

**Highlights from the  
6th Annual Sector  
Review Conference**

**Uganda Celebrates  
World Standards  
Day, 2015**

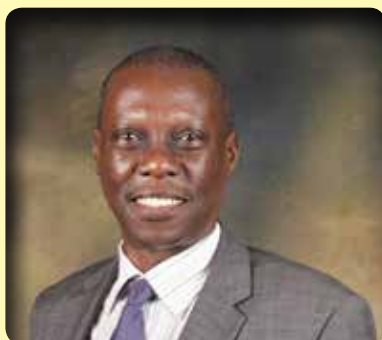
**Highlights of  
The 10<sup>th</sup> WTO  
Ministerial  
Conference**

**Ministry gets a Sector  
Communications  
Management Team**

**Tribute to  
Late Hon. Mutende**







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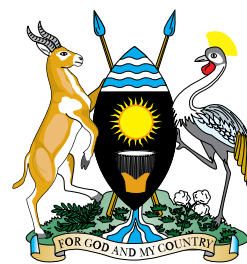
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Member



## THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY & COOPERATIVES

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives is the policy making and implementation organisation of the government of Uganda in the trade, industry and Cooperatives sector.

The Ministry is headed by the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives with two state ministers, the Minister of state for Trade and Cooperatives and the Minister of state for Industry.

Implementation of Government Policies is done with the aid of affiliate agencies and institutions i.e. Uganda Industrial Research Institute, Management Training & Advisory Centre, Uganda Development Corporation, Uganda National Bureau of Standards, Uganda Warehouse Receipt Systems Authority, Uganda Exports Promotions Board, Training and Common Facilities Centre, Textile Development Agency and Uganda Cleaner Production Centre.

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We would like to thank everybody who has helped us put this issue of **The Trade Journal** together. Without their help, time and commitment we would never have got this far.

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### Inside this Issue

Highlights from the 6th Annual Sector Review Conference	4
Overview of MTIC Project and affiliated agencies	7
MTIC at the UMA Trade Show	12
The Need For The Cluster Approach For Industry In Uganda	16
Tribute to Late Hon Mutende	24
Ministry gets a Sector Communications Management Team	27

## Note from Editor-In- Chief

We bring you the first edition of "The **Trade Journal**" of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives. It is a quarterly publication which highlights events, activities, programs and achievements in the trade, industry and cooperatives sector. This is a rebranded version of the Ministry Newsletter that existed before, with a new touch, to effectively bring you all the information that is worthy of your attention.

The production of the "**Trade Journal**" is in line with the Government Communication Strategy to ensure effective communication between the Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and the general public.

Our first Issue brings you highlights of the activities in the trade, industry and cooperatives sector performance in the Financial Year 2014/2015. There is a lot on what transpired during the Annual Joint Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Sector Review Conference, 2015, the highlights of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference that took place in Nairobi, Kenya, World Standards Day Celebrations, and many more events.

There is a lot more for you on the tribute to the late Dr. James Shinyabulo Mutende, the Minister of State for Industry who passed away in October, 2015, and the inauguration of the Sector Communications Team

"**The Trade Journal**" "Trade Journal" will be published online for every quarter and distributed through the various platforms mainly the Ministry website and other online platforms. The Ministry will produce an Annual Magazine which summarizes the highlights of the sector achievements, challenges and plans of the year.

Enjoy the newsletter.



*Hon. Amelia Kyambadde during the tour of Luuka Plastics Industries in Kampala.*





## Highlights of the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Trade, Industry And Cooperatives Sector Review Conference

**T**he Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives held its 6th annual joint Trade, Industry and Cooperatives sector review conference to assess the performance of the sector during the Financial Year 2014/2015. The conference took place on the 1st October, 2015 at Imperial Royale Hotel, Kampala under the theme: "Promoting Domestic Consumption and Export Development through Value Addition".

Discussions during the conference centered on three key issues including;

- The promotion of domestic consumption through the implementation of the Buy Uganda Build Uganda Policy that was approved by Cabinet in October 2014.
- Export development through the draft National Export Development Strategy 2015

- The revival of the Cooperative Bank

The conference was attended by key stakeholders in the Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Sector including the Governments MDAs, the Private Sector and the Development Partners

In her opening remarks, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Amelia Kyambadde said the Sector had made tremendous progress during the Financial Year 2014/15 in which the Sector received US\$ 21.875 billion.

The Minister said in the year under review, the Ministry developed four Policies which were approved by Cabinet, in execution of the Ministry's mandate of strengthening the policy and legal environment. These policies include;

1. The National Accreditation Policy
2. National Competition and Consumer Protection Policy

3. The Leather and Leather Products Policy
4. Micro Small Medium Enterprise (MSME) Policy

The Ministry is working on a number of policies that are in advanced stages of completion including: Packaged Water Policy, Grain Policy, Iron and Steel Policy, Trade in Services Policy, National Export Development Strategy, Trade Fair and Exhibition Policy, Tea Policy, Gift Policy and Intellectual Property Rights Policy.

In the legal framework, the Ministry has worked on a number of Bills some of which have been passed by Cabinet. These include;

1. The Anti- Counterfeit Goods Bill
2. The Principles for the Enactment of the New Sugar Bill
3. The Uganda Development Cooperation Bill



**Invited dignitaries at the Trade Sector Review Conference**

4. The Sale of Goods and Supply of Services Bill
5. Principles for Scientific and Industrial Metrology and legal Metrology Bills;
6. The Common Market for the Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Treaty Implementation Bill
7. The National Leather Value Chain Strategy
8. The Strategy to Revamp the Textile Industry
9. The principles for the Sugar Bill. The actual Bill was completed and submitted to Cabinet this week

## Trade

Uganda registered a decline in trade with imports for the FY 2014/15 at US\$ 6,937.4Billion from US\$ 6,162.8Billion. Merchandise exports declined from US\$ 2,725.7 Billion in 2013/14 to US\$ 2,714.6 Billion (BoU). The Minister said this decline may be attributed to among others, instability in South Sudan, declining fish export and the many notifications received from the EU market in respect of the standards quality shortcomings of our horticultural exports.

## Regional Trade

EAC and COMESA remains Uganda's leading export destination representing about 50% export market share with the EU market being second with a total of US\$ 503.16M. In 2014/2015, Uganda signed two strategic trade and investment promotion Agreements:

- EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite

Free Trade Area;

- Economic Partnership Agreement between European Union and EAC on 14th October, 2014.

One-stop Border posts have been developed on the following borders: Mirama Hills, Busia, Malaba and Mutukula.

## Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers

The Ministry is engaged in bilateral and regional initiatives in respect of the elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers to trade and investment, to facilitate the smooth flow of trade with support from Trade Mark East Africa. A number of NTBs such as roadblocks have been addressed.

A web and phone based NTB Reporting System is operational and more than 65 NTBs reported through the system have been resolved.

## Quality and Standards

The Ministry through the Quality Infrastructure and Standards Program (QUIP) in collaboration with UNBS sensitized and supported more than 40 MSMEs to acquire product certification.

The Pre-shipment Verification of Conformity (PVoC) programme entered its second year of operation with up to 76,618 consignments inspected in country of origin. This has reduced substandard imported products by about 30%.

## Local Government Capacity Building

The Ministry has continued to support and train DCOs in 25

districts with the requisite skills to formulate and incorporate trade and investment plans into their respective District Development Plans.

## Industrial Development Initiatives

The Ministry is undertaking the growth of industrialization through the following strategic initiatives:

### Agri-business and Value Addition

- Soroti Fruit Processing Factory; the factory is expected to be operational by January 2017 with construction still ongoing.
- As of July 2015, 35 the One Village One Product Programme (OVOP) provided value addition facilities to beneficiaries in 29 districts. The Programme has also facilitated training of 489 members of 18 co-operatives/groups from 16 districts in business management, value addition skills and principles of co-operative movement.

## Industry and Trade Infrastructure

Kalangala Infrastructure Project; the following have been undertaken:

- Rehabilitation, expansion and upgrading of 66km main island road to class B gravel road.
- The second ferry (MV Ssesse) was launched in March, 2015
- Power supply plant was constructed
- Kalangala Town council water supply system was rehabilitated in addition to construction of water supply systems for five major fish landing sites;
- Land was secured from Luwero District Local Government for the construction of Luwero Fruits Factory under Uganda Development Corporation.

## Public Private Partnerships (PPP)

Identification of PPP between UDC and the Private Sector in the following areas:

- A cement factory in Moroto
- Iron and Steel plant,
- Sheet glass manufacturing plant in Kyanamukaka, Masaka





**The Swedish Ambassador, H.E. Urban Andersson, with the Hon. Minister**

District; and Investment in tourism projects and establishment of 10 zonal agro-processing facilities in Uganda.

