



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

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OFFICIAL REPORT

FOURTH SESSION - THIRD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, 12 MARCH 2025



**IN THE PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA**

**Official Report of the Proceedings of Parliament**

**FOURTH SESSION - 23RD SITTING - THIRD MEETING**

**Wednesday, 12 March 2025**

*Parliament met at 2.00 p.m. in Parliament House, Kampala.*

**PRAYERS**

*(The Speaker, Ms Anita Annet Among, in the Chair.)*

*The House was called to order.*

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I welcome you to this afternoon's sitting and commend you for your dedication and consistency in executing your mandate as legislators. We get offended when we see a whole bench empty as if people do not know that there is a sitting in the House.

I commend the departments and ministries that have laid their ministerial statements. I know they tabled them yesterday, and some are supposed to be laid today. Unfortunately, I do not see the people who are supposed to lay them.

Honourable members, in a bid to ensure the timely consideration of the budget, and for us to be able to go for our politics, upon receipt of the ministerial policy statements, we will go for committees. We will allow the committees to sit, but we will not be having plenary sittings, until the committees are done, because we cannot have committees sitting while the House is also going on.

So, the sectoral committees and the Budget Committee will be handling the ministerial statements. This time around, we want to compare what was in the previous financial year vis-à-vis what is in this year. After looking at that, we will make an analysis — and we are supposed to report back to the House by 1 April 2025.

The Leader of the Opposition is supposed to present an alternative policy statement by the 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, pursuant to Rule 147 of the Rules of Procedure. However, since we shall be having committees, we will refer the report from the Leader of the Opposition, administratively, to all the committees, for them to be handled together with the Government's ministerial statements. The House will commence the consideration of the reports of the sectoral committees on the ministerial statements on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, having taken into consideration the Government's and the Opposition's sides.

Similarly, the Government Chief Whip will ensure that there is compliance with Section 13(3) of the Public Finance Management Act, which requires the tabling of the budget and tax Bills by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April.

I urge all the responsible duty-bearers to ensure compliance with the timelines. Remember that this is an election year and, at the same time, we should be able to finish the budget.

I thank you all for coming.

2.06

**THE SHADOW MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Mr Muwada Nkunyngi):** Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the communication. I have seen, in the press, you interacting with members of the diplomatic community. I wish to use this opportunity to raise another pertinent concern –

**THE SPEAKER:** Just a minute. Are you reacting to my communication or my discussion with my visitors? I am not going to allow a discussion on diplomatic persons in this House. That is why I never even allowed them to come and sit in the gallery here. If you have an issue, you can equally invite and talk with them.

**MR NKUNYINGI:** Madam Speaker, I was not responding to those, specifically, but to your -

**THE SPEAKER:** When you stand up, you react to what the Speaker has mentioned in the communication. That is what you are supposed to do, not smuggling in what you think you want the cameras to see.

**MR NKUNYINGI:** Most obliged, Madam Speaker; I take your guidance. As the Shadow Minister of Foreign Affairs and as the Member of Parliament for Kyadondo County East – alive to the rules – as a reaction to your communication, I want to register my disappointment with your communication towards the Government and security apparatus, which on Monday, last week, using JATT -

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Muwada –

**MR NKUNYINGI:** Madam Speaker, this is -

**THE SPEAKER:** Just a minute. You first sit. Hon. Muwada, you said you are alive to the rules. I now ask: which rule?

2.09

**MR GEOFFREY MACHO (Independent, Busia Municipality, Busia):** Madam Speaker, I want to appreciate, strongly, your communication to the august House and agree

with you that we are in the time of political process, that makes absenteeism or delays by some Members to take place. Truly, to confirm it, we are hearing voices that we want to settle, since we are in the time of budgeting.

The other time, members of the Democratic Party were holding their national conference in Soroti, and I saw Hon. Nobert Mao, a minister in the NRM Government, crying about how his agreement with the National Resistance Movement was not being fulfilled.

It is also my prayer that since he is working with the same Government, they should conclude those cooperative agreements that he made with the National Resistance Movement in the boardroom since our people are busy concentrating on using the Parish Development Model money. They should leave us to handle very important matters like issues that the Rt Hon. Prime Minister talked about yesterday of some Members who are printing ballot papers in Jinja.

Bad enough, they are not here, Madam Speaker. I want to protect myself by not talking or mentioning their names. If Hon. Namugga was here, I would have mentioned it –

**THE SPEAKER:** Do not talk about Hon. Namugga. Have you seen her anywhere here? Is that in response to my communication?

**MR MACHO:** Exactly, Madam Speaker. It is about the political process that is taking place. I, therefore, would like us to have a good political process –

**THE SPEAKER:** No. Next item?

## BILLS FIRST READING

### THE MORTGAGE REFINANCE INSTITUTIONS BILL, 2025

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, pursuant to Article 91(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 and Rule 128 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, I hereby

invite the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, who has delegated the Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives to lay the Bill for first reading.

2.12

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM, WILDLIFE AND ANTIQUITIES (Mr Martin Mugarra):** Madam Speaker, I wish to lay the Mortgage Refinance Institutions Bill, 2025 for the first reading. I beg to lay.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable members, pursuant to Rule 129(1) of the Rules of Procedure, the Bill stands referred to the sectoral Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development. Rule 129(2) applies. Where is the certificate?

**MR MUGARRA:** Madam Speaker, accompanied with it is a Certificate of Financial Implications, which I wish to lay.

**THE SPEAKER:** Can I have a look at it? Hon. Nyeko, do you have something to say? Honourable members, in my village, there are no TVs or radios. When I am in the village, I just sit in the house. I am told that our Members were arrested and taken to prison. We have a rule where we allow them to make personal statements.

Under that rule, you write to the Speaker and we will give you space on the Order Paper to come and make a personal statement. Do not imagine that we do not mind about you; we do care about our Members. So, we will give Members space to make personal statements. Hon. Jonathan, are you okay? Were you arrested? Yes, Hon. Nyeko?

**MR NYEKO:** Thank you, Madam Speaker -

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Nyeko, is that on what I have said?

**MR NYEKO:** Yes, Madam Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Nyeko, it would be good and smart for us to finish where we are for the flow of the *Hansard* because we are

now laying papers. Let us lay the papers, and then we can have that. (*Hon. Nkunyingi rose*) Hon. Muwada, am I speaking in a language you understand or not?

## LAYING OF PAPERS

### A) MINISTERIAL POLICY STATEMENTS AND BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/2026

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, yesterday, we received 21 ministerial policy statements for which I commend those ministers. We still have some pending ones to be laid, pursuant to Section 13(13) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and Rule 146 of the Rules of Procedure. Can we have those that are ready to be laid?

#### I) THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

2.16

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS (Gen. David Muhoozi):** Madam Speaker, pursuant to Section 13(3) of the Public Finance Management (Amendment) Act, 2015 Rule 146(1) of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, I beg to lay the Ministerial Policy Statement for the following votes under the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the Financial Year 2025/2026.

- a. Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs Headquarters;
- b. Vote 120: National Citizenship and Immigration Control;
- c. Vote 135: Government Analytical Laboratory;
- d. Vote 137: National Identification and Registration Authority;
- e. Vote 144: Uganda Police Force; and
- f. Vote 145: Uganda Prisons Service. I beg to lay.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable members, in furtherance to Section 12 of the Public Finance Management Act and Rule 146(3) of the Rules of Procedure, the ministerial policy statement stands referred to

the Committee on Defence and Internal Affairs.

## II) THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

2.18

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM, WILDLIFE AND ANTIQUITIES (Mr Martin Mugarra):** Madam Speaker, pursuant to Section 13(3) of the Public Finance Management (Amendment) Act, 2015, and Rule 146 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, I beg to lay on the Table the ministerial policy statement for the following Votes for Financial Year 2025/2026.

- a. Vote: The Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs;
- b. Vote 102: Electoral Commission;
- c. Vote 105: Uganda Law Reform Commission;
- d. Vote 106: Uganda Human Rights Commission;
- e. Vote 119: Uganda Registration Service Bureau;
- f. Vote 133: Directorate of Public Prosecutions;
- g. Vote 148: Judicial Service Commission; and
- h. Vote 311: Law Development Centre.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. In furtherance to Section 12 of the Public Finance Management Act and rule 146(3), the ministerial policy statement stands referred to the sectoral Committee on Legal and Parliamentary Affairs. Honourable members, I hope this time around, we do not have copy and paste. We have always had copy and paste of these ministerial statements.

## III) THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

2.19

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM, WILDLIFE AND ANTIQUITIES (Mr Martin Mugarra):** Madam Speaker, pursuant to Section 13 of the Public Finance Management (Amendment) Act, 2015 and Rule 146(1) of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, the Ministerial Policy

Statement for Integrated Transport Infrastructure and Services Programme, Vote 016 Ministry of Works and Transport and Vote 609 - Local Government be laid.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. In furtherance to section 12 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015, and rule 146(3) of the Rules of Procedure, the ministerial policy statement stands referred to the sectoral Committee on Physical Infrastructure.

**THE SPEAKER:** The Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries is not here. Honourable members, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, even after all the reminders, has not brought a ministerial policy statement. The Ministries of Agriculture and the Public Service Commission have not brought ministerial policy statements as well - Yes?

