

**Statement by the Honorable Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation at a Press Conference about the 11th UNESCO Africa Engineering Week and the 9th African Engineering Conference**

**Uganda Media Centre**

**August 6th, 2025**

The Science, Technology & Innovation Secretariat-Office of the President (STI-OP) is pleased to partner with the Uganda Institution of Professional Engineers (UIPE), UNESCO, the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) and the Federation of African Engineering Organisations (FAEO) to host the **11th UNESCO Africa Engineering Week and the 9th African Engineering Conference**, scheduled to take place from **September 14-20, 2025**, at **Speke Resort Convention Centre in Munyonyo, Kampala**.

The Theme of the event, *Leveraging Engineering Innovations and Technology to Accelerate Africa's Socio-Economic Transformation*, could not have been pertinent. In an era defined by rapid change and complex global challenges, it is engineering that provides the bedrock for sustainable solutions. The event will serve as a powerful beacon, shining a spotlight on how cutting-edge engineering is not just addressing the critical issues facing our continent but is actively unlocking unprecedented opportunities for socio-economic growth. Crucially, it will also ignite the imagination of our young people, inspiring them to embrace impactful careers in this indispensable field.

As you are aware, STI, encompassing ICTs and the Creatives Industry has been strategically positioned as the primary engine of Uganda's ambitious national ten-fold growth strategy. This bold vision is designed to propel our nation to a *GDP of USD 500 billion by 2040*.

Engineering is certainly the very backbone of any robust STI ecosystem. This is why STI-OP has come on board as a principal sponsor and a strategic partner for this event, to ensure that it aligns with Uganda's STI aspirations and the broader Vision 2040 goals.

Throughout the week, we have meticulously organized an *interactive exhibition*, which is open to the public, and expected to

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bring together a diverse array of innovators and manufacturers to showcase the progress we have made in developing engineering solutions. You will see the progress we have made in electric mobility, electronics manufacturing, artificial intelligence, materials engineering, value addition to our minerals, and engineering human capital development among others. This is an opportunity to showcase our ingenuity to the world, generate tangible market leads for our products, and to elevate Uganda's and Africa's prestige on the global stage.

The *main program* of the conference contains a carefully curated selection of professional, engineering, and scientific content. This will be delivered through a rich tapestry of parallel sessions, engaging breakout discussions, and hands-on interactive workshops. Attendees can look forward to high-profile keynote presentations by leading global experts, alongside the presentation of rigorously selected scientific papers that push the boundaries of knowledge.

Furthermore, we are particularly excited to host a *high-level Ministerial Forum*, specifically designed for African Ministers. This crucial platform will facilitate an invaluable exchange of strategic insights among continental leaders, fostering the coordinated policies essential to accelerate Africa's collective STI agenda. This is where the vision for a technologically advanced Africa will truly take shape.

By supporting this event, STI is giving visibility to the engineers and innovators shaping Africa's future. This is a resounding signal to all potential partners, both regional and international, that Uganda is ready to lead. We are ready to collaborate, to innovate, and to jointly tackle Africa's most pressing challenges through the transformative power of STI, and above all, Engineering.

I urge all engineers, educators, students, innovators and our Policy Makers to show up, connect, and make the most of this platform. Together, we can chart a new path for engineering that is African-led, inclusive, and transformative.



Dr. Monica Musenero Masanza  
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT