

- a) The overview of the key basic Government performance in the areas of our Manifesto implementation.
- b) Few of the key highlights of the Party's activities.

NB. Our Core principles are premised on the four strategic pillars of;

- Pan-Africanism
- Patriotism
- Social Economic Transformation
- Democracy

*According to the Ugandan Bureau of Statistics, (UBOS) Census Report of 24/25<sup>th</sup> August 2023*

NB: Uganda has an estimated total of 9million households

1. Population is at 45million people
2. In 2019/2020, 5% of the population migrated and;
  - (i) Majority of them (42%) moved from one rural area to another rural area (rural to rural migration)
  - (ii) 12% moved from rural to urban areas
  - (iii) 18% moved from urban to rural areas
3. Average distance to a government health facility is four kilometers (4km) (however the greatest canon among users of Government health facilities is non-availability or inadequate medicine and supplies (89% in Health centers and 90% in Hospitals.
4. Life expectancy at birth
  - Male moved from 48years – 62years
  - Women moved from 52years- 64years.

5. 60% of pregnant women attend antenatal care visits at least 4 or more times during their pregnancies.
6. 40% of the Households in urban areas use electricity as the main source of energy for lighting as compared to the rural areas that use kerosene (22%).
7. 27% of households use solar lights (solar power lantern and solar system) and this is prominent in rural areas (33%)
8. Uganda is connected on tarmac roads from one boarder to another. All districts have been provided with road equipment to maintain community roads. Starting this financial year, each district received one billion shillings for maintenance of community roads.
9. Literacy level has increased from 56% in 1991 to 805 in 2022. This has improved on the general economic performance and quality of life.
10. 30% of Ugandans have been reported to be poor in 2019/2020. We also note that through our interventions, the 68% families in substance production reduced to about 38%.
11. UPE, USE, Adult literacy and liberalization in university education have all contributed positively to the overall general improvement of the quality of life. We have close to 8million pupils in primary schools under UPE and close to 4million students in higher secondary level and universities.

- Formally I now invite you all for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual thanksgiving prayer – to be held later this month.

### **Over view of the Economy:**

- The social contract between the National Resistance Movement and the population is contained in its 2021-26 Elections Manifesto. The manifesto is aligned to both the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Development Plan and Uganda’s Vision 2040.
- Through the Manifesto, the party committed to expanding and thereafter, transforming the national economy, as a broad strategy for improving household incomes and thereby fight poverty.
- NRM Government is in a full socio-economic recovery trajectory; in spite of the setbacks occasioned by COVID-19 pandemic; the locust invasion and landslides, floods, drought related calamities occasioned by climate change challenges.
- The following indicators confirm the socio-economic trajectory:
  - Economy has expanded from Ug.shs. 162,750 billion (US\$ 45.6 billion) in 2021/22 financial year to Ug.shs. 184.89 billion (US\$ 49.5 billion) in 2022/23 financial year. In real terms, the economy grew by 5.2% in 2022/23; better than the 4.6% growth registered in 2021/22.
  - Annual headline inflation slowed from a peak of 10.7 % in October, 2022 to 2.6% in November, 2023. Within the East African Region, Uganda has the lowest inflation for November this year.

- Ugandan shilling has remained stable, depreciating by only 0.7% against the US \$ to a monthly average of Ug.shs. 3,782 per 1 US \$ in November; up from Ug.shs. 3,755.6 per 1 US \$ in October this year.
- Ugandan exports grew by 54.9% between October 2022 to October 2023; i.e. from US\$ 4,194 million to US\$ 6,497.9 million; largely driven by gold, coffee and maize exports. This is expected to increase even further as Uganda continues to invest in value addition industrialization.
- Imports grew by 26.2%, equivalent to US\$ 9,356.23 million i.e. much slower than the growth in exports resulting in the narrowing of trade deficit by 11.2% in the same period. The increase in exports was largely in the oil and gas sector, mineral exploration and development sectors.
- Within the East African region, Uganda trade at a surplus worth US\$ 716 million with the EAC partner states in the 12 months to October, 2023. However, the trade balance with Kenya and Tanzania was a deficit i.e. Uganda imported more in terms of value from the two sister countries than we exported to them.
- Tourism inflows in the financial year 2022/23 increased by 9% i.e. from US\$ 978.35 million in 2021/22, to US\$ 1,066.41; this inspite of the interruptions by COVID-19 pandemic and pockets of insecurity occasioned by ADF terrorists.
- Remittances from Ugandans abroad increased to US\$ 1,133.94 million in 2022/23; higher than the value of US\$ 1,133.94 million registered on 2021/22.

- Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows also increased by 68.3% in 2022/23, largely because of development in the oil sector development. In real terms, the FDI inflows increased from US\$ 1,688.56 million in 2021/22 to US\$ 2,842.65 million in 2022/23.
- Domestic revenue collections in 2021/22 amounted to UGX shs. 25,567.46 billion; while total government expenditure (*excluding debt servicing and appropriation in aid*) was Ug.shs. 36,722.66 billion over the same year.
- Revenue performance is constrained by a number of factors, including a narrow tax base, growing informal sector (estimated at 54%0 against a few compliant tax payers, tax leakages and avoidance, etc.

### **Projections for the next Financial Year.**

- The economy is projected to grow by 6.0% by the end of the current financial year; 6.5% in 2024/25 and at least 7% over the medium term.in normal terms, the size of the economy is projected to grow from Ug.shs. 184.3 trillion in 2022/23 to Ug.shs. 204.9 trillion (US\$ 55 billion) by the end of 2023/24 financial year; and to Ug.shs. 225.5 trillion (US\$ 60 billion) in the financial year 2024/25.
- This growth will be driven by the following factors:
  - Slowing down of inflation, which will correspondingly increase aggregate demand;

- Continued implementation of the Parish Development Model (PDM) i.e. Ug.shs. 100 million per parish each financial year;
- Expediting investments in oil and gas sector,
- Continued recovery in the tourism sector; and
- Growth in regional trade i.e. EAC, COMESA and globally.
- Priority areas for the budget for the next financial year 2024/25 and beyond are as follows;
  - Peace, governance and security
  - Integrated transport infrastructure and services
  - Electricity generation, transmission and distribution.
  - Investing in the people of Uganda i.e. health, education and water, etc.
  - Tourism Development
  - Agro-based industrialization development and value addition
  - Mineral based industrial development and the Oil and gas development
  - Effective implementation of the Parish Development Model
  - Prioritizing money earning projects
  - Management of natural disasters and International commitments.

## **Resource Envelope for 2024/25 financial year.**

Total projected funding (budget) for the next financial year (2024/25) is Ug.shs. 52,722,682,928,748/= (*Uganda shillings, Fifty-Two Trillion, Seven Hundred and Twenty-Two Billion, Six Hundred Eighty-Two Million, Nine Hundred and Twenty-Eight Thousand, Seven Hundred and Forty-Eight*) only; of which domestic revenues are projected to be Ug.shs. 29,960,000,000,000/= (*Uganda shillings, Twenty-Nine Trillion, Nine Hundred and Sixty Billion*) only.

## **Party Mobilization:**

- The NRM Government that was elected in February, 2021; will in February 2024, be celebrating the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of this *Kisanja* (2021 – 2026).
- One of the major activities in the next 26 months will be to prepare the party for internal elections to renew leadership within the party structures; and also generate flag bearers to vie for all elective positions in the county.
- Priority will be to deliver a credible election – both for the structures and for flag bearers who will vie for national elections; given the fact that you have taken time to initiate generation of a clean members' register.
- The party conducted constituency mobilization programmes this year, where it sampled constituencies mainly in Buganda and Busoga sub regions respectively; and the findings which has helped the party develop strategy for Government interventions.

- The party will in the coming year, embark on a strategic countrywide mass grassroots mobilization to reawaken the population to participate in the socio-economic transformation through such Government flagship programmes as Emyooga the Parish Development Model, etc.
- Party launched the youth camp series; beginning this month with the Kalungu youth Camp for the greater Masaka Region. This will be followed by 3 more youth camps in zones that Top management will determine.
- Planned grassroots mobilization will also be opportunity to get feedback from the population on the implementation of the NRM election manifesto i.e., assess the performance and generate new empirical data for the next party election manifesto i.e., 2026 – 2031.
- We have started building party offices in Districts. We have the following districts with party offices, Buhwezu, Sironko Kakumiro, Gulu, Ngora, a plan is underway to build in Mityana, Luwero and Kiruhura.

### **Foreign Relations:**

- The diaspora is where the opposition elements are always running to – telling lies to the international community about Uganda and the NRM Government; and that some Western capitals hosting Ugandans in the diaspora, had begun believing them.



