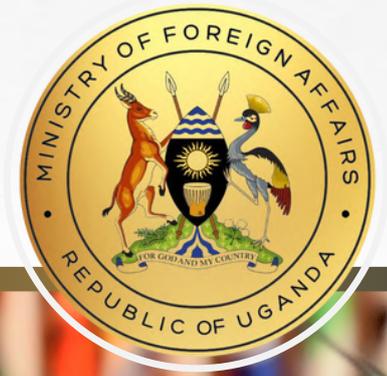


Diplomatic Notes

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Uganda shines at the NAM and G77 plus China Summits **05**
- Deepening Cooperation: Uganda and India **19**
- Unveiling the essence of Public Diplomacy **27**



29

Arts & Culture

Diving into Diversity: Film Review & Cultural Beauty Pageant Spectacle!



21

Uganda's Missions

Exploring the Work and Social Life of Uganda's Foreign Service Officers.



29



THIRD SOUTH SUMMIT
KAMPALA, UGANDA 2024

"LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND"

Uganda's Chairmanship:

Non-Aligned Movement (2024 - 2027)
The Group of 77 and China (2024 - 2025)



HEY, DEAR READERS



I am so pleased to present to you another edition of the MOFA Newsletter, we are excited to share with you a plethora of engaging stories and updates from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In this issue, we delve into the recent diplomatic activities that have shaped Uganda's international relations, including the NAM and G77 summits. We highlight key moments such as President Museveni assuming chairmanship of the 19th Summit of Heads of State and Government of NAM, as well as his interactions with other global leaders.

Our 'La Vie Sociale' section offers a glimpse into the personal and professional lives of our staff, celebrating milestones such as weddings, graduations, and other impactful moments. Additionally, our 'Folklore' segment features creative arts, cultural events, and a film review, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Uganda and the achievements of Ugandans making headlines worldwide. We also bring you a special 'Spotlight Photo,' capturing a unique and iconic moment that encapsulates the spirit of our work at MOFA.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter and find it informative and inspiring. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions as we strive to keep you informed about the latest developments in Uganda's foreign affairs.

DIPLOMATIC
HIGHLIGHTS



SPECIAL
FEATURE
STORY



UGANDA
MISSIONS
ABROAD



TÊTE-
À-TÊTE



Margaret Awino Kafeero

Editor-in-Chief
Ag. Head, Public Diplomacy Department





A baby gorilla inside the Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, south-western Uganda

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— “ —

This document is a publication of the Department of Public Diplomacy. Any comments or recommendations can therefore be channeled to the Department for feedback or action.

— ” —





Uganda assumes 3-year long Chairmanship of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), in Kampala.

The illogical polarization of the 1940s, 1950s, 60s and 70s, between the Capitalists and the Communists, was wrong. Why should new ideas cause tension?



CHRISTIANA AMPEIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



H.E. the President addressing delegates at the summit.

Munyonyo – President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, on January 19 2024, was elected chair of the Non-Aligned Movement at the 19th summit, taking over leadership from H.E Ilham Aliyev, the President of Azerbaijan, for a three year term.

In his speech, President Museveni acknowledged that NAM was faultless as emerging developments needn't cause friction, emphasizing that its emergence was a necessary antidote to the irrational polarization of the World of that time between the Capitalist Western countries and the Communist, mainly Eastern countries. He stated, Uganda's position is that the world should focus on

addressing the common human problems to secure a bright future. H.E. the President shared that the strength of NAM should be used to exercise considerable influence particularly at the UN for the effective transformative process for a better common future.

"In the negotiations for the Pact of the Future, the outcome document of the upcoming United Nations Summit of the Future to be held in New York in September, 2024, we should clearly define priorities that favour developing countries by maintaining unity, solidarity and collective coordination among our Member States, in line with the Bandung principles." he said.

He went on to express dismay and scorn for the intellectual, ideological, and strategic shallowness of certain world actors who claim to be democrats but in turn want to impose ideologies by manipulating and threatening as opposed to influencing people by their good example.

“ Our stand is that the World should concentrate on the common human problems — prosperity through trade, the advance of science and technology to deal with human problems, the environment, crime and terrorism. The future is bright if we act right. These are, indeed, the Bandung principles.

[Read full speech](#)





Uganda shines at the 19th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, 15th - 20th January 2024, Kampala.

IN PICTURES





Gen. Odongo calls for unity amongst member states, during the 19th NAM Summit in Kampala.



The MFA making remarks at the NAM Senior Officials Meeting

These remarks were made during the NAM Senior Officials meetings on January, 15, 2024 at the Rwenzori Convention Centre, Speke Resort Munyonyo. The Honorable MFA thanked the Republic of Azerbaijan, the previous NAM chair, for their leadership, particularly at the height of the Covid-19 outbreak. Gen. Odongo urged for collective action following the emerging issues facing the global economy.

“Deepening Cooperation for shared global Affluence”

Munyonyo – The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakher urged Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) member states to work together following under the theme of the summit “Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence ” and appreciated the interest of member state delegations in engaging in the Kampala declaration which was part of the outcome documents.

[Read full speech](#)



CHRISTIANA AMPEIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



Vice President Alupo pushes for unified action in NAM.

Munyonyo – On January 17, 2024, Uganda’s Vice President H.E. Maj. (Rtd) Jessica Alupo, while kicking off the XIX NAM Ministerial Meeting, emphasized the need for member states to maintain cooperativeness in order to achieve mutual goals. “We should reaffirm our commitment to maintaining cohesion amongst ourselves in all issues of common interest, to promoting our common positions with relevant multilateral forum,” said VP Alupo. She added that deepening cooperation is the best mutually benefiting way to create global wealth and affluence but would require removing all barriers that impede success.



