**STATEMENT BY THE CEO PCF**

Ladies and gentlemen,

This is a special day for all of us to engage with H.E. the President on strategic issues that are critical for Private Sector development in Uganda. This private sector CEO retreat has been organised a few weeks after the official launch of the second national strategy for private sector development. A good time to translate strategy into action. The Presidential CEO Forum was established in 2020 and official inaugurated in 2021 by H.E. the President.

The forum was established to accelerate social economic transformation with the private sector as the engine of growth. The key areas of focus for the forum include; local content and industrialization, leadership development, policy formulation to enhance social and economic transformation, and mobilization of CEO fraternity for national development. Therefore, PCF is a top level national body that is represents the interest of both private and public sector in Uganda.

Under the patronage of H.E. the President of the Republic of Uganda, PCF is tapping into its unique strength of linking the private and public sector to drive the attainment of Vision 2040. PCF works closely with the Office of the Prime Minister, the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFOED) and other stakeholders to devise appropriate strategies to address constraints to private sector development to enhance social economic transformation.

The objectives of PCF includes;

1. To influence public sector management including service delivery, policy-making, legal and regulatory reform in support of a competitive business environment and transformative public-private partnerships
2. To establish fora and build platforms for facilitating dialogue between Corporate Uganda and key stakeholder including Senior Government officials, policy-makers, academia and the media.
3. To foster evidence-based dialogue and decision-making including the development of databases of high-frequency and regular statistics on Corporate Uganda by sector and industry groupings
4. To support Government efforts to reduce the size of the subsistence and informal economy.

This is the third Private Sector CEO retreat organized by the Presidential CEO Forum to accelerate private sector development through strategic engagements. PCF deals with both operational and strategic issues that need to be addressed by MDAs and the office of the President. However, direct engagements with the President focuses on strategic level issues while engagements with MDAs are geared towards addressing operational issues and acting on strategic decisions made by the Head of State. Therefore, the objective of the Presidential CEO Forum is to deliver top-level business environment within which key players from the world of investment and finance can forge stronger relationships with Uganda’s established and emerging business elite.

This private sector CEO retreat is organized under the theme “Unlocking Private Sector Investment Through Strategic Interventions for Socio-Economic Transformation”. This based on Uganda’s development ambitions which are guided by Vision 2040, which aims to transition Uganda from a low-income country to an upper middle-income country within 30 years. The Government of Uganda also sees the private sector as playing a key role in realizing its third National Development Plan and realizing the SDGs, particularly through public-private partnerships (PPPs) with a focus on infrastructure, energy and other projects that require substantial financial resources.

This retreat will focus on E-mobility and agro-industrialization in Uganda. We shall also explore Musevenomics as well as issues linked to the Parish Development and review progress made since the first retreat was held in 2021. We are confident that with the support and guidance of H.E. President we shall continue to craft solutions that will transform our country from a peasant to a modern and prosperous country.

We are convinced that today will yield meaningful conclusions that will drive us forward for national development. I wish you all fruitful deliberations.

Thank you for listening to me

For God and my country

**IRENE BIRUNGI MUGISHA**

**CEO**

**PRESIDENTIAL CEO FORUM**