- We have taken the battle to the opposition in the diaspora; by mobilizing Ugandans abroad; strengthening the NRM Chapters abroad and also engaging the Governments hosting the Ugandan diaspora at a strategic level; to explain the situation of Uganda.
- The Anti-Homosexuality Act (AHA); which the opposition in the diaspora had grossly misrepresented to the effect that the NRM Government was witch-hunting LGBT+ communities in Uganda. Your team has been able to explain that the Act was to protect the young Ugandans from being recruited into the vice – involuntarily.
- The following are the engagements that the Secretariat has already undertaken from the time we came to office:
  - The European Delegation to Uganda. We hosted them at the party headquarters to discuss matters of importance – politics, governance, human rights, LGBT+ issues etc.
  - Federal Republic of Germany – met with leaders of Government and Legislature and Ugandans in Germany.
  - United Kingdom and Wales. We met with leaders of Government, the Legislature and Ugandans in the United Kingdom. While in the UK, we equally met with some members from the House of Lords
  - Kingdom of Denmark. We met with leaders of Government, the legislature and Ugandans living in Denmark.

- Secretariat has planned further programmes to implement this strategy, including United States of America and Dominion of Canada; which will be undertaken during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024.
- The party has supported the holding of diaspora symposia in the United Kingdom of Great Britain, Canada, and United States of America and others.
- The party has over the year, deepened and broadened cooperation with the revolutionary political organizations, including the following:
  - The African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa
  - The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of India
  - The Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) of the United Republic of Tanzania
  - The Communist Party of China (CPC)
  - The Communist Party of Cuba (CPC)
  - The National Council for the Defence of Democracy –Forces for the Defence of Democracy ((CNDD-FDD) of Burundi
  - The National Liberation Front (NLF) of Algeria
  - The Prosperity Party (PP) of Ethiopia.
  - The Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) of Rwanda.
  - The South Sudan Peoples’ Liberation Movement (SPLM) of South Sudan
  - The United Party (UP) of Russia
  - The United Socialist Party (USP) of Venezuela.
  - The Worker’s Party (WP) of the Democratic Republic of Korea

**Ideological Reflection:**

- Under Our tenure, the Secretariat launched the Swahili Language and the art of Public Speaking programmes – conducted simultaneously every Wednesday mornings at the party headquarters – to prepare NRM cadres and the general public better participate in the strategic East African Federation.
- The popular Ideological Clinics at the Party Secretariat has been revived – every Wednesday afternoons i.e. immediately after the Swahili Language and art of Public Speaking programmes.
- These two programmes will be soon going digital i.e. on-line broadcasting, to cater for increasing demand and followership countrywide.
- The Secretariat has planned to take the Ideological Clinics to Universities and other Tertiary Institutions of Higher Learning, beginning January, 2024.

### **Party Discipline:**

#### **NB**

- How effective the party will be is largely dependent on the level of discipline exhibited by its members. Without discipline, we cannot provide the requisite leadership to the population.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> schedule to the NRM constitution provides for the Code of Conduct for the party members; in addition to the rules of conduct; the prohibited conducts; the penalties for breaches of both the prescribed rules and prohibited conducts; and the good methods of work expected of each party member.

- The 4<sup>th</sup> schedule also establishes the party disciplinary committees for purposes of enforcement of the rules and prohibited conduct.
- It is for the above 4reason that the party Secretariat has constituted an administrative Disciplinary committee headed by Rt.Hon. Deputy Secretary General to manage cases of indiscipline within its support staff i.e. the Administrative Secretaries.
- I call on all the party Members, supporters and especially the leaders to exercise maximum discipline and restraint from deviating from the original and historical mission of the party; to be able to fulfill the ideological goals of the founding father i.e. Patriotism, Pan-Africanism, Socio-economic Transformation and Democracy.

**Land Management:**

- It was under the leadership of the National Resistance Movement Government that citizens' rights to land ownership was guaranteed and institutionalized in the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda; under the following provisions:
  - Article 26(1) protects the right to own property (i.e. including land) either individually or in association with others – for instance groups of people who hold land communally.
  - Article 237 (1) specifically states that land belongs to the citizens of Uganda!
  - Section 227 of the Land Act makes provision with respect to a wide variety of matter regarding land in Uganda such as land tenure, customary ownership, grants in freehold, management of communal land, management of land by the Uganda Land commission, land-use control and functioning of land tribunals.
- The NRM Government therefore, has guaranteed the question of land ownership, because previously, under the Uganda Land Reform Decree of 1975; all land was declared to be public

land and the best interest that citizens could acquire, was a lease over land; which would be easily taken away for purposes of “development”.

