

The **Presidency**

NOVEMBER 2022



Your Monthly Round-Up of State House News





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





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Dear Reader,

This is to present to you the November 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 November.

In the month of November, His Excellency travelled to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for a state visit. He held talks with his host, President Nguyen Xuan Phuc, was treated to a state dinner, visited different Viet Nameese Government projects, and attended the first ever Uganda-Viet Nam Business Summit. Back home, His Excellency hosted the Indian community to celebrate their annual Diwali ceremony, officiated at the Afro-Indian Investment Summit at Munyonyo and held discussions with several Investor groups at State House, Entebbe.

His Excellency also commissioned the newly-completed National Medical Stores office complex and warehouse in Kajjansi, Wakiso District, and joined the First Lady and Minister for Education and Sports, to celebrate the World Teachers' Day at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

As is the practice, in this edition, we have annexed His Excellency's speech during the State Dinner hosted by H.E. President Nguyen Xuan Phuc, the President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, on 24th November, 2022, in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

Lastly, we urge citizens to remain vigilant in the face of Ebola and COVID-19 during the coming Christmas and end of year festivities. We implore you to continue observing the guidance given by His Excellency the President and Ministry of Health.

I now have the pleasure to present to you the 17th edition of The Presidency, and to wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year.



Marcella Karekye

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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.

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EVERY KAMPALA DIVISION TO GET TWO GOVERNMENT MARKETS AND TAXI PARKS

STATE LODGE, NAKASERO: President Museveni met Kampala Capital City Authority leaders and some of the market representatives over the leadership and management of markets in Kampala and the metropolitan areas.

During the meeting held at State Lodge, Nakasero, the President guided that these markets should be owned and managed by the low-income earners instead of being taken by the rich who in turn charge high fees from the wanainchi.

“The rich can afford doing business on Kampala Road, Ntinda and all the other main roads. As leaders who love their country, they should think about the poor,” the President said.

The meeting followed the President’s directive on harmonisation of issues affecting the common people in the informal Sector in Kampala and surrounding areas.

The President also suggested to KCCA to have two Government owned markets and taxi parks in each of the divisions

of Kampala with an emphasis that they should be occupied and managed by the wanainchi.

“The people you have been chasing off roads have been saying they have nowhere to go, so, if you do not plan for them where will they go?” He wondered.

He said that both logic as well as legal standing in addressing the market challenges in the country should be applied. In order for the Government to come up with a conclusive solution to informal sector and market challenges, the President tasked the Prime minister to coordinate all different stakeholders and come up with a final solution in addressing the challenges.

There have been challenges in the informal sector stemming from mismanagement, ownership, policy and regulation among others.

Prime Minister, Robinah Nabanja, thanked the President for his efforts in always fighting for the common person. She pledged to work with all the stakeholders in finding a lasting solution to the market challenges.

The meeting was attended by the the Local Government Minister, Hon. Raphael Magezi, State Minister for Kampala Capital City and Metropolitan Affairs, Hon. Kabuye Kyofatogabye, the KCCA Executive Director, Dorothy Kisaka, the Kampala Resident City Commissioner, Amina Lukanga and Salim Uhuru, the Kampala Central division mayor, among others.



President Museveni and other leaders pose for a photo during the meeting at Nakasero State Lodge

ALGERIA TO BUY UGANDAN MILK UP TO USD 500 MILLION

NOV
01

STATE LODGE, NAKASERO: President Yoweri Museveni received and held discussions with the Ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, H.E. Chirif Qualid at State Lodge, Nakasero.

During the meeting, the President and the Algerian Ambassador discussed areas of mutual cooperation between the two brotherly countries focusing on trade and agriculture.

President Museveni welcomed the Ambassador and Algeria's interest in investing and buying Ugandan milk.

The President and the Ambassador also agreed to speed up the legal frameworks to fast track the already existing cooperation between Uganda and Algeria. He further directed that the Joint Ministerial Council should make plans to meet in Algeria and sign all necessary documents

The meeting was attended by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Hon. John Mulimba among other senior officials.



Algeria's Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Chirif Qualid, during the meeting at State Lodge, Nakasero

CABINET TO DISCUSS BUSOGA KINGDOM WHITE PAPER

NOV
02

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni met and held discussions with the Kyabazinga of Busoga Kingdom, HRH William Wilberforce Gabula Nadiope IV.

In a meeting that took place at State House Entebbe, the President and the Kyabazinga discussed key issues concerning the development of Busoga Kingdom.

The Head of State tasked the Minister for the Presidency, Hon. Milly Babirye Babalanda, to liaise with the Attorney General, Hon Kiryowa Kiwanuka, on specific matters related to the Kingdom and draft a white paper that shall be discussed by the Cabinet.



President Museveni, the Kyabazinga and other officials pose for a photo during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

“In the past, commercial banks have been aligned to net-colonialism, supporting imports of consumer goods. I am glad we are beginning to see a change if you have started to support agriculture and export promotion,”
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni met and held discussions with members of the Uganda Bankers Association (UBA) who highlighted the association’s contribution to the economy and their support to the National Development Plan.

President Museveni commended the banking and financial services sector for their effort to align to the National Development plan.

“In the past, commercial banks have been aligned to net-colonialism, supporting imports of consumer goods. I am glad we are beginning to see a change if you have started to support agriculture and export promotion,” he said.

The Uganda Bankers Association is an umbrella body made up of 36 financial institutions mostly regulated by the Bank of Uganda.

Their main objectives are to represent the professional interests of its members, maintain a code of ethics and best banking practices as well as undertake research, policy and development.

President Museveni in his remarks, expressed disappointment on the educated people who have failed to put to an end to Africa’s hemorrhage saying that they have continuously supported

foreign industries thereby betraying Africa’s purchasing power.

“It is really betrayal, African elites have betrayed Africa, and this has led to purchasing power not growing,” he added.

On submission by the Chairperson of UBA, regarding land evictions where borrowers use encumbered land as collateral, the President clarified saying that banks need to do due diligence especially where the land is occupied by tenants and advised that they should not accept encumbered land titles.

President Museveni noted that Uganda is devising means on how to reduce/ stop borrowing especially internally.

The Permanent Secretary / Secretary to the treasury, Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development, Mr. Ramathan Ggoobi, said the ministry has already employed several measures to stop internal borrowing citing fiscal consolidation, restoration of fiscal discipline, clearing domestic debt and disciplining accounting offers among other measures.

The Chairperson UBA and the Managing Director Citi Bank, Ms Sarah Arapta, thanked the President for his support of the financial sector specifically his good stewardship of the country that has led to macroeconomic stability, security as well as numerous financial sector reforms.

She noted that the financial services sector is focusing on ten areas on how to support Government development plans, singling out support of the Parish Development Model (PDM), digital transformation to drive in financial inclusion, promote



domestic manufacturing as we as supporting the growth and development of commercial agriculture among other areas.

The meeting was attended by the Minister

of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija among other senior banking and financial sector officials.



President Museveni poses for a photo with members of Uganda Bankers Association and other officials during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

NATIONAL MEDICAL STORES GETS A NEW WAREHOUSE, OFFICE COMPLEX

“I want to congratulate the Ministry of Health and NMS for constructing this good warehouse, it is a good one, it solves the issue of storing well and in big quantities,”

President Museveni

KAJJANSI, WAKISO DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni commissioned the new National Medical Stores pharmaceutical warehouse and office complex in Kajjansi, off Entebbe Road.

Speaking as the Chief Guest, President Museveni commended the Ministry of Health as well National Medical Stores for the complex which he said would solve some of the challenges faced by the sector.

“I want to congratulate the Ministry of

Health and NMS for constructing this good warehouse, it is a good one, it solves the issue of storing well and in big quantities,” the President said.

The President used the platform to castigate the theft of Government drugs in hospitals which he said should be dealt with as it deprives the people of Uganda their rights to access drugs in hospitals.

He noted that the Government is committed to getting out of the dependency syndrome in as far as drugs and vaccines are concerned. The President placed emphasis on increased efforts to locally manufacture drugs and medicines in order to have a robust and cost-effective health system in the country.



President Museveni and other officials pose for a photo in front of the new NMS warehouse and office complex in Kajjansi, Wakiso District

On public health, the President advised the Ministry of Health to focus on disease prevention rather than treatment in hospitals, adding that most of the diseases are preventable.

He saluted the development partners for the support in the building of the magnificent storage.

The Minister of Health, Hon. Jane Ruth Aceng, noted that the new complex is a demonstration that the Government of Uganda is committed to improving medical supplies in the country. She thanked the President for his continued support to the health sector.

The US Ambassador, H.E. Natalie Brown, thanked the President and the Government of Uganda for the commitment in improving the health services in the country. She said that the completion of the new complex is a big milestone in the health sector.

GAVI CEO, Dr. Seth Berkeley, underscored the power of partnership saying that working as partners will be a great deal in achieving desired goals.

The Chairman Board of Directors, National Medical Stores, Dr. Nathan Mucunguzi, said that over the years the mandate, and

volume of essential medicines and health supplies, handled by National Medical Stores has increased resulting in the need to expand storage capacity at the central level to manage the growing supply chain demands, hence the construction of this new warehouse.

National Medical Stores undertook construction works of a modern pharmaceutical warehouse and office complex at Kajjansi site at a cost of around 69 billion Uganda Shillings.

The new warehouse project in Kajjansi will improve the storage capacity with additional 30,000 pallet locations of warehouse space, which is almost four times the current capacity at Entebbe National Medical Stores Headquarters.

The new National Medical Stores pharmaceutical warehouse is also a green building with installation of energy-efficient solutions like the use of solar energy to run the building and natural light instead of artificial power-consuming bulbs.

National Medical Stores (NMS) is a Government agency mandated to procure, store and distribute medicines and medical supplies to Government owned health facilities.

“I congratulate you on your Diwali this year and inform you that Ugandans who see very far are very happy with you people, you have made a very big contribution to our economy,”
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni saluted the Indian community in Uganda for their big contribution to the socio-economic development of the country through wealth creation.