**MR MUGARRA:** Madam Speaker –

**THE SPEAKER:** Do not tell me about the deadline because we guided you; we must have them. On the 15<sup>th</sup> - you are going to talk about it being a Saturday. When you come before the deadline on the 15<sup>th</sup>, we manage the operations of this House.

**MR MUGARRA:** No, we have until tomorrow, Madam Speaker, and we will lay everything.

**THE SPEAKER:** You are not going to guide us.

**MR MUGARRA:** Much obliged, Madam Speaker, tomorrow.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, we gave these people all the time to bring the ministerial statements and if you cannot bring them, what do you want us to do? We come to the House and nobody is seated there; Members are raising issues and there is nobody to answer them, what do you want us to do?

**MR AMOS OKOT:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wanted to raise this procedural matter earlier. Hon. Martin is the state minister for tourism and is the one acting, trying to lay all these papers on behalf of all other ministries.

Again, given the very tight schedule, as per your communication, we are running out of time. There are very many ministers in different ministries; Agriculture has about three of them, and Public Service, has the same thing. Maybe, just to clarify, has he been given all this delegation? Or is he acting - because we may again run into another scenario where they will say, “We did not delegate him” and he will tend to withdraw what he has submitted?

The Prime Minister and the Government Chief Whip are not here. We have seen Hon. Mao just come in. Madam Speaker, we do not want to run into a scenario where somebody comes and says what Hon. Martin has submitted is not right -

**THE SPEAKER:** Where somebody will write to the President and say, “that is not what we decided as a House.” Can you clarify because I was not notified that you are the acting Leader of Government Business?

**MR MUGARRA:** I thank Hon. Okot, for raising the matter but we are one Government. I thought what matters the most is the content of these ministerial policy statements, and indeed, they are from these ministries. I do not think any colleague will complain about the content – (*Interruption*)

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a point of order. Hon. Martin, you are not the most senior minister around. You just needed to say that you are the only person who was around at that time and you needed to do work for the Government because of collective responsibility. It is as simple as that. Next item.

#### B) WAIVER OF OUTSTANDING TAX AREAS FOR FRESH CUTS (U) LIMITED

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, there was a letter that had been written by the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and after a thorough discussion, we agreed that there is no money. We cannot continue waving. Next item.

#### C) REPORT OF THE DELEGATION TO THE 80<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE 45<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES OF AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION HELD IN ABIDJAN, COTE D’IVOIRE FROM 11 TO 14 DECEMBER, 2023

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, our representative on this forum is Hon. Faith Loru Nakut, District Woman Representative of Napak, and the District Woman Member will table the report. Please go ahead.

2.27

**MS FAITH NAKUT (NRM, Woman Representative, Napak):** Madam Speaker, I am here to table a report of the Ugandan parliamentary delegation to the 80<sup>th</sup> session of the Executive Committee and the 45<sup>th</sup> conference of the Presidents of National Parliamentary Assemblies of African Parliamentary Union in a meeting held in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire from 11 to 15 December 2023.

Our report is made under rule 33 and I request to summarise, but also to draw the attention of the House to the issues, especially the resolutions of the African Parliaments.

It was a meeting attended by at least 19 Parliaments in the continent and five other international organisations in Cote d’Ivoire. Eight Members from Uganda were present and we represented you well. The themes of the conference and the executive committee meeting were as follows:

1. Combating insecurity and terrorism, especially on the factors of political instability and recession in the continent; and
2. The development of intra-African trade with the view to effective implementation of the African Regional Integration Agenda.

I wish to report that the meetings, the two conferences; the conference and the executive



committee meeting went very well. In the meeting of the women parliamentarians in the continent that we had, we were lucky that our own, Hon. Betty Ethel Naluyima, the woman MP for Wakiso, was elected the Vice-President of the Women's Committee for the African Parliaments. *(Applause)* It is a term she is serving this year.

**THE SPEAKER:** Congratulations, Hon. Ethel.

**MS NAKUT:** She is serving even now. Maybe she will hand over in December if she is not given a second term. In that session, also our own, Hon. Remigio Achia was elected the auditor of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), an assignment he executed very well in the last financial year. He was given another term, so he is serving even now on behalf of Uganda.

Key resolutions were made at this conference.

1. I will highlight just two. One was the participation of women and youth in the intra-African trade. Members were urged to talk to their Parliaments about the need to make our borders safe, especially for women, and to support the youth in intra-African trade.

The resolutions of the executive committee have clear outlines of what each state should do. I will urge that the sectoral committees pick it up so that we can see how to support our border posts to make it safe for women and youth to participate in this trade.

The other is making trade information available for citizens to participate in. Even though there is the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, an agreement that Uganda signed, the information seems not to be coming out clearly.

This conference also highlighted the key issues that have created political instability and insecurity generally on the continent. Parliamentarians all over the continent were urged to make sure that those issues are put under check. These are just two:

Economic

The conference unpacked the economic quest that makes youth vulnerable to the point where they participate in causing insecurity in the country;

Democracy, constitutionalism and the rule of law.

As you are aware, by the time these conferences were happening, there was turmoil in parts of West Africa. Therefore, it informed the kind of discussion that we had. I beg to submit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you very much for the report. It is informative. It will be deposited in the parliamentary library for ease of access.

Honourable members, in the public gallery this afternoon, we have student leaders of the Buhweju Students Association in Buhweju West County. They are represented by Hon. Ephraim Biraaro. Where is he - *(Mr Biraaro rose)* – There he is; and Hon. Olive Koyekyenga. We also have Hon. Francis here from Buhweju. You are most welcome. Please join me in welcoming them - *(Applause)* – Hon. Biraaro, you can greet your people – people are not seeing your face. *(Laughter)*

2.34

**MR EPHRAIM BIRAARO (NRM, Buhweju West County, Buhweju):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. My people have always known me to be sitting on your right. That is why I was reluctant to cross but thank you for the permission.

**THE SPEAKER:** No problem. Greet your people.

**MR BIRAARO:** I take the opportunity to thank you, Madam Speaker and honourable colleagues for welcoming people from Buhweju. They are not only from Buhweju West but the majority.

Madam Speaker, one important thing these youths would like to hear as pronouncements from this Parliament is about affirmative action

in service delivery for Buhweju. That will summarise all things. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Francis, I am told they are not only from the West. You can also greet them.

2.34

**MR FRANCIS MWIJUKYE (FDC, Buhweju County, Buhweju):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also want to take this singular opportunity to welcome the young people from Buhweju. This is Parliament where we sit. Welcome all the time to see what we do here.

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Olive is out for an assignment – procedure?

**MR SSEWUNGU:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. A while ago we had challenges in tabling ministerial policy statements. Since we entered this House, we have seen ministers - there is a regular suspect, Hon. Musasizi but we do not know who the real Leader of Government Business is. What do they fear? Wouldn't it be procedurally right to know whether Hon. Nakut is taking it for some time today?

Otherwise, we would wish to conduct business by knowing who the Leader of Government Business today is. If it pleases you, Hon. Musasizi can enjoy the day as usual, since he is the regular suspect here. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Next item.

2.36

**MR JOHN BAPTIST NAMBESHE (NUP, Manjiya County, Bududa):** Thank you, Madam Speaker –

**THE SPEAKER:** Do you know why Hon. Nakut is seated there? She still has to present this report. Maybe she should have sat on the other side. Hon. Nakut, the first seat is always for the Leader of Government Business. Find where to sit first.

**MR NAMBESHE:** Madam Speaker, I come with a very heavy heart, having seen very disturbing video clips of my superior, your own. The Leader of the Opposition has been roughed up by the masked Joint Anti-Terrorist Task Force (JAT) security officers just a few minutes ago. I may not establish the duration of time, but they are trending and awash on X (Twitter). They have vested a lot of wrath, occasioning all manner of brutality on him. I highly doubt whether he will make it here.

I fear that they might hold him incommunicado unless you make an urgent intervention. One of your principal roles is to guard the welfare and privileges of your Members. I thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you for the information. General, can I find out where my Leader of the Opposition is?

2.38

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS (Gen. David Muhoozi):** Madam Speaker, let me find out and get back to you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Yes, please give us feedback. I would like to go and see him after the House. I want to know where he is. Next.

REPORT OF THE DELEGATION TO  
THE 81<sup>ST</sup> SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICAN  
PARLIAMENTARY UNION (APU),  
HELD ON 4TH AND 5TH JUNE 2024 IN  
ABIDJAN, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Emmanuel Ongiertho of Jonam County is a member of this delegation and is going to lay the report on the Table. Give very brief recommendations.

2.39

**MR EMMANUEL ONGIERTHO (FDC, Jonam County, Pakwach):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for this opportunity. I beg to lay the report of the Uganda Parliamentary Delegation to the 81<sup>st</sup> Session of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union held on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2024 in Abidjan, Côte



d'Ivoire. I beg to lay. I request for an opportunity to provide a summary of the report.

Madam Speaker, you constituted a delegation of four honourable members to represent the Parliament of Uganda at the 81<sup>st</sup> Session of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union (APU), which was held from June 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. The members included;

- i. myself, Hon. Emmanuel Ongiertho, as the leader of the delegation;
- ii. Hon. James Baba;
- iii. Hon. Geoffrey Feta;
- iv. Hon. Henry-Maurice Kibalya; and
- v. Hon. Remigio Achia.

