DIPLOMATIC NEWSLETTER

- ISSUE 001 -

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AMB. ALFRED NNAME, HEAD PUBLIC DIPLOMACY (EDITOR-IN-CHIEF)

It is with great pleasure that we launch our first edition of our MoFA Monthly Newsletter, Diplomatic Notes.

We have noted with pleasure that so much news has been coming in from our Missions and within our various Departments as well as from Missions resident or accredited to Kampala that deserves to be noted and recorded.

So much goes on in our various posts on a daily basis and so much happens within Government that concerns us. It is therefore our great pleasure to record it in a manner that makes for great reading but also for ease of sharing.

In this issue we have included an Arts and Culture page considering that everyone needs to relax at one point or another, and we encourage you to share your interesting book reviews and let us know what great things Ugandans are doing in the Diaspora.

The Newsletter will include reports about past events, announcements about forthcoming events as well as a “photograph of the month” selected from among those you send us which will be included in an annual competition for the Ministry Calendar.

We invite you to come along with us, share your stories with us, share your analyses of world events, regional events and events at home that influence foreign policy.

The Editorial team for the e-Newsletter is as follows:

1. Editor-In-Chief: Amb. Alfred Nnam
2. Managing Editor: Mrs. Margaret Kafeero
3. Deputy Editors: Joanitah Among / Ms. Sharon Amiya, Mr. Jeremiah Guma / Mr Machel Kategaya
4. Photography: Mr Fahad Mugga / Mr Dennis Mulima
5. Graphics and sub-editing: Mr. Ivan Koretah
6. ICT Team: Mr Patrick Dusabe & Mr. Arthur Amanyire
Summit of AMISOM Troop Contributing Countries convenes in Kampala

The Summit of Heads of State & Government of Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) was held on 2nd March 2018 in Kampala.

19th Ordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State hosted in Kampala by President Museveni

Leaders from the East African Community convened at the Summit for the EAC Heads of State as part of a retreat to deliberate on Infrastructure and Health Financing as part of Development.

President Paul Kagame elected Head of African Union

African Heads of State elected President Paul Kagame of Rwanda as the Chairperson of the AU at the 30th Heads of State Summit in Addis Ababa last month. He highlighted the urgency for Africa to realize sustainable and uniform development and announced the launch of a Single African Air Transport Market, emphasising that Africa must ensure a Continental Free Trade Area is achieved, while ensuring free movement of Africans in the continent is eased.

WHO Representative presents credentials to Hon. Kutesa

The New World Health Organization (WHO) Country Representative to Uganda, Dr Yonas Tegegn Woldemariam formally assumed duty on 23 January 2018 with the presentation of his Credentials to Uganda’s Foreign Minister, Honorable Sam Kutesa. Hon Kutesa acknowledged the tremendous work by WHO in supporting the Ministry of Health and government as a whole.
Busia One Stop Border Launch: 24th February ’18 Kenya - Uganda

Foreign Minister of Uganda Hon. Sam Kutesa, Hon. Monica Juma of Kenya & Hon. Augustine Mahiga of Tanzania share a light moment during launch of the Busia One Stop Border Point, reaffirming their commitment to EAC integration.

Hon. Kutesa opened meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence of AMISOM Troop Contributing Countries

Hon. Kutesa called upon the TCCs and other International Partners to establish predictable and sustainable solutions that can safeguard the enormous successes registered by the peace keeping mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

Hon. Okello Oryem receives President Teodoro Obiang Nguema of Equatorial Guinea

This was during his one day working visit at the invitation of President Museveni. The return visit follows one that Pres. Museveni made to Equatorial Guinea in August last year.

