world, Uganda inclusive only share 25 billion US dollars of which only 2.5 billion US dollars is coming to Africa and Uganda is only sharing 800 billion US dollars.

“How can this be? Are there educated people in Africa? How can it be that Germany earns more from coffee than almost all the African countries combined?” Gen. Museveni wondered, adding that this undermines point No.5 of the NRM’s 10-point program of Building an economy which is integrated, independent and self-sustaining.

“This was our line to add value to coffee and textile. The shirt I’m putting on is produced from our cotton. So, therefore, it’s not just these assets, it is now the content of what the assets will be used for,” the President said.

According to the Next Media CEO, Kin Kariisa, although the President has occasionally labeled the media rumor mongers, they’re determined

to share the narrative and tell the Ugandan story.

“I could not allow foreign media to come here and tell us how to behave, dress and how our culture should be handled. We said let’s build our own media house to be able to shape our own future and narrative. We can do more to nature and transform this country,” Kin Kariisa said.

The Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja, the Minister of State for Investment Evelyn Anite and the Board Chairman Next Media Rogers Baguma also addressed the gathering.

In attendance, were among others; the Chief Justice of Uganda Alfonse Owiny-Dollo, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Norbert Mao, former Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi, the Titular Head of Muslims in Uganda, Prince Kassim Nakibinge, the Executive Director Uganda Media Centre, Ofwono Opondo, KCCA ED Dorothy Kisaka and Presidential Advisor on Trade & Industry, Amelia Kyambadde.





The Presidency

