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Ministry of Finance, Planning &  
Economic Development,  
P.O Box 8147  
Kampala, Uganda

**STATEMENT BY HON. MATIA KASAIJA, MINISTER OF FINANCE,  
PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON THE OCCASION  
OF SIGNING GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH THE KINGDOM OF  
NETHERLANDS TO UNDERTAKE FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR:**

- 1. STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF 14 REGIONAL  
REFERRAL HOSPITALS**
- 2. IMPROVEMENT OF FAECAL SLUDGE MANAGEMENT IN THE  
GREATER KAMPALA METROPOLITAN AREA**

**THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022 AT 9AM MOFPED BOARD ROOM  
FLOOR 7**

Her Excellency the Ambassador, Ms. Karin Boven  
The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health  
The Managing Director, National Water & Sewerage Corporation  
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen  
All Protocol Observed,

1. It's my pleasure to welcome you to this signing ceremony where we have signed two Grant Agreements worth:
  - i. EUR 650,000 towards Uganda's Health Sector- particularly to finance the feasibility studies to strengthen the capacity of 14 regional referral hospitals. This will enable the development of a EUR 55 million project to be funded by the Netherlands Government
  - ii. and EUR 735,000 to undertake feasibility studies for the improvement of faecal sludge management in the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area
2. On behalf of Government of Uganda, I would like to appreciate the bilateral and profound decades of cooperation with the Government of Netherlands in supporting Uganda's development programmes

**Mission**

*"To formulate sound economic policies, maximize revenue mobilization, ensure efficient allocation and accountability for public resources so as to achieve the most rapid and sustainable economic growth and development"*

- since 1991. This support has been in areas to do with Sustainable trade and investment, food security, climate change, Refugees and humanitarian support, Strengthened health systems among others.
3. I would like to extend my appreciation to the Dutch Government for this strong gesture of friendship and support towards Uganda's Social and Economic Transformation aspirations.
  4. The healthcare referral system in Uganda is facing several challenges, such as inadequacy of services and resources (i.e. skilled staff and equipment), overcrowded referral hospitals, and increased operational and Maintenance costs.
  5. Therefore, our Government very much appreciates your support to this project because it will strengthen the referral hospitals, by providing access to well-functioning and sustainable medical equipment with supporting infrastructure and adequate trained staff.
  6. In addition, the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area (GKMA) has had sanitation management challenges for quite some time now. The faecal sludge collection rates in this area still remain low and with limited capacity, despite Government's deliberate interventions. Therefore; the Netherlands support to National water and sewerage cooperation could not have come at a better time.
  7. In conclusion Your Excellency, I want to assure you that the Government of Uganda is fully committed to achieving the goals enshrined in the National Development Plan III. I wish to thank your Government for the continued commitment to these programs. This re-echoes the spirit of aid effectiveness agreed in the Paris Declaration. I would like to assure our partners that funds will continue to be accounted for, within the jointly agreed GoU/DP management and accountability frameworks.
  8. I therefore urge my Ministry, together with the Ministry of Health and National Water and Sewerage Corporation to ensure timely and speedy implementation in order to enable the country realize the benefits of these programs

## **FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY.**

### *Mission*

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