- Despite the guarantees of land ownership as dictated by the Constitution; the country continues to grapple with the following challenges:
  - Fraudulent land transfers
  - Illegal land evictions
  - Land grabbing
  - land degradation
  - Land conflicts.
  
- The NRM Government is on the side of the true land owners and occupants and all subsequent legislations that have been enacted by parliament after the 1995 Constitution has been to protect real owners of land. This explains why Government has always protected the Bibanja holders through issuance of certificates of occupancy to protect them from absentee mailo owners, etc.
  
- NRM Government set up the Land Division of the High Court as a specialist court to handle increasing cases of land conflicts, fraudulent and illegal land dealing including evictions, etc.
  
- The District Security Committees headed by the Resident District Commissioners have also been given administrative responsibility by H.E. the President, to supervise court orders involving land evictions.
  
- The Secretariat calls on government to decentralize further, institutions that help in resolving land related conflicts and ease access to justice for persons affected by land conflict. Additionally, Government and the party will emphasize through e.g. *barazas*, *etc* at the lower levels to educate the population about their rights in regard to the land they own.

## **Security:**

- Uganda remains a safe haven and an oasis of stability in the volatile Great Lakes Region, mainly to the strong leadership exhibited by H.E. Mzee Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda. Rwanda suffered genocide in 1994; before the Rwanda Patriotic Front Government restored sanity; Burundi has had a number of coups and instability for a number of years until the ascension of the CNDD-FDD led Government to power; South Sudan, the youngest nation in Africa, has never really been at peace since it gained independence in 2011; Somalia's peace is hanging by the shreds; large parts of Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo has been a haven for terrorists interest groups, such as the ADF, and other militia armies.
- The NRM Government, through the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces, has played a very significant role in the stability of each one of these countries, proof of its Pan Africanist ideology.
- However, given the porous borders especially with the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo, pocket of the terrorist ADF group have infiltrated the country and killed Ugandans e.g. the twin bombings in Kampala last year and the more recent attacks in Kasese. In all cases however, Government has acted very promptly to protect the lives and property of Ugandans; and has followed them to their bases in eastern DRC.
- As we celebrate Christmas therefore, there is a tendency for our citizens to merry-make oblivious of our surroundings. I appeal to Ugandans to be very security conscious and alert government agencies if you see anybody, or anything suspicious.

- The NRM Government however, guarantees that security forces will be on top of their game as Ugandans enjoy the festive season of Christmas and the New Year!

### **Unemployment:**

- The success story of the NRM Government in the social services sector of the economy has inevitably, generated the current challenge of unemployment. For instance, through its robust immunization programmes; the infant mortality rates greatly declined, ensuring that many Ugandan babies survived the killer diseases such as pneumonia, measles, tetanus, tuberculosis, diphtheria, whooping cough, polio, hepatitis etc.
- Introduction of a robust health care policy e.g. primary health care and advocacy against killer diseases such as HIV/AIDS, etc, meant that the life expectancy of Ugandans rose, with a large population joining the working /job age group.
- The introduction of UPE and later USE and liberalization of the education system ensured a big population was educated and i.e. with great expectation of joining the job market – yet only about 600,000 Ugandans in can be employed by Government in the traditional civil service, including Government Agencies and security forces.
- According to statistics released by Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) in 2022, the unemployment rate in Uganda remained at around 4.28 %. Unemployment rate of a country refers to the share of total workforce that is currently without work, but actively searching for employment. *It does not include economically inactive persons e.g. children, retirees, or the long term unemployed.*

- The NRM Government is aware of the challenges of creating decent jobs for the country's rapidly expanding working-age population. More than half of Uganda's population is under twenty years of age, and more people enter the job market than leave it each year.
- To answer this challenge, Government has prepared the Uganda's National Employment Strategy (NES) (2023-2028); which is an attempt to diagnose labour market challenges and propose solutions and measures to tackle these challenges, through aligning economic development with employment, and thereby releasing Uganda from the jobless growth trap.
- The strategy centres on increasing decent work opportunities through efficient labour market policies; offering quality vocational education and training for youth and adults; promoting social inclusion and cohesion; and promoting pro-employment macro-economic and sectoral policies and programmes. Such an approach is expected to respond to local labour requirements and build a skilled, competitive labour force for not only in Uganda, but also East African Community and other regional labour markets.
- NRM Government has established regional industrial parks in the country as part of its resolute strategy of solving the unemployment challenge.
- The Presidential Skilling hubs held at zonal level is also a pointer in the direction of the determination of addressing the unemployment challenge in the country. Recently 36,000 youths graduated at the Kololo ceremonial grounds having been skilled in various trades, thereby establishing a critical cadre of job makers and self-employed.
- The NRM Government also set up the industrial court at the level of High Court to arbitrate in employment related issues, including but not limited to unlawful and unfair dismissals, etc.



