

# ***The Presidency***

**January, 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 January edition of our monthly e-magazine, The Presidency. The objective of the magazine once again, is to bring the office and residence of the President closer to the citizens and even to the international community actors, for purposes of open, transparent and accountable governance.

In every edition, we try to incorporate the feedback we receive from the readers and also, to make the magazine appealing to all our audiences, balancing both text and pictorial. We also provide information that is both educative and informative.

As is the practice, we bring you His Excellency's major speech of the month. In this edition, we have annexed the President's address to the 9th Ministerial level meeting of the African Union Committee of 10 on the reform of the UN Security Council, delivered on the 20th January, 2022, at the Commonwealth Resort, Munyonyo. The committee of 10 includes; Senegal, Uganda, Algeria, Kenya and Zambia. Others are; Congo, Libya, Namibia and Equatorial Guinea.

The President spent most of the month of January at his country home of Rwakitura in Kiruhura District and at his ranch in Kisozi, Gomba District, holding small meetings and tending to his cattle. Later, while commissioning a road in Hoima, the President attributed this long rest to the honest and hardworking Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja, who is now steering most the Government work. Other engagements of the President included; commissioning of the Helicopter Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facility in Nakasongola, National Defence College in Buikwe, etc.

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

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



## Marcella Karekye

Special Presidential Assistant In-Charge of  
Communication & Director Government  
Citizen Interaction Centre (GCIC)



# Editorial Team



**Duncan Abigaba**  
*Deputy Chief Editor*



**Robert Sharp Mugabe**  
*Content Production Manager*



**Gerald Kansiime**  
*HR & Administration*



**Deo Mutumba**  
*Head of Production*



**Otim Deo**  
*Communications Officer*



**Ariho Muhwezi**  
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# Quote of the Month

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“

*The problem of Africa as summarised by the African Union was that Africans were producing what they did not consume and consuming what they didn't produce. You find Africans producing cotton but some of them are going naked without clothes”*

●●●

**President Y.K. Museveni**

Nakasongola Airforce Base, 22nd January, 2022



## PRESIDENT GETS COVID-19 BOOSTER DOSE

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“My doctors, Dr Diana Atwiine and Dr Magooba, an army officer, have just given me a booster dose. According to my statement during the New Year speech, I told you that efforts we are going to rely on to open the economy were; full vaccination for people aged 18 years and above who are about 22million, but also booster doses for the 3.3million people above the age of 50 years, a constituency where I very rightly fit. I am now 50+27 – 77 years. We said that this group should get a booster dose. But also, the ones below 50 but with problems like diabetes, blood pressure, cancers, etc, those ones should get a booster dose,” President Museveni

RWAKITURA, KIRUHURA DISTRICT: President Yoweri Museveni received his booster dose against the COVID-19.

“My doctors, Dr Diana Atwiine and Dr Magooba, an army officer, have just given me a booster dose. According to my statement during the New Year speech, I told you that efforts we are going to rely on to open the economy were; full vaccination for people aged 18 years and above who are about 22million, but also booster doses for the 3.3million people above the age of 50 years, a constituency where I very rightly fit. I am now 50+27 – 77 years. We said that this group should get a booster dose. But also, the ones below 50 but with problems like diabetes, blood pressure, cancers, etc, those ones should get a booster dose,” he said shortly after his vaccination.

The President appealed to Ugandans to get fully vaccinated to beat the virus and reopen the economy fully.

“I really appeal to everybody to do the needful. If you belong to this group of 50+, get a booster dose. If 18 and above get vaccinated fully. Dr. Atwiine brought another clan of doses and said clan mixing is good. Now, Atwiine has said that for the booster to work well, get another clan. I was vaccinated two times with AstraZeneca, now I have got a Pfizer booster dose. That, when you do that, you get more mobilisation of immunity and resistance against the virus for the body. Please get the two vaccines if you are 18 years and then the ones above 50 years or below 50 but with co morbidities get a booster”, he said.

The President said he has got reports that even with new Omicron virus; people who have been vaccinated two times quickly overcome it.



