

STATEMENT BY KISAMBA-MUGERWA, CHAIRPERSON, NPA, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON UGANDA'S ROADMAP TO ATTAINMENT OF A MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRY STATUS ON 7TH JULY 2016, NPA

1. As you may be aware in 2007, the Government of Uganda approved a Comprehensive National Development Framework (CNDF) which prescribed a 30-year planning roadmap covering 5-year Development Plans and the flow of all the information to and from the local authorities.
2. In the same year, the Government proposed to drive Uganda from a Predominantly Peasant Society to a Modern Prosperous Country within 30 years, targeting the upper middle class.
3. In consultation with all stakeholders, MDA, Private Sector, Local Governments, Civil Society, Development Partners and the grassroot people in different fora, the Uganda Vision 2040 was formulated reflecting Uganda's aspirations starting from 2010/11 financial year.
4. Meanwhile, the Government of Uganda concentrated on poverty eradication. You may be aware of several upcountry tours made by H E President Museveni addressing Ugandans about how they could raise household incomes. These efforts paid off by reducing poverty levels from 56% in 1986 to 31% in 2009 and then the current level of 19.7% at national level. Much as there's much disparities by region ranging from 7.3% in the Central to 74% in North Eastern.
5. In 2010/11, Uganda graduated from poverty focus per say to long and medium term strategic planning:
 - a) Uganda Vision 2040;
 - b) The First Five-Year Development Plan (2010/11 – 2014/15);
 - c) The Second Five Year Development Plan (2014/15 - 2019/20).
6. The main thrust in the Uganda Vision 2040 is the need to strengthen the fundamentals (Infrastructure roads, railway, energy, water ways, agricultural infrastructure and tourism infrastructure) in order to facilitate

harnessing i.e exploiting the opportunities available in Uganda in form of Agriculture, oil and gas, minerals, tourism and ICT etc...

7. All would be tackled to make Uganda competitive to attract investors (local and foreign) to invest in Uganda along the VALUE CHAIN.
8. Those investments would increase what Uganda exports and therefore more revenue to the country and household incomes. The investments would also create jobs for the population.

Once the investments are made, Government would collect taxes and get money for delivering services such as health, education and water to the Ugandans. This would improve on the quality of the livelihood of Ugandans.

9. At the National Planning Authority and among all development fraternity, we are indeed excited and encouraged when His Excellency pronounced himself on driving the country to the Middle Income Status by 2020.
10. It is on that backdrop that we decided to hold this Press Conference to Launch the crusade of explain to Ugandans what it means to any Ugandan for the country to reach a Middle Income Status.
11. First, it is important for all of us to know that globally countries are grouped in three categories:
 - a) Developing countries like Uganda and may be Sub-African Country;
 - b) Middle income category for emerging economies like Malaysia, Singapore, India and Mauritius;
 - c) Developing countries like USA, German, UK and France.
12. The yardstick used in categorizing the countries is called **Per Capita of gross income**. The middle income category starts from US\$1,000 to US\$12,000 which has a very big range and several segments.
13. Per Capita income reflects income growth. It is necessary but not sufficient.

14. This more to the middle income status must be anchored on the concept of sustainable development which means all inclusive growth leaves no one behind.
15. According to the roadmap, Uganda will graduate into a lower middle income country by 2020, progressing to an upper middle income category by 2032 and attaining its target of per capita income of about UGX 33,000,000 (USD\$9,500) in 2040. Projections therefore, indicate that Uganda is likely to attain a first world status within the next fifty years.
16. So by H E President Museveni announcing that Uganda will be in the middle income status, it is very encouraging that:
 - a) There is political will to improve livelihood of the communities;
 - b) There are serious intentions to address household incomes as it has been exhibited through efforts like the operation of wealth creation;
 - c) That health services through the country will be improved in terms of infrastructure, personnel, drugs and attention;
 - d) That education and vocational training are given serious attention and required to ensure complete human development.
17. Access to food and clean water will be given much attention.
18. We are encouraged that President Museveni has declared zero tolerance of **CORRUPTION** which improved the service needed by the people.
19. We are equally excited that President Museveni has pronounced and determined to deal with any individual or institutions delaying decision making especially in respect of attracting investors.
20. We all know that President Museveni has on a number of occasions emphasized the need for the Government to invest in the fundamentals Infrastructure, Energy and Human Capital Development besides Security and Peace.

21. We are really touched that the President directed his cabinet along the 20-point programme as mentioned below:
1. Electricity cost lowing;
 2. Transport cost lowing;
 3. Industrial Parks Building (22) to attract investors;
 4. Licenses of Business in two days by Uganda Investment Authority;
 5. Corruption to zero tolerance;
 6. Regulation improvement; poor regulation must be handled;
 7. Homesteads moved from subsistence to commercial agriculture;
 8. Oil production licenses issuance expedited for production 2019/2020;
 9. Minerals sector reform;
 10. Environment Protection;
 11. Service delivery address healthcare, education and feeder roads;
 12. Land illegal evictions stoppage;
 13. Accommodation/social services for security officers;
 14. Airline set up;
 15. Indebtedness elimination among the army veterans;
 16. Communication improvement in Government;
 17. Judiciary support with all the human and financial;
 18. Crime fight and then the issue of urban physical planning;
 19. Water sector to widen safer water coverage;
 20. Resource mobilization for fulfillment of the agreed upon priorities.
22. So come 2020, we look forward to each Ugandan to have access to service of improved standards:
- Health facilities;
 - Education;
 - Vocational Training;
 - Public transport;
 - Electricity;
 - Employment opportunities;
 - Household incomes.

It would also mean our country having no people living in abject poverty.

23. A word of caution to all fellow Ugandans is related to each Uganda to play ones role with the highest sense of responsibility and commitment.
- a) However much each individual earns will depend on the children and dependants one has. The number of children and dependants one looks after erodes ones incomes. So the dependency ratio may only be reduced through producing children for whom one is prepared to effectively look after;
 - b) Much as the Government may create conducive environment for each one to have easy access to employment, it will depend on each ones initiative and willingness to work;
 - c) Peace and security should be everyone's responsibility.

NPA has intensified the drive to the middle income status by ensuring that:

- Each Ministry, Department and Agency have strategic plans. In this respect, National Planning Authority has produced Sector Development Planning Guidelines.
- National Planning Authority also produced the Local Government Development Planning Guidelines.
- National Planning Authority in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development has worked out a paper to guide how the country may increase exports and enhance investment;
- National Planning Authority with GIZ has produced Human Rights Development Planning Framework emphasizing the Human Rights Based Approach in any policy formulation and implementation;
- National Planning Authority is working with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development under the guidance of the Parliament to operationalize the Section 13 (7) of Public Finance Management Act 2015 to ensure that planning and budgeting are aligned.

- National Development Reports (Annual) the National Standard Indicators (NSI) Framework;
- The Uganda Nutrition Action Plan;
- Examined and aligned the NDPII to the NRM Manifesto 2016-2021;
- The Pulse of the Economy – October 2015;
- Report on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend;

We have made significant input in streamlining the operation of Wealth Creation.

In collaboration with UNDP in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we have produced service delivery standards for Uganda in various sectors.

- Physical Planning
- Health Sector
- Housing
- Environment
- Education and Sports

WKM
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