- Kiira-Hinduja
- Kiira EV

### **Industrial Research and Development**

During the period under review, UIRI carried out activities in the areas of innovative product development, enterprise incubation, process design, technology transfer, and reverse engineering.

Various model value addition facilities have been established such as: Kabale Potato processing and research Facility, Mbarara Winery Processing Facility, Arua Juice Processing plant, Luweero Essential Oil Pilot Project, Nabusanke Fruit Juice Processing Plant and many others.

### **Micro, Small Medium Enterprise (MSME)**

Following Cabinet approval of the MSME Policy and approval of the wage bill for the Directorate of MSMEs, the Ministry has moved closer to the establishment of the Directorate of MSMEs in the Ministry which is long overdue.

### **Cooperatives Development**

By July 2015, there were 16,507 registered cooperative societies in the country. In the Financial Year 2014/2015, the Ministry registered 936 new cooperatives of which 539 are SACCOs and 267 are Agricultural Marketing cooperatives.

### **UWRS and UNCE**

Cabinet approved the appointment of the UWRS Board and the Ministry now has a functioning Authority. The Ministry also engaged stakeholders in the revitalization process of the Commodity Exchange which was

demuted to 80% Private Sector and 20% Public. A total of 35 storage facilities have been pre-inspected for WRS public licensing.

On Cooperative war debts, the Ministry made a submission to Cabinet, which resolved that the Ministry of Trade and the Office of the Solicitor General should undertake a verification exercise to authenticate the claims to enable Cabinet pronounce itself on the issue of compensations.

The Ministry is drafting a Cabinet Paper on the Return of Uganda Cooperative College Kigumba to the Ministry.

The Ministry has finalized the draft Cabinet Memorandum on the revival of the Cooperatives Bank.

### **Swedish Ambassador's Remarks**

In his remarks, the Swedish Ambassador to Uganda H.E Urban Andersson said the Swedish Government is committed to contributing to strengthening Uganda's competitiveness for sustainable wealth creation by providing financial support to a number of interventions relevant for increased sustainable production, productivity and value addition.

He urged Uganda to invest in three priority areas if the country is to enhance its competitiveness and these include: women's economic empowerment, continued regional integration and a strengthened role of public-private partnership and consumer organizations.

H.E Andersson re-affirmed Sweden's full support to the Government of Uganda to increase the performance of the Cooperatives Sector.



**The Hon. Minister launches the National Competition and Consumer Protection Policy**



**The Hon. Minister launches the National Accreditation Policy**

# OVERVIEW OF MTIC PROJECTS

## QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND STANDARDS PROGRAMME –QUISP



**DENNIS AINEBYONA**  
PROJECT COORDINATOR - QUISP

### Background

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC), with support from the Swedish Government and Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA) has been implementing the Quality Infrastructure and Standards Programme-QUISP since 2010. The programme aims at establishing a market-driven, holistic and coordinated institutional framework for the Ugandan Quality Infrastructure and Standards; which supports; Trade, Industry, Health, Safety, Consumer Protection and a sustainable Environment while at the same time promoting use of best practices in the production and service sectors.

The overall objective of the Quality Infrastructure and Standards Programme (QUISP) is **to promote the use of quality infrastructure**

**and standards so as to improve the competitiveness of Uganda's products, processes and service delivery systems in domestic, regional and international markets.**

### The QUISP Project has 5 Result areas;

#### Component 1: Development and Implementation of the National Standards and Quality Infrastructure Policy and review of the Standards Strategy

This component aimed at developing a policy framework for the Standards and Quality Infrastructure and review of the strategies for implementation of standards and quality assurance measures with the following specific results:

#### Component 2: Legal and regulatory framework review

This component aims at establishing a harmonized and comprehensive legal and regulatory framework for the Standards and Quality Infrastructure and to enhance the legal basis for the implementation of Standards and Quality Policy and Strategy.

#### Component 3: Coordination of Standardisation stakeholders

This component aims at establishing clear, defined mandates and responsibilities for the different actors in standardization, metrology, conformity assessment and accreditation (SMCA) and establishing a coordination mechanism which promotes harmonization of aims, objectives and programmes among the stakeholders.

#### Component 4: Capacity development of service providers

This component aims at strengthening the rational set up of service providers concerning standards development, conformity assessment and measurement services.

#### Component 5: Awareness raising and implementation support

This component aims at encouraging application of standards and use of conformity assessment and measurement services to increase competitiveness of Uganda, but also to enhance the general understanding of the importance and benefits of producing world class standards and quality products in a developing economy like Uganda.



**Hon. Amelia Kyambadde with some of the MSMEs supported by MTIC through QUISP to attain product certification**



## REGIONAL INTEGRATION IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME (RIIP)

### Background

The Government of Uganda through the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives is implementing the Regional Integration Implementation Programme (RIIP) supported by COMESA with funds from the European Union. RIIP is a 3 year project supported with 3.2 million Euros funds from the European through the COMESA Adjustment Facility. The overall objective of the RIIP Programme is **to ensure effective integration of Uganda into the COMESA and promote the country's competitiveness with a view to increasing her regional trade and investments.**

### Specifically the project aims at;

- promoting effective integration of Uganda into the COMESA FTA
- improving Uganda's competitiveness in the domestic and regional markets
- improving the 'doing business' environment
- Increasing market access for Uganda's products and services in the regional and international markets.

### The project has so far achieved the following;

- **Implementation of the COMESA Free Trade Area (FTA);** Uganda joined the COMESA FTA with effect from 1st July 2014. The RIIP Project has supported mobilization of the business community, customs and border officials to understand the new tariff regimes and implementation instruments under the COMESA FTA including the expected benefits therein.
- **Development of Border Markets;** RIIP is supporting implementation of the Border Market Program which is aimed at positioning the country to maximize its exports to the region through increasing competitiveness and penetration into regional markets.
- **Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers;** 12 out of 21 representing 57% of the identified NTBs against Uganda were resolved in 2013/14 through the National Monitoring Committee. RIIP is also supporting implementation of the Simplified Trade Regime, an EAC and COMESA arrangement that was initiated promote and formalize of cross border trade through simplification of related customs documents; mobilizing for the formation of cross border trade associations; establishing two trade information offices to facilitate small scale customs clearances; and training the traders on regional policies, enterprises development and value addition aspect.



**STEVEN KAMUKAMA**  
**PROJECT COORDINATOR - RIIP**

- **Domestication of Regional Harmonized Standards;** The Project supports implementation of regional harmonized standards. Uganda has adopted almost all COMESA and EAC harmonized Standards.
- **Operationalizing the National Inter Ministerial Committee (NIMC);** The RIIP Project is supporting operations of the Inter Institutional Trade Committee (IITC) a body that assists and advises Government on trade policy development, implementation and monitoring and Evaluation.
- **Implementation of the COMESA Customs Union;** The RIIP project is facilitating Uganda's participation in the on ongoing negotiations on how EAC will engage in the COMESA Customs Union. In addition RIIP is supporting preparation of the private sector to effectively engage in the EAC Customs Union and that of COMESA once it comes on board.
- **Finalization of the Schedule of Commitments to COMESA on Trade in Services;** The RIIP Project has supported the development of the Trade in Services Policy. Once adopted, the Policy will guide on issues to put into consideration when undertaking further liberalization of the services sector.
- **Implementation of the COMESA Transport Facilitation Tools;** The Project supports interventions aimed at enhancing stakeholder's awareness of the existence of the COMESA transport facilitation tools, their benefits in reducing the cost of transactions and how they are applied in the transport processes.
- **EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite;** RIIP Project is also supporting engagements of the Government in negotiations for the EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area to remove some of the inconsistencies and costs in regional integration brought about by overlapping memberships. The Tripartite FTA was launched in June 2015 in Cairo, Egypt.



## DISTRICT COMMERCIAL SERVICES SUPPORT PROJECT (DICOSS)

### Background

**D**ICOSS is an initiative by the Ministry with support from the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) to enhance the capacity of District Commercial Officers (DCOs) for effective provision of commercial services within their respective districts. The project is being implemented in 25 selected districts of Kampala, Mukono, Iganga, Kaliro, Pallisa, Tororo, Soroti, Serere, Kapchorwa, Kotido, Moroto, Kyenjojo, Mubende, Sembabule, Masaka, Isingiro, Ntungamo, Kabale, Nakasongola, Hoima, Lira, Nebbi, Apac, Pader and Moyo.

