



PRESS STATEMENT ON CABINET RESOLUTIONS

Presented by the Right Honourable Justine Kasule

Lumumba

Minister of ICT and National Guidance

13 October 2026

Members of the Press,

Fellow Ugandans,

I wish to inform the public of the decisions taken at the 12th Cabinet Meeting, held on Monday, 12 October 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at State House, Entebbe.

1 Support for local battery production and irrigation

Cabinet agreed to support the mining of lithium for the manufacture of batteries used in solar power systems.

Producing these batteries locally will help reduce the cost of solar-powered water pumping and piping on farms and in gardens. Government will support investors in this area to speed up implementation of the six-point irrigation strategy.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries will work with the Ministry of Water and Environment to strengthen the strategy through the following measures:

1. Connect farms and gardens to available water.

Government will invest in systems to carry water to farms and gardens in districts with reliable water sources.

2. Use seasonal streams and rivers. In districts without reliable water sources, Government will develop systems to draw water from nearby seasonal streams and rivers for irrigation.

3. Rehabilitate existing irrigation schemes and dams.

Small and large schemes will be repaired to improve their

operation and ensure that water reaches the farms and gardens they serve.

4. Develop bulk water supply systems. The ministries will design and develop systems to transfer water to districts and areas facing water shortages, including Nakasongola, Lyantonde, Isingiro and Karamoja.

5. Promote fish farming. Government will support fish farming in Busoga, Bukedi, Greater Luwero, Lango, West Nile and the Kigezi lowlands. This will provide farmers with another source of income and support wetland conservation.

6. Equip the 19 regional mechanisation centres.

Government will acquire machinery for these centres so that farmers can access equipment at affordable rates to construct farm dams and fish ponds.

Cabinet directed the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to release funds for this strategy.

2 Funding for Uganda's refugee response

Cabinet considered the funding gaps affecting humanitarian support for refugees in Uganda.

Cabinet directed the ministry responsible for relief, disaster preparedness and refugees to work with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to redirect funds under the World Bank refugee window to the most urgent needs.

The funds will help address gaps in education, health, water, livelihoods and other essential services.

3 Uganda's participation in the United Nations biodiversity conference

Uganda will participate in the 17th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, taking place from 19 to 30 October 2026 in Yerevan, Armenia.



Uganda's participation will focus on:

- Securing resources to implement the Convention and its protocols.
- Biodiversity and health.
- Biodiversity and climate change.
- Sustainable wildlife management.
- Biodiversity and agriculture.

4 Appointment to the Uganda Development Corporation Board

Cabinet approved the appointment of Ms. Jennifer Naomi Arionget to the Board of Directors of the Uganda Development Corporation for a term of three years from the date of her appointment.

Her appointment brings the number of Board members to eight.

The Uganda Development Corporation is established under the Uganda Development Corporation Act, Cap.

208, and falls under the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives.

The Corporation promotes investment, industrial development and value addition. It also works with the private sector to expand production and support Government's industrialisation agenda.

Ms. Arionget has experience in law and banking.

Members of the Press,

The responsible ministries and agencies will take the next steps to carry out these decisions.

Thank you.



The Right Honourable Justine Kasule Lumumba

Minister of ICT and National Guidance