The main objective of this session was to examine the audit reports. Our main delegation leader, as I already stated, our own Hon. Remigio Achia, was one of the auditors. This session was dedicated to getting a report and discussing the audit report.

We had 18 countries and members of the APU attended the session. The session was presided over by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee, who was none other than His Excellency Adama Bictogo, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Ivory Coast.

The session mainly considered the audit report, and from the discussions that came through, I must add that Hon. Achia was the toughest of the auditors. Even the secretariat recognised him for bringing out the issues that were affecting them, including the payment of membership to the Parliamentary Union.

Madam Speaker, we would like to thank you very sincerely because several countries have not yet paid their dues, but the Parliament of Uganda has paid its dues with no arrears at all.

One of the outstanding issues was staff retirement. The audit report clearly showed that only two staff members were not due for retirement, while all the other staff members should have retired, but they continued to work.

Honourable members were very strong about the fact that the Secretary-General was supposed to make sure that those who were supposed to retire, actually retire.

Consideration for regional balance during recruitment because the auditors also noted that the current staff were mainly from specific regions, which honourable members thought was unfair.

The delegation from Uganda made some key recommendations in addition to the others that the honourable members can read from the uploaded document.

The Uganda Parliamentary Delegation advised the Secretary-General to ensure that the management of annual financial contributions from member Parliaments of APU was done in accordance with the financial management practices and principles and in accordance with the APU's approved work plans.

The delegation further advised that the Secretary-General ensure that the financial statements prepared by the secretariat are free of any inaccuracies, as raised by the audit team.

In addition, the auditors had found quite several irregularities, and several delegations were silent about some of the issues. The Ugandan delegation was particularly strong about bringing out issues, and that is why we made sure that this comes through in this report.

The Uganda Parliamentary delegation urged delegates from national groups in attendance to consider rotating the appointment of future Secretary Generals of APU, taking into consideration aspects of regional balance and the APU's official languages. I beg to submit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Hon. Emmanuel. As I said before, this is informative, and it will be deposited in the library for easy access whenever you need it. Thank you.

REPORT OF THE DELEGATION TO THE 82ND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION AND THE 46TH CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES OF THE AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION HELD FROM 5TH TO 9TH OCTOBER 2024 IN NDJAMENA, CHAD

**THE SPEAKER:** I have a request from the Minister for Public Service to lay his ministerial policy statement- he came late, and these members were here very early. Unless you are going to apologise to them before laying your document.

2.47

**THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE (Mr Wilson Muruli Mukasa):** Madam Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the chance given to me. I register my apologies for coming late. We are indeed very sorry as public service. However, I appreciate the chance given to me.

Pursuant to Section 1313 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 as amended and Rule 1461 of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, I beg to lay the policy statement for Vote 146, Public Service Commission of the Ministry of Public Service for the Financial Year 2025/2026.

**THE SPEAKER:** In furtherance to Section 12 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and Rule 146(3) of our Rules of Procedure, the ministerial policy statement stands referred to the secretary committee of Public Service and Local Government. kindly re-read what is being laid.

REPORT OF THE DELEGATION TO THE 82ND SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION AND THE 46TH CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES OF THE AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION HELD FROM 5TH TO 9TH OCTOBER 2024 IN NDJAMENA, CHAD

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, Hon. Nakut.

2.49

**MS FAITH NAKUT (NRM, Woman Representative, Napak):** Madam Speaker, I beg to table a report of the Ugandan Parliamentary delegation to the 82<sup>nd</sup> Session of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union and the 46<sup>th</sup> Conference of Presidents of National Parliamentary Assemblies of the African Parliamentary Union held from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in N'Djamena, Chad.

Madam Speaker, I will complete summarising in just a few minutes, but I would like to encourage Members to read the details.

The 82<sup>nd</sup> session and the 46<sup>th</sup> conference addressed two themes. One of them was the issue of addressing the challenges of peace and security, by promoting the involvement and empowerment of youth in Africa.

Secondly, the conference highlighted the economic development of African countries through the development of natural resources, the diversification of the economy and industrialisation. As you noted, when I tabled the other first report, the African Parliamentary Union was identifying the issues that are causing problems in our continent and in this subsequent conference, they are going deeper into identifying what can be done practically, aware that the causes of instability are the two as I highlighted earlier – economic and the issues of democracy.

The conference resolved that African countries should do everything reasonably possible to explore their natural resources as a means

for boosting our economic base so that our unemployed youth can be engaged in economic activities so that they will not have room to think of rebellion or other subversive activities. That was encouraged, and those were the key learnings.