President Museveni receives a Pfizer booster dose at Rwakitura, Kiruhura District

The President got his Pfizer booster dose almost ten months after his first COVID-19 dose to improve immunity, following the outbreak of the fast-spreading Omicron variant. Research has shown that after the first two doses, the priority/special groups

including people aged 50 years and above and those with co-morbidities can take a booster dose.

According to research, three COVID-19 vaccines are now authorized or approved for use to prevent COVID-19. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

(COVID-19 mRNA vaccines) are preferred and can be mixed. A three-dose course of AstraZeneca's (AZN.L) COVID-19 vaccine is effective against the rapidly-spreading Omicron corona virus variant.

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## **PRESIDENT MUSEVENI HAILS PAN-AFRICAN PAYMENTS AND SETTLEMENT SYSTEMS**

**“** *I would like to commend you and your team for successfully piloting the PAPSS in the six countries that make up the West African Monetary Zone (WAMZ) despite its multi-currency and bi-lingual makeup. I look forward to that time when traders from the remaining parts of Africa will take advantage of the platform to ease cross-border transactions, reduce the dependency on hard currencies for these transactions and bring about a significant boost in intra-Africa trade,” he said.*

ACCRA, GHANA: President Yoweri Museveni hailed the partnership between the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) and the Secretariat of African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), in line with the decisions of the 12th and 13th Extraordinary Sessions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, to launch the Pan-African Payments and Settlement Systems (PAPSS), a platform

that facilitates instant cross-border payments in local currencies between countries, as a welcome development.

“I would like to commend you and your team for successfully piloting the PAPSS in the six countries that make up the West African Monetary Zone (WAMZ) despite its multi-currency and bi-lingual makeup. I look forward to that time when traders from the remaining parts of Africa will take advantage of the platform to ease cross-border transactions, reduce the dependency on hard currencies for these transactions and bring about a significant boost in intra-Africa trade,” he said.

In a statement read for him by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Hon. Matia Kasaijja, the President apologised for his absence at the launch and delegated the Minister.

“This is an event that I would have liked to attend in person, but I am unable to do so due to prior domestic commitments.





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I have, however, delegated the Hon. Matia Kasaija, Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development, to represent me at the launch.

The President was invited by H.E. Wamkele Mene, the Secretary-General, African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat and Prof. Benedict Orama, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the African Export-Import Bank, to attend the commercial launch of the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) that took place at the Kempinski Hotel, Gold Coast City in Accra, Ghana, on Thursday, 13th January 2022.

The ceremony was held under the theme ***“Connecting Payments, Accelerating Africa’s Trade”***.

Ghana’s Vice President Mahamudu Bawumia said Africa’s new cross-border payment system will save the continent billions of dollars in annual transaction costs and bolster shipments in the world’s largest free-trade zone.

Godwin Emefiele, the Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), said the Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) will simplify cross-border transactions and reduce third currencies for intra-African trade. The third currencies include dollars, pounds and euros for cross-border transactions in Africa.

PAPSS will also provide alternative to current high-cost and lengthy correspondent banking relationships to facilitate trade and other economic activities among African countries through a simple, low-cost and risk-controlled payment clearing and settlement system.

The benefits of PAPSS for cross-border payments include cost reduction; reduction in duration and time variability; decreasing liquidity requirements of commercial banks; decreasing liquidity requirements of central banks for settlement as well as its own payments; and strengthening Central Banks’ oversight of cross-border payment systems.

## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS BRITAIN'S MINISTER FOR AFRICA

“There is a lot of misinformation; our whole struggle for last 60 years has been about human rights. But you get misinformation from some of the groups who want to promote anarchy and when you try to stop them, they say you have violated their human rights. I can assure you that we are very seasoned people,” President Museveni

STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE: President Yoweri Museveni strongly defended Uganda's human rights record and said for the last 60 years, their struggle has been about promoting and defending human rights.

“There is a lot of misinformation; our whole struggle for last 60 years has been about human rights. But you get misinformation from some of the groups who want to promote anarchy and when you try to stop them, they say you have violated their human rights.

I can assure you that we are very seasoned people,” he said.

The President was meeting Britain's Minister for Africa, Ford Vicky at State House, Entebbe. The two leaders discussed various issues including trade, investment, human rights, regional peace and security, among other things.



