

**REMARKS BY RT HON ROBINAH NABBANJA  
PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
DURING THE OFFICIAL CLOSURE OF THE RETREAT  
OF OPM POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL STAFF AT  
KOLOLO CEREMONIAL GROUNDS**

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

Your Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda,  
Rt Hon Deputy Prime Ministers

Hon Ministers

The Head of Public Service & Secretary to Cabinet

Permanent Secretaries

The Director of NALI

Staff of the Office of the Prime Minister

Ladies and gentlemen

Your Excellency, thank for finding time in your busy schedule to officially close our retreat because this idea of having it at the National Leadership Institute Kyankwanzi was yours.

I would like to inform you, that every single day we spent in Kyankwanzi was productive, informative and an eye opener on how we can and should do our work better to deliver quality and timely services to the people of Uganda, with clarity of ideology and unity of purpose.

I also want to inform you, your Excellency, that the political leadership and technical staff of OPM you see here participated fully and effectively in the entire program, from the morning drills, to lectures, debates, discussions and handling the gun.

NALI has a wonderful team of trainers and support staff, under the leadership of the Director, Brigadier General Kisembo.

The facilities at NALI are also excellent and cost effective.

Your Excellency, we left Kyankwanzi, the political Mecca of the NRM Revolution, more united, aligned, determined, and focused on executing our mandate of the Office of the Prime Minister.

Your Excellency,

Since we left Kyankwanzi, we are already starting to see results from both our political and technical wings. We are seeing a mindset change that emphasizes timely response, better conduct of meetings, better time management, enhanced field supervision of Government projects and a general improvement of morale.

The challenge has been to maintain the momentum before your personal involvement, now that you are here your Excellency, I count this done.

It's my considered opinion going forward that all other Ministries, Departments and Agencies should go to Kyankwanzi for the same course.

Your excellency allow me to inform that we are managing our schedules better after your guidance.

We have structured our weekly program in a manner that ensures consistency.

For example, Monday, is devoted for Cabinet.

Tuesday: We have senior top management where all the political leaders of OPM, the Permanent Secretary and Accounting Officer meet to harmonize the agenda for the week in relation to Cabinet decisions and Your directives.

Wednesday is dedicated to Coordination Meetings with ministries, Dapartments Agencies

Thursday is for Parliament.

On Friday, I use it to meet the people from all walks of life.

Saturdays, where possible, I do field travels to monitor Government programmes.

In the last six months, we have held many coordination Meetings. For example, with Ministries of;

- Energy and mineral Development,
- Water and Environment,
- Lands, Housing and Urban Development,
- Finance, Planning and Economic Development,
- Works and Transport,
- Gender, Labour and Social Development,
- Health
- Local Government.
- Agriculture, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry
- Disaster Preparedness and Refugees
- Ministries of Teso, Luwero, Karamoja, Northern Uganda and Bunyoro.

A key theme of our coordination efforts is emphasis on the implementation of the NRM Manifesto, the National Development Plan III and the Vision 2040 in addition to the Parish Development Model, an expected game changer in our drive to improve the quality of life of especially the 39 percent of the households who are not yet in the money economy.

Your Excellency,

We make sure that MDAs provide us with progress reports on how they are implementing your Directives, the NRM Manifesto which then we use to monitor and Evaluate Government Programs.

Your Excellency, our coordination work has also involved convening sessions of the Presidential Investors Roundtable, Presidential CEO forum where thematic areas on agro-processing, tourism, competitiveness, minerals and value addition have been handled. This is in preparation for your high level Roundtable, which you, Your Excellency will convene and Chair.

Our other coordination efforts have been on the Presidential Advisory Committee on the Budget, which is spearheaded by the Government Chief Whip.

Coordinating the legislative agenda in Parliament is going on very well, and as you are aware, a number of key bills, have been concluded and await your decision on them.

Your Excellency, I would like to inform you that in the various field travels we have made across the country, I have observed that the NRM Government has done a lot for the people of Uganda, but both the political and technical leaders have not told the people about these achievements.

In the process, detractors and opposition people use it against Government by telling them lies that we have done nothing.

A most recent example is from Kayunga, where Government has tarmacked roads, constructed a modern Regional referral Hospital, but the opposition was busy lying to people that these were donations from other countries.

Can you imagine your Excellency that the NRM has been losing in places where some of these people seated here live?

That is around Kampala, Wakiso, Entebbe, Mityana, Mukono, and others?

And the question during elections is about what the NRM Government has done. Even with the evidence of good tarmac roads, Industrial parks which have created jobs for our children, health centres, Electricity, Modern Markets, the Conducive Environment for doing business because of Security but our people here couldn't explain to Ugandans?

Going forward your Excellency,

We have decided that Ministers and technical staff use the media and barazas to explain to the people of Uganda the Government achievements and plans.

Your Excellency,

Just like you guided during the swearing in ceremony of cabinet that you want zero tolerance to corruption. This is the same message I have been and continue to emphasize here to all staff of OPM. I have told these people that when anyone is caught in any act of corruption, embezzlement or abuse of office, they will have to pay the price according to the law.

No corrupt official will be spared or protected.

We have to do whatever it takes to clean the image and reputation of OPM by doing the right things, the right way at the right time and according to the laws of Uganda.

I want to conclude by informing you that our substantive Permanent Secretary Mr Keith Muhakanizi reported to work a few weeks ago and is already providing useful technical guidance to all of us. He has however been unable to attend this meeting due to his medical appointment.

I also want to inform you, your Excellency, that we have a good team of professional staff in OPM. After Kyankwanzi, they are even better. I want to thank them for the work they are doing. They are eager to listen to you.

Your Excellency,

It is now my pleasure to invite you to speak to your staff and the country.