Uganda made a proposal that was adopted under Resolution No.15 of the Political Committee. The proposal was that countries should be encouraged to open their borders to the African youth so that if there are opportunities in Uganda, the rest of the countries can also come and participate - just as our country has opened up already to the youth and the skilled people who are employed here. For example, in the tourism sector, we have several people from other East African countries who are working here. The resolution was adopted so that other African countries could copy and take that into serious consideration.

The issue of empowering youths as a means of securing our continent was also re-emphasised. Those are the two issues that we should take on as the sectoral committees examine how our mineral resources are being utilised so that our youths can be employed—maybe even taking stock of how many youths are now participating in our country's mineral sector.

Another important point that was highlighted—and which I wish to emphasise—is the need to bust out negative stereotypes that cause extremism and insecurity in our continent. Whenever we identify negativity coming up, we should be quick to quell it so that people are not disgruntled and cause unnecessary turmoil in our continent.

Madam Speaker, that was the issue—security and economic empowerment. How do we make our money? Unfortunately, as long as we do not attend to those two, there will be turmoil in the continent. Although I am glad that our country is still handling these two matters, let the committees of Parliament examine what we are doing to ensure that the youth are employed.

The Youth Livelihood Program exists. Maybe it is time to review whether it is effectively addressing the unemployment challenge of our young people so that they are not vulnerable to a situation where they get recruited to participate in rebel activities in another country. That is what we learned from this conference that we attended. I submit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you so much. Honourable Members, take interest in reading the report. Please, let it be deposited in the Parliamentary Library. Next item?

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS,  
TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL  
GUIDANCE ON THE PERFORMANCE  
OF THE NATIONAL BACKBONE  
INFRASTRUCTURE, E-GOVERNMENT  
INFRASTRUCTURE

**THE SPEAKER:** The Chairperson of the Committee on ICT and National Guidance will table the report. Hon. Tony Ayoo?

2.55

**THE CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE (Mr Tony Ayoo):**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to lay on the Table the report of the Committee on ICT and National Guidance on the National Backbone Infrastructure/ e-Government Infrastructure. I beg to lay.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you.

**MR TONYAYOO:** Madam Speaker, yesterday, we had a report on ICT. As you are aware, the Government is putting effort into digital transformation and digitising the economy, especially in e-government. In this report, I wanted to highlight a few recommendations that the committee had raised, but I am calling upon the Members to take time and go through this report.

Now, in one of the committee's recommendations, we called upon the Government to intensify efforts to ensure that the remaining border posts earmarked

for e-government and e-service connectivity are available.

They required funding in order to automate services which would not only improve service delivery at the border post and increase revenue to the Government, but also enhance security measures against illicit products and criminals entering the country.

Another critical issue raised by the committee, which we recommended to the Government, is initiating and implementing the policy on centralising all data at the national data centre and recovery sites. This will then enable the consolidation of funds currently being spread across various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) in the management and maintenance of these data centres.

Also, the national data centre and recovery sites are enhanced with the necessary resources, including the requisite finance, human resource, equipment and systems to enable seamless connectivity in achieving across all the MDAs.

Another critical recommendation that the committee put in this report was for National Information Technology Authority (NITA-U) to fast-track the implementation of Phase 5 of the National Backbone Infrastructure on Uganda Digital Acceleration Project (UDAP) e-government projects, which are expected to increase network coverage, reduce the cost of Internet bandwidth to \$20 per megabyte, improve efficiency of digital service delivery, increase investment from the private sector especially Internet service providers and enhance cyber security and data protection and privacy.

These phases are also earmarked to extend connectivity to the remaining 82 district local governments that are currently not covered by the network.

Finally, the committee has recommended that the Government should continue to engage the district local government leaderships to provide and drive uptake of e-government services at

the respective local government administrative units and service centres across the country. Madam Speaker, I beg to lay.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, Hon. Ayoo. The report will be posted in the library for ease of access, and please take interest in reading it. Hon. Odur?

2.59

**MR JONATHAN ODUR (UPC, Erute County South, Lira):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. We have received the ministerial policy statements and we hope to receive more. These ministerial policy statements are anchored on some national framework.

Last time, I brought to your attention the reluctance, which has now turned into defiance, by the Executive to bring, here, the National Development Plan (NDP) IV, as approved by Parliament for adoption.

The ministerial policy statements cannot be processed without the National Development Plan, whose pillars guide and inform Parliament on resource allocation. It was your directive, Madam Speaker, that this was supposed to be brought on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. It has been defied, and they seem not to be bothered. Parliament is being taken for granted.

Would it please you, Madam Speaker, to prevail over this matter? Otherwise, if the ministry for finance thinks Parliament is not an important stakeholder in this process, why are they bothering us? Why would we waste our time and resources to look into these ministerial policy statements?