### Achievements of DICOSS

DICOSS has provided motorcycles, computer equipment, and set up trade information centers in addition to human resource capacity building to improve delivery of commercial services in 25 selected districts across the country. The DCOs have been trained to formulate and incorporate trade and investment plans into their respective District Development Plans. The capacity building initiative has enhanced their capacity to identify the trade and investment opportunities and challenges in their respective Districts. The DICOSS project has increased visibility of not only the District Commercial Office, but the Ministry of Trade as well in those 25 districts.

## THE SECOND TRADE CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT (TRACE 11)



**MS. ELIZABETH TAMALE**  
Asst. Commissioner - Internal Trade

### Background

**T**his is a three year initiative derived from the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) to support the Government of Uganda's trade development agenda. The project supports the building of capacity in the National EIF Secretariat so that it is better equipped to;

- Coordinate the process of trade mainstreaming into the national

planning process among different institutions and sectors in Uganda

- Oversee the development of a program of Tiers 2 projects in response to the Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS) action matrix, assist identify funding partners and monitor their implementation and;
- Coordinate the development of trade and trade related projects and monitor the implementation of Aid for Trade program in Uganda

### Objectives of the Project

- Provide institutional capacity building support to the National EIF Secretariat
- Support the Government of Uganda's efforts in trade mainstreaming
- Support the coordination of Trade Related Technical Assistance (TRTA) to Uganda in particular the delivery of Aid for Trade and TRTA coordination and monitoring



*DCOs undergoing training in ICT supported by MTIC through DICOSS*

## NATIONAL RESPONSE STRATEGY ON ELIMINATION OF NON TARIFF BARRIERS (NRSE-NTB)

### Background

The Ministry is implementing the National Response Strategy on Elimination of Non Tariff Barriers Project with support from TradeMark East Africa Ltd (TMEA) to facilitate the smooth flow of trade. The Ministry established a National Committee on the elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers, and a Unit at the Ministry to focus on the elimination of NTBs. The project addresses four (4) key strategic intervention areas which include;



**MR. EMMANUEL ATWIINE**  
Project Coordinator - NRSE-NTB

1. Re-alignment of National Laws and Regulations
2. Establishment of an Information Exchange Facility
3. Institutional coordination on Elimination of NTBs
4. Development & Implementation of an NTB Elimination Communication and Advocacy strategy

Through this initiative, the following have been achieved:

- Development of a web based tool for reporting NTBs. Through this tool more than 50 NTBs have been reported and resolved.
- Removal of cash bonds on Uganda-destined, goods mainly on high value products like cars, electrical product and sugar by the Republic of Kenya, were removed.
- Harmonization of Axle Load control measures on weighbridges by Uganda and Kenya
- Removal of requirements for physical inspection, transit permits, payment of transit fees, and possession of import permits from countries of destination by Ugandan exporters of Hides and Skins by the Kenyan Government.
- Removal of the 16% VAT on services (Port Charges) for all goods cleared for transit into Uganda.
- Establishment of an Electronic Cargo Tracking System by Uganda Revenue Authority established that eliminates delays and costs of escorting transit cargo to the borders and avoiding short landing of cargo.
- Uganda and Rwanda signed a bilateral Agreement on the Removal of NTBs and constituted a Monitoring Committee on the elimination of NTBs between the two countries.

## ONE VILLAGE ONE PRODUCT (OVOP)

### Background

OVOP is one of the key initiatives by the Ministry to increase incomes and wealth for Ugandans through value addition to local resources, human capital development, and provision of unique services and marketing of the products. OVOP aims to achieve One Village One Product production systems countrywide based on comparative advantage and economic use of resources.

The program was launched on 28th August 2009 after developing the implementation guidelines, the strategic plan and district action plans that would guide the implementation of the programme. Right now OVOP is in 34 districts and has supported 48 projects of which 29 have been supported with value addition equipments.

**OVOP has 4 intervention areas which include;**

- Provision of value addition equipments
- Training beneficiary enterprises in business management, and value addition
- Facilitation of enterprises in development of business plan and skills development.
- Facilitation of business enterprises in attaining product certification with UNBS.

The districts so far covered by OVOP include: Bushenyi, Kisoro, Kamwenge, Ntungamo, Rukungiri, Kaliro, Wakiso, Kitgum, Kabale, Kisoro, Mitooma, Kalungu, Bukomansimbi, Mpigi, Mukono, Kayunga, Iganga, Mbale, Kumi, Kapchorwa, Serere, Mubende, Lira, Bududa, Adjumani and others.



**MR. JULIUS BATARINGAYA**  
Project Coordinator - OVOP





**Hon Amelia Kyambadde launching the revised ISO 14001 -2015 standards**

## Uganda Celebrates World Standards Day, 2015

**By: Khadija Nakakande**

Uganda celebrated the World Standards Day on Thursday November 19th, 2015 under the theme; Standards - The World's Common Language". This Day is celebrated annually around the world to increase awareness on the role of standards in the global economy.

Celebrations took place at Standards House, the home of Uganda National Bureau of Standards, an Agency of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives that is mandated to formulate, promote and enforce standards of goods and services.

Speaking at the celebrations, the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Amelia Kyambadde said the critical message in this year's theme is conformity to standards and quality as a trade facilitation, and health and safety tool; which enables people to communicate more easily.

She said quality and standards encompasses much more than products meeting the technical specification requirements. It also includes the way goods are displayed, kept and handled at places they are sold especially in markets.

The Minister said although Uganda has gone a long way in addressing the governance and management issues of UNBS, there are so many

other challenges related to enforcement of conformity to standards and quality.

She added that the key problem facing Uganda's locally manufactured products today is not lack of markets; but that the access to them is being hampered mainly by the inability of our products

and services to satisfy the market quality requirements. She cited the recent self imposed ban on the export of horticultural products to the EU market being a notable response to this challenge.

The Executive Director of UNBS Dr. Ben Manyindo said the biggest challenge that the institution faces in enforcement of standards is the limited manpower.

During the event, Minister Kyambadde launched the revised standards including the new ISO14001:2015 Environmental Management Systems Certification and the revision of the ISO9001:2008 to ISO9001:2015 Quality Management Standards version. These new standards aim at protection and conservation of the environment and customer satisfaction respectively.

UNBS also recognized institutions both Government and private sector that have excelled in the promotion of standards and these were awarded certificates.



**Commissioner Industry Eng. Peter Balimunsi receiving a certificate of recognition on behalf of MTIC for the institutions contributions towards the promotion of standards.**



**MSMEs that exhibited during the World Standards day celebrations**



# MTIC PARTICIPATES IN 23<sup>RD</sup> UMA INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

It was business as usual at the 23rd International Trade Fair 2015 that took place between 2nd and 11th October at UMA show grounds Lugogo. More than 1,200 exhibitors from within and outside Uganda participated in this year's UMA Trade Fair that ran under the theme: "Enhancing Creativity and Innovation for Market Development."

The fair was officially opened on Tuesday 6th October, 2015, by the Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, who represented H.E the President of the Republic of Uganda Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, with a call to manufacturers to embrace value addition especially to agricultural products.

In his opening remarks, read by the Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, the president applauded the organizers for the good turn-up. He urged the manufacturers to embrace creativity, as it is a driver to competitiveness and innovation on the global scene. The president also advised the exhibitors to invest in value addition especially to agricultural products if they are to earn more.

To the foreign investors, he urged them to come and invest in Uganda assuring them of security and a



**Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda touring the exhibition. On his right is Trade Minister, Amelia Kyambadde and UMA E.D, Ssebagala Kigozi. On his left is UMA Chairman, Amos Nzeyi.**

good business environment.

The Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Amelia Kyambadde appreciated the quality of products exhibited during this year's UMA trade fair and also encouraged foreign exhibitors to partner with the local manufacturers especially in the area of value addition.

Kyambadde said Government has put in place an enabling environment for business, with more than 10 Policies developed and being implemented by the Ministry of Trade including the Competition and Consumer Protection Policy 2014, the National Accreditation Policy 2014, the Leather and Leather Products Policy 2015 and the MSMEs Policy 2015 that have been approved by Cabinet in 2014 and 2015.

Other Policies are still under development including the National

Trade Fair and Exhibition Policy, Sale of Goods and Supply Services Policy, the Gift Policy, the Tea Policy, the National Export Development Strategy and many others.

Hon. Kyambadde urged the manufacturers at the trade fair to use the opportunity to approach UNBS to assist them to attain the Quality Mark for their products.

More than 10 companies were awarded for best performance during this year's UMA Trade Fair under the different sectors, with Movit Company emerging as the overall exhibitor. Other winners in the different categories included; Mukwano Group of Companies, Ugachick, Fine Spinners, Nice House of Plastics, Kinyara Sugar, Uganda Baati, Samona, Roofings and many others. Pacific Interlink from Malaysia won the best foreign exhibitor's award.