“I congratulate you on your Diwali this year and inform you that Ugandans who see very far are very happy with you people, you have made a very big contribution to our economy,” the President said.

The President was speaking at the Diwali dinner he hosted for the Indian community in Uganda last evening at State House, Entebbe.

Diwali is an Indian festival that symbolises the spiritual victory of light over darkness among Indian community faiths in India; Hindus, Sikhs, Jain’s, Muslims and some Buddhists.

The President said that just like he celebrates Christians on Christmas and Muslims on Eid, he has to celebrate with Indians on their Diwali day.

President Museveni also hailed the relationship that has existed starting with the first four Indian families that settled in parts of Ankole describing the relationship as symbiotic.

“We had initially four Indian families and we had no friction with them, the relationship was symbiotic because we were playing different roles in wealth

creation,” he noted, adding that those who expelled Indians were parasites who did not value the chain of wealth creation.

The President pointed out that the wealth creators have no contradictions since they compliment each other referring to the Indians’ expulsion from Uganda being done by wealth consumers who had no clue on the production process.

Responding to the rumour on Ebola lockdown, President Museveni assured the Indian community that Ebola will be contained and allayed any fears of a lockdown.

“There will be no lockdown for Ebola,” he said. He asked the people to be more vigilant and observe the standard procedures put in place to control the spread of Ebola.

On the issue of citizenship, the President said there should not be issues on children whose parents are already citizens of Uganda. He said that even those who are not citizens but frequently come to Uganda for business should be given multiple/entry visas in the country.

The State Minister for Privatisation and Investment, Hon. Evelyn Anite, saluted President Museveni, for the conducive environment that has enabled investment to thrive in the country.

The Indian High Commissioner to Uganda, H.E Ajay Kumar, commended the excellent bilateral relations that Uganda and India continue to enjoy over the years. He appreciated the President for his continued support to the Indian community in the country.



The Chairman Indian Association in Uganda, Mr. G.N Mohan Rao, saluted the President for his support to the Indian community. He said the invitation to celebrate with Indians is a symbol of togetherness and inclusion and a sign of success in the country.

extended his sincere appreciation to the President for his generosity to celebrate with Indians on their Diwali. He thanked the President for embracing different cultures and for creating conducive environment for business and peace in the country.

Businessman Sudhir Ruparelia, also



Indian girls performing during celebrations to make Diwali at State House, Entebbe

“Africa, stand up and be proud. We have everything from wealth creation, to rich language, to the strong culture of exogamy and strong patrilineal families and to beauty of skin and hair. We do not have to ape anybody. Tetulina kwenyooma,”
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni said the African rich heritage which is manifested in music, musical instruments, dances, oral literature, songs, cultures and traditional ceremonies should be fully developed, documented and preserved to enrich communication and benefit future generations.

“Africa, stand up and be proud. We have everything from wealth creation, to rich language, to the strong culture of exogamy

and strong patrilineal families and to beauty of skin and hair. We do not have to ape anybody. Tetulina kwenyooma,” President Museveni said.

The President accompanied by the First Lady made the remarks while launching “Omugunga Eizooba”- a traditional music album at State House, Entebbe.

The President says the African population, currently at 1.3 billion, has, within it, the most ancient portions of the human race, 4.5 million years old, and four nations according to linguistic classifications. The four nations are: the Niger-Congo comprised of the Bantus and the Kwa groups of Southern Nigeria etc.; the Nilo-Saharan comprised of the Cushitic (Somali, Oromo, Nubians etc.); the Nilotics (Acholi,



First Daughter, Natasha Karugire, speaks during the launch of the traditional music album at State House, Entebbe

Langi, Luos etc.), Nilo–Hamitic (Iteso, Karamajong, Turkana, Bari, Kakwa, Masai etc.); the Afro-Asiatic (Arabic, Amharic, Tigrinya, Barbars etc.); and the small Khoisan (bushmen) of South Africa.

He noted that within each branch, there are clusters and sub-clusters with common words among groups that live thousands of miles apart.

“The former Minister of Finance of Nigeria, Ngozi, told me that in her Ibo language, that word means Love. You know that is what it means in Runyoro-Rutooro (in Uganda). Greeting in Zulu and Khosa goes like this: “Sauboona” — from the verb Kubona. In those dialects, Kuboona still means to see. However, in the dialects of Uganda, “to see” is described by newer words such as kulaba in Luganda, kureeba in Runyankore. However, the word kubona is still used in Runyankore to mean “to find something that has been lost”, the President said, adding that within that broad sharing of language, there are clusters that do not only share words but are actually mutually intelligible.

“These dialects of Kirundi, Kiha, Kihangaza, Kinyarwanda, Kinyambo, Kiziinza, Kikerewe, Rukyiga, Runyankore, Runyoro-Rutooro, Luganda, Ruruuli, Lunyara, Lusoga, Ruramoogyi, Lugwere, Lusomya, Lumasaaba and Kiluhya of Kenya are easily intelligible to me, a Runyankore speaker, but who has never studied those dialects — just on account of their similarity with Runyankore,” he added.

The “Omugunga Eizooba” traditional music album put together by the Heritage Foundation comprises of 16 songs, composed many years ago but had remained undeveloped due to the unsettled colonial times. They include;

1. Ente y’omwooro, 2. Amabaare, 3. Tu’ mutwe, 4. Abamuyogoore, 5. Lhigiro, 6. Enanga y’orurembo, 7. Ente z’abuhweju, 8. Omufunga izooba, 9. Rugaiha, 10. Abantu ba Nshaara, 11. Bamagara, 12. Rwakakaiga, 13. Abasonga, 14. Akabungo, 15. Bari’Owabo and 16. Bakakwata.

Some songs according to President Museveni were resurrected by a young woman named, Maaga, who was the core of his music group and always stayed near him at the High Command inner compound in Ngoma, Nakaseke.

“I debriefed her. Did she know the old songs, such as Bamagara, that I used to hear while young? She was assisted by our other supporters to resurrect these songs such as Kamuzaana, Kinkuhaire, Rwandare’s wife etc,” the President said.

He added that, ever since the bush days, he was recording these songs and his librarians were drivers who would lose some of them along the way but, to their credit, especially one called Byaruhanga, many were kept.

“Recently, Natasha aided by Ataho, managed to get from my drivers a total of about 119 tunes spanning the two centuries —from 1890s to the present. The music is excellent. This is music and not noise and I enjoy it so much. I see some groups making noise and calling it music. It is the main music in my cars when I am driving, plus some religious tunes and NRM songs. The content is excellent —dealings with contemporary social or political issues. The language is so rich. I used the songs to get vocabulary to enrich our Katondoozi,” the President noted.

The President thanked Mrs Natasha Karugire, Ataho and the musicians — Kibazibira, Maaga, Rwandare’s wife,

Kamuzaana, Mzee Kiriindi, Kembuundu, Muhara wa Beene- Ruzira, Kyanyweire, Kakashaka etc., for this contribution to the saving of our heritage and our identity.

“I also thank my drivers for only losing some and not all of them. Africa is very rich in heritage which ought to be preserved, minus the rivalries that existed between our peoples. Therefore, this foundation (Heritage Foundation) must do this work in all our regions,” the President advised.

The head of Heritage Foundation, Mrs. Natasha Karugire, thanked the President and the First Lady for being at the forefront of promoting culture.

“Growing up, my siblings and I always listened to all songs that Mzee kept. We would be at the dining table with Mzee and Mama and Mzee would often spontaneously break into singing some songs,” Natasha said.

“Mama for her part often told us traditional folk tales as young children and taught us the Do’s and Don’ts of our culture. Mama also introduced the singing that is now standard procedure at traditional give away ceremonies where songs describing the bride and counselling her and the groom are performed,” she added.

She however noted that amongst Christians, there is and has always been some kind of aversion to the old sounds in the traditional music and poetry.

“I have struggled personally with wanting to embrace the culture I was born into while always honouring the God I served and love,” Natasha said.

On the other hand, President Museveni challenged Ugandans to use their rich cultural heritage and reject the pathetic

phenomenon of self-hatred that the Africans, especially the women, developed on account of the inferiority complex created by the colonial trauma. He said many of the songs inform us of the elements of beauty that is, for instance, appreciated by the Banyankore.

“You heard of Ngaanzi, the beautiful light skinned woman. However, in the hierarchy of beauty, it was Mbiindi or Nkyerengye, very dark- skinned women that were appreciated even more. That appreciation of dark-skinned women was both aesthetic and also scientific,” Mr. Museveni said, adding that, it is therefore, psychological sickness to resent the dark colour which is very much treasured by the indigenous Banyankore-Bahororo.

The Bishop of North Ankole Diocese, Rev. Stephen Namanya, thanked President Museveni through his book “Katondoozi” and the First Lady for promoting culture that Ugandans and Africa should be proud of.

The ceremony was attended by among others the Ministers; Frank Tumwebaze (Agriculture Animal Industries and Fisheries), Alice Kaboyo (Luwero Triangle), the United Nations Resident Coordinator Suzan Namondo, Members of Parliament and service chiefs.



STATE HOUSE ENGAGES MARKET VENDORS

“Government has different programmes intended to benefit the entire country. However, some have ignored them for fear to be blamed for eating NRM money and then end up languishing in absolute poverty. I request you to embrace Government programmes, time for politics ended way back after voting,”
Princess Nassolo

The officials led by Princess Nassolo Pauline and Ms. Flora Kabibi met vendors from five markets around the country. The markets included; Kalagi market, Lubega Market, Naigaga Market (all in Mukono District), Ssangalyambogo market

and Nakwero market (all in Wakiso District).

During the courtesy call, Princess Nassolo advised market vendors to desist from politicking, saying that the political season was over and that it was time to work in order to improve their standards of living.

She explained to vendors that Government development programs like Emyooga, Parish Development Model are meant to benefit all Ugandans irrespective of their social or political backgrounds.



State House team interacts with vendors during a tour to one of the markets

“Government has different programmes intended to benefit the entire country. However, some have ignored them for fear to be blamed for eating NRM money and then end up languishing in absolute poverty. I request you to embrace Government programmes, time for politics ended way back after voting,” Princess Nassolo added.