Barriers mentioned included lack of; enough infrastructure to support industrialization, human capacity to effectively manage the extractive industry, financial resources and investment in strategic sectors of the economy, limited knowledge and use of ICT platforms, slow progress in industrialization and limited inter and intra-regional trade among NAM member states.





President Museveni calls for Investment at the East Africa Investment Forum and Trade Exhibition.



CHRISTIANA AMPEIRE
CONTRIBUTOR

“The Future of East African Regional Trade & Investment Relations with the NAM and G77 member states”

[Read full speech](#)



Hon. John Mulimba, State Minister for Regional Affairs and Permanent Secretary Mr. Bagjiire Vincent Waiswa



H.E. the Vice President officiating at the Business Forum



Group photo of Senior Government and Business Officials

Kampala Serena - In a statement delivered on his behalf by the Vice President of Uganda, H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni highlighted on the benefits of investing in Uganda, during the East Africa Investment Forum and Trade Exhibition, that was held from 15th – 18th January 2024, at the Kampala Serena Hotel under the “Unlocking East Africa’s potential on the global stage.” H.E. Maj. (Rtd) Jessica Alupo shared that Uganda is a well-endowed country owed to her central location, provision of access to the regional markets, stable macro-economic environment, generous incentive regime, market access opportunities, security of investments and with a stable economy.

H.E. the President in his statement highlighted that hosting this business engagement on the sidelines of the NAM and G77 summits, demonstrates Uganda’s commitment to private sector development and a renewed focus to increase the promotion of Uganda’s abundant investment potential.

NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM) 19TH SUMMIT

www.nam.go.ug #NAMSummitUG2024

EAST AFRICA TRADE AND INVESTMENT FORUM

16.01.2024
Geraldine Ssali Busuulwa
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade Industry and Cooperatives

“In Uganda, we adopted a deliberate policy of an open and liberalised economy. We have taken giant steps in regional and international integration with commitments under the East African Community, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, African Continent Free Trade Area, and World Trade Organisation.”

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



Delegates at the Business forum





Arrivals of Heads of State and Government, & Delegations for the 19th NAM Summit and the G77 + China 3rd South Summit, at Entebbe International Airport.

IN PICTURES



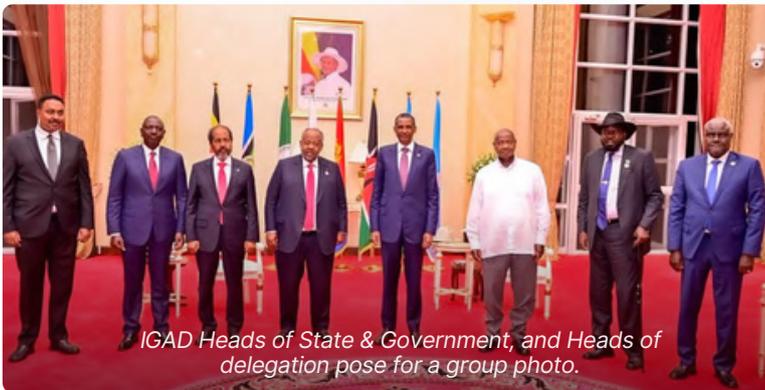


42nd IGAD Heads of State and Government Assembly Discusses Sudan, Ethiopia And Somalia.



IVAN KORETA
CONTRIBUTOR

Entebbe - The 42nd Extraordinary Assembly of the IGAD Heads of State and Government was held on Thursday, 18th January 2024, in Entebbe, on the situation in the Republic of the Sudan and recent developments regarding the relation between the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Federal Republic of Somalia.



IGAD Heads of State & Government, and Heads of delegation pose for a group photo.



H.E. the President leading discussions at State House, Entebbe.

The Assembly was chaired by H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti and the Chairperson of the IGAD Heads of State and Government and was attended by: H.E. Dr. William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya; H.E. Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, President of the Federal Republic of Somalia; H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan; H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda. The Assembly first extended its congratulations to Uganda and President Yoweri Museveni for the successful organization of the event, which also included the Non-Aligned Movement and the G77 + China Summits.

Central to the discussions was the concern regarding the relationship between Ethiopia and Somalia. The Assembly reiterated the cardinal principles of respecting Somalia's sovereignty, unity, and territorial integrity, emphasizing that any engagement between the two countries should be conducted with the consent of the Federal Government of Somalia. Furthermore, the Assembly called upon both Ethiopia and Somalia to de-escalate tensions and engage in constructive dialogue. The Assembly also expressed deep concern about the ongoing conflict in Sudan, highlighting the severe security and humanitarian consequences. They reiterated the call for an immediate ceasefire and cessation of hostilities to create a conducive environment for a political dialogue. IGAD's commitment to facilitating an all-inclusive peace process in close collaboration with all Sudanese stakeholders, the African Union, and regional and international actors was reaffirmed.

The Assembly also called for a revision of the Roadmap for the Resolution of the Conflict in Sudan within one month and the convening of a Sudanese-owned and Sudanese-led process towards establishing a democratic government in Sudan. In conclusion, the assembly welcomed the appointment of a High-Level Panel for Sudan by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and urged the panel to work closely with IGAD and other stakeholders in facilitating the peace process.





Bilateral Meetings at the NAM and G77+China Summits.