**One of the MSMEs supported by MTIC to exhibit during the Fair.**



**MSMEs exhibiting their products during the Trade Fair.**



**The MTIC Exhibition Tent**



# Minister Kyambadde's tour to Plastic Recycling Plants



**Hon. Kyambadde touring at Pipeline Design and Foam Industries Limited in Luzira.**

**T**rade Minister Amelia Kyambadde toured there (3) plastics industries in Kampala to ascertain the implementation of a recommendation by Government to set up recycling plants for plastics as one of the remedies to the environmental damage caused by kavera.

Kyambadde visited Luuka Plastics in Kawempe division, Gentex Enterprises Limited in Matugga and Pipeline Design and Foam Industries Limited in Luzira and all the three have recycling plants for plastics where she witnessed the recycling of plastics including polythene carrier bags.

Speaking after touring the plastics industries in Matugga, Minister Kyambadde acknowledged that kavera has been a menace but plastics industries are working hard to remove it from the environment through recycling. She said through recycling, employment is created for the suppliers who collect the used plastics. Kyambadde added that after getting a deeper insight into the operations of the industries, she is going to proceed to cabinet and defend the lifting of the ban on kavera because plastic industries have more contribution to the development of the economy compared to the damage to the environment which can be managed.

However, she cautioned the industries that before she goes back to cabinet to defend kavera, they have to step up awareness on their efforts to address the damage caused by kavera to the environment, establish regional collection centers for plastic waste



**At Gentex Enterprises in Matugga**

and also address the issue of protection for the workers in one of the industries who were found working in an uncondusive environment. She also advised the industries to form partnerships with all Local Governments just like they did with KCCA and schools in Kampala in the collection of plastic waste.

The Minister said she needs a commitment from these industries before she goes back to Cabinet to defend kavera, and cautioned those industries that are still producing polythene bags below 30 microns, and advised them to invest in the production of high gauge plastic bags and bio-degradable plastics.



**The Minister looking at the recycled plastic bag at Luuka Plastics in Kawempe**

She said it is not prudent to completely ban kavera because it is a source of revenue for Government, it employs people especially the women, and the plastics industries have committed themselves to removing the plastics waste from the environment through recycling.

The Chairman of Uganda Plastic Manufacturers and Recyclers Association Lugwana Lawrence Kaggwa told the Minister they are committed to producing kavera that is 30 microns and above, and removing plastic waste from the environment through recycling, but their biggest challenge is the thin gauge kavera below 30 microns that is smuggled from Kenya which is outcompeting them.

Lugwana appealed to the Minister to push for an amendment in the law or to come up with a new law that is fair to the manufacturers who have invested a lot of money in putting up recycling plants.

Naim Sabra of Pipeline Design and Foam Industries and a members of the Uganda Plastic Manufacturers and Recyclers Association, says out of the 38 plastic industries in Uganda, 18 of them are recyclers and producers, 10 are only recyclers who sell to the manufacturers. He says over a year they recycle over 4,000 tonnes of plastic waste, and the only thing they have to work on is to set up more recycling plants especially in the upcountry areas, if the law on the ban on kavera can be amended.

Naim added that the 38 plastic industries directly employ between 6500 and 8000 people and indirectly employ 2500 and these are the plastic waste collectors who are mainly women and the elderly men from different parts of the country.





# Soroti Fruit Factory Construction in High Gear

**By Yudaya Kadondi, Economist  
UDC**

**C**onstruction of Soroti Fruit Factory in Arapai Sub County in Soroti district is underway with the facility expected to start operations in February 2017. The Factory is aimed at supporting value addition in fruit processing for the promotion of industrial growth in the Teso Region.

With the factory in place, the issue of post harvest losses suffered by the fruit farmers particularly during the bumper harvest and farmers will be addressed. This will motivate them to increase productivity thereby increasing household incomes, creating employment opportunities with resultant social economic development in the region.

Teso region is the leading producer of citrus fruits and Mangoes in the country. The region alone has approximately 2.9 million orange trees with an estimated production capacity of 576,000 tonnes a

year and mangoes with estimated production at 170,000 tonnes. With the abundance of fruits in the region, the Soroti Fruits Factory will ultimately fulfill the Presidential pledge to establish a Fruit Processing Facility in Teso region that was made in 2008.

The Factory is being constructed on 4.8 acres of land acquired and owned by UDC in the Uganda Investment Authority -UIA Soroti Industrial and Business Park. Water and Electricity supply including a 1000KVA transformer has already been installed; power lines were energized and extended to the project site. 800m of the roads with 2 layers of murram have also been constructed. The Construction phase includes the installation of equipment and test runs.

Another ten (10) acres of land in Soroti have been acquired for the construction of a waste disposal plant for the solid waste generated by the factory.

## Training of Farmers

In- order to enhance productivity amongst farmers, UDC in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) and the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) has mobilized and trained over 35,000 farmers on good agronomic practices, post –harvest handling and the importance of cooperatives in the Teso Region.

Farmers from Bukedea, Soroti, Katakwi, Kumi, Ngora, Amuria, Serere and Kaberamaido have undergone training in the areas of modern agronomic practices and agribusiness. It is hoped that this training will increase production levels in terms of quantity and quality in order to sustain the fruit factory.

In addition, the Uganda Industrial Research Institute (UIRI) together with Makerere University have carried out continuous analysis of the orange Pulp and juice (ready to drink) from the oranges grown in the Teso region to ascertain the best attributes from the three varieties suitable for processing.



# Diffusing Industrial Gist in the Uganda Economy

By Dennis Dokoria  
Manager Communications UIRI

The Uganda Industrial Research Institute is Uganda government's hub of industrialization founded by an Act of Parliament in 2002. The institute's metamorphosis started in 2006 after her restructuring fostering her efforts in business incubation, technology transfer, research and development, laboratory analysis, skills training and business development services. Through these activities the institute has demonstrated successful industrial interventions.

The institute nurtures and supports start up entrepreneurs through her business incubation model. The Uganda Industrial Research Institute (UIRI) runs an incubator at her premises offering workspace and expert consultant service. From this success stories have emanated with the production of products like Mega Milk, Just Joy juice and Amagara Skin Care products. UIRI also operates a virtual incubator model where

the institute supports facilities externally which has led to industrial impact in the communities as evidenced in Lira where a peanut processing plant is in production, Arua where a juice processing plant is supported and in Maziba Subcounty Kabale District where a Wine processing plant was recently launched.

Vying for technology aggrandizement in the country UIRI has vouched for technology transfer hence specializing in developing technology that the communities easily adopt and operate, towards meeting industrialization targets. Some of these technologies include the development of the solar drier to improve fruit and vegetable preservation, the manual soap cutting machine for bar soap making, the wooden manual weaving looms for production of textile products and more recently the manual pulper which is being developed to produce larger volumes of juice.



**A portable electrochemical aflatoxin testing kit. The kit enables farmers to carry out on-spot screening and detection of aflatoxins in agricultural produce.**

UIRI vests her resources in research and development exploring the development of resource products including health boosting Yoba probiotic yoghurt made in collaboration with Yoba for Life a Dutch organization and currently development of a partially purified sample of the Antinomycin D anti-cancer drug by KessBiotech Inc. The institute also ventures in technology enhancement hence the development of technologies including the aflatoxin kit to determine contamination in foods, the pneuemo-track device for preventing pneumonia risk in children and the biochar fertilizer for organic agricultural production.



**President Museveni inspecting a Maziba Wine Product after commissioning the Maziba Wine Processing Plant in Kabale on 21st June 2015.**

# THE NEED FOR THE CLUSTER APPROACH FOR INDUSTRY IN UGANDA

Industrial development in Uganda has grown rapidly over the last few years. This is clearly evident, say over the last 25 years, in subsectors like iron and steel where steel manufacturing plants have multiplied from three to more than fifteen and leather and leather products where tanneries have risen from one to eight now. This upward trend reflects continuous innovation and invention of ways and methods to bridge value chain gaps, AND investment in value addition by local and foreign entrepreneurs alike leading to proper and consistent growth of the sector. This tremendous growth has also led to Uganda's demand of more and more material inputs into industry, conglomeration of processes in a given company and a widening of our outlook on the use of natural resources.

However, Industry contribution to GDP still lags averagely between 25 and 30%; which means that with the growth of the economy and the significant raise in the standard and quality of life of Ugandans, the upward climb in manufacturing figures is still proportionally dwarfed by the boom in all the other GDP contributors.

We, therefore, as government, need to find ways to increase efficiency in production so as to ensure the greatest net output with the given set of resource inputs at a particular time. One such avenue is the utilization of the cluster approach in Uganda.