On the other hand, Ms. Kabibi advised parents to groom their children to become responsible and morally upright citizens of Uganda.

“Women are responsible for children’s upbringing. Once a child misbehaves, it’s a woman to blame for not playing her role. Women’s negligence has resulted to bad behaved children who have insulted many people including the First Family,” she noted, before cautioning them to emulate the First Family, that has humble and well brought up children.

During the same meeting, the team gave out Shs 100,000 each to over 200 vendors to boost their businesses.

In response, the market vendors appreciated President Yoweri Museveni, State House Comptroller and the State House political section, for extending a helping hand to them, saying that the funds will be invested efficiently to better their lives.

Ms. Christine Kayaga from Kalagi market said they had no working capital yet they are single mothers with a huge role to look after their children.

“Now that we have received a booster we shall use it to boost our businesses,” she said.

Mr. Sserunjoji Edward, a market vendor at Nakwero B market also the Vice chairman of Nakwero B village appreciated the President for sending reliable team that was able to listen to their plight and boosted their working capital.

“We have finally been privileged to receive a booster. We thank Princess Nassolo and Ms. Flora for bringing us good tidings. Now that we have received our booster we ask for security since it’s a big challenge here,” he added.

Mr. Ssekito Ismael Kijjo, the Vice Chairman of Kalagi LC 1 revealed that Kalagi market was allegedly sold to a one Mr. Galikuwa of Nakifuma who is currently threatening to evict them. He requested President Museveni to intervene in the matter to save them from being kicked out of the facility.



“*You don't produce for Uganda only but for the market of East Africa. You have the raw material, infrastructure, stability and peace. You can make a lot of money. I welcome you to Uganda; you will see how you will gain,”*
President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni received a delegation of investors from select Arab countries who expressed interest in constructing several factories in Uganda that will not only manufacture but also provide employment to Ugandans.

The Delegation from the countries of Jordan, Syria, Egypt and Iraq was led by Engineer Bakea Dabaibeh, of Jordanian Investment Agency and accompanied by the Honorary Consul of the Syrian Arab Republic to Uganda, Dr. Tamouh Moustafa.

The President assured them of total peace and stability in the country as well as the availability of infrastructure.

He further assured them of Government's support and a big market for their products not only in Uganda but also in the entire East African region whose population is over 300 million people.

“You don't produce for Uganda only but for the market of East Africa. You have the raw material, infrastructure, stability and peace. You can make a lot of money. I welcome you to Uganda, you will see how you will gain,” the

President said.

The Head of the Delegation, Engineer Bakea Dabaibeh, stressed their readiness to come to Uganda and open up several factories within a short period of time for manufacturing various products that will include among others textiles for making jean trousers.

“These investors are very serious, they have come to stay, they have come to work,” Engineer Bakea pointed out.

Engineer Bakea who disclosed that they are willing to attract more investors to come and do business in Uganda further said the first phase of their investment will employ over 1,000 Ugandans and the number will increase as they expand.

The Honorary Consul of the Syrian Arab Republic to Uganda, Dr. Tamouh Moustafa, who is a practicing Dental Doctor in Kampala, thanked President Museveni and the Government of Uganda for the hospitality accorded to the people of Syria who took refuge in Uganda when their country was in turmoil.

“I already appreciate the welcome of over 400 Syrian people to Uganda and the hospitality accorded to them. I appreciate your support, Sir, and I thank you very much,” he said.

The meeting was attended by the Prime

Minister, the Rt.Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, the Minister for Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. Francis Mwebasa, the State Minister for Investments, Hon

Evelyn Anite and the State Minister in charge of Trade, Hon. Harriet Ntabazi, among others.



A section of delegates including Prime Minister, Robinah Nabbanja, Hon. Evelyn Anite and others during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni welcomed officials led by the Rt. Hon Prime Minister, Robinah Nabbanja to State House, Entebbe for a follow-up meeting to discuss the KCCA markets.

Upon submission on the outcome of several meetings that were chaired by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, the President guided that KCCA should

deal with the vendors directly without going through a third party.

He noted that the leaders of the vendors had also become exploiters of the vendors they were supposed to represent. That they had turned their leadership positions into offices from where they earn a living.

The President narrated that some time back, during his interaction



*President Museveni addressing Kampala leaders during the meeting at
State House, Entebbe*

with members of a Co-operative Society, he had heard similar complainants where the leaders exploit the members.

The President further guided that: -

- a) KCCA should take over administration of all the Government markets in the City;
- b) No vendor should occupy more than one stall;
- c) The meeting should agree on who would be responsible for utilities.
- d) There should be a reasonable mpooza the vendors should pay for the stalls and lock-ups;
- e) Their meeting should agree on what should be charged on items entering the market.

Upon further discussions, the following were agreed upon: -

- a) The Vendors should pay to KCCA a reasonable periodic fee (either monthly or annually for the stalls/lock-ups they occupy);
- b) There should be empooza on items entering the market at a fee to be agreed upon. This empooza will be paid by the traders who bring merchandise to sell to the vendors. The vendors will not be charged empooza on the items they have bought from the traders;
- c) Utilities like power and water will be paid for by the vendors themselves. It was agreed that Umeme should be requested to provide Yaka meters to the users

of electricity. It was also noted that NWSC was already providing pre-paid meters where the vendors pay for the water they use;

- d) KCCA will take over the responsibility of garbage collection, maintaining and cleaning toilets using the funds the vendors will be paying for the stall/lock-ups;
- e) On the distribution of the workspaces, the existing vendors in the Government markets will be given priority on the basis of one Vendor per Stall.
- f) On Lock-ups, it was noted that the practice was that one Lock-up was being operated by more than one person. It was agreed that if a lock-up is being run by more than one person, all the operators in the said lock-up will be considered as a group. They will jointly pay for the periodic rent of the Lock-up.
- g) On Kiseka Market, after noting that KCCA was putting slabs on the floor, it was agreed that the vendors who were operating in Kiseka Market should be the ones allowed to use the place after the works were completed;
- h) For the vendors who were operating on the streets, it was agreed that KCCA finds them open grounds where they can operate from temporarily;
- i) On the vendors having their own committees, it was agreed that such committees should not be involved in administration of



markets as that was going to be undertaken by KCCA appointed Staff. The vendors' committees could be responsible for Government programmes like SACCOs, Emyooga etc.

The President further guided that KCCA should plan for at least two markets in each of the 5 Divisions of Kampala, and one Skilling Centre per Division.

On assenting to the Market Bill, it was noted that there were some clauses that create partnership between KCCA and the vendors in the running of the markets. The President guided that the said bill should be returned to Parliament so that it is harmonised with what had been agreed upon in the meeting on the markets.

In her submission, Minister for Kampala, Hon. Hajjat Minsa Kabanda reported that a Cabinet Paper incorporating some of the issues that had been agreed upon at the meeting had been prepared and was due for discussion at the following next Cabinet meeting.

The meeting was also attended by the Hon. State Minister for KCCA Affairs, the Executive Director, KCCA, the RCC Kampala City, the Mayor Kampala Central and Mobilisers from the Markets.

SPEKE RESORT, MUNYONYO:

While officiating at the opening of Afro Indian Investment Summit 2022 together with the centennial 100 years celebration of Indian Association Uganda at Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort Hotel in Kampala, His Excellency the President called upon more Indians to explore the business opportunities in Uganda.

He said former President Idi Amin's expulsion of Asians from Uganda in 1972 not only disturbed the relationship between Uganda and India but also discouraged wealth creation.

“When we came into Government, we found some of the Africans sitting in Indian properties, about 8,000 of them. I told these people, get out of these shops”, the President said, adding that it was not only an act of immorality and not being strategic but was also not necessary at all.

The President said this is why some Africans sort of stagnated because at independence, some of the African countries like Uganda and Ghana were ahead of others like Singapore was because of the bad attitude of the non-indigenous investors.

The President who identified himself



President Museveni and Minister Evelyn Anite visit stalls of Indian companies during the Summit at Munyonyo

as a distinguished cattle keeper and a farmer which makes him a wealth creator, said his Government did not see any problem with Indian investors who used to buy their produce and in turn importing what Uganda did not have.

“Our relationship with these people was symbiotic. We were farmers of cows, goats and crops. We would sell them milk, bananas, hides and skins etc, then they would bring sugar, salt, textiles, paraffin etc. Therefore, we didn’t see how these people were exploiting us like Idi Amin was saying,” Gen. Museveni said, adding that Idi Amin was not part of the wealth creation group.

The President called upon Indians to invest in untapped areas like fertilisers which have become expensive as a result of the Russia-Ukraine standoff.

“I’m inviting you to invest in the area of fertilisers because now people are crying that because of the war in Ukraine, the price of fertilisers has gone up,” he added.

The President assured Indian investors of a ready market for their products not only from the growing Ugandan population but also East Africa.

According to the President, given Uganda’s population of 43 million, the population of 300 million people of East African Community and the continental free trade area of 1.4 billion people in the whole of Africa,

the market for products is no longer a problem.

“We have also negotiated market access with the USA, European Union and United Kingdom (UK) and China. So, producing here will enable you to access those markets,” he said, adding that the Government is doing its part to reduce the cost of production by modernizing the infrastructure, improving transportation among others.

The Minister of State for Investment, Hon. Evelyn Anite, told the President that the conference was among the initiatives to promote Uganda as the best investment destination in Africa and to recognise his efforts and the support he has given to Ugandans.

She thanked the President for returning Indian properties which have given birth to now over 1,139 Indian investments and factories in Uganda employing tens of thousands of Ugandans.

“As I speak, we have returned four thousand and sixty-three (4063) properties,” Minister Anite said.

Minister Anite further reported that deals amounting to US Dollars 169.5 Million worth of new investments have been signed.

The UK Trade Envoy to Uganda, Lord Dolar Popat, who is also a Member of House of Lords of the United Kingdom, hailed the President for improving Uganda’s investment environment. He said together with the Minister of Trade in Uganda, they

launched the Government growth gateway that will see more U.K. companies setting up businesses in Uganda.