I must point out that I am not raising it for the sake of it. Some regions of this country, for example, where I come from, having gone through the war and having seen how the national cake has been deliberately served at a higher percentage to some areas, while others are left behind – without roads, schools and health centres – and we are supposed to sit and escort them to develop their areas!

Madam Speaker, that is unfair.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable minister, you had asked for two weeks. It was very simple. You were only supposed to go and incorporate what was raised in this House, putting in mind equity, fairness and regional balance, and you bring and lay it on the Table.

I even asked the minister to, first, give it to me so that I could look at it, before laying it on Table, but until today, it has not been brought to me. What do we do?

3.02

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE (Dr Chris Baryomunsi):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I thank the honourable member for raising the issue.

There is no reason why the Government cannot share NDP IV with Parliament. This is because the document has been prepared for Ugandans, including MPs.

Secondly, it is also not true that as we plan and budget, we leave out particular parts of the country. We know for a fact that the northern part of the country was affected by war and conflict for a long time. However, from technical studies, there is evidence, from what we call the “Gini coefficient”, which measures issues of inequality, that there is great improvement in the north *-(Interjections)-* yes. There is a way we measure inequality.

The point I am making is that while that part of the country – *(Interruption)*

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, the reports released by the Government, consistently, from the Poverty Status Assessment Report, Uganda Bureau of Statistics, and others – Government agencies! – have clearly pointed out that the north (Lango, Karamoja and Acholi), Teso and Busoga have a worsening poverty situation.

The report of the Equal Opportunities Commission assessed and found that, one, we are nowhere in this Government, two, we are at only *-(Interjections)-* yes, in terms of employment. It is a report of the

Government, which is available. We have only three per cent of the road network for the entire country *-(Interjections)-* I will receive information from Hon. Afoyochan, Hon. Okot-Ogong, Hon. Linda Auma *-(Laughter)-* and all the northerners who are available here.

**MS AFOYOCHAN:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Parliament is a place where we disagree and agree. Today, I stand to agree with the other side – the alternative government. Madam Speaker, we need to take keen interest in some of these things. It even gets worse when the areas, where the ministers come from, get better and bigger budgets.

Those of us who do not have the opportunity to have Cabinet positions are completely ignored. On that, we shall speak without fear or favour. *(Applause)* Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** You are not agreeing with this side of the Opposition; you are only stating facts. There is another MP with a point of information.

Hon. Baryomunsi, it is just that I cannot debate, but I am also an interested party. *(Laughter)*

**MR AOGON:** Madam Speaker, we thank you for this very great opportunity. Before Hon. Felix Okot-Ogong speaks, let me speak.

Madam Speaker, it is from the bottom of my heart that I speak – and I appreciate Hon. Odur for bringing this issue. There are many Members, who should have spoken –

**THE SPEAKER:** You say it is “from the bottom of our hearts”.

**MR AOGON:** It is from the bottom of our hearts that I speak. Madam Speaker, on Friday, I raised a point during the caucus meeting in Entebbe, that if we do not pass the transitional justice law, we are in a quagmire. Why? That is the law that should help us to create a balance. I am saying so because the injuries that we are nursing are from the historical injustices in this country, and they are not easy to arrest.



Madam Speaker, one time, I had an opportunity to fly in a chopper. I looked down and I saw a country divided into two. One side was looking like a desert, and the other side was looking green. I asked myself: why? Is it about rain? Is it about the rivers?

Madam Speaker, from the bottom of my heart, equal opportunities are a matter of the Constitution. We must adhere to the requirements of the Constitution, so that this country is balanced, and we avoid insecurity in terms of poverty that creates injustices.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, the guiding principles of State policy are about balanced and equitable development –

*“(i) The State shall adopt an integrated and coordinated planning approach.*

*“(ii) The State shall take necessary measures to bring about balanced development...” – “balanced development!” –(Applause)- “... of the different areas of Uganda and between the rural and the urban areas.”*

Just like Hon. Afoyochan said, when you do not have a ministerial position – *(Laughter)* – that is what she was saying.

What is paramount is that NDP IV, which was laid on the Table here, did not have this. That is why we sent it: to ensure equity and fairness in the NDP IV. We are asking: where is the NDP IV before we look at the ministerial policy statements? They were supposed to come and lay it on the Table, and we see it.

Yes, Hon. Okot-Ogong?

**MR OKOT-OGONG:** Madam Speaker, I confirm and agree with my brother, Hon. Jonathan Odur.

Madam Speaker, I am a nationalist. However, when something happens in the direction of marginalising any community, I stand up. In the north now, it is becoming worse.