An industrial cluster, in this case, would mean a sectoral and geographical concentration of enterprises with a clearly

identifiable product and place. These enterprises may not mean only the manufacturing but could include support entities and institutions (like service providers). They would be grouped together in a specific place (ideally closer to the raw materials) to support each other with mutual inter-linkages along the value chain until the realization of the final product for market.

A simple example here would be, say in the leather sector, having a piece of land earmarked in the western region (hides, hides, hides) to set up a tannery and a big leather manufacturing plant (the likes of bata) or even multiple small cottage leather manufacturing industries, together with producers of shoe lasts, soles, buttons, laces and all such others, plus branding, packaging and marketing firms. These would feed into each other from the hides collected and processed in the tannery to produce finished leather, which would then be used by the cottage manufacturers to produce leather components like shoes (with input from the lasts, soles and laces manufacturers) or wallets and belts and jackets (with inputs from the buttons, zippers and belt buckle manufacturers). These products would then be properly packaged, branded and marketed nationally internationally through targeted and blanket advertising, proper product sensitization and continuous exposure of these brands on the local and global market places.

Setting up of such viable clusters in the different subsectors – textile, steel, grain, sugar, tea,



**By: Prime BLESSED FOM**  
**Industrial Officer - MTIC**

alcohol e.t.c – all across the country, would guarantee;

- Greater outreach to a large number of enterprises
- Collective efficiency and economies of operation
- Critical infrastructure development in those areas
- A focus on the felt needs of the group creating an environment for mutual learning
- Unique opportunities for Government and the private sector to address specific needs with specific solutions
- Increased productivity, employment generation and wealth creation

As Government, we therefore have to get on this horse before we are left in the dust. Proper planning and mapping of these clusters according to the available natural resource and raw material information would be an effective first step. Redirection of investment according to the set plan and profference of incentives and amenities to the already existing manufacturing entities, among other mechanisms, could then come into play. BUT FIRST, THERE IS NEED TO REALISE THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF CLUSTERING





Uganda National Bureau  
of Standards

[www.unbs.go.ug/eportal](http://www.unbs.go.ug/eportal)



# UNBS ePortal

## Our Vision

To be a leading institution of international repute in provision of sustainable standardization services

## Our Mission

To provide standards, measurements and conformity assessment services for improved quality of life.

## Our Values

- Professionalism
- Customer focus
- Integrity
- Teamwork & Innovation

The objectives of automating these services and the benefits to be accrued thereafter by both UNBS staff and their stakeholders include:

1. Increased efficiency through reduction in time and cost in obtaining crucial services from the Bureau
2. Improve access to information
3. Increased transparency
4. Reduced paper handling
5. Easy Reporting
6. On-line verification of Applications
7. Easy monitoring of business transactions by clients

## Introduction

Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) is a statutory organization established by an Act of Parliament of June 1983 and became operational in 1989. The UNBS Headquarters is located in Nakawa Industrial Area with regional offices in Lira, Mbale, Jinja, Kampala and Mbarara.

UNBS is a member of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and also a member of the Africa Regional Organization for Standardization (ARSO). UNBS is the National contact point for FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission, which is responsible for the Worldwide Food Standards Programme. It is also the enquiry point responsible for World Trade Organization (WTO) with respect to the Agreements on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and on Application of Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures (SPS).





### The ePortal

The UNBS ePortal commonly referred to as the Import Inspection and Clearance Information Management System is a joint initiative by UNBS and Trade-Mark East Africa (TMEA). TMEA is a not-for-profit organisation that seeks to unlock the economic potential of the East African Region through improving physical access to markets, enhancing trade environment and increasing business competitiveness. The joint partnership between UNBS and TMEA is geared towards enhancing efficiency and capacity of the Bureau in serving the trade community better in the areas of inspections and quality assurance of goods coming into and leaving Uganda for the international market.

### Objectives of the Portal

In a move to improve operational efficiency and enabling easier access to information and services for the business community and the general public, UNBS has made the bold step of automating both internal and external processes that are critical to trade. The implementation of the ePortal will enable importers to access UNBS services regardless of their location through online services as opposed to actual visits to the UNBS offices to perform transactions. As indicated, the ePortal will enable the importers to apply for import clearance certification, receive timely notification and emails through electronic means among other benefits. The automation

of UNBS ePortal is a process centric collaborative workflow system developed to improve work efficiency internally hence the bulk of the automated processes lies in the back end of the system.

This includes application processing for import clearance certificates.

### Services Available Online

Through the online portal, Importers are now able to:-

1. Apply for an Inspection Clearance Certificate
2. Receive certificates online
3. Receive periodical status of their application via email
4. Receive Bank Advise Payment Form
5. Assign a clearing agent rights to perform tasks on their behalf

### How do I log on to the Portal?

To access the portal type the following address [www.unbs.go.ug/eportal](http://www.unbs.go.ug/eportal)

1. Enter your Username and Password and click on the login button



SCAN THIS  
CODE TO  
ACCESS  
THE URL

2. New users will need to click on the free registration hyperlink to create a new account

### UNBS Strategy going forward:

In line with the government's vision of making Uganda a trade hub through improved efficiency in doing business, the government, through Uganda Revenue Authority has established the Uganda Electronic Single Window (UeSW). The UeSW serves as the single entry point where traders will access all trade related information and documentation from whatever location. It is in this regard that UNBS is part of the Project Implementation Team (PIT) to ensure that UeSW enhances efficacy and convenience required that traders need by improving turn around at the agency. In addition, it is envisaged that with the deployment of the ePortal there will be faster clearance of cargo as the application for inspection and clearance will be done online hence eliminate the need of making unnecessary visits to UNBS offices. Additionally, this system once refined will be interfaced with URA's ASYCUDA World to allow clients to access services of both organizations from one platform.

[www.unbs.go.ug/eportal](http://www.unbs.go.ug/eportal)



# Export markets for Uganda's products



**Uganda  
Export  
Promotion  
Board**



**Brenda Katarikawe**  
Asst. Director, Trade Promotion and PR

**P**referential UEPB Markets offer privileged access to certain products from the participating countries. These are established through a trade pact and offer reduced tariffs to the partnering state. Uganda is among the countries that enjoys preferential access to these markets of major world economies under the regional and preferential trade agreements. Preferential markets provide a reduction of transaction costs resulting from the continuous elimination of internal restrictions to trade. This means products enter into this market duty free making them more competitive.

## Uganda's products can access the following markets through preferential arrangements:

1. Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania and Rwanda as members of the East African Community (EAC) these 5 countries provide a market of 135.4 million people for Uganda's exports.
2. Angola, Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe are all members of Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The 19 countries provide a market of

390 million people.

3. The 28 countries of the European Union provide a market of 503 people.
4. China provides a market of 1.3 billion people
5. India provides a market of 1.2 billion people
6. Korea provides a market for 50 million people
7. Morocco provides a market of 33 million people.

## What are the traded products in these preferential markets?

Unlike non preferential markets, preferential markets provide duty free quota free access for all products whether raw, processed or manufactured access.

This mean your products enter the preferential market duty free therefore are more competitive. Uganda prides in exporting the following traded products to the preferential markets mentioned above. However, there also exist opportunities to export agriculture and Agro processed products, manufactured products, fish, and handicraft and services exports especially tourism and education.

## Regional –EAC & COMESA

In the following products are mainly exported;

- Manufactured products – Cement, Sugar, Cooking Oil, Steel & Iron, Soap
- Agro - processed products- Maize, Millet, soya flour, Fruit Juices, Meat & Edible meat offal
- Agricultural Products: Rice, Dried Beans, Soya Beans, Cassava

## European Union:

Coffee, Cocoa beans, Fresh Fruits & Vegetables, Ginger & vanilla, fish fillet, cut flowers, tobacco, Frozen vegetables, cotton, oilseed, Hot pepper.

**USA:** Dried vegetable, hot pepper, Shea butter, vanilla, tobacco and handcrafts.

**China:** has opened its market for 4,721 products. The following are some of major products exported to China. Cured and smoked fish, oil seeds, hides & skins, Fish fresh and whole, coffee and cocoa beans, Groundnuts, scrap of plastics.

**Morocco:** mainly coffee

## How to access Preferential Markets?

The Uganda Export Promotion Board is a public agency responsible for to export market development and promotion in the country, with a pivotal role in increasing exports. Preferential markets offer a great opportunity to Uganda products and one of the main responsibilities of UEPB is to obtain the correct market information about these markets and share it with actual and potential exporter and the general public in order to ease their access into the markets. Therefore in line with UEPB's functions the following services that help exporters met the requirements needed to access the preferential markets can be accessed at UEPB head offices on Nakasero Road plot 37 Nakasero Road.



