

**THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM)
SUPPORT MISSION
TO UGANDA**

13th – 16th February 2005

COMMUNIQUÉ

1. From 13 - 16 February 2005, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, Member of the Panel of Eminent Persons (APR Panel), led a Support Mission of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to Uganda. The Team of nine including Mr. Bernard Kouassi the Executive Director of the APRM Secretariat, Mr. Moise Nembot, Coordinator for Democracy and Good Political Governance; Mr. Kojo Busia, Development Management Officer of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); Mr. Emmanuel Nnadozie, Senior Economic Affairs Officer (UNECA); Mr. Michael Mah'moud, Senior Financial Sector Advisor, ADB; Ms. Zemenay Lakew, Senior Regional Programme Coordinator of the United Nations Development Programme Africa Bureau (UNDP); Mr. S. M. Malleck-Amode, ADB Country Economist for Uganda; and Mr. Mukaila Ojelade, ADB Resident Representative in Uganda. The Team was hosted by the National Planning Authority, the APRM Focal Point in Uganda represented by Ms. Sylvia Terka, Acting Chairperson; Mr. Saul Kaye, Executive Director, Mr. Robert Kimera, Director, Human Resources Development and Capacity Building; Mr. Constantine Bitwayiki, Director Research, Information, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Mr. Amos Lugolobi, Director, Sectoral Policy and Planning.

2. The team met with H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni who received them at the State House Nakasero, the Speaker of the national parliament Rt. Hon. Edward Ssekandi, Members of Parliament, UNDP and other development partners as well various stakeholders.

3. During the mission the Team discussed with the Authorities the following issues:

- The establishment of national institutional framework for Peer Review in Uganda;

- The need to sensitize all stakeholders in Uganda about the role they have to play in the Peer Review process;
- The launching of the Peer Review Process;
- The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding.

4. During the audience with H.E. President Museveni, he reiterated his country's commitment to the Peer Review mechanism and assured the Team of the readiness of the government and the people of Uganda for the first review. He accordingly authorized Hon. Isaac Isanga Musumba, Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Economic Development, to sign the MOU on his behalf. Subsequently the MOU was signed by the two parities, Hon. Musumba on behalf of the Government of Uganda and Prof. Adedeji, on behalf of the APR Forum.

5. In the course of the Team's interaction with the international community consisting of the UN agencies and members of the diplomatic corps in Uganda, the Team appealed for support without compromising the ownership of the APRM self-assessment process. The team also seized the opportunity to express its appreciation for the financial support that some of the countries and institutions have been providing to Uganda. In order to use this support to enhance ownership the Team proposed a Uganda Trust Fund for Peer Review be set up under the auspices of the UNDP to which all donors can make their contribution.

6. The Team also examined with the NPA the composition of the national Peer Review Commission. Both sides agreed that the Commission should:

- a. reflect the variety of interests in Uganda
- b. the institutions being represented should nominate or elect their representatives;
- c. the Commission should be large enough to be able to work in Committees on the basis of the four areas of the Peer Review.
- d. Finally the composition of the Commission should be gender sensitive and reflecting the demographic composition of the country.

7. Accordingly, it was agreed that NPA should undertake all the necessary consultations to formally inaugurate the national Commission in the near future, which will spearhead the process.

8. The Team was impressed by the level of commitment demonstrated by political leaders and representatives of government and civil society.

Throughout the interaction with them there was a clear manifestation of this determination to ensure the self assessment exercise, which is the beginning of the process, will be done very credibly. The Right Honorable Speaker of Parliament assured the Team that the Parliament would favourably consider making adequate budgetary appropriations for the process. The stakeholders on their part assured the Team of their willingness and determination to be engaged in the process particularly in the sensitization of the population and in ensuring that the self assessment is of the highest standard in terms of objectivity.

9. The Team took note of the ongoing effort by the focal point to put together a team of technical partners. A brief session with those that were available was held and the focal point undertook to complete the selection process by the time of the launching of the national commission.

Prof. Adebayo Adedeji
Member of the APRM Panel

Hon. Isaac Isanga Musumba
**Minister of Finance, Planning and
economic development**

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