



**SPEECH BY ENG. HILARY ONEK (MP), MINISTER FOR
RELIEF, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND REFUGEES**

**Japanese assistance to refugees and Karamoja through the
UN agencies**

PRESS CONFERENCE

Tuesday, 18 APRIL 2023 AT, Media Centre 12Noon

- Your Excellence the Ambassador of Japan to Uganda, His Excellence Mr. FUKUZAWA Hidemoto
- UN Resident Coordinator, Her Excellence Susan Ngondi Namondo
- UNHCR Representative and other Heads of UN Agencies
- The Media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored to witness this important event of the support from the Japanese Government to Uganda, for Refugees and the Karamoja Sub-Region.

Uganda is a host to over 1.532,168 Million Refugees as of 31st March 2023 that are in dare need of humanitarian and development support.

Karamoja Sub-Region is also severely affected by Climate Change, a situation that needs continuous mitigation measures and relief.

In the last two years, the Government of Japan has sunk over USD\$13million (USD\$9.8M in 2021 and USD\$3.3M in 2022) as funding assistance to Uganda, through UN Agencies including UNHCR, WFP, UN Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, IOM, UNDP, and IFPRI

This year alone, on this particular occasion, we are witnessing an additional USD\$7.9M from the Government of Japan, still channeled through the UN Agencies as follows:

- USD\$3M to UNHCR
- USD\$2.5M to WFP
- USD\$1M to UNICEF
- USD\$500,000 to FAO
- USD\$723,500 UN Women

These funds will support activities for refugees and host communities including COVID-19 effects and challenges, Promoting Nutrition in Karamoja, and mitigating the impact of climate changes, in addition to Empowerment of Women and Girls affected by disasters.

On behalf of the Government of Uganda, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of Japan through the Ambassador of Japan in Uganda for the generosity exhibited towards supporting the refugee community and support for the Karamoja sub-region this year again.

We are grateful for Japan's cooperation in creating a resilient society, despite being affected by a variety of current global situations and climate change.

We look forward to a year of close cooperation and collaboration with Japan. The Governments of Uganda and Japan will soon launch the Government Settlement Transformation Agenda, a Holistic Plan for refugees and host communities.

We also look forward to the Government of Uganda and Japan's collaboration as Co-converse of the Global Refugee Forum, in Geneva in December 2023.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY