



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS

MEDIA BRIEF FOR WORLD TEACHERS' DAY 2022

AT

THE MEDIA CENTRE ON

Tuesday, 29th November 2022

Fellow country men

Members of the Media Fraternity

Ladies and Gentlemen

Protocol observed

Good morning

We are here to launch the beginning of official celebrations for the National Teachers' Day scheduled for Wednesday, 30th November 2022, at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds. The President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni will grace the occasion as the chief guest. Unlike the previous years, we would like to make this a unique day by recognizing the status of the Teacher in society hence the theme:

“The Transformation of Education begins with Teachers”

World Teachers' Day is celebrated every 5th October annually across the globe and provides a platform to take stock of achievements and raise awareness around the challenges facing teachers and their role in the achievement of education targets. It

is a day to celebrate how teachers are transforming education but also reflect on the support they need, to be able to fully deploy their talents, vocation, and rethink ahead for the professional growth globally. This year, the celebrations were deferred to enable adequate preparations for this important occasion.

Why the World Teachers Day?

World Teachers Day was instituted by UNESCO, ILO and other partner organizations on 5th October 1994 to commemorate the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

This international recommendation, whose normative value is recognized by many states, sets out the rights and responsibilities of teachers, as well as standards for their initial training, continuing professional development, recruitment, employment and teaching and learning conditions. It also contains numerous recommendations for teacher participation in educational decision-making through social dialogue and negotiation with educational authorities.

In addition to this historic achievement, World Teachers Day also commemorates the adoption, in 1997, of the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher Education Teaching Personnel, which sets out the rights and responsibilities of teaching and research staff in higher education. The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015 and, in particular, Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, further confirms the critical role of teachers in achieving the 2030 education agenda.

I want to say that the National Teacher Policy is meant to make the teaching profession a better profession which we shall all be proud of. Just like other professions, we want to have a teaching profession that is well regulated and with members having a clear identity.

We are aware that implementation of the National Teacher Policy will pose some challenges. However, as a Ministry, we shall do our best to ensure that the challenges are minimized and overcome. For example, there has been a fear about how teachers will be able to attain the minimum qualification of a Bachelors’

Degree. The Policy considered this and a period of ten years was given for teachers to upgrade. The Ministry has also committed resources which previously have been used to train primary school teachers at certificate level and secondary school teachers at Diploma level to support the upgrading of holders of the Grade III and ECD Teachers' Certificate to Diploma level. I therefore want to call upon all teachers to take the change positively for your personal benefit and that of the country.

No matter where you are in the world, you've had a teacher that you still remember for the positive impact that they made in your life—someone that helped you finally grasp a challenging concept in your classroom experience.

It is a time to remember those special educators who supported us when we were students, and show gratitude to those who inspired us in the classroom. It is also a day for you to realize how you may now impact students in the same way.

It is a day to appreciate that teachers are the pillars of strength, the guiding force in students' lives and they give love, attention, and acceptance to all categories of learners. It provides a platform

to recognize and a perfect opportunity to thank every teacher that has contributed to our lives through education.

The nation is given the opportunity to celebrate the teachers, recognizing their contribution and putting a spotlight on the incredible responsibility that they bear in ensuring that all children and youth everywhere can enjoy the right to education.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education, puts forward access to education, and quality teachers, as crucial to the fulfilment of the UN's Education 2030 agenda. It unanimously recognizes how important it is for society to maintain competent, qualified and motivated teachers.

I therefore, call upon every one of us to celebrate the teachers in our lives as they remain the rock upon which society stands.

Thank you for listening to me.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY