



**REMARKS**

**BY**

**HON. OKELLO ORYEM  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN CHARGE OF  
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
AT THE**

**BUSINESS AND INNOVATION FORUM HELD**

**BETWEEN**

**UGANDA REGISTRATION SERVICES BUREAU**

**AND**

**FOREIGN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN UGANDA**

*“To promote business environment, innovation, and diplomatic relations”*

**AT UBFC HOUSE**

**THURSDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025**

- a) Your Excellences, Ambassadors, High Commissioners, and Distinguished Delegates,**
- b) The Hon. Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;**
- c) Members of the Board of Uganda Registration Services Bureau; and**
- d) Staff of Uganda Registration Services Bureau,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen.**

I join my colleague, Hon. Nobert Mao, Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the Registrar General, and the Board Chairman Uganda Registration Services Bureau in welcoming you to this business and innovation forum, and also to express our deepest gratitude to you for honouring the invitation.

**Background to the activity**

Your excellences,

At a meeting held between the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Board Chairman-Uganda Registration Services Bureau(URSB), it was agreed that URSB hosts a business and innovation forum with commercial attaches of Foreign Missions in Uganda.

The Purpose of this Forum is to promote business environment, innovation, and diplomatic relations.

### **About Uganda Registration Services Bureau;**

URSB is a key institution in promoting trade, investment, and economic development in Uganda. It is noted that Institutions like URSB are major domestic stakeholders in private sector development, with key functions and responsibilities such as business registration, sustainability of businesses, and protection of intellectual property rights, being of interest to diplomatic Foreign Missions.

It is anticipated that this meeting will provide modalities of future interaction between the Foreign Diplomatic Missions and URSB, as has been similar events globally such as the Global Business and Innovation Forum held in Europe, and the North Africa Business and Innovation Forum.

### **Your Excellences,**

### **Invited Guests,**

The core duties of Economic Officers/Attaches are to make sure that the operations, guidelines, and rules of their organization comply with national as well as international economic laws. The duty to keep an eye on the business environment relevant to the activities of your Missions and offering advice to your Capitals on potential investment opportunities cannot be underscored.

Therefore, this engagement among other reasons stated above aims to market URSB's contribution to investment opportunities, and private

sector development, which are key areas of interest to Foreign Diplomatic Missions.

At this juncture, I would like to reaffirm Uganda's commitment to creating an enabling business environment that not only attracts foreign investment but also nurtures sustainable economic growth. We are excited about the future and look forward to partnering with all of you to make Uganda the gateway for business in East Africa

Over the years, URSB has championed the ease of doing business in Uganda through offering efficient online business registrations. This has led to reduction of time spent on setting up new businesses and investment entities and improved Uganda's competitiveness in the region and beyond.

**Improved Business Rescue Framework:** URSB has enhanced mechanisms to support struggling businesses through its corporate rescue framework, and put in place frameworks to ensure business continuity.

Through registration of intellectual property rights, URSB offers protection of innovations, *via* online systems facilitating the registration (Industrial property automation system), commercialization, and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

URSB also serves as the national office and coordinator for international and regional standards through memberships in World Intellectual

Property Organisation, World Trade Organisation, Financial Action Task Force, African Regional Intellectual Property Organisation etc., in alignment with global practices.

**Your Excellences,**

It is hoped that such a gathering will provide insights and sharing experiences from your communities on your interaction with URSB.

**Your Excellences,**

I conclude on a high note that-

URSB Continues to be a key player in the globalized protection of businesses and innovations. URSB is the National Office for registration of intellectual property and registration of foreign companies.

URSB is also the liaison office for international organizations such as WIPO; and ARIPO; and continues to cement its role in the global corporate registries.

Finally, I would like to conclude by thanking the team that has managed to prepare for this colourful and successful engagement.

May this interface between URSB, Commercial attachés and other staff of Foreign Diplomatic Missions become an important step towards future

engagements in our Economic and Diplomacy endeavors as we strive to promote mutual growth and shared prosperity.

**For God and My Country!**

**I thank you**