

PRESS STATEMENT ON THE 11TH AFRICA PUBLIC SERVICE DAY (APSD) 2022

Background

The Africa Public Service Day is celebrated annually on 22nd June by African Union Member States and continentally as a biennial event. It is commemorated annually to mark and appreciate the work being done by the Public Service and recognise its positive contribution in socio-economic development.

It is also celebrated as the United Nations Public Service Day to recognise the fact that democracy and good governance are built on the foundation of a competent Civil Service for sustainable development.

The APSD originated from the recommendations of the Inter-African Public Administration Seminar held in October 1970 in Botswana, and Freetown, Sierra Leone in November 1971. The conference appreciated the need for development of competent administrators and managers for rapid socio-economic development on the African Continent.

The Government of Uganda approved, ratified and signed the African Charter on 16th April 2014 under Cabinet Minute Number 113 (CT 2014). This places the onus on the Government of Uganda as a prominent Member State of the UN and the AU to celebrate and commemorate the APSD every year.

THEME

The theme for this year's commemoration is '*Bringing Citizens and Government closer - Service Delivery for Social Economic Transformation.*'

PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE THEME

The theme requires the African Union, its organs, Member States, Regional Economic Communities, and Civil Society Organizations to partner with citizens in the delivery of Public Services to facilitate improvement in the living conditions of African people.

Uganda has made significant strides in empowering citizens to demand for high quality services from Government, which has enhanced transparency and accountability.

Decentralization of power to Local Governments has yielded positive benefits like empowerment of citizens and deepened democracy. Adoption of the Barraza concept in local governance has rekindled interest in local affairs and enhanced accountability and building of partnerships between the local leaders and their communities.

Client Charters in Ministries, Departments, Agencies and Local Governments, regular annual compliance inspections, institutionalization of Government wide Annual and Semi-annual Performance Reviews, National Service Delivery Surveys and dissemination of the findings for implementation are the other reforms that have cemented the relationship and partnership between the Government and the citizens.

Government has institutionalized business process reforms aimed at ensuring efficiency, effectiveness and accountability in service delivery. Key among these are the automation of financial systems through the Integrated Financial Management systems, the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), Tax

Reforms/Electronic Taxation (e-tax services). Government of Uganda is committed to ensuring that all its services and processes are automated.

ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK AND PROGRAMME

The buildup to the day includes the following preparatory activities, Media and Publicity Campaigns, a press conference, and radio/TV talk shows by Heads of MDAs on the APSD 2022 theme.

A sports gala for Civil Servants in football, netball, volleyball, and chess matches and athletics between Ministries, Departments and Agencies at Makerere University sports grounds started 15th – 17th June 2022.

The Africa Public Service Day 2022 Walk on 22nd June 2022 starting from Ministry of Public Service to Kololo Ceremonial Grounds. All Ministries, Departments and Agencies will participate in the walk.

Awarding the best performing institutions including, Ministries, Departments, Agencies, District Local Governments and Municipal Councils based on the Pearl of Africa Institutional Performance Assessment Scorecard (PAIPAS) results for FY 2020/21.

CELEBRATION OF THE 11TH APSD 2022

The 2022 National Celebrations of the 11th Africa Public Service Day will be held on Thursday 22nd June 2022 at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds.

The guest list includes all Ministries, Departments, Agencies (Central Government). Local Governments have been requested to organize their own local

events to commemorate the APSD 2022, in addition to undertaking Corporate Social Responsibility activities in their localities and jurisdictions.

The main event at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds shall be open to the public, our target stakeholder and consumer of Public Services.

*Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Public Service
June 20, 2022*