UGANDA MEDIA CENTRE

16TH CABINET MEETING PRESS STATEMENT

10 November 2026

Members of the Press,

I wish to brief you on the decisions taken at the 16th Cabinet meeting held on Monday, 9 November 2026.

1. **APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE NATIONAL DRUG AND HEALTH PRODUCTS AUTHORITY**

Cabinet approved the appointment of the Board of Directors of the National Drug and Health Products Authority. The Authority is established as a body corporate under the National Drug and Health Products Authority Act, 2026, Act 5 of 2026. Being a body corporate means the Authority has its own legal identity. It can own property, enter into contracts, and sue or be sued in its own name.

His Excellency the President assented to the Act on 27 April 2026. It repeals the National Drug Policy and Authority Act of 1993 and broadens regulatory oversight to cover pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, diagnostics, public health chemicals and cosmetics.

The Board members will serve for four years and are eligible for reappointment for one additional term.

The approved members and their areas of expertise are as follows.

Scanned with MOBILE SCANNER

No.	Name	Constituency / Expertise
1.	Dr. Christine Kirunga Tashobya - **Chairperson**	PhD Public Health, MSc Public Health, MSc Health Policy Planning & Financing, MA Demography, MBChB. 35 years' experience in Public Health & Health Systems Governance
2.	Dr. Jerome Mpaata Owagage	Pharmaceutical Society of Uganda and Health Law.
3.	Eng. Tadeo Byabagambi	Biomedical Engineering and Medical Device
4.	Ms. Margret Nalwoga	Financial Management and Forensic Investigations
5.	Ms. Catherine Adok	Lawyer and Human Rights Advocate
6.	Dr. Francis Omujal	Natural Chemotherapeutics and Traditional Medicine (NCRI)
7.	Mr. Nasuur Gaddaffi	Young People, Public Policy, Consumer Interest and Community Representation.

2. COMPASSIONATE EX-GRATIA ASSISTANCE TO VERIFIED TRADERS AFFECTED BY THE OCTOBER 2025 KAMPALA FLOODS

Cabinet approved UGX 18,999,500,000/= in compassionate ex-gratia assistance for 1,841 verified traders affected by the Kampala floods of 30 and 31 October 2025. Ex-gratia means this is a payment made out of goodwill to help those affected, without admitting a legal duty to pay.

Scanned with MOBILE SCANNER

Heavy rainfall caused flash flooding that principally affected 13 arcades and St. Balikuddembe Market, commonly known as Owino. The affected locations were Nana Arcade, Totala Building, Capital Centre, Pentagon Plaza, French Plaza, Premier Arcade, Qualicel Mall, Freedom Centre, Nabukeera Plaza, Ssekaziga Arcade, Jesco Centre, Jamboole Arcade, Tuba Plaza and Owino Market.

Cabinet also approved an additional UGX 1,000,500,000/=. Of this amount, UGX 682,500,000/= will meet the operational expenses of the Federation of Uganda Traders Association, FUTA, and UGX 318,000,000/= is Government's contribution to the FUTA Revolving Fund.

Alongside this assistance, Cabinet approved strategic interventions to address the underlying causes of flooding in Kampala's Central Business District and prevent or reduce the impact of similar incidents.

The findings identified the following causes of the flooding.

Causes and Findings

- Interference with stormwater drainage by some property developers along Ssebana and Allen Road, adjacent to Nakivubo Channel. The properties cited were Totala, Qualicell, French Plaza, Ssekaziga, City Baza, Pentagon and Shree Indian Temple.
- Blockage of drainage outlets into Nakivubo Channel by silt, garbage, debris, and illegally constructed pavements and plinth walls. These obstructions caused water to back up and flood the surrounding areas.

Scanned with MOBILE SCANNER

- Undersized underground culverts and drainage channels along Nabugabo Road, Allen Road, Ben Kiwanuka Road, Luwum Street and Ssebana Kizito Road.
- Too few weep holes to allow underground water to drain into Nakivubo Channel.
- Poor disposal of solid waste and garbage.
- Poor management of construction debris by developers along Nakivubo Channel.
- Environmental degradation and the expansion of paved surfaces, which increase water runoff into low-lying areas.

Implementation Arrangements

The Office of the Prime Minister will lead coordination, working with MOFPED, MKM, KCCA, MWE, NEMA, NWSC, MoWT, ISO, FUTA and representatives of the affected arcades.

Scanned with MOBILE SCANNER

3. STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY DEMARCATION AND REAFFIRMATION IN UGANDA

Cabinet approved the request for funding for the demarcation and reaffirmation of Uganda's international and local government boundaries.

The reference materials identified for this work are the Second Schedule, referred to in Article 5 of the Constitution, which sets out Uganda's territorial boundaries, and colonial maps in the Ministry of Lands and archives of the colonial office in London.

I thank you.

KASULE LUMUMBA JUSTINE (Rt Hon)

MINISTER OF ICT AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE

Scanned with MOBILE SCANNER