Hon. Mateke officiates at a Border meeting between Uganda and the DRC

Hon. Philemon Mateke (center) with delegates from Uganda and DRC pose for a photo after deliberations about Uganda and DRC
President Museveni receives Credentials of new Envoys to Uganda

The President told the new Egyptian Ambassador, H.E. Mohamed Tarek Abdel Ghany Sallam, that the Government will coordinate the necessary steps to ensure that the Egyptian business community come and invest in the country by taking advantage of the potential that Uganda has in water resources and electricity.

He assured the new Vietnamese envoy, H.E Nguyen Kim Doanh that a delegation of Uganda officials will visit Vietnam to harmonize and carry out a feasibility research to identify strategic economic developmental areas in Uganda that Vietnamese entrepreneurs can invest in.

President Museveni called for the strengthening of cooperative collaboration between Uganda and Finland as he received the credentials of the new Finnish envoy, H.E Tarja Fernandez.

The President told the new Zambia High Commissioner, H.E. Benon Keith Chali, that Uganda and Zambia share strong bonds with a view to ensuring that their peoples get empowered further in sectors that are crucial for achievement in terms of socio-economic development.

He received Israeli Ambassador, H.E. Noah Gal Gendler, and expressed happiness that Israel is interested in boosting and maximizing the agricultural potential of Uganda. The envoy disclosed that his country is focusing on other projects in Uganda like uplifting the standard of Mulago hospital’s Intensive Care Unit (ICU) & starting agricultural stations.

The new Sudanese Ambassador to Uganda, H.E. Bukhari Ghanim Mohamed Afandi applauded Museveni for the good political relationship between the two countries & assured him that he will ensure the building of a strong economic relationship between the two countries.

He appreciated the growing economy of Mauritius as he received the credentials of new High Commissioner, Mr. Dharmras Busgeeth and asked the new envoy to woo entrepreneurs from Mauritius to come and invest in Uganda.

President Museveni received the credentials of the new Congolese (Brazzaville) Ambassador, H.E. Guy Nestor Itoua.
UGANDAN COFFEE TO FEATURE IN A COFFEE AND TEA EXPO IN MOSCOW, FROM 15 - 17 MARCH 2018

The Uganda Embassy in Moscow will collaborate with Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA) and other stakeholders to ensure Uganda participates in the Expo's annually with the bid to expand export.

The Expo provides an opportunity for Uganda to show off her Coffee and Tea to the world. Russia last year imported up to 15 tonnes of Robusta coffee from Uganda.

Amb. Nelson Ocheger presents credentials to President Buhari of Nigeria

On March 1, 2018, the new Ugandan envoy to Nigeria called for closer defense and security cooperation between the two countries in order to fight insurgencies and terrorism in their respective countries and regions. In this vain, President Muhammadu Buhari informed the new Uganda envoy that his government was ready to share experiences and work with the government of Uganda to promote cooperation in the sectors of energy, capacity building, transport, defense and security.

UPDATE: Uganda-Tanzania Border Demarcation

The two countries agreed to use the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) 2014 datum system to coordinate the existing boundary pillars in order to obtain the most accurate coordinates of Border Points.

Once accomplished the border reaffirmation exercise will result in clear border markings, reduction/elimination of cross border conflicts, joint planning and development of border areas.
Amb. Kikafunda presents credentials to Governor General of Australia, H.E. Gen. Hon. Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Rtd)

Amb. Kikafunda inspects a guard of honor before presenting her credentials. She was accompanied by High Commission Officials Ms. Carol Lwabi (First Secretary) and Ms. Juliet Okunia (Third Secretary).

Amb. Nimisha presents credentials to International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

Ambassador Nimisha Madhvani presented her credentials as Uganda’s Permanent Representative to Adnan Z. Amin, Director-General of the IRENA, on Monday 05th March 2018 at the IRENA’s hqtrs in eco-friendly Masdar City, Abu Dhabi.

Amb. Blaak meets Wageningen University Officials

Amb Blaak, Uganda Embassy Brussels Head of Mission, had a meeting with Wageningen university officials to brainstorm on developing a programme to combat the “false codling moth”, which is rampant in roses and capsicum exported into the EU and causes rejection of many consignments as being non-compliant with EU phytosanitary standards; endangering Uganda’s export into EU as a possible EU ban of such products is still imminent.