464

BILATERAL MEETINGS

37 with H.E. the President

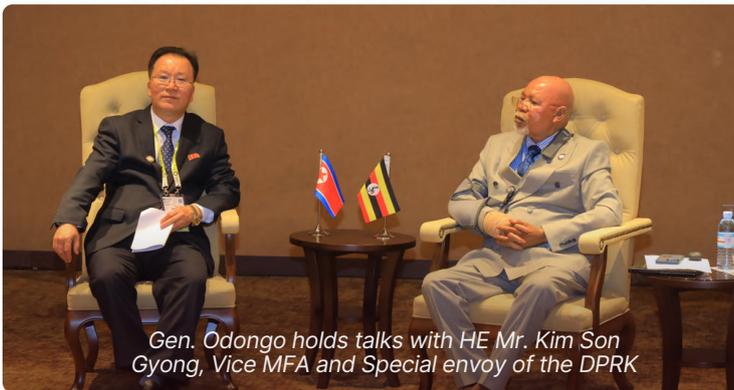
44 with MFA, other Gov't Officials

383 among various delegations



CHRISTIANA AMPEIRE
CONTRIBUTOR

Munyonyo - The Speke Convention Center buzzed with activity during the 19th Non-Aligned Movement summit in Kampala.



Gen. Odongo holds talks with HE Mr. Kim Son Gyong, Vice MFA and Special envoy of the DPRK

Delegations hurried through meeting halls, eager to engage in high-level discussions. From the dedicated staff managing the Special Desk for Bilateral Meeting Room reservations to the officials immersed in the engagements, each one of them reflected the unwavering commitment of member states to advance cooperation and mutual understanding. Amidst this flurry of activity, agreements were signed and memoranda of understanding were exchanged, marking important milestones in the ongoing efforts to push for collaboration among nations of the global south.



Uganda's MFA and H.E. Bakhromjon Aloyev Deputy MFA of Uzbekistan sign an MOU to establish diplomatic relations

The Summits in digits.

1,918

Delegates

140

Official Delegations

133

Member States (countries)

07

Inter-Governmental Organisations

22

Heads of State & Government, and Executive Prime Ministers

07

Vice Presidents

01

Speaker of Parliament

10

Prime Ministers, and Deputy Prime Ministers

53

Ministers of Foreign Affairs, and other Ministers

21

Permanent Representatives

18

International Organisations, Observers and Invited Guests





Bilateral Meetings at the NAM and G77+China Summits.

H.E. the President meetings



Ministers' meetings



L-R: Regional Affairs Minister Hon. John Mulimba meets with Robert Floyd Executive Secretary of the CTBTO, and Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Mohamad Alamin





Ministers' meetings



Gen. Jeje Odongo meets with Egypt's Foreign Minister H.E. Sameh Shoukry



MFA meets with Kazakhstan Head of Delegation Amb. Barlybay Sadykov



Belarusian MFA Sergei Aleinik meets with Hon. Bright Rwamirama, State Minister for Agriculture



Hon. Mulimba receives Venezuela MFA H.E. Yván Gil



MFA's Cultural Gala Dinner Mesmerizes Delegates.

Serena Kigo - In honor of visiting Ministers of Foreign Affairs, all Heads of delegations for the NAM Ministerial Meeting in Kampala, the Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakher hosted an exclusive Gala dinner at the Lake Victoria Serena Golf Resort, on 17th January 2024.



Member States meetings

A pictorial of engagements among member states





Highlights of the Third South Summit of the Group of 77 and China, 2024

Munyonyo - The 3rd south summit of the Group of 77 and China, kicked off with the Senior Officials meeting on 18th January 2024. The representatives from member states met to consider the draft outcome document, which was adopted with emphasis on the need for the Group of 77 to tackle urgent, & international issues affecting developing countries.



While opening the session of the senior officials, Permanent Secretary Bagiiire Vincent Waiswa (pictured) noted that the G77 was meeting at a time when the world is faced with multiple challenges, including geopolitical upheavals and economic and financial chall-

enges, among others, in several countries. PS Bagiiire further noted that the G77+China should utilize the opportunity and play an important role to strengthen a more inclusive & prosperous world. He stated that the member states need to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda to sustain their governments. "The implementation is lagging. It is therefore imperative that concerted efforts be made to scale up the organisation of resources in terms of financial, capacity-building, and technology requests to deliver the agenda," the Permanent Secretary noted.

He thanked the leadership of Cuba, especially Ambassador Pedro Luis Pedrosso Cuesta, the Chair of the G77+China, for tremendously chairing the previous summit in China in 2023, and welcomed the delegates to Uganda.



Senior Officials of the member states of the Group of 77 during the session to consider the draft outcome document

President Museveni advocates for Trade across the Global South

While delivering his closing remarks at the 19th NAM summit, H.E. the President reiterated the importance of following the Bandung principles, particularly the value of humility. He stressed the need to recognise that there are multiple valid perspectives and ways of doing things which must be respected. He also emphasized the significance of promoting stronger trade ties among NAM member countries as it contributes to our shared prosperity. To the brothers and sisters outside Africa, He emphasized Africa's immense potential and economic opportunities. He thanked all the member countries for coming to Uganda and giving us the honour of chairing the Non-Aligned Movement for the next three years.



H.E. the President receives the gavel from H.E. Jeyhun Aziz Ogu Bayramov, Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister, who handed over on behalf of the outgoing chairman, President Ilham Aliyev.





Highlights of the Third South Summit of the Group of 77 and China, 2024



H.E. Salvador Valdés Mesa, Vice President of Cuba hands over the Chairmanship to Uganda's President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

While receiving the one-year chairmanship mandate from Cuba, H.E. the President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni described it as “an opportune time” because the Group of 77 and China will mark its 60th anniversary this year. President Museveni said the Group of 77 continues to **“yearn for a revitalized multilateral system which is capable of adequately addressing current and emerging global challenges”**.