**28 Members states of the European Union**

**UEPB, Helping you to Export...**



# MTAC

## MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND ADVISORY CENTRE

Building Capacity for Enterprise Development



### Golden Moments for MTAC

**"50 Years of Creating Entrepreneurs and a Skilled Workforce through Innovative Learning Methods".**

It has been fifty years of milestones for MTAC and what started as a project in 1964 has grown into an institution, that through the five decades of its existence has seen students, trainers, consultants and working staff grace its halls, lending credence to the concept of enterprise development and job creation.

Established initially as an ILO/ UNDP/GOU Project, and later by an act of Parliament in 1969, MTAC's mandate is **to promote enterprise development and sound management practices through advisory, training and entrepreneurship development services.**

Training of the staff members to enhance delivery of a relevant product to the participants is a continuous process that enables continuity with return customers.

With innovativeness and a drive to expand, in 2006, MTAC



Front Centre - Executive Director, Soteri Nabeeta and Senior Trainer, Elias Tiwangye with staff members proceeding a staff training at MTAC offices - 15th July 2015.



MTAC trains at the MTIC skills workshop - 23rd - 28th September 2015





introduced certificate and diploma courses, which lead to qualification awards in various fields including programs that are duly accredited by the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE).

The number of graduating students increases each year and currently with the upcoming third graduation ceremony on 30th October 2015, there are over 600 students expected to graduate, up from 355 and 488 in 2013 and 2014 respectively.

In a bid to bring services closer to the grassroots 11 centres were opened countrywide with a rollout in Masaka, Luweero, Mpigi, Mbarara, Bushenyi, Ntungamo, Rukungiri, Lira, Pader, Mbale and Iganga.

These outreach centres cover both long-term qualifications of diploma and certificate as well as skills and performance improvement short-term courses for working professionals. With MTAC's golden jubilee emerges another key milestone; the faculty and staff have worked through the process of establishing a constitution and formation of the electoral commission, resulting into the creation of a functioning guild. The guild was officially inaugurated on 2nd September, 2015 at the MTAC main campus in Nakawa.

Having gone through a structural change between 2014 and 2015, MTAC has engaged in equipping the organisation with resources in both manpower and material requirements, like computers, text books, and Internet connectivity.

The change is apparent and amidst all the challenges MTAC forges on to keep participating in the nation's bid for advancement in entrepreneurship and job creation. This is noted by continuous participation in both public and private sector activities as a platform to showcase what MTAC as an institution has to offer.

**Faith Kinani**  
**Communications Officer**



Administrative Assistant, Richard Ojok Olal at the Pader Centre - 10th June 2015



Students at MTAC's 2014 graduation ceremony - 7th November 2014



Registrar, Ronald Hiirya addressing students and staff members at the inauguration of the Guild- 2nd September 2015

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# THE WAREHOUSE RECEIPT SYSTEM: Unlocking Uganda's agricultural potential



**By Deborah Kyarasiime**  
**Executive Director, Uganda**  
**Warehouse Receipt System**  
**Authority**

**W**ith the rapid transition of Uganda's agriculture from subsistence towards commercialization especially for grains, the new Warehouse Receipt System (WRS) is timely, promoting the development of standardised storage infrastructure. Inadequate storage infrastructure has been a major challenge to the growth of Uganda's agricultural sector especially the grain production sector. The system is directly targeting the surplus stocks that would have rather gone to waste and this would be deterrent to production and productivity.

The Warehouse Receipt System is a market development system involving specially licensed storage

facilities which meet legally defined standards, offer warehousing services to commodity traders and producers and issue legally bound warehouse receipts that are recognized by stakeholders especially bank as collateral against which credit can be disbursed.

## General benefits of the System

The WRS offers a number of benefits including;

### Provides a title of ownership;

A warehouse receipt, is recognized if it is issued by a certified warehouse operator, and from a licensed storage facility that is regulated by Uganda Warehouse Receipt System Authority (UWRS). It is a document of Value recognized and tradable anywhere anytime backed by law, it is collateral that enables one access to credit & you need not to hold onto physical goods.

### It minimizes storage costs;

This is usually through economies of scale especially where Insurance of a facility is involved, better storage utilization (optimum operations), minimal charges at warehouses compared to the risk of storage by the producers or small scale traders who most times are constrained of security of their goods at farm level.

### Price Discovery Mechanism;

This is mainly through use of the electronic Warehouse Receipt System (e-WRS) which enables a wide coverage through electronic versatility. The system also minimizes marketing costs through bulking/larger volumes in respect to what we produce individually.

### Quality Assurance of goods;

It promotes access to quality improvement systems and infrastructure that is always missing at household level i.e. Drying, Cleaning and Grading facilities can be accessed. There is an opportunity of access to professional low cost handling services and practices like fumigation services, networking with trained, licensed and regulated staff at warehouses, this promotes adherence to shelf-life.

### Security of goods;

At certified and licensed warehouses, stocks are insured against fire & allied perils, burglary, professional mishaps, staff infidelity and public liability. Quality is assured against vermin, insects, fungi and moulds.



UWRS Stakeholders Retreat held in Masindi 25th - 26th September 2015.



## Wider Market Access

It promotes access by many people worldwide through the electronic warehouse receipt system (e-WRS). It also provides local and regional opportunities through formalization of transactions.

## Who manages the WRS

The WRS is being implemented by the Uganda Warehouse Receipt System Authority (UWRS), an affiliate Agency of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, in collaboration with a whole range of stakeholders (Ministries & other Government Agencies, Private Sector, NGOs and Development partners).

UWRS regulates and promotes the Warehouse Receipt System through, and for other stakeholders, under the Warehouse Receipt System Act and Regulations that are widely benchmarked and has been reviewed at COMESA level. Institutional structure has already been put in place to ensure supervision, governance and management (UWRS Board of Directors is composed of the core stakeholders represented by;

Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU), Uganda Cooperative Alliance (UCA), Uganda Bankers Association (UBA), Uganda Clearing and Forwarding Agents Association (UCIFA), Uganda Insurers Association (UIA), Uganda National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UNCC&I), Uganda National Farmers Federation (UNFFE), and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC).

## Functions of UWRS

- Licensing of Storage Facilities basing on warehousing standards for safety, Warehouse Operators considering their reputation and experience, and also Handlers in the warehouses like weighs, samplers and graders)
- Issuing Negotiable Warehouse Receipts to depositors of commodities
- Monitoring & Inspection of operations of stakeholders participating in the system
- Capacity Building for Key Stakeholders like Warehouse Operators, Banks, Depositors (farmers and small scale traders)
- Dispute resolution just in case it arises especially on volumes and standards
- Promote development of effective and reliable Market Information Systems for the benefit of depositors and buyers.
- Fostering access to receipt backed inventory financing (This is what the system is all about). Commodities used to secure financing as collateral to secure funds. A shift from the usual/ traditional assets like land titles, log books and other instruments.
- Promoting the development of standardized storage infrastructure that supports value addition
- Promoting the development of an efficient Commodity Exchange with other stakeholders by fronting Warehouse Receipts as trading instruments on the trading floor. This involves assurance on delivery on quality

and quantity of stocks in the transaction.

- Mobilisation of stocks through mass sensitization campaign for producers and small scale traders around and about the licensed storage facilities to promote optimum capacity operations.

## Strategies put in place to ensure low-level operators embrace the WRS

There are a number of strategies that are in place by all stakeholders since they are very crucial.

- Engender the system to stakeholders through mass sensitization through various foras
- Promote bulk deposits at warehouses by producers, and small scale traders
- Putting in place systems and structures that will promote affordability of the system along the value chain of the commonly traded commodities like Maize, Beans, Rice, Soya beans, Wheat, Coffee e.t.c
- Have in place the Grain Trade policy and enforce it

The WRS provides opportunities to the economy of Uganda through the promotion of structured trading of commodities, formalizing trade and promoting standards. This will improve and increase our exports in volumes and value, and enable Uganda become the real food basket it ought to be. It will promote development of standardised storage infrastructure which is a basis for quality and delivery assurance



Members of the UWRS Board



MTIC & UWRS teams visiting Afgri-Kai Warehouse in Kiryandongo.



**REST IN PEACE**  
**HON. DR. JAMES SHINYABULO MUTENDE**

## Minister's message

It was with deep sorrow that we received the shocking news of the untimely demise of my colleague Hon. Dr. James SHINYABULO MUTENDE, the Minister of State for Industry who passed away on Saturday 3rd October, 2015 at his home in Lukuli-Nanganda, Makindye Division.

We were in shock and pain because we freshly remember him chairing the Ministry's 6th Joint Sector on 1st October, 2015 and he was at the Ministry on Friday, full of energy.