Amb. Rebecca Amuge presents her credentials to H.E. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

Uganda’s Envoy commended UNECA for shaping the 2015 Addis Ababa Plan of Action and the adoption of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the 2030 Development Agenda.

The Executive Secretary underscored Uganda's efforts in managing its nascent Oil and Gas Sector and expressed readiness to work with Uganda to enhance benefits from this and other key sectors.

Amb. Otengo also congratulated Ms. Vera Songwe for being the first Woman to head UNECA since its inception in 1958.
World Wildlife Day, 25th Feb - 3rd March 2018

The celebration will involve a number of activities ranging from a public lecture, school quiz, exhibition and marathon in the entire week, under the national theme “Creating a safe environment for the survival of Uganda’s big cats” rhymes with the global theme “Big cats: Predators under threat”.

4th WCO Authorized Economic Operator Conference 2018 (AEO) Global Conference 2018, 14 to 16 March 2018

The WCO Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) Global Conference will be hosted by the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) in Kampala, under the theme “Promoting Mutual Recognition of AEOs to Strengthen and Secure Global Trade.” Over 700 participants expected.

Global Thinkers Forum (GTF) Kampala Serena Hotel, 18th May 2018

The Global Thinkers Forum (GTF) in partnership with the Nabagereka Development Foundation (NDF) are hosting GTF Kampala with the objective to profile leading minds in progressive innovation among African women, who work on projects that help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, while preserving the African culture.
1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has allocated funds to be used for the acquisition of one Four-Wheel-Drive Station Wagon.

2. The Entity invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the provision of the above supplies.

3. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with the open Domestic bidding method contained in the public procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act, 2003 and is open to all Bidders.

4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below in No.8 (a) from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

5. The bidding documents in **English** may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of written application to the address below in No.8 (b) and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Uganda shillings, One Hundred Thousand only**. The method of payment will be by bank payment Advice Forms to the Consolidated Fund Account.

6. Bids must be delivered to the address below in No.8(c) at or before **22 February 2018**. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of **Uganda Shillings, Five Million only**. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders’ Representatives that may choose to attend at the address below in No.8 (d) on 22 February 2018.

7. There shall not a pre-bid meeting.

8. (a) Documents may be inspected at: **Room 1.6, Ministry Of Foreign Affairs**
   (b)Documents will be issued from: **Room 1.6, Ministry Of Foreign Affairs**
   (c) Bids must be delivered to: **Room 1.6, Ministry Of Foreign Affairs**
   (d) Address of bid opening: **Room 1.4, Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

9. The planned procurement schedule (subject to changes) is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Publish bid notice</td>
<td>22nd January 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Pre-bid meeting where applicable</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Bid closing date</td>
<td>22nd February 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Evaluation process</td>
<td>(Within 7 working days from bid closing date)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Display and communication of best evaluated Bidder notice</td>
<td>(Within 5 working days from contracts committee award)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Contract signature</td>
<td>(After expiry of the at least 10 working days from display of the best evaluated Bidder notice and Attorney Generals approval)</td>
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Amb. Patrick S. Mugoya
PERMANENT SECRETARY
The Ministry Fitness Club

**WHEN**
Sessions every week
*Wednesday and Friday*

**WHERE**
at 4:00PM
Ministry Basement

Mr. James Kintu
UNDERSECRETARY F&A
We would like to congratulate the following staff and wish them a lifetime of love and happiness.

Amb. James W. Kinobe
Head of Mission
Uganda Embassy, Khartoum

Robert Tugume and
Deborah Kembabazi Tugume
MOFA HQ

Mr. Phillip A. Mbatya
Principal HR Officer,
MOFA HQ

Nakawuma Juliet
Foreign Service Officer
MOFA HQ
We wish to congratulate the following staff. May your new bundle of joy bring happiness into your life and fill a void in your heart. Take pride in loving and raising your little miracle.

