


# **STATEMENT ON CONDITION OF KARUMA – ARUA ROAD (233KM)**

## **1. Introduction**

The Karuma – Olwiyo – Pakwach – Nebbi – Arua road is part of the National road network which is managed and maintained by my Ministry through the Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA). The road is a paved road and serves as the main connection between the West Nile region and the rest of the country. The road is also an important international route used to access Uganda's borders with the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Republic of South Sudan (RSS). Considering its strategic importance, Government is committed to ensuring that the road is maintained in good condition to serve road users. This is evident in the past investments in the road and the currently planned interventions to protect those investments.

## **2. Past Interventions on the Road**

The upgrading of the Arua – Nebbi – Pakwach section was completed in 2004 while the Karuma – Pakwach section of the road was completed in 2007. The upgrading of these roads improved connection to the West Nile region and paved way for the upgrading of the Vurra – Arua – Koboko road and the currently





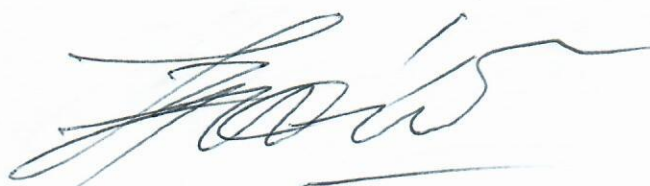
planned upgrading of the Koboko – Yumbe – Moyo and Manibe (Arua) – Yumbe roads.

The Government plans to similarly rehabilitate the rest of the sections in a phased manner as described in the sections below.

### **3. Planned Interventions on the Road**

Given the time elapsed since the upgrading of the road, it is necessary to undertake rehabilitation works to preserve the asset value and restore the roads condition. Indeed, sections of the road are currently in poor condition. However, the rehabilitation work commenced with Pakwach-Alwi section of the road (20.5km) which was completed in 2016. Rehabilitation works on the Alwi-Nebbi commenced in October 2021 and are ongoing, expected to be completed in October 2023.

The designs for the Karuma-Olwiyo-Pakwach section of the road are complete. The procurement of a civil works Contractor for rehabilitation of the Olwiyo-Pakwach road section (62.5km) was completed, the rehabilitation works are due to commence. Procurement of the Contractor for the Karuma-Olwiyo road section (45km) is ongoing. The contractor is expected to have been procured by end of April 2022.





Designs for the rehabilitation of the Nebbi-Arua section (76km) commenced in June 2021 (FY 2020/21) and are expected to be completed by June 2022 (FY 2021/22) after which procurement will be initiated and works are planned to commence on the section in FY 2022/23.

In the meantime, the UNRA maintenance team will continue pothole repairs and routine maintenance activities to ensure the road remains motorable until the rehabilitation works are carried out.

#### **4. Conclusion**

I would therefore like to assure Ugandans of the following:

- i. That the Karuma – Olwiyo – Pakwach – Arua road is part of the Government of Uganda projects planned for rehabilitation on the national road network and the rehabilitation works are being carried out in a phased manner;
- ii. The Government of Uganda through UNRA will ensure that any required short term maintenance works are carried out to ensure the road remains motorable until the rehabilitation works are carried out.

*Musa E. Caver*  
*Paul M. Moseu*  
*27/01/22*