


**STATEMENT ON THE COMMEMORATION OF
INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY,
9TH DECEMBER 2022**

Fellow Countrymen and Women,

On Friday 9th December 2022 Uganda will be commemorating **International Anti-Corruption Day**. This day was designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 2003, for global observance to promote awareness about corruption, its dangers and how to prevent and combat it. Since then, the Anti-Corruption Agencies in Uganda together with their stakeholders commemorate the day annually. This is done through a series of activities to increase public awareness about the evils of corruption, and to promote public participation in the fight against corruption.

As the Chairperson of the Inter Agency Forum, which is a coordination mechanism for the Anti-Corruption Agencies, it is my duty to present to you a scorecard of the key achievements of the Anti-Corruption Agencies since July 2020, especially with regard to the recovery of public funds:

- i) The Inspectorate of Government (IG)** investigated 26 High Profile cases, and directed the recovery of about UGX 30 billion, of which 9 billion was from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry & Fisheries, 1 billion from UBOS; and the rest from other MDAs. The IG prosecuted 86 cases and secured 34 convictions; caused the interdiction of about 45 public officers, one of whom was the Chairperson of Uganda Land Commission. Currently the IG is investigating cases valued at about UGX 500 billion, some of which led to halting numerous suspicious procurements and activities that would have led to loss of public funds.



In addition, the IG stepped up engagements with the public as a way of mobilizing them to join the war against corruption. These include all District Chairpersons, KCCA Councilors, Speakers and the Inter Religious Council of Uganda.

ii) The Office of the Auditor General carried out **6,763** Financial Compliance Audits, **23** Value for Money Audits, **101** Specialised Engineering Audits, **85** Forensic Special Audits and **9** IT Audits over the last three Financial years. Through these audits, loss of funds was averted and the amount of money recovered was **UGX 175 billion**. In addition, assets and cash amounting to **UGX 4 billion** was recovered during the audit.

iii) The Accountant General's Office (AGO) in the Ministry of Finance, Planning & Economic Development is entrusted with the responsibility of compiling and managing the accounts of Votes. AGO set up and upgraded the **Integrated Financial Management System (IFMS)**. This a platform for automating and modernizing financial management systems. IFMS provides accurate audit trails, which increases transparency and accountability for Government financial transactions. **The Microsoft Dynamics Navison System** has been upgraded, and rolled out to 35 Missions abroad, to track the expenditure of public funds. **Electronic Government Procurement** is now being implemented by 25 Government Entities, to make the public procurement system more efficient and accountable by minimising the human interference with the documentation and processes. All Government Entities will be covered within the next three years.

v) **Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)** prosecuted 261 corruption cases, of which 168 were concluded and 110 of them resulted in convictions, which represents a success rate of 82%. Resulting from the DPP's prosecutions, Government recovered **UGX 10 billion** and **US\$16,000**, as well as malaria drugs valued at **UGX 28 million**.

v) **The Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID) of the Uganda Police Force** registered a total of 318 cases, of which 56 were submitted to the DPP, and 23 were sanctioned for prosecution. Through prosecutions, a total of **UGX 615 million** has been recovered.

vi) **State House Anti-Corruption Unit (SHACU)** recovered a total amount of **UGX 35.5 billion**, of which UGX 8.6 billion was from inflated Covid-19 relief food prices; UGX 480 million from Local Governments; UGX 3.6 billion from inflated compensation of Bukasa Inland Port Affected Persons; UGX 2.9 billion worth of drugs which had been stolen from Joint Medical Stores were recovered. SHACU coordinated the return of 600 young Ugandans who had been stranded in the Middle East Countries, where they had gone to seek employment.

vii) **Internal Security Organisation (ISO)** has established a Directorate of Anti-Corruption Operations, to particularly investigate the various sectors. ISO, together with State House Anti-Corruption Unit, have carried out investigations into mismanagement of UPE Capitation grants in 69 Districts; investigations into shoddy work in 117 Seed Secondary Schools funded by the World Bank,

suspected embezzlement of funds for War Veterans; and a number of Government projects in the District Local Governments which have stalled due to mismanagement of funds. A number of arrests were made, and the files were forwarded to DPP for further action.