*President Museveni gestures to Ms. Vicky Ford during a meeting held at State House, Entebbe*

“Our army would not be in Somalia for more than 13 years, a Muslim society and yet majority of our people are not Muslims and they have been there peacefully. If we didn’t know how to observe human rights, that is an acid test of how disciplined we are. Yes, groups make mistakes and we punish them. The problem would be impunity. We don’t have impunity here. We have got full accountability,” he said.

The President, however, acknowledged that they are still dealing with a pre-capitalist society, some of whom still have traditional ideas like beating people.

“This one we are fighting it. This is part of the old system of police and society.

On the issue of civil society organisations, President Museveni said the only idea about civil society is the issue of substance which they are discussing.

“Our understanding of civil society is people who are not making a living out of activism but are concerned about the rights of the people. But if you have foreign funding groups claiming to be fighting, when they are just paid like foreign agents, sometimes even paid by foreign governments who come to influence our future, it is a very serious issue. Is an agent of a foreign Government a civil society activist? That one, we are not convinced,” he said.

The President said he discussed with the Norwegian Ambassador and agreed that the sovereignty of the country should give a no objection to all after deciding whether it is a socio-economic issue or it is political interference.

“I don’t see why especially somebody who wants democracy would want external manipulation. The issue is not empowering women to grow vegetables, but if we should allow foreigners who oppose our government, politically to determine our destiny,” he said.

On the issue of economic empowerment, President Museveni said the challenge here is to deal with issue prosperity and how do you create wealth for our people by producing goods and services which they must sell.

“If you don’t sell, it will not become wealth, you will not get prosperity out of it”, he said.

He said Ugandans are now waking up and realizing that the Uganda market is not enough, and they now need the East African Market.

“That is why we say patriotism first, love Uganda. Uganda is more important than tribes. We add Pan-Africanism and internationalism. For us what is more important is interests,” he said.

Minister Ford Vicky said she would want to see what her government can do to make our partnership and friendship even stronger as we come out of COVID-19.

“

*You have been such a wise person with some of the regional issues. I thank you for the leadership on South Sudan. I want to hear your views about the difficult situation in Ethiopia and Somalia”, **Minister Ford said.***

Ms. Ford said her government is very keen to increase investment and trade between our countries to build stronger economies and increase trade and investment to grow the economy.

She said the United Kingdom Government through its department of Health has donated to Uganda one million extra doses of the COVID-19 AstraZeneca vaccines that will be arriving in the country shortly.



## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI LAUNCHES #ExploreUganda

“Uganda is a very nice place but needed a group to inform the world and UTB group are determined to talk about Uganda.” President Museveni

**KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS:** President Museveni launched the newly-developed destination brand campaign by the Uganda Tourism Board called Explore Uganda – the Pearl of Africa.

The new destination brand acknowledges that given the depth and breadth of Uganda’s tourism assets, the best way to experience The Pearl of Africa is not to rush it by just visiting but rather, allowing more time to explore all the ‘Pearls’ it has to offer.

In his address, the President said that Uganda was very unique because of three factors; terrain, culture. He urged Uganda Tourism Board to emphasise to tourists how Uganda was able to overcome health challenges including Ebola and AIDS.

“Uganda is a very nice place but needed a group to inform the world and UTB group are determined to talk about Uganda,” said President Museveni.

The Chief Executive Officer of UTB, Ms. Lilly Ajarova said that the newly-developed destination brand was meant to harmonise the message about marketing Uganda while working with different stakeholders, and to harness the 5A’s of tourism; attraction, accessibility, accommodation, amenities and awareness.

In his address, the Minister for Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, Hon. Col. Tom Butime, thanked the President for successfully guiding the sector through the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Your Excellency, we thank you for safely guiding the tourism sector through the pandemic and look forward to welcoming visitors to Uganda now. We want to increase the contribution of the sector towards employment, GDP, income and foreign exchange,” said the Minister.