The G77+China, he said, is firm in its belief of multilateralism remaining a fundamental and crucial mechanism for addressing our common challenges together as nations in solidarity”. H.E. the President underlined that it is critical that the coalition remains “united in its pursuit of collective interests” at the United Nations. “In the intergovernmental processes at the United Nations, we must ensure that priorities of the Group of 77 are promoted and defended. “I assure you that my team, led by the Permanent Re-

presentative in New York, has my full support to chair the Group of 77 and China. President Museveni said Uganda’s chairmanship will strive to further promote, among others: Acceleration of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda; Scaling up action to address climate change & biodiversity loss; Strengthening international tax cooperation; Financing for development; Fight against illicit financial flows and strengthening digital cooperation. The UN Secretary General, and the President of the UN General Assembly (pictured below) spoke at the pening session of the Third south summit of the G77. Both H.E. Antonio Guterres and H.E. Dennis Frances called for an



immediate humanitarian ceasefire and the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages in Gaza. They also called for a reform of the global financial system that has failed to provide a global safety net for developing countries in distress.

H.E. Liu Guozhong, Chinese President Xi Jinping’s Special Representative, addressed the summit “as a special guest”. He underlined China’s commitment to continue supporting the Global South in a determined quest to **‘leave no one behind’**.



“Working closely with over 20 international organizations, China has implemented over 130 trilateral co-operation projects in nearly 60 countries in the areas such as poverty reduction, food security, public health and climate change.” H.E. Guozhong (pictured above) shared that China will continue to take South-South co-operation with countries as a priority, stand together, and work with G77 members and contribute to the common development of countries of the South with its philosophy and progress in pursuit of Chinese modernization.”

[Read full speech](#)





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H.E. the President Welcomes Newly Accredited Ambassadors to Uganda.



IVAN KORETA
CONTRIBUTOR

Entebbe - H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni welcomed five ambassadors, newly accredited to Uganda, at a function held at State house Entebbe. During his presentation, he promised to work with them to strengthen cooperation between their respective countries and Uganda. The Ambassadors Extraordinary & Plenipotentiary include;

H.E Fatima Yesenia Fernandes from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, H.E Mauro Massoni of the Italian Republic, H.E Maj. Gen. Paul Kisesa Simuli from the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E Brig. Gen. Jules Ndiwokubwayo from the Republic of Burundi and H.E. Nicol Adamcová of the Czech Republic.

Also present at the credentials ceremony was the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in-charge of Regional Cooperation Hon. John Mulimba., accompanied by senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs i.e. Amb. Phillip Odida, Director Regional and International Political Cooperation, Amb. Charles Ssentongo, Chief of Protocol, and Amb. Santa Laker, Head of International Economic Cooperation.



Burundi



Italy



Czech Republic



Venezuela



Tanzania





PAMELA NABWIRE
CONTRIBUTOR

UNDP’s Elsie Attafuah bids farewell.

Having served for four and a half years, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni bid farewell to Ms. Elsie G. Attafuah, the outgoing United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative for Uganda, at his country home in Rwakitura. Ms. Attafuah, who is currently posted as Head of the UNDP Nigeria, thanked H.E. the President for his exceptional leadership even in times of crisis like the Covid-19, where he made critical decisions in helping the nation fight off the pandemic. Ms. Attafuah also commended President Museveni and the Government of Uganda for unwavering support, “trusted, valued and enduring partnership with UNDP in fulfilling Uganda’s transformational sustainable development agenda.” On his part, H.E. the President paid tribute to the fundamental contributions of Ms. Attafuah towards the development of Uganda in line with the UN SDGs and the Agenda 2030. The meeting was also attended by Ms. Sheila Ngatia, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative for Uganda and Amb. Philip Odida, Director for International and Regional Political Cooperation.



Ms. Attafuah presents a Ghanaian memento to His Excellency the President at the State Lodge Rwakitura, Kiruhura District.

Gen. Odongo meets Special Envoy of the UN SG to the Horn of Africa.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakher, flanked by Hon. John Mulimba, Minister of State for Regional Cooperation and Maj. Gen. Nathan Mugisha Deputy Ambassador at Uganda Embassy Somalia, received and met Ms. Hannah Tetteh, the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary General to the Horn of Africa, on 31st January, 2024. Their Excellencies discussed regional issues of mutual interest including Ethiopia and Somaliland, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan.



Russia congratulates Uganda on hosting back-to-back summits.



The Minister of State for International Cooperation, Hon. Oryem Henry Okello, held a bilateral meeting with the Ambassador of Russia to Uganda, H.E. Vladlen Semivolos. During the meeting, the Ambassador conveyed a congratulatory message to H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni & the people of Uganda for successfully hosting two summits back-to-back and assuming the Chairmanship of NAM and the Group of 77 plus China.



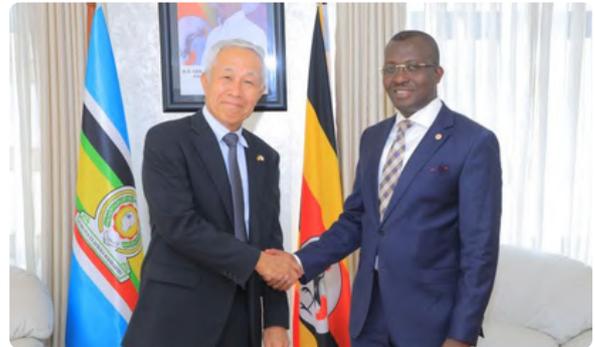


Danish Government extends support to Uganda for climate and change and refugees.

On Wednesday, 24th January, 2024, President Museveni held a meeting with Mr. Dan Jorgensen, Danish Envoy and Minister for Development, Cooperation & Global Climate Policy and his delegation at State Lodge Nakasero. In light of mitigating the effects of climate change and providing assistance to refugees, the Danish Government extended their support of \$95 million (Sh362 billion). This will help support the country's wetland reclamation program, and addressing the issue of illegal rice growers in swamps that serve as sources of rainfall in Uganda.



Japan's Envoy ends tour of duty, bids Uganda farewell.