“I want to emphasise that Uganda is an important part of trade and investment in the U.K. and we will support Uganda in becoming more prosperous by supporting the private sector by increasing exports,” Lord Popat said.

The conference was also addressed by Mr. Mohan Rao, Chairman of Indian Association Uganda which is celebrating 100 years of existence in Uganda.

The conference also heard testimonies from First Generation Investors; Mahendra Mehta the Chairman Mehta Group of

Companies, Kamlesh Madhvani of Madhvani Group of Companies and Dr. Sudhir Ruparelia - Trustee Indian Association Uganda and Chairman, Ruparelia Group of Companies.

Others were; Mr. Sitaram Reddy of SR Agro, Jay Patel of MMP group and Mr. Ashish of Modern group of companies, all showering praises to the NRM Government for the peace and stability that has enabled business growth.

In attendance were among others, ministers; Hon. Matia Kasaija (Finance), Hon. Okello Oryem (State for Foreign Affairs), officials from Uganda Investment Authority, Ugandan businessmen among others.



“Don’t ignore East Africa. Once East Africa gets involved, nobody can defy us. For us we are here and we can see, there’s no way anybody can deceive us,” President Museveni

SPEKE RESORT, MUNYONYO: While speaking to a delegation from the United Nations Security Council led by Ambassador Michel Xavier Biang, the Permanent Representative of Gabon to the UN, at the Commonwealth Resort Hotel, Munyonyo, in Kampala, President Museveni said nobody can defy East Africa if the Kinsasha administration under President Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo concentrates on working well with the East African Community.

“Don’t ignore East Africa. Once East Africa gets involved, nobody can defy us. For us we are here and we can see, there’s no way anybody can deceive us,” the President said, adding that there are possible approaches of using force against external armed groups and dialogue first, for internal Congolese groups before applying force and Congo will be helped to re-establish control.

According to Gen. Museveni, the big crisis in Eastern Congo and in many other African countries is essentially ideological, which started with neo-colonialism where political actors are not in the liberation ideology of Africa. He said the crisis in Congo

started with the killing of former Prime Minister of DRC, Patrice Lumumba, who was a uniting factor of the whole of Congo whereas other opponents emphasised and fronted politics of identity (tribe/religion) than interests which undermined their capacity to establish a legitimate system and making it difficult for them to build a strong national army to defend themselves.

“That’s why Congo has been a centre of armies of the whole world since 1961 by the UN, Morocco, Angola, etc. Here in Uganda, we know this because that was our problem, exactly the same as Congo but fortunately we started a student movement in the 1960’s which rejected the politics of identity. We said for us we are after the politics of interests, and that’s how Uganda came up,” the President further noted.

He was in full support of the East African Standby Force, saying nobody will defy it if it receives full support of Kinsasha.

President Museveni gave an example of Idi Amin who was removed by the regional force which also in collaboration with other forces in the region defeated the Portuguese in 1974, the Boers in South Africa and Namibia and Burundi’s ex-President Pierre Buyoya, who was forced to negotiate with the Hutus after sanctions were put on him.

“So, these Africans, if they unite, nobody can defeat them on the African continent. There’s no force which will defeat East Africa,” Gen. Museveni stressed.

On allegations that some neighboring countries are supplying arms to the M23 rebels, the President gave assurance to the UN Security Council that East Africa as a team under the commandship of Kenya cannot fail to investigate and know the truth.

He commended Kenya’s former President, Uhuru Kenyatta, who was appointed as a mediator for camping in Goma, urging militants to lay down their arms and engage in negotiations.

M23 fighters recently captured the town in North Kivu province, which lies just 20 kilometres (12 miles) from

north of Goma, a commercial hub of one million people.

“If we work as East Africa we shall go, investigate and get facts instead of counter accusations which never end,” Gen. Museveni assured.

He also agreed with the UN Security Council that rebel groups destabilising Eastern Congo have at times acquired firearms from the weak Congo army.

“Before we intervened, sometimes the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels would attack the Congo army and get weapons,” the President further noted.

The President further revealed that the regional intelligence services are also in advanced stages of establishing the financial network of rebel groups, especially their source of funding.



President Museveni posing for a photo with the UN Security Council team and other delegates during the meeting at Munyonyo



The coming to Uganda of the United Nations Security Council comes after the team spent 5 days on the same mission in Kinsasha -DRC and Kigali in Rwanda where they spent 3 days.

Ambassador Michel Xavier Biang, Permanent Representative of Gabon to the UN who is also the Chair of the UN sanctions committee on DRC told the President that after the visit, a brief will be given “to the security council in early December on the activities of the committee over the past year and in particular my report of this visit”.

According to the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations, Adonia Ayebare, the visit of the UN Security Council delegation is in the context of implementing their mandate which is to monitor sanctions that were imposed on DRC that looks at the arms embargo and the illegal exploitation of natural resources. It also looks at the peace process in the region given the resurgence of conflicts in the eastern DRC.

Ambassador Ayebare also expressed optimism that the committee had executed its mandate in Uganda and a mid-term report is expected to be published as a document of the Security Council by 30th December 2022.

The UPDF Commander Land Forces Lt. Gen. Kayanja Muhanga who happens to be the immediate former commander of Operation Shujaa in the Eastern DRC gave an account of the efforts of the joint efforts of the Armed forces in the Democratic Republic of Congo-FARDC and the Uganda Peoples Defence Forces-UPDF to get rid of Allied Democratic Forces-ADF in Congo.

Gen. Muhanga told the meeting that most of the main and permanent camps of the ADF have been destroyed; communication and recruitment channels disrupted and many rebels have been put out of action. This has paved the way for economic activities to resume in the region.

“The population is going back to farming, churches have opened, schools have opened, health centers are opening, roads have been opened in Congo to be able to reach far off places inside DRC,” Lt. Gen. Kayanja Muhanga said.

The Meeting was also attended by among others, Gen Jeje Odongo (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempijja (Minister for Defence and Veteran Affairs), Major General Jim Muhwezi (Minister for Security) and Uganda’s Ambassador to the DRC.

GEN. ABDEL FATTAH AL-BURHAN INVITES PRESIDENT MUSEVENI FOR A STATE VISIT TO SUDAN

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STATE LODGE, NAKASERO: During the meeting with H.E. Lt. Gen. Eng. Ibrahim Gabir Ibrahim, a member of the Transitional Council who is also a Special Envoy from Lt. Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, President of the Sovereign Transitional Council of the Republic of Sudan at Nakasero State Lodge in Kampala on Friday, President Museveni told his guest that in the last 60 years of being active in leadership, he has observed that pushing forward identity politics while forgetting the interests of the people is the root cause of instability in many of the African countries, Sudan inclusive.

“Identity is important, but it should not be promoted at the expense of the common interests of the people,” President

Museveni said, adding that even Uganda was rescued from the politics of Identity in 1965 by a student movement that taught people to forget about identity politics, forgetting the common needs of the people like hunger, peace, education, health and accountability of Government.

“If you follow politics of identity, you’re an enemy of the country and it is a misdiagnosis of the problem because it divides the people,” President Museveni further noted.

The President gave an example of Uganda in 1962, where no political party could win with a majority vote because they were all based on sectarian lines of tribe and religion.



President Museveni poses for a photo with the Sudanese delegation during the meeting at State Lodge, Nakasero



“So, they couldn’t win, nobody could win a majority. But because of our line of non-sectarianism, we were able to build a strong army but also when it came to politics, we are always winning with over 50% in the first round despite our own weaknesses,” the President said.

H.E. Lt. Gen. Eng. Ibrahim Gabir Ibrahim, a member of the Sudan Transitional Council, assured President Museveni that the council has maintained relative peace in the country by among other things implementing the “Juba Agreement for Peace in Sudan” signed in October 2020, by Sudan’s Transitional Government and representatives of several armed groups.

The agreement aims to achieve stability and peace in Sudan after decades of multiple civil conflicts, which have killed thousands and displaced millions.

Gen. Ibrahim Gabir Ibrahim however, expressed worry about a section of the population including a big number of youths below the age of 40 who don’t know anything about politics, some wanting to take power even before peaceful elections.

“Some people want to exert pressure through demonstrations and come to power without any elections”, Gen. Ibrahim told the President. He was quick to add that the transitional council will do whatever humanly possible to lead the country until peaceful elections are held

Sudan’s army chief, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, who led a coup in October 2021 that removed the country’s transitional Government, appointed a new Governing Sovereign Council, with representatives of the main bloc demanding a transfer to civilian rule. The new 14-member council includes army commanders, former rebel leaders and new civilian members.

The sovereign council was formed in 2019 as part of a power-sharing agreement between members of the army and civilians with the task of overseeing Sudan’s transition to democracy after a popular uprising led to the removal of longtime ruler Omar Al-Bashir.

Sudan has a long history of cultural ties to the nearby Arabian Peninsula including a history of Arab influence that impacted Sudan’s national identity (Rehman).

Many in Sudan consider racism to be at the root of conflicts, and those who belong to Sudan’s ruling Arab elite have often been dismissive of those who belong to African tribes far from the capital, Khartoum.

Since seizing power on October 25th last year, Sudan’s military leaders have professed their commitment to holding “free and fair” national elections in July 2023 and possibly even earlier. If Sudan holds elections in 2023, they will be the country’s first since the ousting of Omar Bashir.

H.E. Lt. Gen. Eng. Ibrahim Gabir Ibrahim extended an invitation of Lt. General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, President of the Sovereign Transitional Council of the Republic of Sudan to H.E. Museveni for a State visit.

The meeting was attended by among others; Ambassador Daffalla Al-Haj Ali, the Under Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sudan, Gen. Issam Mohamed Hassan Karrar, the secretary General Ministry of Défence and staff from the Sudanese Embassy. The Ugandan team was led by Ambassador Arthur Kafeero who is the Director of Regional and International Political Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ZOMBO DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni highly commended the Alur Cultural Institution for spearheading campaign against early child marriages and pregnancies through sensitisation.

“That is absolutely positive. I want to thank His Highness the Alur Paramount Chief for the theme, because there is no doubt that there is a clash between modern legislation by Parliament against the cultural concept of maturity,” said the President.