Logo of the recently launched destination brand – Explore Uganda – the Pearl of Africa



## PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS ULTRA-MODERN HELICOPTER MRO FACILITY

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*The problem of Africa as summarised by the African Union was that Africans were producing what they did not consume and consuming what they didn't produce. You find Africans producing cotton but some of them are going naked without clothes” President Museveni*

**NAKASONGOLA AIRFORCE BASE:** President Yoweri Museveni who is also the Commander-in-Chief of the UPDF commissioned a helicopter maintenance, repair and overhaul plant at the Nakasongola Air Force Base, that will also in the future upgrade chopper ware.

The MRO plant, the first of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa, is a joint venture by the UPDF's commercial arm, the National Enterprise Corporation-NEC and Pro-heli International, a Russian Company and will be developed into a hub not only for the entire East African Region including UN Missions which use Russian helicopters but also for the entire continent.

Speaking shortly after the official commissioning, Gen. Museveni hailed the Ministry of Defence for the initiative which he said is an example of vertical integration of the economy promised in the NRM's 10-Point Programme.

Point Number 5 of the programme was to build an independent, integrated, and self-sustaining national economy, a point he said is being fulfilled although some of the people didn't get it.

“The problem of Africa as summarised by the African Union was that Africans were producing what they did not consume and consuming what they didn't produce. You

find Africans producing cotton but some of them are going naked without clothes,” he said. The President compared this to the Defence Service which he said uses equipment which is not made here, just like in almost 100 percent of the African countries and added that the facility to maintain, repair, overhaul and in the future upgrade will go a long way in saving costs.

The President said the commissioning of the plant is among the modest steps taken to



*President Museveni unveils the stone marking start of operations at the Helicopter MRO facility in Nakasongola*

solve what he termed as ‘irrationality’ which is very costly.

“You're talking of saving money. You're using imported helicopters which you don't make or even maintain and repair. This is very serious,” Museveni said.

The Helicopter Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul - MRO plant will help Uganda save about 3.5 million US dollars that have been spent on transportation and overhauling one helicopter outside Uganda.

Maj. Gen. Sabiiti Muzeyi, the General Manager, Luwero Industries, a subsidiary of

National Enterprise Corporation (NEC), said the facility with state-of-the-art equipment is now fully operational.

“The UPDAF attached its technical personnel to the facility (in the field of Mechanics-Engine and Airframe; Avionics-Radio/Radar, Instruments and Electrical System, Armament-Electrical and Mechanical Systems, Ground Support Equipment and in Quality Control and Quality Assurance). The first batch of 15 is already deployed at the facility and carrying out the overhaul of the first Mi-24 under the supervision of expatriates but in the long run, we shall do all this work by ourselves. I thank the Commander of Air force for all the support he has given to this project,” he said.

Gen. Sabiiti said the Ministry will make huge savings on costs of handling and freight.

“A huge saving will be made on the costs currently incurred by the Ministry of Defence/UPDF on clearing, handling and freight of the helicopters to repair stations abroad which is not less than USD \$1,200,000 one way, for each helicopter. For example, the helicopter currently being worked on in the hanger here was recently ferried to the Nakasongola facility just on a low loader at a cost of just USD 520 equivalent,” he said.



*President Museveni (left) and other dignitaries being conducted around the MRO facility by Maj. Gen. Sabiiti Muzeyi (right)*

Mr. Valari Copcin, the Chief Executive Officer, Pro-heli International Services, said the facility will handle major repairs, service and overhaul of Mi-18, Mi-9 and Mi-24 helicopters.

“This facility being commissioned today is able to do major repairs, service and overhaul of Mi-17 (Mi-8) and Mi-24 helicopters. This in turn saves the country loss of money in transportation and general turnaround time,” he said.

According to the Commander UPDF Airforce, Lt. Gen. Charles Lutaaya, Aircraft maintenance is generally expensive but with the commissioning of the MRO facility, there will be on time repair of components and reduced wastage to enhance air force combat readiness and employment capabilities.

“Assets will no longer be grounded for long periods due to lack of spares and technical expertise input as this can be now sourced from the MRO expertise,” Lutaaya said.

The Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Wilson Mbasu Mbadi, said the facility will bring in more revenue into the economy as aircrafts from the region will be serviced here.