Amb. Fukuzawa Hidemoto, outgoing Ambassador of Japan to Uganda, paid a farewell courtesy visit to the Minister of State for Regional Cooperation, Hon. John Mulimba, on 8th February 2024. During the meeting, Amb. Hidemoto highlighted milestone projects between Uganda and Japan, such as the Source of the Nile Jinja Bridge and the Kampala Flyover Project. Both parties affirmed their commitment to promoting people-to-people exchange and cultural cooperation to enhance mutual understanding and development. They also discussed areas of cooperation i.e. infrastructure, education, & healthcare, with the Minister emphasizing the need to further enhance trade and investment.

MFA signs MOU with UAE at the World Governments Summit 2024.

Hon. Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakher represented President Museveni at the 2024 edition of The World Governments Summit, held from the 12th to the 14th of February under the theme 'Shaping Future Governments'. During the summit, there were joint efforts to promote institutional capabilities and enhance governance in the field of developing government work, building institutional capacities, and skills for the future. Gen. Odongo, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uganda, and H.E. Mohammad Abdullah Al Gergawi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, United Arab Emirates, signed a Memorandum of Understanding, emphasizing the commitment of both countries to further cooperation and development in these areas.





Uganda and India deepen cooperation, Joint Secretary for Lines of Credit undertakes 3-day working visit.



PAMELA NABWIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



The recent visit of Ms. Suja K. Menon, Joint Secretary/Director General for the Ministry of External Affairs of India in charge of Lines of Credit, marked a significant step in strengthening the partnership between India and Uganda. The three-day visit, aimed at following up on the utilization of two lines of credit offered by the Government of India, highlighted key areas of cooperation, particularly in agriculture and energy.

During her visit, Ms. Suja K. Menon engaged with Ugandan officials and stakeholders, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MoEMD). The MAAIF submitted a project proposal for a Solar Irrigation Systems Project, aligning with Uganda's priorities to enhance agricultural productivity and the efficiency of the Parish Development Model. On the energy front, the MoEMD proposed two projects for consideration, including the 220kv Bujagaali-Tororo Transmission Line project and the Karuma-Nimule-Juba Transmission Line project. These projects, totaling 127km and 712km respectively, aim to enhance Uganda's energy infrastructure and contribute to regional energy security.



PS Bagiire (extreme right) exchanges Partnership documents with Ms. Suja K. Menon (center), and the India High Commissioner Amb. Upender Singh Rawat



The delegates tour the Bujagaali Power Station



Meeting with Jinja City Council Officials

The visit also included on-site assessment visits to the proposed project sites. Delegates visited the Bujagaali power site and two Micro-scale irrigation projects in Busedde sub-county, gaining valuable insights into the potential impact of these projects on local communities. In addition to the focus on infrastructure projects, the visit also explored opportunities for people-to-people cooperation. In Jinja City, the delegation met with local officials and discussed potential projects in tourism, culture, and the digital economy. The proposal to construct a Heritage Centre to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's ashes, scattered at the source of the Nile, was particularly well-received as a symbol of the enduring alliance between the people of India and Uganda. Overall, Ms. Suja K. Menon's visit underscored India's commitment to enhancing its partnership with Uganda across various sectors. The proposed projects have the potential to not only strengthen bilateral ties but also contribute to Uganda's socio-economic development.





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Uganda Mourns with the Republic of Namibia.



Rt. Hon. Ruhakana Rugunda and Amb. Paul Amoru arrive at Independence Stadium, Windhoek for the State Funeral

Windhoek - Uganda's Special Envoy for Special Duties, Rt. Hon. Ruhakana Rugunda, led a distinguished delegation to the State Funeral of the late President of Namibia, H.E. Dr. Hage G. Geingob. The delegation included Permanent Secretary Baguire Vincent Waiswa, Amb. Paul Amoru (Uganda's Ambassador to Namibia), among others. The late President Geingob, who passed away in office on the 4th of February, 2024, after a battle with cancer, was eulogized by President Museveni as a monumental loss for Namibia and Africa. President Museveni recounted his 57-year journey working with the Namibian Liberation Movement, SWAPO, dating back to 1967.

Dr. Hage Gottfried Geingob, aged 82, was celebrated not only as a politician but also as a visionary leader dedicated to serving his people and advancing African unity and progress. In a historic moment, President Nangolo Mbumba, the former Vice President, was sworn in as the new Head of State. President Mbumba also announced the appointment of former Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, H.E. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, as the new Vice President.



Uganda Embassy in UAE hosts business meetings with the MFA Gen. Odongo, to bolster Economic Relations.

Dubai - On February 13th, 2024, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Gen. Jeje Odongo Abubakher, conducted two crucial meetings in Dubai, facilitated by the Uganda Embassy Abu Dhabi, underscoring Uganda's commitment to strengthening economic ties with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The first meeting, held with Mr. Khalid Muhammed, Director of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce, focused on the upcoming business delegation visit to Uganda, organized by the Chamber and scheduled for September 2024. This visit is poised to enhance bilateral trade and investment opportunities between the two countries.



(L-R) Amb. Henry Mayega, Hon. Jeje Odongo, Mr. Khalid Muhammed, Ms. Asha Nabbanja at the business meeting

The second meeting, with Under-Secretary Rasheed AbdulKarim Al Blooshi of the Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development, highlighted Uganda's appreciation for the increasing collaboration in the oil and gas sectors. Additionally, Uganda expressed gratitude for the office space provided by the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, which is instrumental in facilitating investments between Uganda and the UAE. The meetings, attended by Uganda's Consul-General in Dubai, Amb. Henry Mayega, and Ms. Asha Nabbanja, First Secretary to the Uganda Embassy in Abu Dhabi, signify Uganda's proactive approach in fostering robust economic partnerships with the UAE.