The President pointed out that in some cultures like that of the Banyankore, their science of maturity for girls was tied on the first and second monthly periods. He argued that the concept was misleading because with good feeding, girls as young as eleven or twelve years of age would start having

their monthly periods.

President Museveni who was the Chief Guest at the 12th Coronation Anniversary Celebrations of the Paramount Chief of Alur Chiefdom, His Royal Highness Philip Olarker Rauni the 3rd, made the remarks while commenting on the theme of the celebrations “End child marriages and pregnancies in Alur land”.

The colorful ceremony took place at Atyak Seed Secondary School in Atyak subcounty - Ora County in Zombo District.

The President who congratulated the cultural Institution for creating awareness against underage marriages noted that there was a clash between modern legislation by Parliament against the traditional concept of maturity.

He said Parliament had already passed a law that prohibits girls under the age of 18 to be married off or even to have intimacy with the opposite sex, as this will be considered as defilement.

The President therefore, commended the Alur Cultural Institution for the bold struggle taken describing it as gap filler.



Supporters wave during the coronation ceremony in Zombo District

“When you come to fill a gap, you use culture, not confrontation, but you come and educate people using Cultural Institutions. So we should combine legislation with sensitisation so that the old customs change,” he observed.

On the infrastructure in the area, President Museveni assured the people of West Nile that Government is going to tarmac the road from Nebbi-Goli-Paidha-Zombo-Zeu to Vurra adding that other roads earmarked for bituminisation in the region will also be worked on.

Earlier, the President used the same occasion to remind and appeal to the people of West Nile in general and Zombo District in particular to embrace Government programmes of wealth creation at homestead levels in-order to chase poverty from their homes.

He told them of the 4 acre model that suits best wanainchi with small land holdings as they will be engaged in intensive commercial agriculture as opposed to extensive farming that requires huge chunks of land.

“I have directed the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Industry to register all people with vast land holdings who can grow for us maize, sugar-cane, cotton and tobacco

because we need these crops that cannot be grown by people with little land holdings,” he said.

The President was also glad to hear recollections narrated by the Prime Minister of Alur Chiefdom, Lawrence Opar Angala, on the genesis of the Chiefdom pointing out that he was already knowledgeable of that history.

The Host, His Royal Highness Philip Olarker, thanked President Museveni for honoring their invitation. He said his Chiefdom has developed Alur guidelines to be adhered to in the institution on marriages.

“Young girls have been victims of early marriages and pregnancies occasion by the COVID-19 pandemic. I will seek to have them protected in all forms of abuse and also ensure that they complete school,” he vowed.

His Royal Highness Olarker paid tribute to all partners as well as MTN Telecommunications Company for their support.

Notable guests at the function included, the Paramount Chief of the Acholi, Rwot Acana III, who thanked President Museveni for his support to Cultural Institutions in Uganda adding that the Institutions play a very crucial role in society.

FATHER DR. GIUSEPPE JOSEPH AMBROSOLI BEATIFIED

AGAGO DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni thanked Pope Francis and the Catholic Church for recognising the good works of Father Dr. Giuseppe Joseph Ambrosoli, who not only healed the people but also preached to them the word of God.

“I want to thank the Pope and the Church for recognising the good work of Dr. Ambrosoli,” he said.

The President made the remarks during the beatification ceremony of Father Dr. Joseph Ambrosoli. The function was presided over by the Apostolic Nuncio to Uganda, the Most Reverend Luigi Bianco, who was appointed by Pope Francis to represent him. The beatification ceremony was celebrated under the theme, “God’s servant to the suffering people”.

Father Dr. Ambrosoli who was born in 1923 in Como region, Northern Italy, founded Kalongo Hospital in Kalongo Town council,

Agago District. He died in March 1987 and was buried in Kalongo-Agago District and followers visit and pray at his grave to date to seek his intercession.

Father Ambrosoli, a priest, medical doctor and a missionary arrived in Kalongo in 1956 to build on the work that had been started by the Comboni Missionaries in the area. The Beatification ceremony is part of a long journey to Sainthood.

President Museveni pointed out that religious denominations came to Uganda in the 1848, 1879 and 1887 with good and bad intentions and some were behaving like hypocrites.

He however noted that some of the missionaries had good messages summarised as love God with all your mind, soul and body and love your neighbor as you love yourself all aimed at overcoming selfishness.



A portrait of late Father Dr. Giuseppe Joseph Ambrosoli holding a baby, displayed during the beatification ceremony in Agago District

President Museveni added that the good works were evident in missionaries like Ambrosoli who healed and preached the word of God to the followers.

“We salute the contribution of such wonderful works and we thank the church for the beatification of Father Joseph Ambrosoli. It is the most important step,” he said.

The Head of State further made an appeal to the people of Agago District and Northern region in general to join the campaign waged by the Government of ejecting poverty out of homesteads.

“The Government of NRM has started the campaign of stopping to work for the stomach only. We want a new idea, work for the stomach and also for the pocket,” he stressed

He observed that once every household adopts this model, wealth will be created enabling the churches also to benefit because people will have money in their pockets.

“Churches will also be prosperous because Christians will give support. How can we fail to look after our families? If Dr. Ambrosoli could travel from far to help people how about us?” Gen. Museveni wondered.

The President also recommended that people with a few acres to embrace the 4 acre model assuring them that Government is working on the introduction of irrigation system.

The Archbishop of Gulu Diocese, The Most Reverend Dr. John Baptist Odama, prayed for the invocation of Dr. Ambrosoli to intervene before God for the Ebola and

COVID-19 pandemics to disappear from Uganda so that the people of the country can move freely and in good health.

The Prelate further asked Dr. Ambrosoli to seek divine intervention in the war between Ukraine and Russia adding that the people of the 2 countries are “our brothers and sisters”.

The representative of the Pope, Apostolic Nuncio to Uganda, Luigi Bianco, conveyed to the congregation the felicitations of the Pope on the beatification ceremony.

He urged all Christians to emulate the works of Dr. Ambrosoli of selfless service to the people.

The Superior General of the Comboni Missionaries, Father Tesfaye Tadese, on behalf of their organisation expressed gratitude for the day for the beatification of Dr. Ambrosoli.

“We are very grateful for this great day when one of us is beatified. We also thank the people of Kalongo, Archbishop John Baptist Odama, and all the stake holders for making the ceremony a success,” he said.

The representative of the Mother General of the Little Sisters, Sister Lugina Frison said Dr. Ambrosoli led a very simple life centered on care and love for humanity. She conveyed the message of Mother General Anne Marie who is in Rome to the congregation.

“Though I am very far away, I am present with you in spirit,” she said.

The ceremony was also attended by among others the Chief Justice His Lordship Justice Owiny Dollo.

“All these are easy areas because of climate; anything agricultural will grow so quickly and without irrigation. We have two rainy seasons without irrigation and with irrigation we have four seasons a year,” President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni received and held talks with a group of federation of Arab businessmen and investors led by their leader, Mr. Baker Dabaibeh.

During the meeting that took place at State House Entebbe, President Museveni welcomed the Middle East investors to the country assuring them of fertile soils as well as a good climate especially for agriculture.

“All these are easy areas because of climate, anything agricultural will grow so quickly and without irrigation. We have two rainy seasons without irrigation and with irrigation we have four seasons a year,” he added.

The group leader, Mr. Baker Dabaibeh, thanked the President for sparing time and the warm welcome. He said the group is interested in investing in agriculture as well as manufacturing.

The meeting was attended by State Minister for Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. David Bahati, among other senior Government officials.



President Museveni poses for a photo with a group of Arab investors during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

“I’m confident that Uganda will achieve more in its five-year plans of 2020/2021 to 2024 /2025 and realising Uganda’s vision 2040 towards transforming Ugandan society from peasant to a modern and prosperous country,”

President Nguyen Xuân Phúc

HANOI, Viet Nam: There was pomp and glamour at the Viet Nameese Presidential Palace in Hanoi as President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni was being welcomed by his counterpart, H.E. Nguyen Xuân Phúc.

The President was received with a State and Ceremonial Guard of Honour by men and women in uniform.

During the 30-minute ceremony, Presidents: Museveni and Nguyen shook hands, with the joyous people welcoming the Ugandan leader standing by the side as a military band played the national anthems of both countries.

President Museveni inspected the Inter-Forces Guard of Honour before being ushered into the Palace by the leader of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for bilateral talks.

H.E. Nguyen said, Viet Nam has for long been following the developments in Uganda, and thanked H.E. Museveni for maintaining political stability, social economic development and the fight against COVID-19 and of lately Ebola.

“I’m confident that Uganda will achieve more in its five-year plans of 2020/2021 to 2024 /2025 and realising Uganda’s vision

2040 towards transforming Ugandan society from peasant to a modern and prosperous country,” H.E. Nguyen Xuân Phúc said.

He also commended Uganda’s active contributions at regional and international forums especially the United Nations and the African Union. He further expressed gratitude on behalf of the people of Viet Nam for the support from the Government of Uganda towards their fight for national liberation.

“This is truly an important foundation for political trust and cooperation for shared development between the two countries,” H.E. Nguyen noted, adding that, “the traditional bond of friendship and cooperation between Viet Nam and Uganda has witnessed very positive growth of late especially in the political, economic, trade and investment domains”.

President Nguyen informed the Ugandan delegation that Viet Nam continues to spread its cooperation with African friends including Uganda in the lead up to the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between countries next year.

“Viet Nam is maintaining its position among the top 20 largest trading economies of the world,” H.E. Nguyen noted.

President Yoweri Museveni on his part thanked his Viet Nameese counterpart for the invitation, describing his visit as an

opportunity for Pilgrimage to the heroic people of Viet Nam.

“I’m very happy to be here and I thank you for inviting me. While the Muslims go to Mecca for Pilgrimage and the Catholics go to Rome for Pilgrimage to the Pope, we the freedom fighters come to Viet Nam as our Pilgrimage,” H.E. Museveni said.

He congratulated the people of Viet Nam for the struggle and successful reconstruction of their country, saying winning political victory is meaningless and can’t be sustained if they don’t achieve

socio-economic growth.

