PRESS RELEASE
Prime Minister signs Joint Statement of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025

Kampala, September 2, 2020 - The Prime Minister of Uganda, The Right. Honourable, Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, signed the Joint Statement of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025.

The UN Resident Coordinator in Uganda, H.E. Ms. Rosa Malango signed on behalf of the United Nations System in Uganda, while the Chairperson of the National Planning Authority (NPA), Prof. Pamela Mbabazi signed on behalf of NPA.

Guided by the United Nations Uganda’s vision of contributing to a transformed inclusive Ugandan Society where people have improved quality of Life and Resilience for Sustainable Development, and building on the successes of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2016-2020, the UNSDCF 2021-2025 aims to support the Government to accelerate development and social transformation across Uganda as outlined in Vision 2040 and the third National Development Plan (NDPIII).

“The signing of this cooperation framework is another welcome demonstration of the mutually beneficial relationship between the UN system in Uganda and the Government and people of Uganda,” Prime Minister Dr Ruhakana Rugunda said. “We deeply value the role and contribution made by the UN system in promoting the development agenda of Uganda. We are committed to ensuring that this partnership grows from strength to strength” he added.

UN General Assembly Resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the UN Development System, positions the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework as the single most important UN country planning instrument in support of the 2030 Agenda. The Joint Statement stipulates the Cooperation Framework accountability featuring the UN entities that will support the UNSDCF implementation, the UN Country Team configuration and key highlights of UN entities’ contributions to the UNSDCF.

The UNSDCF accountability and signing levels include: 1) The Joint Statement at ministerial and UN Country Team level signed by the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Chairperson of the National Planning Authority (NPA), UN Resident Coordinator and UN entities and, 2) The Cooperation Framework at State level signed by His Excellency the President on behalf of the
Republic of Uganda and the UN Secretary-General’s Representative – by the UN Resident Coordinator. These will be followed by the formulation of the annualized Joint Work Plans aligned to the Program Implementation Plans of NDPIII.

Prof. Pamela Mbabazi highlighted the synergies expected between NDP III and the UNSDCF noting that, “the two planning documents bring our work in line and therefore the synchronized start of their implementation will enhance synergies and coordination, transparency and efficiency in the delivery of the both government and UN activities”

“I would also like to commend the UN system for adopting a whole-of-UN-system approach to jointly supporting the Government of Uganda towards meeting NDPIII and SDGs targets. The effort and consideration put into ensuring that all the 31 UN agencies promote coherence and mutual accountability cannot go un-recognized. The motivation of delivering as one to achieve common results is also at the heart of the programming principles of the NDPIII,” she added.

“Today we are witnessing a critical milestone in the new partnership between the United Nations and the Government and people of Uganda. The Cooperation Framework reinforces the mutual accountability between the UN and the host Government by creating space for the Joint Statement of accountability at Ministerial and UN Country Team level which today will be signed by the Right Honourable Prime Minister, the Chairperson of the National Planning Authority (NPA), UN Resident Coordinator and UN entities. The Joint Statement provides information on the capabilities and contributions of UN entities as well as the UN Country Team configuration,” said Ms. Malango.

“I wish to re-affirm the UN’s commitment to working with all stakeholders in supporting the Government towards the achievement of NDP III and SDG targets, and promotion of regional integration, peace and security, by addressing Africa Union Agenda 2063 and East African Vision 2050,” said Ms. Malango.

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