PAMELA NABWIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



IVAN KORETA
CONTRIBUTOR





PAMELA NABWIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



IVAN KORETA
CONTRIBUTOR



Uganda Re-elected to the African Union Peace and Security Council.

Addis Ababa - On 15 February 2024, Uganda was re-elected to the African Union Peace and Security Council (PSC) for a second two-year term from 2024-2026, edging out Ethiopia and Eritrea during the 44th Ordinary Session of the AU Executive Council. East Africa had four candidates for the two seats up for grabs, with Tanzania also winning re-election for the second East African seat.

This re-election marks Uganda's sixth term on the Council, having previously served for a total of 11 years. Speaking from Addis Ababa, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Jeje Odongo, attributed Uganda's re-election to President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni's strong and exemplary leadership on regional peace and security issues. During its current term, Uganda has actively engaged in critical issues affecting the continent, including advocating for adequate financing of AU-led peace support operations. This effort led to the adoption of UN Security Council resolution 2719 (2023), allowing AU-led operations to access UN assessed contributions for up to 75% of their annual budget.



Uganda's Head of Delegation Vice President H.E. Maj (Rtd) Jessica Alupo flanked by MFA Gen. Odongo, enter a closed door session at the 44th AU Summit.



Uganda participates in the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference.



Uganda's delegation to the 13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation in Abu Dhabi.

Abu Dhabi - The 13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) convened in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, under the theme "Delivering for People Through Trade." Uganda's delegation, led by the Hon. Harriet Ntabazi, Minister of State for Trade, attended the Opening Ceremony which was graced by His Highness Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Chairman of Abu Dhabi Executive Council. The meeting of Ministers was held under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Dr. Thani Al Zeyoudi, the UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade, who graciously received and interacted with Hon. Ntabazi and the Ugandan delegation.

The Hon. Harriet Ntabazi exchanged courtesies with Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director General of WTO and Amb. Athaliah Lesiba Molokomme, Chairperson of the General Council of WTO, after their respective addresses to the Heads of Delegation at the Plenary session. Uganda's delegation comprised officials from Uganda Embassy in UAE, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Finance, Uganda revenue Authority, Uganda Free Zones Authority and the National Drug Authority.





PAMELA NABWIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



IVAN KORETA
CONTRIBUTOR



President Museveni on Working Visit to Zanzibar

Zanzibar - President Yoweri Museveni arrived in Zanzibar at the invitation of Tanzanian President Her Excellency Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan to attend the 60th Anniversary Celebrations of the Zanzibar Revolution. The President was warmly received at Abeid Amani Karume International Airport by Tanzanian Minister of Construction and Communications, Dr. Khalid Salum Mohammed. Also present to welcome President Museveni were Uganda's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Rtd. Col. Fred Mwesigye, Deputy High Commissioner Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Muheesi, and Brigadier Ronald Bigirwa, the Defense Attaché at the Uganda High Commission in Tanzania. Zanzibar, known for its production of cloves, cinnamon, and black pepper, among other spices, is semi-autonomous within the Union and has its own government led by Dr. Hussein Ali. The anniversary celebrations are expected to be a colorful event, with several dignitaries and East African leaders invited to attend the ceremony at Amani Stadium in Zanzibar.



Uganda and Germany discuss Cooperation



Kampala - On February 14 2024 Hon. John Mulimba, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in Charge of Regional Cooperation, held a productive meeting with Mr. Christoph Schmitt, Policy Advisor representing the Federal State of Saxony, Germany. The discussions centered on enhancing cooperation between the Federal State of Saxony and Uganda, particularly in areas related to women empowerment, climate change mitigation, and sanitation initiatives. Both Minister Mulimba and Mr. Schmitt acknowledged the importance of collaborative efforts in addressing these pressing issues for the benefit of the Ugandan people.





PS Vincent Baguire meets EAC Secretary General, visits EAC bodies, and Inspects Uganda's Consulate in Arusha



L-R: Amb. Richard Kabonero, Amb. Anne Katusiime (Head of Liaison Office to EAC), PS Baguire, EAC SG Dr. Mathuki, EAC Secretariat officials

Arusha - The EAC Secretary General Hon Dr. Peter Mutuku Mathuki met a high-level Ugandan delegation led by Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary, Hon. Vincent Baguire, at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania, on 21st February 2024. The talks revolved around infrastructure development, energy, cross-boundary matters, shared natural resources, intra-regional trade, single currency, peace and security, and political federation.

Dr. Mathuki emphasised the need to make the community borderless through increased efforts and investment to boost intra-regional trade. On his part, Hon. Baguire said that intra-regional trade can not prosper when there are many obstacles, including Non-tariff barriers, high costs of energy, air tickets, and dilapidated infrastructure, among other factors. PS Baguire noted that the bloc was expanding rapidly through increased population and markets, even as he hailed the gradual implementation by Partner States of the EAC One Network Area that is aimed at harmonising mobile calling and data charges. The officials' visit also included courtesy calls to relevant organisations such as the East African Business Council, Pan African Postal Union, ESAMI, East African Legislative Assembly, and East African Court of Justice. PS Baguire and the delegation interacted with the Heads of the EAC institutions listed, and also engaged staff at the Uganda Liaison Office in Arusha to gain insights into their roles and discuss strategies for enhanced effectiveness.