President Museveni also informed the audience that Uganda and Africa in general are moving forward despite the setbacks.

“It’s therefore, very good that you’ve invited us here so that we can see how we work together in the four areas of technical scientific cooperation, Agriculture, ICT and Health,” H.E, Museveni noted, adding that, he’s looking forward to sharing more on boosting trade in goods and services given the availability of market of not only



President receives a guard of honour upon arrival at the Presidential Palace in Hanoi, Viet Nam



in Uganda of 43 million people but also the East African market of 300 million and the African market of 1.3 billion people.

“So, whatever you produce in Uganda can be sold in all those countries. We have also got access to European markets and Asia,” President Museveni said before inviting H.E. Nguyen to Uganda.

“I’m glad His Excellency Nguyen is aware of the non-allied movement meeting in Uganda next year and would welcome His Excellency to come for that meeting,” H.E. Museveni said.

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is a forum of 120 countries that are not formally aligned with or against any major power bloc. After the United Nations, it is the largest grouping of states worldwide and Uganda was endorsed to Chair the Non-Aligned Movement on behalf of Africa for the period from 2022 to 2025.

The Non-Aligned Movement conference will be held in Uganda next year in December.

Museveni was in the company of a section of his Cabinet Ministers who witnessed the highest level of visit from the Republic of Uganda to Viet Nam since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1973.

The two Presidents witnessed the signing of cooperation documents in Education, Agriculture, Information Communication Technology (ICT), and Foreign Affairs.

The leaders later witnessed the signing ceremony of Memoranda of Understanding to further bolster the cooperation between

the two countries.

Gen. Abubaker Jeje Odongo, on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uganda and his Viet Nameese counterpart Bui Thanh Son, signed an agreement on exemption for Visa requirements for holders of diplomatic and official passports. They also signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the two foreign ministries.

The Ministry of ICT and National Guidance of Uganda represented by Dr. Chris Baryomunsi and that of Information and Communication of Viet Nam represented by Mr. Nguyen Mahn Hung signed a Memorandum of Understanding on information and communications.

The Ministry of Education and Sports of Uganda and that of Education and Training of Viet Nam signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Education and training. Gen Jeje Odongo represented the Minister of Education and Sports of Uganda while Mr Nguyen Kim Son signed on behalf of Viet Nam.

Hon Frank Tumwebaze on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries of Uganda and the Viet Nam’s Academy of Agricultural Sciences represented by Mr. Nguyen Hoang Hiep signed a Memorandum of Understanding for scientific and technical cooperation.

Other Ugandan delegates present were; The Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaija, Hon. Ntabazi Harriet, the State Minister for Trade at the Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives, Uganda’s

Permanent Representative to the United Nations Adonia Ayebare and Betty Bigombe, the Ambassador (designate) to Asian Pacific Countries.

Earlier on, Gen. Museveni paid tribute to the late Viet Namese Revolutionary leader and President Ho Chi Minh who died in 1969.

President Museveni laid a wreath at his mausoleum located in the center of Ba Dinh Square near the Presidential Palace which serves as the resting place of the former leader Ho Chi Minh whose embalmed body lies in state, protected by a Military Honour Guard watching over him.

Ba Dinh Square is where the late Ho Chi Minh read the Declaration of Independence

on 2nd September 1945, establishing the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

Gen. Museveni also paid courtesy visits to the Prime Minister of Việt Nam, Pham Minh Chinh and the Việt Nam Communist Party General Secretary, Nguyen Phu Trong.

The President had candid discussions with them at the Office of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam and the Office of the Prime Minister of Viet Nam respectively.

The visit, the first by a Head of State between Viet Nam and Uganda, is regarded as an important milestone in the bilateral ties. It takes place in the context of the two countries looking towards the 50th anniversary of their diplomatic ties (February 9, 1973).



HANOI, Viet Nam: President Yoweri Museveni called upon the Government of Viet Nam to cooperate with Uganda in research and value addition in order for the two countries to reap big from Agriculture, a sector benefiting billions of people in food security and income generation.

H.E. Museveni noted that previously, countries especially in Africa produced raw materials for others to benefit, giving an example of cotton grown by Uganda, Egypt, Ghana and sold to the British who later became biggest producers of textiles.

He said the same should change with coffee, where coffee producing countries are getting little from their sweat. Uganda is producing 8 million bags of coffee not far from Viet Nam which produces 11 million bags.

“For instance, Viet Nam and Uganda are producing coffee. The value of coffee in the world is 460 billion dollars, but all the coffee producing countries-Uganda, Viet Nam, Colombia, Brazil, we are earning 25 billion dollars from the 460 billion. Then Africa earns only 2.5 billion dollars. This is criminal,” President Museveni said, adding that, one of the struggles has been the value addition and has started working in some countries, Uganda inclusive.

“I want us to cooperate on the issue of value addition. The shirt I’m putting on is a very good example. It is a Ugandan produced shirt from the Ugandan cotton with some polyester from outside. So, this is why I want us to cooperate. Stop producing raw materials for Europe,” President Museveni said.

On research, the President gave an example of 10 million metric tons Uganda produces every year, saying it’s still low because the 10 million tons is from the old methods of production which gives us 5.3 tons per hectare.

“But our research people have been able to produce 53 tonnes per hectare. I hear that in Brazil they have got 80 tonnes per hectare. So that idea of more yields per acre should be emphasised”, the President said.

He further called for technical assistance on how to successfully grow rice without injuring the environment like in Uganda.

“Our people eat rice but we don’t grow enough of it. And the one we grow is causing me a lot of problems because it is grown in wetlands. What they call wetlands in Uganda are actually not wetlands but tributaries of river Nile and when you grow rice there, you cause environmental problems,” the President further noted, adding that Uganda will send its people to get knowledge on successfully growing rice on dry land.

“And how do we get a good variety of upland rice so that anybody who wants to grow rice in Uganda, doesn’t grow it in the water but on dry land. I don’t even mind if it is irrigated rice but off the river”, H.E. Museveni said.

In 2021, the production volume of rice paddies in Viet Nam amounted to approximately 43.9 million metric tons. This indicated a slight increase of around 2.6 percent compared to the previous year. Viet Nam is among the leading

rice-producing and exporting countries worldwide.

The Minister in charge of Viet Nam's Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Mr. Nguyen Hoang Hiep, welcomed H.E. Museveni to his Ministry and expressed optimism in the recent agreement with the Government of Uganda on scientific and technical cooperation in agriculture and research.

Mr. Hoang Hiep said he is looking forward to cooperating with Uganda in among others areas; genetic diversity studies and plant breeding, plant microorganisms and pathogens, spatial land use and cover changes, adaptation of agriculture to climate change, smart agriculture and smart village and agricultural technology transfer and extension.

“With favorable climatic conditions and fertile soils, Viet Nam considers Uganda’s

agricultural potential to be among the best in Africa, he said.

Gen. Museveni was in the company of his Minister in-charge of Agriculture, Animal Industries and Fisheries Hon Frank Tumwebaze, Dr Chris Baryomunsi (ICT & National Guidance), Matia Kasaija (Finance) and Gen Jeje Odongo (Foreign Affairs). Others were; the permanent secretary Ministry of ICT Ms Aminah Zawedde and the Executive Director of National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) Prof Mary Okwakol.

Earlier, the President and the Ugandan delegation visited the FPT Corporation, the largest information technology company in south Asia with 60,000 engineers and branches in 28 countries with hopes to open the Africa branch in Uganda.



President Museveni and his delegation visiting the Viet Nam Academy of Agricultural Sciences

HANOI, Viet Nam: President Museveni attended and addressed the first ever Uganda-Viet Nam business summit and trade exhibition at the International Convention Centre, Hanoi, Viet Nam, under the theme “Unlocking investment opportunities”.

Speaking to participants, H.E. Museveni invited investors from Viet Nam to come and invest in Uganda, which has got the best investment environment with raw materials and skilled manpower.

“I would like to invite our friends of Viet Nam to come and invest in value addition of coffee and other agricultural products, minerals and knowledge products like cars, machines, computers,” Gen. Museveni said, adding that the 30 universities in Uganda have trained enough skilled manpower some of whom work in powerful international institutions.

“Some of the people who have been putting satellites in space are Ugandans because they were not handled well in the past, some are working for Boeing assembling and manufacturing aircrafts but are now coming back because we have improved their salaries,” he added.

H.E. Museveni assured investors that Uganda is transforming her economy based on science and Ugandan scientists have designed and are now producing electric vehicles (Kiira) to stop importation of cars.

“We have rejected, and nobody will waste our time with the idea of importing fully built vehicles. We shall not import built vehicles anymore like buses, and we will

not accept the idea of assembling. It must be either manufacture or fabrication from Uganda and the Government is supporting them,” he said.

The President assured investors of ready market under the East African Community (Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan) with 300 million People, COMESA with the 560 million people and the CFTA (Continental Free Trade Area) with 1.3 billion People.

He noted that the battle at hand in Africa is to transform societies to the non-traditional money economies. He added that in the last 36 years, the Ugandan economy has been growing at the rate of 6.5% per annum from a very low base due to the minimum recovery program that was designed to re-formalize the economy

“Then there was expansion and diversification which boosted production of goods like tea from 3 million kgs to 60 million kgs, coffee production which was at 2 million bags is now 8.4 million bags,” President Museveni said.

According to the Uganda Coffee Development Authority, in October 2022, Uganda exported 2,240 bags of coffee to Viet Nam and this will increase after Minister for Agriculture Frank Tumwebaze and College of Agricultural Sciences of Viet Nam signed a memorandum of understanding.

The Deputy Prime Minister of Viet Nam Vu Duc Dam reiterated their Government’s support to the cooperation between both countries like they have done before.

“We want to become friends with countries especially those that helped us in the liberation process. It is most important to have solidarity of economies after COVID 19 destroyed most of our businesses,” Mr. Duc Dam said, adding that the two Governments of Uganda and Viet Nam need to create a conducive environment for investment to thrive.

“I believe the visit of His Excellency Yoweri Museveni and the cooperation between the two countries will take us to the next level”, he added.