“I want therefore to thank your Excellency on behalf of the UPDF for continuously guiding us to help us build a formidable force in the region,” Gen. Mbadi said.

The function was attended by among others; the Minister of State for Defence and Veteran Affairs, Hon. Huda Abason Oleru, Lt Gen. Proscovia Nalweyiso, the General Manager Uganda Air cargo - Lt General Nakibus Lakara, the Chief of Military Intelligence –Maj. Gen. Abel Kandiho, the Deputy Managing Director, National Enterprise Corporation - NEC Maj. General (Rtd) Innocent Oula, among other dignitaries.



“I came here in a by-election. NRM people were confused but Nabbanja was strong. I studied her and discovered that she is hardworking, patriotic, honest and straight forward. I am now relaxed like any other old man while she leads” President Museveni

HOIMA: President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni commissioned the Hoima-Butiaba-Wanseko road and the Kigumba-Bulima road in Hoima district, roads that are critical in the ongoing oil development and production activities.

Both roads cut through the Kingfisher and Tilenga oil projects.

Speaking at the event, President Museveni said that the roads were part of the Government’s 10-year rolling road sector development programme aimed at improving road access to socio-economic facilities. In his address, the President also praised the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, who is also Woman District Representative for Kakumiro District, for being honest and patriotic.



^ Hoima-Butiaba-Wanseko road. Photo credit: URA

President Museveni with Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Nabbanja (right) and

✓ UNRA Executive Director, Allen Kagina at the commissioning of the roads



## **PRESIDENT MUSEVENI LEADS NRM/A CELEBRATIONS**

“On this day in 1986, the economy was \$1.5b and the population was 15m. We shall have grown economically to \$44b by July with a population of 44.2m & GDP per capita of \$980 (short of the middle-income status) which we would, by the way, have achieved had it not been for COVID-19” President Museveni

**KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS:** President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni led celebrations to mark the 36th anniversary of the NRM/A victory day at Kololo ceremonial grounds. The anniversary celebrated under the theme “Celebrating the 36th NRM/A Victory Day: A Call to duty for all Compatriots to contribute towards Uganda’s Socio-economic Transformation Journey”, was also graced by a delegation from the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, led by Minister for Defence, Dr. Gilbert Kabanda.

In his address, President Museveni recounted the progress Uganda has achieved since 1986, announcing that the country’s GDP shall be \$44 billion by July, 2022.

“On this day in 1986, the economy was \$1.5b and the population was 15m. We shall have grown economically to \$44b by July with a population of 44.2m & GDP per capita of \$980 (short of the middle-income status) which we would, by the way, have achieved had it not been for COVID-19,” said President Museveni



*President Museveni (extreme right) poses with a team of medallists from Soroti Regional Referral Hospital*

The Minister for Presidency, Hon. Milly Babalanda, thanked the President for the commitment and sacrifices he endured to liberate this country.

“Your Excellency, today, Ugandans are coming together to celebrate the events of 26th January, 1986, when the determined and brave fighters of NRA under your able leadership captured Kampala and entrenched peace and stability in the country,” said the Minister.

During the celebrations, President Museveni awarded 50 distinguished Ugandans with different national medals and honours. The medals and honours were; 50th Independence medal (29), Nalubale medal (01), Luwero medal (04) and the Special Service Police medal (16). Notable among the receivers of the medals was the the Soroti Regional Referral Hospital team led by Dr. Joseph Epodoi, who successfully separated conjoined twins at Soroti RRH, who received the 50th Independence medal.



“I congratulate the army on this National Defence College, which is the apex, the culmination of military learning. But as Gen. Mbadi said, it is also good for civilians to come here and learn about the strategic defence and security of the country. How the non-defence sectors contribute to the defence of the country” President Museveni

**BUIKWE:** President Museveni commissioned the National Defence College in Buikwe District, which is the apex of security and defence studies in the world. At the same event, the President inaugurated the governing council of the college and the pioneer 18 participants of the college who include; former SFC Commander, Brig. Peter Chandia; former Defence spokesperson, Brig. Flavia Byekwaso; former Head of Anti-Corruption Unit, Col. Edith Nakalema, among others.