This is a great loss to the Ministry, nation, family and friends. His intellectual versatility, which included Veterinary Medicine, Business Administration and Economics, enabled him to leave an indelible mark in Cabinet; and in the formulation and implementation of Policies and Programs that promote industrial development in the Country.

As a critical Member of the Top Management Team at the Ministry, he contributed immensely to the achievements of the Ministry in the period we have been together.

We love him and hold him in very high esteem because of his humility, modesty and commitment to work. He was always available to stand in for me whenever I called, even at very short notice. He was amiable and always carried himself with a broad smile

# Tribute to Mutende

On behalf of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, we offer our heartfelt Condolences to the family, the people of Mbale, the Bamasaba mwesi-mwesi and Uganda at large. We pray that God gives the Family strength to go through this trying period of grief.

May his soul rest in perfect peace!

**Amelia Kyambadde (MP)**  
**MINISTER**



*Launching the Uganda National Leather Value Chain Strategy.*



*Inspecting of Exhibition Stalls at the 22nd UMA Trade Show in 2014*



*Attending the Bugisu Cooperative Union's AGM in March 2014*



# MTIC REMEMBERS...

**What can you say about....  
Hon. Dr. James SHINYABULO  
MUTENDE (RIP)...**

A brilliant, down to earth and hardworking person – **Silver OJAKOL, Commissioner, External Trade**

He was our minister who was a very professional man, very friendly and very easy to work with – **Kassim SEMANDA, Engineer.**

He was a man like no other. It was a privilege working on his team. I was humbled by his kindness and compassion to everyone around him. He always had this nation at heart as he focused on the good of the Ministry, serving its clients with dedication – **Peter ODONG, Senior Industrial Officer**

Dr. MUTENDE was very approachable and always willing to help – **Deborah KYARASIIME, Executive Director, UWRSA**

He was an articulate person and someone who could perform a task efficiently and effectively even with very little time to

prepare – **Elizabeth TAMALE, Assistant Commissioner Internal Trade**



I knew him before he was even a Minister here. He was a family friend and It is very sad that he had to go that way. – **Henry NYAKOJO, project Adviser, TRACE II**

He was the kind of boss that gave you room to express yourself – **Berna NAKAZZI, Industrial Officer**

Hon. MUTENDE was a hardworking and technical Minister; the kind of minister you always wanted to have on your side whenever we had papers to

present in Cabinet or Parliament – **Emmanuel MUTAHUNGA, Principal Commercial Officer**

He was very focused... passionate about the tasks he handled. I liked his humor and he was really a friend; a good one – **Gordon BYAKATONDA, Cooperative Officer**



He was a kind man. So cooperative and willing to help anybody at every turn. He was not segregative... and will be hard to replace – **Florence NALWANDA, Office Attendant, Industry**

He was a very committed officer, very focused and solution oriented – **Leonard KAVUNDIRA, Senior Cooperative Officer**



*Launching the Uganda National Leather Value Chain Strategy.*



*Inspecting grounds for the Soroti Fruit Factory in Arapai.*



He was a boss who was easy to work with, full of humour and a good mentor. He never rebuked, but was always correcting when one made mistakes. He never forgot to say “thank you” for anything you did for him - **Grace Achan, Senior Personal Secretary to Hon. Mutende.**

Hon. MUTENDE was very approachable. He broke that “invisible boundary” between boss and subordinate. He removed that pomp that comes with being a Minister, which made me recognize his intelligence and brilliance in the issues that he handled and the interactions that we had - **Emmanuel KAMUGASHA, Industrial Officer**

When I joined the Ministry, I was surprised upon my interaction with the Minister that for him, there was no need to compose a relationship. He was very free with me, very interactive, very technical and we were blessed to have him here at the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives - **George SERUNJOI, Principal Economist**

Dr. MUTENDE was a very brilliant Minister. We were always very proud of him. Always available for duty and represented the ministry adequately where needed - **Samuel SSENKUNGU,**

## Director for Trade, Industry and Co-operatives

He was a down to earth gentleman who was approachable. Always willing to stand in at short notice and we shall miss him very much - **Cleopas NDORERE, Principal Commercial Officer.**

He was a very good minister. He was articulate on issues of Policy and it was a joy to work with him - **Cyprian BATALA, Assistant Commissioner, External Trade.**

Dr. MUTENDE was a very professional man - **David KARUMA, head of Procurement**

He was our Minister but he was more of our brother. A very technical person, but also very reliable...you could share with him anything, work related or not, and he would give you advice whenever he was in position to do so. He shall be missed - **Dr. Joshua MUTAMBI, Commissioner, Industry**

He was simple, understanding and encouraged initiative among officers - **Michael ORWOTHUM, office attendant, Minister's Office**

He had an amazing capacity for multi-tasking - **Ambassador Julius ONEN, Permanent Secretary.**

He was a good man - **Miriam NABANGI, Telephone Operator.**

Hon. MUTENDE, gone too soon - **Dennis AINEBYONA, Project Coordinator, QUISP**



Dr. MUTENDE ran his race. He completed. He was admired by many - **David OMUNYO, Principal Office Supervisor**

Hon. Dr. MUTENDE made work easy for us. He was always available to stand in for the Minister even at very short notice. He could conceptualize issues very fast and articulate them to the audience in a very understandable manner - **George LATIM NYEKO, Personal Assistant to the Minister.**

He was a young man, full of zeal always looking to change the world. He was very friendly to everyone and was down to earth - **James TUKAHIIRWA, Ag. Principal Assistant Secretary/Transport Officer**

The late Hon. MUTENDE was a team player. Even in circumstances where he had no background on what could have been happening, he would, at short notice, organize staff to deliver on key technical issues for the Ministry. He will be greatly missed here at the Ministry and may God rest his soul in Eternal Peace - **Raymond AGABA, Commissioner, Internal Trade.**

**His selfless and high moral standards showed us that human dignity lies in love, wisdom and compassion for one another.**





By Khadija Nakakande

Communication is dubbed as today's most important skill. Greg Satell, a US based business consultant, on his blog DigitalTonto.com says in order to innovate, it's not enough to just come up with big ideas, you also need to work hard to communicate them clearly.

American Author Matthew Lesko also says information is the currency of today's world, and those who control it are the most powerful people on the planet. However, information cannot have any impact or influence if it is not shared or communicated to the relevant people. There is power in

# Ministry gets Sector Communication Team

sharing information.

There's a lot of information in the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives that can be shared with the relevant stakeholders. It is the responsibility of the ministry to fully inform its stakeholders as an institution that delivers services to the general public.

Thus in a bid to create visibility for the ministry, a Sector Communication Management Team was inaugurated by the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Amelia Kyambadde on 29th September, 2015 at Collin Hotel, Mukono.

During the inauguration, Kyambadde emphasized the importance of proper and timely dissemination of information in a precise, accurate and easily digestible manner. She said it is the job of the Ministry to ensure that the general public is kept up-to-date with as much relevant information with as much detail as possible.

The Minister said the Government of Uganda recognizes the importance and utility of proper communication and publication of Government programs, and it is the reason why in 2011, the Office of the Prime Minister developed a the Government Communication Strategy which provides guidelines and implementation plans for all Government institutions on efficient and effective public relations practices.

Kyambadde recognized the role played by the media in disseminating information on trade, industry and cooperatives and promised a better working relationship between her Ministry and the media. She tasked Ministry officials to avail the relevant information to the media in a timely manner.

The Minister also urged the Ministry Communication Management Team to use appropriate means to inform the public of what the Ministry has



Hon. Minister Amelia Kyambadde with members of the Ministry Communications Management Team

done, is doing and plans to do.

The 16 member team is coordinated by the Public Relations Officer of the Ministry Nakakande Khadija. Other members include Mary Amumpaire, the Database administrator, Leaticia Asimire, the Information Scientist, Noel Singabadda, the Librarian, Tonny Bbale, the statistician, and Information Focal Point Persons from the different departments. These include; Georgina N. Mugerwa from External Trade, Ronald Ayella from Internal Trade, Eddie Sam Kumakech from Cooperatives Department and Prime Fom Blessed from Industry Department.

The team's membership also includes Communications Officers from the Ministry Affiliate Agencies

1. Barbara Kamusiime – Uganda National Bureau of Standards
2. Faith Kinani – Management Training and Advisory Centre
3. Denis Dokoria – Uganda Industrial Research Institute
4. Pauline Among – Uganda Development Corporation
5. Deborah Kyarasiime – Uganda Warehouse Receipt System Authority
6. Brenda Katarikawe – Uganda Export Promotions Board
7. Grace Kirabo – Textile Development Authority
8. Tom Mukiibi – Training and Common Facilities Center

#### Media Training

In the same vein, the Ministry together with the Regional Integration Implementation Programme (RIIP) organized training for journalists in a bid to create a partnership with the media as one of the most powerful instruments of communication that plays an important role in increasing public awareness.

