18TH CABINET MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER 2026 AT 10:00AM AT STATE HOUSE, ENTEBBE.

1. **Proposed Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Bill, 2026**

The Government of Uganda has committed itself to control and prevention of the illicit proliferation of arms, ammunition and related materials in the country and the region as a whole.

Discussions of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Control Systems in East Africa commenced with the ***"Nairobi Declaration for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, Horn of Africa and the Neighbouring States"*** in 2002, which culminated into the Protocol of 2004 that binds 15 Countries including Uganda.

Efforts to control Small Arms and Light Weapons have been and continue to be made regionally and internationally, Uganda as a country has identified itself with these initiatives.

Small arms are firearms designed for individual use and they include among others handguns, rifles, carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns.

While light weapons are man-portable crew-served weapons that include among others heavy machine guns and grenade launchers.

There is an increasing illegal possession of and misuse of firearms. Although there are laws that provide control and use of small firearms and light weapons, there is need to strengthen the existing legislative and administrative mechanism for use of small firearms and light weapons.

There is lack of a comprehensive law on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

The current complementary laws are:

Firearms Act, Cap 299

The Uganda Peoples Defense Act, Cap 305

The Penal Code Act, Cap 120

The Police Act, Cap 306

The Prisons Act, Cap 307

The Anti-Terrorism Act, 2000,

there are gaps that hinder effective control of Small Arms and Light Weapons.

Issues to address are but not limited to:

- No legal provisions for the management and disposal of small firearms and light weapons
- Lack of provision for practical or theoretical training courses for small arms license
- Weak border controls where there is poor surveillance
- Illegal manufacturing and hiring of small arms
- Strengthening licensing and registration, marking and tracing, safe custody and enforcement.

2. Appointment of Members of the Management Committee of the Law Development Centre (LDC)

The LDC was established by Section 2 of the Law Development Centre Act, Cap 251 as a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal and may sue or be sued in its corporate name.

The main function provided under Section 3 are mainly organising and conducting courses of instruction for acquisition of legal knowledge, professional skill and experience.

Section 7 of the Act establishes the Management Committee which is the governing body of the Centre with policy.

The appointed members of the Committee shall hold office for a period of two years in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Act.

The approved members are:

a) Hon. Justice Christopher Madrama Izama — Chairperson

b) Ms. Theodora Bitature Webale — Member

c) Mr. Okello Onyem Alfred — Member

d) Ms. Mariam Nabulime Mbabali — Member

Ex-Officio Members are:

- Solicitor General
- Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education and Sports
- Dean, School of Law, Makerere University
- Director, Law Development Centre

3. Appointment of New Members of the Governing Board of the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA)

Section 9 of the Registration of Persons Act, 2015 provides for the establishment of the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) Board and its nine (9) membership.

Members hold office for four years as the governing body of the Authority.4 of the members' term expired and the institutions they represent nominated replacements who were approved by Cabinet yesterday.

1. Hajjat Aisha Lubega Basajjanaku — Deputy Chairperson, Electoral Commission

2. Ms. Kabugho Margret Bwambale — Member, Immigration Office

3. Mr. Ntale Mustapher — Registrar General, Member, Uganda Registration Services Bureau

4. Ms. Lydia Namono Kayibizi — Bureau of Statistics — Member

4. Commemoration of International Anti-Corruption Day

The United Nations General Assembly designated 9th December as an International Anti-Corruption Day under Resolution 58/4 of 31st October 2003. Uganda ratified the Convention.

The theme is: **"No More Sleep, No Corruption**: Collective Action and Accountability for Effective Service Delivery and Social Economic Transformation"

The commemoration will be held on **Wednesday, 9th December 2026** at **State House, Entebbe** and will be presided over by His Excellency the President of Uganda. It will be held virtually.

5. The 2026 United Nations Water Conference

Cabinet approved participation of Uganda in upcoming 2026 United Nations Water Conference scheduled to take place **8th to 10th December 2026 in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates**.

Cabinet approved the hosting of the 22nd Session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, Kampala in November 2027.

Rt. Hon. Justine Kasule Lumumba

MINISTER OF ICT & NATIONAL GUIDANCE AND GOVERNMENT SPOKESPERSON