The President said that the college will later enrol civilian participants to teach them how non-defence sectors contribute to the defence capacity of the country.

“I congratulate the army on this National Defence College, which is the apex, the culmination of military learning. But as Gen. Mbadi said, it is also good for civilians to come here and learn about the strategic defence and security of the country. How the non-defence sectors contribute to the defence of the country,” President Museveni said.

The Minister for Defence and Veteran Affairs, Hon. Vincent Ssempijja thanked the President for his visionary leadership that has transformed the army.

“Your Excellency, we thank you for your stewardship and visionary leadership of the country and the UPDF in particular,” the Minister said.

On his part, the Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Wilson Mbadi, said the college will save money the country has been spending on training abroad.

“We are happy to commission the college with the motto: Leadership with Knowledge,” Gen. Mbadi added.

The two-year standard National Defence College Course has been condensed into 48 weeks and the pioneer participants will graduate with a post graduate diploma at the end of the course.

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*President Museveni unveils the plaque commissioning the National Defence College-Uganda*



**JAN  
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## **PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MOURNS GOVERNOR TUMUSIIME MUTEBILE**

**“** *I am here to salute the contribution of Mutebile as a person,” President Museveni*

**KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS:** President Museveni paid his last respects to the fallen Governor of Bank of Uganda, Prof. Emmanuel Tumusiime Mutebile, at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

In a service celebrated by the Archbishop of Uganda, the Most Reverend Stephen Kaziimba Mugalu, President Museveni saluted Prof. Mutebile for his contribution to the growth of the economy of Uganda. The President said that Mutebile had reformed the economy by floating the currency and through the privatisation reforms.

“I am here to salute the contribution of Mutebile as a person,” said President Museveni.

In his eulogy, the Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Department, Hon. Matia Kasaija, said that Mutebile had died when they were working hard to see the country’s economy flourish after the COVID-19 pandemic.

President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya, in a message read by the Governor, Central Bank of Kenya, praised Mutebile for holding Uganda’s economy together when the world was battling the pandemic.

The service was attended by Chief Justice of Uganda, former prime ministers; Ruhakana Rugunda and Amama Mbabazi, and the Governor, Central Bank of South Sudan, among other dignitaries.



*President Museveni signs the condolence board at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds*

## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI MEETS CONGOLESE DEFENCE DELEGATION

**“** We should really work together and finish this problem. This was phase one. We are now ready for phase two. It is very easy for us to destroy those groups” President Museveni

STATE LODGE, NAKASERO: President Yoweri Museveni assured the people of Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo of total peace after the two countries launched joint operations to flush out the Allied Democratic Forces from Eastern Congo.

The President was addressing a delegation of security chiefs from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) led by their Minister in charge of National Defence, Dr. Gilbert Kabanda Kurhenga, at State Lodge, Nakasero.

“We should really work together and finish this problem. This was phase one. We are now ready for phase two. It is very easy for us to destroy those groups,” Museveni said.

The Uganda Peoples Defence Forces - UPDF and The Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo – FARDC, the state institution responsible for defending the Democratic Republic of the Congo, launched joint operations against ADF in Eastern Congo on November 30th 2021, with bombardment on four major terrorist camps.

Since, the two forces have captured several camps including the famous Kambi Ya Yua and secured major routes in Eastern Congo to enable ground battle teams to pursue ADF rebels who have fled to the thick forests.



*President Museveni (centre) posing for a photo with Congolese National Defence Minister, Dr. Gilbert Kabanda (left) and the Ugandan Minister for Defence, Hon. Vincent Ssempijja during a meeting at State Lodge, Nakasero.*



To avoid back and forth attacks between the rebels and the joint forces, President Museveni advised the Government of DRC to intensify regional and local security mechanisms to avoid further insurgencies especially in areas already secured by the joint forces.

“Our experience here is that, once you attack concentrations of the terrorists and they see that you have the capacity, they can’t challenge you army to army, they now go to pure terrorism. They break into small groups and they go to attack villagers,” Museveni said.

Museveni made mention of five elements needed to strengthen security which include using mobile forces, zonal forces, local defence units per village, strategic forces (air forces, artillery) and to lesser extent, Special Forces.