- The Government through the Ministry of Education and Sports has since come up with a new education curriculum tailored to focusing at job creation incentives through vocational/skilling training; so as to strategically churn out Ugandans who are creators of jobs as opposed to seekers of jobs.

### **LGBT+ Politics.**

- I thank Parliament and H.E. the President for respectively, passing and assenting to the Anti-Homosexuality Act, 2023; which is a true reflection and representation of the common Ugandan who vote the National Resistance Movement each time we go to vote. This law is mainly to protect our children and heritage.
- NRM leadership is not necessarily against persons who belong to the “clan” of LGBT+; what the law prohibits, is the deliberate promotion of LGBT+ especially amongst the young Ugandan children – the same way promotion of heterosexual activities amongst Ugandan children is strictly forbidden and criminalized.
- NRM is a mass organization and does not discriminate any person on the basis of race, religion, colour, sex and sexual orientation. We have no problem with two or more consenting adults doing their “thing” but for as long as they do their “thing” in privacy of their homes; and do not involve our children.
- The party considers LGBT+ as a deviation from nature – a mental disorientation - and will endeavour to persuade and mobilize them to abandon the practice and have them rehabilitated.

- The international community and our donor partners should appreciate where African traditions and practices converge and require community protection, for the survival of the African race.

### **Responsible celebration during the festive season.**

All festive seasons usually come with a lot of excitement; involving feasting, binge drinking, dancing etc. This season will not be an exception. I warn the general public that while we all look to celebrating Christmas and the New Year, we should be very mindful of the following:

#### **Motor accidents:**

- Preliminary research by Makerere University School of Public Health indicate that more than 9,000 persons die in road traffic carnage every year – about three times higher than what Uganda police usually report. The numbers usually go higher during festive seasons as the one we are heading to.
- There is therefore need to pay extra care especially those driving lorries, buses, cars and especially *boda boda* cyclists: Don't drink/ride drunk; don't overload; strictly obey traffic regulations; don't over speed; and make sure your machine is well serviced including tyres are not worn out.

#### **Increased Criminality:**

- During festive seasons, usually crime rates go higher within our communities, usually taking advantage of the laxity of our people – thefts, robberies, burglaries, assaults, rapes, murders, etc.
- While the security forces will be alert to respond to any form of criminality, the first line of defence is with us the local people in our respective communities and homes. Report any wrong and suspicious persons within your vicinity; do not harbor criminals in your homes; be on guard in your homes and have contacts of responsible police or local leader.
- Ugandans should be law-abiding but we must all desist from taking the law into hands through mob justice – when you apprehend a wrong doer, alert police.

### **Wild Celebrations.**

- Ugandans should be reminded that Sexually Transmitted Infections, including HIV/AIDS is still around and although there is medicine that treats the same, it still has devastating effect on an infected person.
- They must therefore celebrate with caution and practice the Government’s ABC strategy to remain health i.e. ***Abstinence, Be faithful, use Condom.***
- Wild celebrations often also result into unwanted pregnancies; especially amongst the young girls which usually impact negatively their future.

### **2024 National Census.**

- Government will be conducting a national Population and Housing Census in the coming year. It is important that all Ugandans participate because the census is important to the country because it will be able to:

- Establish the actual size of the population, including the birth and death rates;
  - Formulate population policies based on empirical demographic data;
  - Provide adequate social amenities e.g. housing, water, electricity, schools and hospitals in different parts of the country.
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- The census to be undertaken next year will be the first to be technologically driven i.e. digitally and thus the results and accuracy of the data is expected to be released over a much shorter time than the previous census.
  
  - Finally, I wish the party faithful and the country a Merry Christmas and a happier and more prosperous New Year, 2025.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY!

Richard Todwong Awany Rt.Hon.  
**SECRETARY GENERAL**