Uganda calls for Collective Action in Addressing Global Environment at the UN Environment Assembly

Nairobi - The Sixth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA6) met in Nairobi, from 26th February to 1st March, 2024. Hon. Sam Mangusho Cheptoris, Minister of Water and Environment, and head of Uganda's delegation, highlighted Uganda's efforts in addressing global environmental challenges, **i.e.** climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. Hon. Cheptoris urged nations to embrace green and circular economy approaches, emphasizing the need for collective responsibility in protecting the planet. He called for a shift away from greed-



Uganda's delegation at the Sixth High-level Segment of the UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi.

driven practices that harm nature, stating that humanity must prioritize nature-based solutions to environmental challenges for a sustainable future. The high-level segment which was opened by the President of Kenya, was attended by Dr. Babirega Akankwasa, Executive Director of NEMA, Mr. Evans Aryabaha, Charge d'Affaires, as well as staff from NEMA and the Uganda High Commission in Nairobi.





Uganda's Permanent Mission in Geneva delivers Statement on Human Rights situation in South Sudan.



Ms. Mary Namono Kibere (forward), flanked by Ms. Tabitha Namulinda (back) at the 55th session of the Human Rights Council.

Geneva - In a national statement delivered on 5th March 2024, at the 55th Session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva, Uganda lauded South Sudan for progress made in the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement and congratulated the Parties to the conflict for the progress made. The statement, delivered by Uganda Mission Geneva Representative and Expert on Human Rights, Ms. Mary Namono Kibere, addressed the enhanced interactive dialogue on the Human Rights situation in South Sudan. Ms. Kibere informed the Council that, as a neighbour and one of the guarantors to the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS), Uganda continues to follow closely the situation in South Sudan with keen interest. Ms. Kibere called for the international community to support and work with the Government of South Sudan and the region for sustainable peace, security, and development.

While in Antalya, Gen. Odongo, accompanied by the Uganda's Head of Mission in Türkiye H.E. Nusura Tiperu also met representatives of several Turkish enterprises and invited them to invest in the different priority sectors of Uganda's economy. The MFA tasked the Embassy in Ankara to follow up with the prospective investors, directly link them to the relevant sector regulators and facilitate them exploit the business and investment opportunities in Uganda.



On the margins of the ADF, Minister Odongo met H.E. Hakan Fidan, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Türkiye. Gen. Odongo lauded the fraternal relations that exist between the two countries and expressed appreciation to Türkiye for all the assistance extended, such as, infrastructural development, education cooperation through scholarships, foreign direct investment among other areas of cooperation. The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs congratulated Uganda on the successful hosting of the NAM and G77 plus China Summits held in Kampala.



Gen. Odongo attends Antalya Diplomacy Forum in Türkiye

Antalya - The Honorable Minister of Foreign Affairs Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakher concluded an official visit to Türkiye, where he represented H.E. the President at the Antalya Diplomacy Forum (ADF) held from 1-3 March 2024. The ADF is a high-level platform for discussions on wide range of international issues. This year's edition was held under the theme "Advancing Diplomacy in Times of Turmoil."



Minister Odongo delivers his intervention during one of the Panel sessions at the ADF 2024.





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Staff of the Department of Public Diplomacy, at MoFA Headquarters

they paint a vivid picture of Uganda that captivates audiences worldwide, leaving an indelible mark on the global stage.

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In the tumultuous waters of international relations, storms can brew suddenly, threatening to damage reputations and undermine credibility. It is during these challenging times that the Public Diplomacy Department's dedication truly shines. With unwavering resolve, they navigate through the turbulent seas of misinformation, countering falsehoods and steering Uganda's ship towards calmer waters. Their commitment knows no bounds as they strive to safeguard Uganda's image and uphold its dignity in the face of adversity.

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Beyond formal diplomacy lies a vibrant landscape where people-to-people connections thrive and friendships blossom. Here, the PD department extends its reach, organizing cultural exchanges, educational programs, and community outreach initiatives that transcend borders and forge lasting bonds of friendship. Guided by passion, they cultivate connections that transcend politics, language, and geography, uniting hearts in a shared journey of discovery and mutual respect.

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As today's challenges fade with the setting sun, tomorrow beckons with promise & opportunity. In the ever-evolving global landscape, the role of public diplomacy will continue to evolve, guided by the unwavering passion of those who believe in its power to change hearts and minds. Within Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the flame of passion burns bright, illuminating the path towards a future where understanding triumphs over ignorance and diplomacy becomes a force for good in our interconnected world.

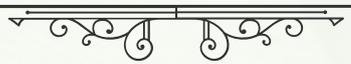
In the symphony of international relations, Uganda's Public Diplomacy Department stands as a beacon of passion, purpose, and unwavering dedication, inspiring us to embrace the transformative potential of public diplomacy for a brighter future.



Written by
Guma Jeremiah
Third Secretary,
Public Diplomacy Dept






CELEBRATING LIFE




She has been the Ministry's coordinator for the conclusion of labour externalization agreements, double taxation agreements and bilateral visa exemption agreements. She was the coordinator of interdepartmental meetings led by Internal Affairs and MoFA which led to cabinet approval of the ratification of two additional protocols to the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime.

In Washington, DC, Grace was a Consular Officer and served as the Diaspora liaison, processing hundreds of passport renewals and assisting visa applicants. She visited several Ugandans in detention as was expected of her. Grace was a household name in the Ugandan Community because of her compassionate and patient nature. She was a quick problem-solver and focused on providing solutions. Grace was a practical organizer, arranging the annual Embassy staff retreats with attention to detail and ensuring a healthy balance of work and play for all. She brought joy and positive energy to the workplace.

Grace Nalunga Luwemba has been an official documents certifying officer and hundreds of certifies of Good Conduct used by Ugandans abroad bear her signature. She has been a member of the Refugee Eligibility Committee and has been travelling regularly to the refugee settlements & reception centres to participate in assessment recommendation for granting of refugee status in Uganda.

OUR FINE DIPLOMATS:
who had a baby? 



loading...

SOMEONE GOT MARRIED:
Newly Weds 



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Sports Diplomacy: Ntare Old Boys Celebrate Friendship and Talent in Rwanda



Kagame, the Patron of Ntare School Old Boys Association, with Old Boys at the NSOBA Cocktail RCC in Kigali, Rwanda.