The Minister of State for Trade, Hon. Harriet Ntabazi, also addressed the gathering. She said Uganda had “suffered a lot with people buying our products, putting their brands, and selling them as their own”, saying this is going to stop now that Uganda is into manufacturing.

Equity Group Managing Director and

Chief Executive Officer, Dr. James Mwangi, assured the gathering that Uganda is well positioned to fill the gap of food supply chain whereas Viet Nam is blessed to have better agro product processing mechanisms saying this will create room for value addition in agricultural products.

Ugandan Ministers; Matia Kasajja (Finance), Gen Jeje Odongo (Foreign Affairs), Dr Chris Baryomunsi (ICT and National Guidance), Okello Oryem (State for Foreign Affairs), Frank Tumwebaze (Agriculture) attended the summit alongside a section of exhibitors like Uganda Coffee Development Authority, Equity Bank, Bella Wine among others.

The first-ever trade event between the two countries and the summit provided a unique platform to accelerate Uganda-Viet Nam trade and bilateral relationships.



President Museveni addresses the Uganda-Viet Nam Business Summit in Hanoi, Viet Nam



STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni believes the insecurity in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has to a larger extent been perpetuated by the presence of illegal guns that have been circulating within the country since independence.

While addressing leaders of the East African Community (EAC) virtually during the EAC-Led Nairobi Process, on restoration of peace and security in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo - Third Inter-Congolese dialogue that took place in Nairobi, Kenya, Gen. Museveni informed fellow leaders that many illegal guns still in the hands of foreign and local armed groups are an impediment to lasting peace in the eastern part of DRC and the entire region.

“The main problem are the illegal guns in Congo. These illegal guns have been there almost continuously since Congo’s independence,” H.E. Museveni said, adding that the guns currently being held by foreign armed groups like the Allied Democratic Forces-ADF from Uganda, the Entarahamwe of Rwanda and other groups from Burundi and Angola plus the internal Congolese groups such as the Kodeko, M23, Maimai and others have all these years been killing Congolese and disturbing neighbors.

Speaking from experience, President Museveni noted that the internal groups of Congo that came from the weakening of the state authority of that area (Eastern DRC) for a prolonged period, can be handled by combining the political methods that is to say; dialogue and if

necessary, the military method if there’s any group that is adamant and doesn’t want peace.

“The political means start with the dialogue. The dialogue should be preceded by a ceasefire where there’s active fighting and disengagement of forces. The peaceful solution should be the outcome of the dialogue,” he said.

The President further called for harmonised efforts to bring lasting peace in the region.

“These armed groups causing insecurity can be defeated if we harmonise efforts. If any Congolese group doesn’t respect the formula reached after the dialogues, the combined resources of East Africa will be brought down on them. No force can defy the combined efforts of east Africa,” Gen. Museveni stressed.

The President commended the efforts made by Operation Shujaa in the Eastern DRC which has been going on for almost a year now conducted by the combined forces of Congo and Uganda.

“These efforts in North Kivu and Ituri, have shown that we have the capacity to deal with these groups in spite of the difficult terrain, the forests and so on. If the Congolese Government agrees, they can invite visitors and visit where we are operating and see what can be achieved,” H.E. Museveni added.

However, according to the President the victim communities and the refugees who reside in the areas that have been occupied by terrorists for all this time should not be left out in efforts to pacify the region.

He said the Congolese communities such as the Bakonjo-Banande of Uganda and Congo, the Bahema-Banyoro, the Alurs, Lugbaras and Kakwas in Congo and some parts of West Nile in Uganda, the Bamba, the Banyarwanda of Kinyarwanda speaking people in Congo, Rwanda and Uganda are the same and know each other.

“Those people have been suffering and should be consulted because their land has been occupied by these terrorists for all this time. This is not fair. Here in Uganda, we have got 480,000 refugees,” H.E. Museveni said, adding that with 1.6 million refugees, Uganda now is the richest country in refugees in Africa and is number 4 in the whole world in the wealth of refugees, something he said “is not fair and not necessary”.

The third Inter-Congolese dialogue of the Nairobi Peace Process is aimed at accelerating the ongoing regional efforts to attain sustainable peace and security in Eastern DRC.

H.E. Museveni informed the dialogue that Uganda remains committed to a quick and permanent solution to the conflict in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.

The President of the affected nation of the DRC, H.E. Félix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo who addressed the dialogue virtually, said his country is committed to support the efforts of the EAC member states to end insecurity.

“The time to change the narrative of DRC having protracted insecurity is now. We are committed to the EAC- Led Nairobi



President Museveni addresses the virtual Inter-Congolese dialogue from State House, Entebbe



Process and long for peace, so we can rebuild the great Democratic Republic of Congo,” the DRC President said.

The President of the Republic of Burundi who is also the current Chairperson of the East African Community, H.E. Evariste Ndahishimiye also called upon leaders to step up efforts to bring peace in the region.

“We are cognizant of the high expectations the region and international community has in this process. I am appealing to all Partners to commit to supporting initiatives aimed at promoting peace and consolidating stability in the region,” he said.

This was re-echoed by the lead facilitator of the EAC - Led Nairobi Process, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, former President of Kenya.

“No effort should be spared in restoring peace and security in Eastern DRC. Kwa wana-DRC, Amani itatoka kwenye nyinyi wenyewe! Tuungane!” H.E. Kenyatta said.

The President of Kenya, H.E. William Ruto, said the pursuit of peace is an inevitable precondition for the prosperity of East Africa and re-affirmed Kenya’s commitment in supporting the restoration of peace in Eastern DRC.

The President of Rwanda, H.E. Paul Kagame, who also attended virtually, welcomed the swift response in seeking to restore peace in Eastern DRC, saying Rwanda is committed to the process of addressing the root cause of insecurity in

Eastern DRC once and for all.

The EAC Secretary General, Dr. Peter Mutuku Mathuki, also addressed the dialogue saying the EAC remains committed in supporting the restoration of peace and security in Eastern DRC as elaborated by various efforts of EAC Heads of State.

Also joining virtually were representatives from the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of South Sudan. Further in attendance were observers from the African Union, United Nations, and invited members of the Diplomatic Corps.

The Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General to the Great Lakes region, H.E. Huang Xia, was also physically in attendance.

According to the East African Community secretariat, the Inter-Congolese dialogue has been re-energised and incorporates consultations amongst armed groups in Eastern DRC, local community leaders, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, with the aim of finding sustainable solutions to the protracted security situation.

The Inter-Congolese dialogue will run up to 3rd December and involve consultations amongst armed groups in Eastern DRC, local community leaders, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, with the aim of finding sustainable solutions to the security situation.

UGANDA TO END IMPORTATION OF CAR BATTERIES

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: While meeting a group of investors from ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms (ARISE IIP), a Pan-African developer and operator of world-class industrial parks at State House Entebbe, the President said that Uganda is moving forward in building an independent, integrated and self-sustaining national economy which is point number five (5) of the NRM's 10 points program developed in the 1970s when they were fighting Idi Amin.

"That has been our line and we have been struggling here because it was not understood, it was being resisted," H.E. Museveni said, adding that Uganda's

highly educated population which has been buried in a slave mentality has started waking up into serious manufacturing to develop the automotive industry through the production of electric vehicles. He now wants investors to concentrate on making electric car batteries which Uganda is still importing.

"Because our people are making electric motorcycles and vehicles (buses, pickups etc.), we are still importing batteries. I want to make electric car batteries here using these raw materials," the President noted.

He said his Government stopped exporting unprocessed minerals like copper, gold,



President Museveni interacts with ARISE CEO, Gagan Gupta, during the meeting at State House, Entebbe

lead, lithium, ion, graphite some of which are important components of car batteries and other items like computers and telephones.

Gen. Museveni welcomed the group led by Maama Rosa Malango, an Economic Development Expert and informed them that Uganda has a lot of investment opportunities.

“But we had captured a narrow portion of the spectrum because we were struggling on our own. We had only succeeded in a few like milk processing, soap making, textiles, timber and forest products etc., but the spectrum is still there. So, I welcome you,” he said

ARISE Integrated Industrial Platforms (ARISE IIP), currently present in ten (10) African countries like Benin (GDIZ), Togo (PIA), and Gabon (GSEZ), identifies opportunities in commercial and industrial value chains across Africa, and conceive, finance, builds, and operates the necessary

infrastructure, playing a catalytic role in supporting countries to transition to an industrial economy.

The Chief Executive Officer and Founder of ARISE IIP, Gagan Gupta, informed the President that they expect to have created 100,000 jobs through their developed textile industry in less than 4 years of their existence in Benin which is Africa’s largest exporter of cotton.

The meeting was attended by among others, the Minister of Energy and Mineral Development Rose Nankabirwa, Hon Francis Mwebesa who is the Minister of Trade, industry and cooperatives, Peter Lokeris – Minister of State for Mineral Development, Senior Presidential Assistant, Hon Mary Karoro Okurut and officials from Uganda Investment Authority, Uganda Free Zones Authority and National planning Authority.

KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS:

President Yoweri Museveni wants a model of Education focused on achieving the much-desired socio-economic transformation in Uganda.

While officiating at the belated World Teachers' Day Celebrations at Kololo Independence Grounds in Kampala, under the theme: "Transformation of education begins with teachers", His Excellency Yoweri Museveni said the mission of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) Government since coming to power in 1986 has been to ensure the socio- economic transformation of Ugandans.

"Because now we are not under the kings, we are not colonial agents. We are a National Resistance Movement. Our mission is socio-economic transformation of our people by moving away from the non-money, traditional, pre-capitalist non-money economy to a money economy with a society, composed of the middle class and the skilled working class," H.E. Museveni said.

The President who was flanked by the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports Mama Janet Museveni, told teachers that whereas Education is an element in socio-economic transformation, it must be the right type of education, which addresses the country's needs to get rid of peasants producing another peasant.

"This one we don't accept. The NRM says we must build a skilled working-class society like in Europe where the whole society is either middle class or skilled working class. Please teachers, if you want to help your country, get this. Let

everybody enter into the money economy through education and the four (4) sectors of Agriculture, Manufacturing, Services and ICT," he urged.