During the two days training at Collin Hotel, Mukono, the journalists were taken through the different programs and activities implemented by the Ministry of Trade, so as to acquaint themselves with those programs.

Through the training, the media would be able to accurately report on trade matters, increase the scope of coverage and passion among journalists to report on trade matters.

Minister Kyambadde said the Ministry shall continue to organize such trainings and workshops, hold quarterly press briefings and ensure continued involvement of the press in all Ministry programs and activities. She urged journalists to understand and report, accurately business related issues on manufacturing and entrepreneurship in the country, local, regional and global trade of Ugandan products, and the expansion, coverage and extent of the cooperative movement in the Country.



The Team Coordinator receives her Membership Certificate.



Hon. Amelia Kyanbadde gives her speech during the innauguration



Cyprian Batala officially opens the Media Training.



The Media Training at Colline Hotel, Mukono





## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Ministers from 163 countries met again for the 10th time to discuss the future of the Doha Round of the World Trade Organization (WTO) that was launched in 2001. For the first time, Africa hosted the WTO Ministerial Conference, which is the top most decision making body of the WTO. The conference took place in Nairobi, Kenya from 15th – 18th December, 2015.

President at the Opening Ceremony of the Conference.

### Key Thematic Areas

The negotiations, conducted under the Doha Development Round, were on the following key thematic areas:

- Agriculture
- Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA)
- Trade in Services
- LDCs Issues such as Preferential Rules of Origin, Special and Differential Treatment (S&D), Trade Related Technical Assistance and Capacity Building, and
- Trade Related Aspects of intellectual Property Right (TRIPS); among others.

### Uganda's Delegation

As a founding member of the WTO, Uganda participated in the conference with a delegation of over 30 people headed by Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Amelia Kyambadde. Uganda's delegation included representatives from a number of Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), as well as the private sector, and civil society.

The delegation was also honoured with the Presence of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, who represented H.E the



*Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda with some of the members of the Ugandan delegation at the Conference*

## Uganda's interests in the negotiations

### Future Doha Development Agenda:

Uganda wanted the Doha Round of negotiations to be successfully concluded with its development mandate before the introduction of new negotiation issues.

### In Agriculture, we wanted to achieve:

elimination of export subsidies, substantial reductions in all trade-distorting domestic support including that provided by developed and developing countries, multilateral Duty Free Quota Free (DFQF) Market Access for LDCs like Uganda so that we can get permanent and predictable DFQF Market Access as opposed to the time bound and uncertain unilateral schemes such as AGOA, and a permanent solution on Public Stockholding for Food Security that favors Uganda to enable us have recourse on using the food security provision should need arise.

In Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA), we pursued elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) that impede access of our export to key international markets, enhanced market access for products of export interest to Uganda, and effective Technical Assistance and Capacity building (TACB) to promote growth of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with a view to enabling them to benefit from international trade

Regarding Trade in Services, we wanted flexibilities in the General Agreement on Trade in Services that exempt us from undertaking commitments in trade services. We also pursued market access for services especially through the improvement of preferential offers made under the Services Waiver to make them more predictable and reliable for our private sector.

In Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), Uganda's interests were more in TRIPS and Public Health. Thus, Uganda pursued the extension of the TRIPS transitional period for Pharmaceutical products.

In Rules of Origin, Uganda wanted rules that are simple, strong and more operational to ease entry of her exports into markets where LDCs have been given preferential treatment.

Over all, Uganda wanted the re-affirmation of the Doha development Agenda negotiations so that they can be successfully concluded in a manner that delivers on the development mandate. We also wanted special and differential treatment for LDCs like Uganda in all the negotiation areas.

## Achievements at the 10th ministerial conference in Nairobi

- **Export Competition:** a Decision was reached for elimination of all export Subsidies. This is very important to Uganda's exports. Some of our products were being affected by subsidized products from developed and developing countries. The decision will go a long way in reversing the negative effects that subsidized exports were having on our products.
- **Public Stockholding for Food Security:** the Ministerial Decision of 7th December 2013 and the General Council Decision of 27th November 2014 regarding the interim solution on this matter was re-

affirmed, and virtually made permanent until a 'permanent' solution is decided on as the Ministerial Conference decided that the interim solution on food security be used until we find a permanent solution. This allows countries like Uganda to have recourse of the Public Stockholding for food security, should such a need arise.

- **Cotton:** a Decision was reached on elimination of export subsidies, provision of duty free quota free market access and increasing market access opportunities for cotton in cases of those developing countries that are not in a position to grant Duty Free Quota Free (DFQF) market access. Consensus is still being built on issues of elimination of domestic support in the cotton sector.
- **Preferential rules of origin for LDCs:** A decision which will facilitate opportunities for Least-Developed Countries' export of goods to both developed and developing countries under preferential trade arrangements was adopted. The decision includes clear criteria for determining when a product qualifies as "a product originating from an LDC like Uganda." It further calls upon preference-



Hon. Amelia Kyambadde addresses the Conference



granting members to consider simplifying documentary and procedural requirements related to origin. This Decision will solve some of the Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) that Uganda's products have been facing with stringent and less clear rules of origin.

- **LDC Services Waiver:** A Decision was made on easing the implementation of the LDC Services Waiver. The duration of the Services Waiver was extended to 2030. The waiver allows services and services suppliers from LDCs like Uganda to export to Developed and Developing countries under preferential treatment that is not granted to other (non-LDC) WTO members.
- **TRIPS and Public Health:** we obtained the extension of protection for pharmaceutical products until 2033. Therefore, we obtained an extension of seventeen (17) years. This will help Uganda's pharmaceutical industries such as CIPLA Quality Chemicals to continue producing generic drugs like ARVs, and anti-malarial drugs.

Regarding the Doha Round, there was no clear way forward as some Members insisted on concluding the Doha first before considering any new issues while others insisted on introducing new issues. Therefore, the Ministerial Conference instructed Members to find ways to advance the negotiations. Uganda will continue working with other WTO Members to find consensus on this.

### NEXT STEPS FOR UGANDA

Uganda's next steps revolve around undertaking initiatives aimed at taking advantage of the opportunities created. These will include, among others, creating awareness about the opportunities, and I count on you in implementing this. Other specific initiatives are;

1. Expedite adoption and implementation of the National Services Trade Policy so as to



*Hon. Amelia Kyambadde briefing the media on the outcome of the WTO MC 10*



*Uganda's delegation at the Conference*

- take advantage of the Services Waiver with a view of increasing our services exports. We are developing a simplified manual for the private sector to take advantage of the notifications made to WTO under the waiver
2. Expedite approval and implementation of the National Export Development Strategy to help us take advantage of the market access opportunities that will arise from fair competition after the elimination of export subsidies
3. Continue to demand that the WTO delivers on issues where concrete results were not achieved in Nairobi including the successful conclusion
- of the Doha Round with its development mandate
4. Government through the Cotton Development Organization will undertake initiatives to take advantage of the new provisions for cotton, including technical assistance and capacity building
5. Government will develop projects to benefit from the funding availed under the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) in line with laid down procedures
6. Continue engaging in the negotiations with a positive and open mind, with a focus on the issues that could not be fully addressed during the Conference.



# THE MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY & COOPERATIVES

## MANAGEMENT TEAM



**HON. AMELIA KYAMBADDE**  
Minister for Trade, Industry & Cooperatives



**HON. DAVID WAKIKONA**  
Minister of State for Trade, Industry & Cooperatives



**HON. MICHAEL WERIKHE**  
Minister of State for Industry



**AMBASSADOR JULIUS ONEN**  
Permanent Secretary - MTIC



**ENG. SAMUEL SSENKUNGU**  
Director for Trade, Industry & Cooperatives



**MR. FRED OGENE**  
Under Secretary - F&A



**MR. JOSEPH KITANDWE**  
Commissioner - Cooperatives Development



**MR. SILVER OJAKOL**  
Commissioner - External Trade



**MR. RAYMOND AGABA**  
Commissioner - Internal Trade



**MR. CYPRIAN BATALA**  
Asst. Commissioner - External Trade



**MR. JOSHUA MUTAMBI**  
Asst. Commissioner - Industry



**ENG. STEPHEN EMURIA**  
Asst. Commissioner - MSMEs, Industry



**MR. BOB BARIGYE BARIYO**  
Asst. Commissioner - Cooperatives Development



**MS. ELIZABETH TAMALE**  
Asst. Commissioner - Internal Trade



**MR. MICHAEL WAMIBU**  
Asst. Commissioner - Policy & Planning, F&A