



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

## OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

14<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

### **STATEMENT ON THE FLAGGING OFF OF RELIEF FOOD TO VULNERABLE PERSONS AFFECTED BY FOOD INSECURITY IN KARAMOJA SUB-REGION**

I welcome you all to this function when we as the Ministry for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees are once again flagging off relief food meant for people who were severely affected by hunger in Karamoja Sub region

The region has faced pro-longed dry spell that affected food security leaving behind vulnerable population; for example, between June and August 2022, 25% of the population (about 315,000 people) experienced high levels of acute food insecurity.

Additionally, the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification report, September 2022 to January 2023, the food security situation in the Karamoja Sub-region was projected to remain as earlier projected in April 2022.

The number of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity and requiring food assistance and livelihood improvement interventions in the Karamoja region was expected to be 308,900,

a slight reduction in magnitude from 314,700 people projected in April 2022.

Following approval of 135BN through a Cabinet meeting in July, 2022, towards provision of relief food to Karamoja Sub-region and other affected areas across the country, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development has released 40 BN in total so far.

Office of the Prime Minister has procured relief food from the recently released 20BN by Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in February, 2023.

Karamoja Sub-region has been allocated 2,260,000 Kgs of Maize Flour, and 1,130,000 Kgs of Beans to cover 115 administrative areas, i.e. all Sub-Counties and Town Councils in the region.

The relief food has been allocated to a total of 230,000 people (2000 people per Sub County/ Town Council), whereby each vulnerable person will get 10kgs of Maize Flour, and 5kgs of Beans to cover a period of 20 days.

The Uganda National Meteorological Authority through regional dissemination of weather forecast for the Karamoja Sub-region in Moroto District, indicated the likelihood of normal rains to support agricultural production during the March April May, 2023 rainfall season.

Thus, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries together with Operation Wealth Creation have embarked on



initiatives to improve food production through agricultural mechanization as follows;

- Fifteen (15) Tractors have been deployed starting with Nabilatuk and Kaabong,
- Two 150- HP tractors based in Napak
- A fuel tanker
- Mobile workshop
- 30 walking tractors

All these are aimed at opening and ploughing substantial land for sustainable food production.

The Office of the Prime Minister through the National Emergency and Operations Centre (NECOC) will continue to issue Early Warning alerts through the Uganda National Integrated Early Warning Systems Bulletin that is published monthly.

At the Local Government level, Office of the Prime Minister with the support the UN – Food and Agricultural Organization and World Food Programme continues to bring together District Disaster Management Committees from all the Nine districts in Karamoja Sub-region to compile, publish and disseminate the Karamoja Multi-Hazard Early Warning Bulletin.

A Food Security and Nutrition Assessment with support from UN agencies OPM, led by MAAIF and MOH is being conducted in Karamoja to inform the food security and nutrition status for the coming period.

I wish to thank our Development Partners who have continuously supported government to save the people of Karamoja from hunger.

I now take the pleasure to officially flag off the second consignment of relief food meant for Karamoja sub region

**For God and My Country**



Anyakun Esther Davinia (MP)

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR RELIEF, DISASTER  
PREPAREDNESS AND REFUGEES**