



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



PRESS BRIEFING ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY ON DEVELOPMENT (IGAD) CONFERENCE ON LAND AND CONFLICT TO BE HELD IN UGANDA FROM 24TH -28TH OCTOBER 2022

Date: 20th October 2022.

Venue: Uganda Media Centre (10.00am)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Uganda is a member state of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). IGAD is composed of Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda with a mission to assist and complement the efforts of member states to achieve, through increased cooperation: food security, environmental protection, peace, security, economic cooperation and integration in the Region.

During the IGAD Land Governance Program 11th Steering Committee Meeting of Member States that was held in Entebbe from 1st to 2nd June 2022, it was agreed that Uganda hosts the Conference on Land and Conflict through its Ministry responsible for lands.

In fulfillment of the Entebbe resolution, the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development is organizing a High-Level Conference on Land and Conflict in the East and Horn of Africa from the 24th to 28th October 2022 in partnership with IGAD and the International Development Law Organization (IDLO).

IDLO is the only global intergovernmental organization established in 1988 and exclusively devoted to promoting the rule of law to advance peace and sustainable development. Uganda became a member state of IDLO in October 2019 and concluded a Host Country Agreement with the organization in 2020 that paved way for establishment of the Uganda Country Office and roll-out of programs supported mainly by Government of Sweden.

HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE ON LAND AND CONFLICT IN THE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA

The High-Level Conference on Land and Conflict is scheduled to take place from 24th to 28th October 2022, at Speke Resort Munyonyo. The Conference is the main series of events that have been organized by Government of Uganda (GoU), IGAD and IDLO as part of the East Africa Justice Week. The other associated events to the Land and Conflict Conference include, the Bi-annual Conference of the International Association of Women Judges and the Annual East African Court of Justice Judiciaries Symposium, to be held at Speke Resort Munyonyo and Mestil Hotel respectively.

Objectives of the Conference on Land and Conflict

The overall objective of the Conference is to enable High Level Policy Makers to exchange Country and cross-country policy experiences and lessons learned with a view to establishing a regional agenda and national policy priorities that comprehensively respond to land conflicts.

The specific objectives of the Conference are segmented as follows:

A. Regional Policy Conference:

- i) To increase the body of available evidence and facilitate the exchange of views on the prevalence, causes, impacts and ways of addressing land conflict in the IGAD region and raise awareness around the importance of SDG 16 in addressing these in a comprehensive manner; and
- ii) To issue concrete and evidence-based recommendations to High Level Policy Makers for better management of land conflicts, enhancing peace, sustainable development, gender equality and climate change adaptation.

B. Special Session of Chief Justice's to the Land and Conflict Conference:

- i) To identify and share best practices and lessons learned in terms of management and resolution of disputes and conflict around land-based natural resources by judiciaries in EAC and IGAD region; and

- ii) To exchange thoughts and experiences as to the consultation or implication of judiciaries in the EAC and IGAD region in the development and implementation of legislative and policy frameworks affecting conflict around land-based natural resources.

C. Sectoral Ministers Session:

- i) To adopt an initial declaration that will provide the basis for the establishment of an IGAD Agenda on addressing land-based resource conflicts and issue concrete recommendations for review of national land policies and action plans to better integrate conflict management; and
- ii) To serve as a platform for rebuilding a Pan-African network at the most senior policy and technical levels on land conflict and peace, sustainable development and climate change.

Expected outputs of the Conference on Land and Conflict

The expected outputs of the Conference on Land and Conflict include:

- i) IGAD Regional Agenda on land conflicts, peace and security, sustainable development, gender equality and climate change adopted.
- ii) Policy Conference Report published;
- iii) The declaration of the Minister’s meeting adopted
- iv) The Outcome document of the Chief Justices Meeting published;
- v) A Report on the IGAD and IDLO convened Donor Roundtable to advance conference resolutions published;
- vi) Date and Venue for the next Conference on Land and Conflict agreed upon.

Organization of the Conference

The Conference will be attended by the following categories of participants:

- i) Ministers responsible for activities related to Land administration, Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing in IGAD Member States;
- ii) The Ministers responsible for Justice in the IGAD Member States;
- iii) The Ministers responsible for Environment in the IGAD Member States;
- iv) Chief Justices of the EAC and IGAD Member States;

- v) Judges of the Land and Environment Courts;
- vi) Permanent Secretaries and Directors of Surveys and Mapping from IGAD Member States;
- vii) Directors responsible for Climate Change in the IGAD Member States;
- viii) Directors responsible for access to Justice in the IGAD Member States;
- ix) Representatives of Governments from EAC and IGAD Member States;
- x) Development Partners and UN Agencies; and
- xi) Civil Society Organizations, Academia, other Non-Governmental organizations.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) put in place by the World Health Organization, the Ministry of Health and the Presidential directives on Covid-19 and Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) shall be observed.

The Guest of Honor is H.E the President of the Republic of Uganda.

I thank you for listening.

Judith Nabakooba

Minister, Lands, Housing & Urban Development