

REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

STATEMENT BY THE HON. MINISTER FOR KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AND METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS ON STREAMLINING PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN KAMPALA

AT
THE UGANDA MEDIA CENTER
FRIDAY, 2ND DECEMBER 2022

BY

HON. MINSA KABANDA

MINISTER FOR KAMPALA CAPITAL CITY AND

METROPOLITAN AFFAIRS

Salutations

All members of Media Houses present,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am here to give guidance on streamlining of bus operations within Kampala Central Business District.

Government has received a number of complaints from bus operators, taxi operators and the general public on brokers in public transport who extort money from passengers and disorganize the bus terminals.

I and my Colleague, the Hon. Minister of State for Transport paid a visit to the bus terminals and taxi parks on 30th November 2022. These include Namayiba Bus Terminal, Kisenyi Bus Terminal, Link Bus Terminal, New Taxi Park and Kisenyi Taxi Park. We were accompanied by Senior Officials from the Ministry of Works and Transport, Uganda Police Force and Kampala Capital City Authority.

The purpose of the visit was to appraise ourselves on the operations in the bus terminals and taxi parks and to follow up on the complaints by sections of the public. During the visit, we made the following observations:

- There were many brokers/touts in the bus terminals, in taxi parks and on the streets near the terminals who were actively seeking passengers on the streets and in the bus terminals. About 30 brokers were arrested on that day.
- 2. Mushrooming booking offices, kiosks and tents on the streets near bus parks operated by both bus owners and brokers.
- 3. Extortion of passengers where the brokers charge passengers exorbitant transport fares (e.g. UGX. 90,000). They then take the passengers to buses who they pay less than half of the money taken from the passengers. At times, the passengers including children are abandoned after taking their money.
- 4. Poor hygiene in the bus terminals. The taxi parks were cleaner.

Some vehicles were found with expired licenses and route charts and some were in dangerous mechanical condition.

This is unacceptable and the trend should be reversed. Section 99 of the Traffic and Road Safety Act, 1998 as amended prohibits touting. The penalty for touting is a fine not exceeding 300 currency points (6 million) or to imprisonment for six months or both

I therefore, direct as follows:

- All booking offices, kiosks and booking desks outside the gazetted parks should close with immediate effect. There should be no booking of passengers outside gazetted bus terminals and taxi parks.
- All buses and taxis should return to their designated terminals and parks for loading and off-loading. No bus or taxi should on the streets.
- 3. All brokers should be removed from bus terminals, taxi parks and the streets with immediate effect.
- 4. Bus parks and bus owners should arrange to have minimum guides agreed upon between the bus owners and park management.
- 5. Bus Operators and Taxi Operators are encouraged to use online booking services.
- No vehicle should operate without statutory requirements including PSV, Route Chart and 3rd Party Insurance.
- 7. The Uganda Police Force and KCCA should immediately start enforcing these measures.

These measures are intended to create order and safety of passengers and bring about organization of public transport in Kampala Central Business District.

I thank you

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

Page 2