To achieve the NRM mission of socio-economic transformation, the President called upon teachers to support his idea of free education (Education for all) to enable children of the poor study free in Government school. He also expressed dismay over non-cooperative head teachers that are obstructing this move by introducing unnecessary endless school charges that have in the end discouraged children from Education and many have ended up dropping out of schools.

"When we introduced this in 1997, enrollment went up from 2 million children to over 10 million in primary schools. But up to now, you bring charges in schools and the children drop out. The completion rate in UPE is 32% in the whole of Uganda because children drop out due to the school charges. If the capitation grant is not enough, why don't you raise that?" Gen. Museveni wondered, adding that this would enable the Government to concentrate on building more classroom blocks and laboratories plus equipping them.

"Therefore teachers, I congratulate you on this day but I really want less obstruction and I will not accept threats," Gen. Museveni said.

On salary increment, President Museveni and teachers under their umbrella body, Uganda National Teachers' Union (UNATU) again sharply disagreed over the Government's plan to increase the





First Lady and Minister for Education, Hon. Janet Museveni, addressing the celebrations at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds

remuneration of only science teachers, leaving out their arts counterparts.

The President said that the Government will not backtrack on the decision and asked UNATU leadership not to resist his efforts or put him under pressure after knowing that the Government is prioritizing scientists first to encourage Science and Technology Innovation under the science-led development strategy.

“I want to inform the teachers that money is not made by witchcraft and secondly, I’m not God who in the book of Genesis said let there be earth and water and it was made. For us in NRM we don’t do things by miracle, we do things by work, sacrifice and struggle. When it comes to expenditure, you must prioritize. If

somebody is against prioritization we disagree and we can only have a fall out,” Gen. Museveni said, warning teachers to stop the indiscipline.

The General Secretary of UNATU, Mr Filbert Baguma, who spoke highly about the role of teachers at the forefront of transforming Education, informed the President that whereas he remains committed on his grand plan for scientists, this does not take away the fact that a 300% salary increment for one category of teachers versus nothing (0%) for others is unfair.

“We appreciate what was given to one category of teachers and we look forward to you keeping your promise to bring all other categories of teachers on board since the increment has left the teaching

fraternity disunited and has affected the team work which is required for the delivery of quality education,” Mr. Baguma said.

He also presented the plight of teachers in private institutions who decried about job security and salary disparities.

“These teachers request for support from the Government in setting minimum pay regulations for teachers in private education institutions. Many meet challenges in trying to access bank loans and others are working for meagre pay with threats of dismissal if they complain. This can change if there is a regulation on the minimum pay for a private teacher,” he added.

The President who described himself as a licensed teacher who has been teaching since 1965, said all these years he has been teaching with no pay or little pay.

“I taught people who created a new army the National Resistance Army (NRA) which did not exist, now called Uganda People’s Defense Forces (UPDF) starting with 5 people in 1971 and for 17 years (1971 to 1987), I was teaching these soldiers to defend Uganda and contribute to security of the region with no pay but for patriotism”, Gen. Museveni said, adding that he doesn’t need a long lecture about the importance of teachers “because I’m a teacher myself”.

He said since 2006 the NRM Government has been prioritizing developing its infrastructure like roads and electricity to facilitate production.

“We were putting more money (6 trillion) on roads because we know that connectivity and electricity were important,” he added.

The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports Mama Janet Museveni

congratulated teachers on this day, describing it as an opportunity to hear from each other.

“As one Runyankore proverb goes; “Ezaguruka zitaragaina ziteraana amapapa” meaning that, if two birds fly together without agreeing on how to go, they bump into each other’s wings. Therefore, it is wise and necessary to set some time to hear from each other, especially since both Government and the teaching profession play a major role in nation building,” the First Lady said, adding that teachers are not just supposed to teach in the classroom alone, but they are supposed to disciple nations.

“The training we give should indeed address the head, the heart and the hands and this should go beyond the classroom to the communities where we live. This means that teachers have a big role to play especially in developing countries such as Uganda,” she added.

Hon. Janet further said the teacher as an agent of transformation should be a disciple-maker for the nation – raising responsible, skilled, and patriotic citizens who love their God but also love their neighbors just as they love themselves.

She said the Government sees teachers as part of the solution, offering feasible alternatives that are sustainably transformational.

Mama Janet also thanked education stakeholders and Partners in Development for holding hands to support Uganda’s Education sector in general.

She further recognised the contribution by the Government of Ireland, the New Vision, and Simba Travel, for the Program on Teachers making a Difference.



On the other hand, UNATU Secretary General, Mr. Baguma called for operationalisation of the National Teachers Policy; Fast tracking the establishment of the National Teacher Council and full operationalisation of the Uganda National Institute of Teacher Education (UNITE) with an independent budget vote.

He also requested the Government to subsidise the tuition costs or even implement an education loan scheme to attract more teachers to upgrade in time and get the required minimum qualifications.

Mr. Baguma further called upon colleagues in the profession to remain proud of who they are as great contributors in grooming other professions.

“Our influence is lifelong! It does not matter whether you teach Arts/Humanities or Sciences and if you serve in the Pre-Primary, Primary or Post Primary Education sub-sector. All teachers matter. All teachers are important. No one should ever make you feel inferior. You are all valued. Always remember that your contribution can not be taken for granted,” Mr Baguma said.

At the same ceremony, a total of twelve (12) teachers countrywide were awarded for their outstanding service. They included; Okino Samuel (Lira district), Ogwal Dennis (Dokolo district), Siminyu Robert (Napak district), Ogwal George Ojala (Gulu district), Mukisa Francis (Kagadi district), Nangwala Rose (Lira district) and Ntwatwa Oscar (Kamwenge district).

Others were; Aluma Baduru (Yumbe district), Awego Jilda (Nebbi district), Benah Siminyu (Butaleja district) and Apalat Everlyn Rose (Tororo district) while Mr Masanja Innocent from Namalu Mixed Primary School in Nakapiripirit district was the overall best teacher.

The winners received different prizes that included among others; Computers, Printers, electronics and schools’ sports equipment.

The President congratulated the best teachers, saying, “That means there are some good teachers in Uganda. I congratulate all those teachers who are doing their best.

Address by H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni at the State Dinner hosted by President H.E. President Nguyen Xuan Phuc on 24th November, 2022, in Hanoi Viet Nam

Your Excellency Nguyen Xuan Phuc, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and all the distinguished guests that are here today.

First of all, I bring greetings and salutations from the 43 million People of Uganda.

Secondly, on their behalf, being I believe the first Ugandan Head of State to visit Viet Nam, I want to belatedly salute the heroic struggle of the People of Viet Nam against the Colonialism and Imperialism of the French and the Americans. The struggles of the Asian freedom fighters in China (Mao Tse Tung), Viet Nam (Ho Chi Minh), Laos, Cambodia, India (Gandhi, Nehru), Indonesia (Sukarno), etc., etc., were sister struggles to our own struggles in Africa against the same pernicious enemies. I belong to the 3rd generation of those African anti- colonial struggles. By 1900, the whole of Africa

had been grabbed by the Colonialists from the UK, France, Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Germany, etc. These were the same enemies, you were fighting here in Asia, with the addition of the small Holland controlling the vast lands of Indonesia and Japan. The modern anti-colonial struggle in Africa was pioneered by the ANC of South

Africa in 1912, with the Mandelas and Nyereres and Nkrumahs becoming the second wave in the 1940s and our group coming on the scene from the 1960s.

Hence, I was following very closely the anti- colonial struggles in the whole World, including the ones in Asia.

The Independence of India in 1947, the defeat of the Dutch by Sukarno in Indonesia in 1949, the Victory of Mao Tse Tung in China in 1949, the victory of the Bolsheviks in 1917, the defeat of the French by the Viet Nameese (Uncle Ho Chi Mihn, General Giap etc.) in 1954 and, eventually, the defeat of the Americans in Saigon on 30th April, 1975, became shining examples to the African Resistance, sources of inspiration and a number of them gave material support to the African Resistance. Even small Cuba did alot, especially in Angola.

During your struggle, we did not do much because, at that time, we were still student sympathizers of the anti-colonial struggle.

We, however, formed the Uganda-Viet Nam Solidarity Committee based in Mbale and Prof. Nabudere was our Chairman.

This joint struggle against



Colonialism and Imperialism by the freedom fighters of the three Continents (The Tri-Continental) of Asia, Africa and Latin America, had, by 1994, resulted into the granting of Independence to all the African Countries, with the defeat of the racist Whites in South Africa.

This historic victory of the Colonized Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America, has, unfortunately, not been fully utilized by the leaders of the 3 continents after our victories. There is a lot of potential in the Tri-Continental grouping. We have everything. In the case of Africa, you can put the whole of the USA, China, India and Western Europe into Africa and they will fit there, comfortably. It has a land area of more than 30 million square kilometers, with a

population of 1.3 billion people that will be 2.5 billion by 2050. Fortunately, after wasting about 20 years, the African leaders realized that economic integration was crucial. In 1980, through the Lagos Plan of Action, the effort for economic integration started. Hence, we now have the East African Community (Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan) with 300 million People, COMESA with the 560 million people and the CFTA (Continental Free Trade Area) with 1.3 billion People. Therefore, the market is now a bit organized or is being organized and integrated.

Everybody knows what the Asian Countries have achieved individually and, sometimes, working in groups, such as ASEAN.

If the Asian Countries and the African Countries, respectively, working closely among themselves, but also engage in the inter-Tri-Continental co-operation, the sky is the limit.

On this occasion, I, therefore, propose that Viet Nam and Uganda, look at co-operation in four areas: technical and scientific co-operation in Education, Health science (e.g. vaccines), agriculture, etc.; trade; Investments; and Tourism.

In furtherance of that partnership, Uganda will host the conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in November, 2023. I invite Your Excellency to attend and after the Conference, Your Excellency could put aside a day or two to see what is happening in the modern Uganda.

I thank Your Excellency for this invitation which you extended to me.

I take this honour to propose a toast to your good health and for the growing of the bilateral relations between Uganda and Viet Nam.