He said these will later prevent pockets of terrorism where rebels return to attack villagers and kill people ending up discrediting Government.

“That’s why for us, we add the third force. These are called local defence units per village where there is a threat, and they don’t have to be many. When the other people come to kill villagers, they will be there to repulse them,” he said.

The Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Wilson Mbasu Mbadi, briefed the President about the progress of the on-going Operation Shuja, aimed at pacifying Eastern Congo, the on-going road construction projects on the Kasindi - Beni - Butembo and Bunagana – Rutshuru, to facilitate easy movement of troops and other strategic decisions made between the forces of the two countries.

The Minister in charge of National Defence of DRC, Dr. Gilbert Kabanda Kurhenga, thanked President Museveni for his role in ensuring peace in the region.

At the same meeting, Ugandan Minister for Defence and Veteran Affairs, Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempijja and his DRC counterpart signed the bilateral general agreement on defence cooperation that will ensure joint operations between the armies of both countries.

The meeting was attended by among others; Col. Alimasi Gwenda Nkoyo Cesar, Capt. Desire Mugula, Sgt Ilunga Ferdinand, Amb.Massala Jean Pierre, Mr Nicholas Kashando, Mrs Dorah Bahole, Namuhirwa Zagabe and Mugeamboa Mandey Didier.

The Ugandan delegation included among others; Minister Vincent Sempijja, Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. Wilson Mbasu Mbadi, and Maj. Gen. Richard Prit Olum, who serves as Uganda’s military attaché to Kinshasa.



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**ADDRESS BY H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI  
AT THE 9TH MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING OF THE AFRICAN  
UNION COMMITTEE OF 10 ON THE REFORM OF UN SECURITY  
COUNCIL**

Honourable Ministers,  
Officials,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I welcome you, the Foreign Ministers of the brother African countries of the Committee of 10 for the reform of the UN Security Council to your brother country, Uganda. In order to inform your brother people of Uganda who may be listening or watching this function, the committee of 10 is comprised of the following brother African countries: Senegal, Uganda, Algeria, Kenya, Zambia, Sierra Leone, Congo, Libya, Namibia and Equatorial Guinea.

In March, 2005, the African Union (AU) appointed members of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government (C-10) with the mandate to advocate and canvass for the African Common Position on the reform of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

Indeed, a consensus was reached at Ezulwini in Swaziland (Kingdom of Eswatini), where the brother African countries on the Committee agreed as follows:

1. To promote Africa to be fully represented in all UN organs, specifically the United Nations Security Council;
2. To have two permanent seats with two veto rights and two more non-permanent seats on the UN Security Council, as Africa's legitimate right and aspiration to correct the historical injustices endured by the continent;
3. That the African Union (AU) shall be responsible for the selection of African representatives to the UN Security Council.

These were very good principles and there is no useful reason as to why they should be altered or

diluted. The UN Security Council should have been and must be reformed. This is not a favour by anybody but a right of all peoples that inhabit the planet earth. The international arrangement that was arrived at in 1945, after the devastating inter-imperialist second World War caused by the greed of the imperialist countries that were vying for colonial possessions, fighting as to who should own us (the Africans and the Asians), having exterminated or enslaved the Indigenous peoples of the Americas and Australia and New-Zealand, was temporary because many of us were not in position to make our own decisions. The Asians and the Africans were in colonial bondage, although we had been used to fight and die in those other people's wars of the Imperialists □ the first and the second World Wars. In the two World Wars, more than 3.5million

Africans and 6.5million Asians (Indians, etc.), were used in fighting those wars, which were not their wars. Yet, no thought was given to how they would participate in international decision-making. Was the assumption that we would never be free?

If that was the assumption, then the assumers were wrong. By both peaceful and violent methods, the countries of Asia and Africa, are now free. Even the indigenous peoples of the Americas, Australia, New- Zealand that survived extermination, are also beginning to assert themselves as we have seen in countries like Bolivia, etc. It is, therefore, a circus to waste time, year after year, debating the obvious. We demand our right of having permanent seats, not the seasonal ones allotted to us by the present unfair system, on the UN Security Council. Every reasonable man, as the lawyers say, I do not want to bother myself talking of fair-minded man, should see that the 1.4billion Africans that will be 2.5billion in the next 29 years and billions of Asians, the former colonised peoples, cannot be kept out of that UN Security Council on terms similar to the

present five (USA, China, Russian, Britain, France) that monopolise that body.