viii) State House Health Monitoring Unit has comprehensively monitored Hospitals and Health Centres in 16 Districts, and their findings are shocking. In Ntungamo District, they discovered 33 Ghost Primary Health Centres, employing a total of 483 staff. The money that was paid out to these ghosts in terms of salaries and allowances amounts to UGX 480 million. This matter is still being investigated, and responses are awaited. In Nansana, Wakiso District, they arrested a suspect and recovered Essential Medicines worth UGX 1.5 billion. The suspect was charged with theft and impersonation. In Bugiri Hospital, a water pump valued at UGX 14 million which had been stolen was recovered and handed back to the Hospital Administration. In Mulago National Referral Hospital, investigations are ongoing into Financial and Human Resource mismanagement. A report from the Auditor General reveals a loss of over UGX 20 billion. In Kampala, an individual masquerading as a “Medical Dr” was arrested together with four Nurses, after they injected water disguised as COVID 19 Vaccine in over 500 staff of Banks, Companies and Factories. The matter is before Nakawa Court. These and many others have been discovered.

ix) Financial Intelligence Authority received 3,627 Suspicious Transaction Reports, out of which 186 reports relating to money laundering, corruption, fraud and

terrorism financing were sent to Law Enforcement Agencies for further action. 9 Intelligence Reports related to corruption were sent to the Inspectorate of Government, and their successful prosecution will lead to the possible recovery of **UGX 6.4 billion**.

x) The Leadership Code Tribunal has concluded ten cases through Alternative Dispute Resolution, and imposed fines totaling to **UGX 10.9 million** on the Respondents, out of which **UGX 5.9 million** has been paid to the Consolidated Fund.

xi) The Directorate for Ethics and Integrity (DEI) spearheaded amendment of the Leadership Code Act in 2021 to require all public officers to declare their income, assets and liabilities to the IGG as a means of detecting unlawful enrichment, and as Minister I made Regulations prescribing the Declaration Form. DEI coordinates implementation of the Zero Tolerance to Corruption Policy, and has established Integrity Focal Persons in all MDAs, whose role is to sensitise fellow staff on the values of integrity and corruption-prevention measures. DEI coordinates the partnership with Religious and Faith Organisations, Civil Society Organisations, Development Partners, the Private Sector and Media Institutions, which is the new Strategy to fight corruption.

Yellow Countrymen and Women, the theme for this year's Anti-Corruption Campaign is **"Citizens must Own the War to Eliminate Corruption- It is Their war."** The objective is to make the war against corruption a people's war rather than a Government war. In this Campaign, the citizens are being empowered through mass mobilization, education and empowerment, to take ownership of this war and fight it by demanding for better service delivery from duty bearers. The Anti-Corruption Campaign runs for the whole of this Financial Year, and a number of activities have been and are still being undertaken. These include the National Schools Anti-Corruption Challenge which is being conducted in coordination with the National Debate Council; Anti-Corruption Caravans in District Local Governments, to facilitate engagement with the citizens and to make spot checks on service delivery. Media Engagements such as this one are being conducted by the Anti-Corruption Agencies, to ensure effective communication to citizens.

International Anti-Corruption Day will be commemorated on Friday 9th December 2022 in Ibanda District. The reason why Ibanda District was chosen to host the commemoration was because in the 2021 performance appraisal, it was rated the best performing Local Government in service delivery.

The activities in Ibanda District will commence on Thursday 8th December 2022 with Anti-Corruption football and netball matches at Kagongo Primary School playground.

On International Anti-Corruption day, 9th December 2022, the activities will begin with a Procession through Ibanda Town. Thereafter a Rally will be held at Ibanda Integrated Primary School Grounds, where an Exhibition will also be held by the Anti-Corruption Agencies, Local Governments and Non-State Actors.

His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda was invited as the Chief Guest, but due to earlier scheduled engagements, has delegated Hon. Nobert Mao, the Minister for Justice and Constitutional Affairs, to preside over the Commemoration. **The Expected outcome** of the Anti-Corruption Campaign is improved citizen participation in Anti-corruption initiatives; improved transparency and accountability in the delivery of public services; and improved service delivery.

All Ugandans are invited to attend the Commemoration of International Anti-Corruption Day at Ibanda Integrated Primary School in Ibanda District on Friday 9th December 2022, beginning at 9.30am.

For God and my Country.



Akello Rose Lilly (MP)

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ETHICS AND INTEGRITY