Ms. Martha Kinalwa
Senior HR Officer, MOFA HQ

Ms. Brenda B. Byonabye
Foreign Service Officer VI

APPOINTMENTS/PROMOTIONS/TRANSFERS

Administrative Appointments

1. Mr. Mark Sseremba
   Commissioner Human Resource
   MOFA HQ

2. Ms. Martha Kinalwa
   Senior Human Resource Officer
   MOFA HQ

Foreign Service Officer Promotions

We are pleased to inform you that the following officers have been offered appointment on promotion from Foreign Service Officer Grade VI to Foreign Service Officer Grade V. Congratulations!

1. Tebagana George
2. Ssekabembe Daniel
3. Namulinda Tabitha
4. Nandhego Joy
5. Kirunda Joy Zoe
6. Kiggundu Juliet Namirimu
7. Opio Richard Bob
8. Tumukunde Dennis
9. Nasikye Tolofaina
10. Hirome Abubaker Magulu
11. Kahuga Laura
12. Nyanduri Daphine Teddy
13. Kalikola Dennis Lugemye
14. Musinguzi Jesse
15. Malinga Julius Amese
16. Basima Ronald
17. Muhwezi Stilson
18. Najjuma Janat
19. Okunia Juliet
20. Mpungu Moses
Talking to Terrorists by
Jonathan Powell

Powell presents a comprehensive and detailed analysis on why and how governments should talk to recusant armed groups with applicable examples drawing on conflicts from Colombia and Sri Lanka to Palestine and South Africa.

His experience as an English diplomat and as the former Chief of Staff of Prime Minister Tony Blair during the years of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), provides him with the knowledge and capacity to adequately discuss the relevance and necessity of dialogue between governments and terror groups.

In “Talking to terrorists”, Powell describes various stages to a successful negotiation; making contact with a clandestine organization, building a channel of communication in which both the government and terror group have confidence, involving governments, whether to bring in a third party as a mediator, actual negotiations to the point where agreement is followed by implementation.

This book becomes more relevant in a time when terrorism continues to be a threat to global peace and security, and Uganda is not immune to this threat. Talking to terrorists is perhaps one of the most useful written compendiums for diplomats, negotiators and for anyone involved in the subject.
KYENVU – Written and Directed by Kemiyondo Coutinho

Kyenvu is a Ugandan short film (20 minutes) produced by Kemistry Klass, Jaija Productions, Addmaya and Quad A. It is a piece written and directed by one of Uganda’s finest talents Kemiyondo Coutinho who tells the story of a Ugandan woman who has to balance millennial feminism and culture. The film tackles millennial love, feminism and the struggle to find and define one’s identity in a world that wants to define it.

The film portrays a young beautiful Ugandan woman who lives through the taunts of using public transport on a daily basis and finds love in a bitter sweet moment while trying to find her footing in a patriarchal society.

It is a film that is fully acted by Ugandans, with music and a soundtrack composed by Ugandan artists, and a Ugandan production crew. The film has been selected for Best Short Film at the Pan African Film Festival 2018.

Kyenvu premiered on 12th February, 2018 at the Cinemark Baldwin Hills Cinema in Los Angeles, United States of America and is poised to place Uganda on the world map of screen arts in 2018.
Be a craftsman in speech that thou mayest be strong, for the strength of one is the tongue, and speech is mightier than all fighting.

— Ptah-Hotep

PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

Team MOFA played against the Russian Embassy Kampala to mark the Russian Diplomatic Day 2018. Team MOFA won 3-1 in a friendly futsal match officiated by Hon. Okello Oryem

At the Tax Appreciation Week organised by the URA, MOFA won Best Exhibitor Runner-up

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