

PRESS STATEMENT ON THE 36TH NRM/A VICTORY DAY ANNIVERSARY TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26, 2022

BY

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1. INTRODUCTION

This statement is aimed at briefing the general public about the 36th NRM/A victory day anniversary to be celebrated on **Wednesday 26th January, 2022 at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds**.

2. PREPARATORY HIGHLIGHTS

On 26th November 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) designated another COVID-19 variant named Omicron as a matter of Public Health concern. This decision was based on the evidence that Omicron has several mutations that may be a threat to Public Health.

It is against this backdrop that the 36th NRM/A Day Anniversary celebrations are proposed to take place at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds on Wednesday 26th January, 2022 in *full observance of the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures*.

3- THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S ANNIVESARY

THIS year theme is: "Celebrating the 36th NRM/A Victory Day: A Call to duty for all Compatriots to contribute towards Uganda's Socio-economic Transformation Journey."

This theme reminds all the compatriots of their duty in nation building and to reflect on the journey of 36 years of sacrifices and commitment to nation building.

4- THE PROGRAM

A program booklet has been prepared containing the day's activities. This will be distributed to the invited guests.

However, according to tradition, Thanksgiving Prayers shall be held throughout the Country to commemorate this significant Day as follows:

Friday 21, January, 2022: - Prayers in all Mosques

Saturday 22nd January, 2022 - Prayers in all Seventh Day

Adventist Churches

Sunday 23rd, January, 2022 - Prayers in all the other Churches

Invitations:

The National Organizing Committee-NOC is inviting not more than 547 dignitaries to be sat in strict adherence to the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures.

At the moment, the NOC has not received any indications of State Visitors to grace the occasion. However, I will provide an update on this matter as new developments unfold.

Security:

Security Agencies will put in place the necessary security measures to secure the venue of the celebrations. The Uganda Police Force will be responsible for the overall Security at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds. However, they shall be supported by Specialized Units like the UPDF, ISO,

ESO as well as the Special Forces Command (SFC). The programme for the traffic flow shall be communicated to you in due course.

Protocol Detail:

The program of the Day is made with due regard to the National Order of Precedence. VIPs and other invited guests will be expected to arrive within their designated time and be seated at least 30 minutes before H.E the Vice President. Guests arriving after the Principal has taken his seat will not be allowed into the VIP tent. Ministers are scheduled to arrive at 9.20 a.m. at the venue of the celebrations.

The Parade:

A Parade will be mounted by the UPDF, Uganda Police Force (UPF), the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) and Uganda Wild Life Authority (UWA). A total of 24 guards will participate in the Parade at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds. The breakdown is here below:

UPDF - 12
UPF - 06
UPS - 04
UWA - 02
Total - 24

In conclusion I wish to apologize to all Ugandans who are enthusiastic about attending the event that this will not be possible this year due to the COVID pandemic. However, you can watch and listen to live proceedings on your TVs and Radios respectively. Also, the events will be marked only at Kololo on this day. There shall be no activities in the districts. Districts are asked to make their separate functions in subsequent days after the national event.

Overall, I take the opportunity to thank our Media Partners and allies for agreeing to give us live coverage of the Kololo Events in the spirit of nation building.

I THANK YOU

HON. PETER OGWANG
STATE MINISTER - ECONOMIC MONITORING