There are only a few factors that are delaying that process. Two of them are on our side, the Africans that, have decided to maintain weakness in Africa even after the decolonisation of our continent that started with the Independence of the Sudan in 1955. Here in Uganda, we have been battling against those internal weaknesses by relying on the 4 principles of: patriotism (down with sectarianism and loving

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Uganda), Pan-Africanism (loving East Africa, loving Africa and working for their integration), social-economic transformation and democracy. With these principles, we have been able to create a chapter of some capacity. Similar chapters exist and have existed in Africa since independence. That is how, for instance, countries like Tanzania under Mwalimu

Nyerere, Zambia under Mzee Kaunda, Botswana under Mzee Khama, Algeria under Bounedienne, Egypt under Nasser and Guinea-Conakry under Seku-Toure, were able to support the anti-colonial armed struggle that defeated Portuguese colonialism in Mozambique, Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tome, the Ian Smith regime in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia as they were calling it), Namibia and racist South Africa, working with the African Liberation Movements of those countries. This means, that the potential is there if we act right and together. The problem of Idi Amin and such other problems, were similarly solved by the African actors. The present chaos in some African countries, can be solved if the different chapters are able to act together. There is no adversary that we cannot defeat on the African continent if we act together. By strengthening ourselves here in Africa, the outsiders will more easily accept not to interfere with our rights.

We must be in that Security Council to ensure that it is not used negatively against Africa and that it is, instead, used positively for Africa and the rest of the World.

When has the UN system been misused to commit aggression against Africa? I can, straight away, quote two cases: the murder of Patrice Lumumba in 1961 and the attack on Libya. How much chaos have these two mistakes caused in Africa? Who is answerable for these two mistakes?

The attack on Libya, for instance, is definitely behind the chaos in Mali, Niger, Chad, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, etc. Congo has been in successive problems in the last 60 years.

The membership of African countries on a permanent basis would stop these mistakes. How and who should be the members of this body? It is already known that Africa should have two members of the Security Council on a permanent basis, elected may be every four years by the African Union on a rotational regional basis. This would mean that for four years, we would have one country for North Africa and one country for

West Africa. Then, for the next four years' cycle, we would have one country from Central Africa and one country from Southern Africa. Then, in the next four years' cycle, we would have a country from Eastern Africa and another turn for a different country from North Africa. These countries, would go to that Security Council as our delegates. They should only take the positions given to them by the African Union, not their own individual positions. If we had such arrangements, mistakes like what happened in Libya, would not have happened. Trying to use the size of the economy, etc., is not correct.

Germany's economy is now bigger than either the economy of UK or France. What should we do now? Should we remove those countries from the UN Security Council or what?

Finally, it is time to bring to the high table the defeated belligerents of the 2nd World War - Germany and Japan.

Why? We want reconciliation and forget past mistakes. Why do you continue to punish a student of imperialism and aggression when you have never punished the teacher - the actual imperialist countries as per (1900)? The position of Germany and Japan was a question: ***"Why should UK, France, Portugal, Belgium, etc. have colonies and we do not have, yet we are now powerful countries?"*** It was also the shallowness and refusal of our Chiefs to change that created the internal weaknesses that lured the wicked.

It is, therefore, high time we forget all the mistakes of the past and have a new dispensation of equality and security.





*Stay Well!* | *Stay Safe!*



@KagutaMuseveni



STATE HOUSE  
GOVERNMENT CITIZEN INTERACTION CENTRE  
SRK HOUSE, PLOT 67A, LUGOGO BYPASS



TEL: 0414670558

WHATSAPP: 0414670288

EMAIL: [citizen@gcic.go.ug](mailto:citizen@gcic.go.ug)

WEBSITE: [www.gcic.go.ug](http://www.gcic.go.ug) 