Kigali - The second week of March witnessed a transformative moment in the relations between Uganda and Rwanda, all thanks to the power of sports and camaraderie. Alumni of Ntare School in Uganda crossed the border to Kigali for the finale of the Ntare Lions League, receiving a warm welcome courtesy of Rwandan President H.E. Paul Kagame. On March 8, 2024, President Kagame, an alumnus of Ntare, hosted other alumni under their association body, the Ntare School Old Boys Association (NSOBA), to a memorable dinner at the Kigali Convention Centre. During his address, President Kagame fondly reminisced about his time at Ntare, sharing humorous anecdotes and attributing his current success to the values instilled in him at the school.

President Kagame highlighted the significance of Ntare in his life journey, stating, "Ntare school is very significant in that life journey." He also noted that Ntare, by bringing together individuals from diverse backgrounds, has played a pivotal role in fostering unity, not just within Uganda but also between Uganda and Rwanda. Expressing gratitude for the unity between him and Ugandan President H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President Kagame praised President Museveni's generous contribution to the construction of Ntare in Rwanda. He acknowledged President Museveni's pledge towards the school and commended him for fulfilling that pledge in a short time. The conclusion of the Ntare Lions League season 14 with **Nshera FC (pictured top left)** crowned champions, marked not just the end of a sports event but also the celebration of exceptional sports talent and the deepening of the bond between Uganda and Rwanda. The weekend served as a powerful reminder of how sports and shared experiences can bridge divides and strengthen friendships between nations.



L-R: President Kagame poses with the Executive Committee of the Ntare School Old Boys Association in Kigali, while supporters of Nshera FC celebrate their team's hard-fought iconic triumph.



Meet Miss World Africa

Blazing a trail of inspiration for young women across the globe, Hannah Karema secured a place among the top ten finalists in the 'Beauty with a Purpose' segment at the 71st Miss World pageant in India. Representing Uganda, she stood out among the top eight contestants, describing her experience as pure ecstasy.

Karema was crowned "Miss World Africa".

As Miss Uganda 2023/2024, Karema, under the Miss Uganda Foundation, has conducted school outreach programs with Reach a Hand Uganda, focusing on combating teenage pregnancy, educating about sexual reproductive and menstrual health, and fostering confidence and self-worth.



 **Cultural Diplomacy**





FILM REVIEW

SYNOPSIS:

"Tuko Pamoja" (We Are One) docuseries delves into Uganda's rich history and celebrates its unsung heroes, highlighting the nation's unity in diversity. The series explores the geopolitical and geolinguistic landscape of Uganda between 1870 and 1900, shedding light on the historical relationships between the various peoples of the Great Lakes Region.

Each segment of the series will have its own independent premiere, focusing on key regions and kingdoms such as Bunyoro-Kitara, Buganda, Busoga, Tooro, Ankole, and Kigezi. It will also cover topics like the Breakaway Kingdoms, the Luo community, the Ateker people, the various tribes of the Rwenzori region, and the peoples of Eastern Uganda and West Nile. The series culminates with "Uganda: The Making of a Nation," offering a comprehensive look at the factors that have shaped Uganda into the nation it is today.

FILM REVIEW:

The series addresses pressing issues facing the continent, including democracy, neo-colonialism, integration, peace, and stability. It aims to promote

Tuko Pamoja

cohesion by drawing on our pre-colonial history, which demonstrates our unity despite our diversity. Our different tribes, or nations, were once geographical emblems that defined us but should now serve to unite us.

Through exploring the historical narratives of key figures such as Omukama Kabaleega of Bunyoro-Kitara Kingdom, King Mwanga of Buganda Kingdom, Chief Awich of Payira, and Queen Muhumuza of Kigezi, among others, particularly in their resistance against British imperialism from the 1870s to 1900, we gain insight into the origins of Ugandans and the kingdoms to which they belonged.

Magara's work underscores the significance of fostering unity in East Africa through organizations like the East African Community and the African Union, despite colonial attempts to sow division in the region.



Director:
Dr. Cindy Evelyn Magara



Writer:
Rogers Atukunda

TUKO PAMOJA (WE ARE ONE)
A CINDY MAGARA Film

PREMIERES:

SEGMENTS:	DATE & TIME:	VENUE:
Bunyoro-Kitara	3 rd Feb. 3:00pm	National Theatre
Buganda	11 th Feb. 6:00pm	National Theatre
Busoga	21 st Feb. 5:00pm	National Theatre
Ankole	28 th Feb. 5:00pm	National Theatre
The Soga peoples	18 th Mar. 5:00pm	National Theatre
Eastern Uganda	22 nd Mar. 2:00pm	National Theatre
Tooro	6 th Apr. 3:00pm	Ndere Center
The Luo	20 th Apr. 3:00pm	Ndere Center
Wingi	4 th May 3:00pm	Ndere Center
Lado Enclave	18 th May 3:00pm	Ndere Center
Breakaway Kingdoms	22 nd May 3:00pm	Ndere Center
Kingdoms of the Mountains of Moon	1 st Jun. 3:00pm	Ndere Center
Uganda: The Making of a Nation		

Tickets: 50,000/= **Payments:** Airtel Merchant Code: 65224033, M-Pesa Merchant Code: 504156

Website: www.ayajimotomPictures.com



CHRISTIANA AMPEIRE
CONTRIBUTOR



Spotlight Photo



The National Organising Committee for the 19th NAM Summit and 3rd South Summit of G77 plus China, poses for a photo on the stairs of Rwenzori Ballroom at Speke Resort and Convention Center Munyonyo.



Follow the conversation:



Ministry of Foreign Affairs Kampala