Look at the report of the Equal Opportunities Commission. Madam Speaker, we wanted this report to be debated in this Parliament. Sixty seven per cent of the job opportunities are going to the west. It is there - *(Interjections)*- and these parastatals -

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable member, let us not specify the area.

**MR OKOT-OGONG:** Okay. Madam Speaker, facts speak for themselves. For example, 13 per cent is going to Eastern Uganda, 11 per cent is going to Northern Uganda. This means north and Eastern Uganda, which is a half of Uganda only receives 23 per cent. Imagine this imbalance. I think this is not fair.

Madam Speaker, we even now need to talk about the army. When you look at promotions - there was some promotion of 35 from the level of Major to Major General. Thirty five out of 40, were coming from one region and that is in defence.

In the Constitution, recruitment should be balanced in our UPDF but it is not balanced. Even yesterday, there was some promotion of some people to Major General; three of them and all of them come from one region. I think it is not fair - *(Member rose\_)*

**THE SPEAKER:** Someone is attempting to put you to order.

**MR OKOT-OGONG:** My brother, it is better - Let me state facts.

**THE SPEAKER:** First listen to his point of order.

**MR ENOS ASHIMWE:** Madam Speaker, luckily the Minister of Internal Affairs is here. When they are making recruitments for UPDF, they advertise countrywide and when they are recruiting for Uganda Police, they advertise countrywide. I think – *(Interjections)* - the Floor is mine. I do not think the honourable member is right to insinuate that there is an imbalance in recruitment.



Madam Speaker, I do not think that it is also right to say that development is on one side - *(Interjections)*- listen. I think we should only discuss employment however, when we are issuing -

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, an advert is different from actual recruitment. That is number one.

Honourable members, truth be told. I am the Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments, so I want to tell you that the President does not select those people. The President only forwards them.

I would like to ask: people who forward the names to the President, do they ever think that there are other areas in Uganda? *(Applause)* Hon. Baryomunsi, you may think I am in the Opposition but I am telling you that this is a fact. Do you ever think that Teso belongs to this country? I have never vetted anybody who comes from that place. You find some people come from different areas, but you leave them out. Let us have equity and regional balance. Even when you are selecting boards, think of women, regional balance and religion. That will solve the problem.

**MR OKOT-OGONG:** Madam Speaker, we need to debate this thing based on facts. We want the Equal Opportunities Commission report to be presented here. If you are talking about the army, the minister is here so let him come and present how many Generals, Colonels, Majors, Captains and even ambassadors we have; in fact, everything. Uganda belongs to all of us. Nobody is going to take us to the north.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members -

**MR OKOT-OGONG:** One time, Madam Speaker, we said that if we cannot get equity in Uganda, we shall form the Nile Republic -

**THE SPEAKER:** We are not part of it. Say it yourself. Let Hon. Odur finish.

**MR ODUR:** Thank you. I want to thank my honourable colleagues for enriching this

discussion and Madam Speaker for adding your voice.

The point I am making is that if you perform an analysis of the Budget that has been going into the different regions for high-impact, high-value projects; projects that create jobs, projects that have the potential to transform the rural economy, you will find that it has been skewed. These projects are all based on the NDP and Vision 2040.

What we are asking is that this Parliament must be given an opportunity because this Parliament represents all the regions. For instance, for every five project, we give each region. It is so painful to see that the list of projects seems to go to one area. Let the NDP come and we confirm that the Budget for the next five years will address these issues.

**DR BARYOMUNSI:** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. We can have a debate but I can assure you, you will never have a government that addresses inclusivity that is better than the NRM Government. Some of us lose opportunities because we are from the west. I would have loved to be a Vice President of this country.

**THE SPEAKER:** Or even a Speaker.

**DR BARYOMUNSI:** Or a Speaker. Let me not go into that debate but I can also tell you that poverty levels have increased in Kigezi from 12 per cent to 27 per cent yet Kigezi is not in Northern Uganda. Let us debate as nationalists.

I agree that the distribution of the cake should be looked at - *(Interjections)* - and that is what we have been doing in this Parliament because the Budget is passed by this House.

The question was, the NDP IV -

**THE SPEAKER:** Minister of Information, Communications Technology, and National Guidance, it is simple. Please get the NDP IV for us.

**DR BARYOMUNSI:** The accusation that the areas represented by ministers are much better is false. Madam Speaker, this House passed the national Budget. Let us all scrutinise the Budget, and the plan will come. Let me cross-check with the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development. They should be able to bring the NDP IV, maybe early next week on Tuesday.

Let me commit that on Tuesday, the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development shall lay on the Table the revised NDP IV. We can have a debate on inclusivity and how we are sharing the national cake. Most of the allegations you are making are false and not correct.

3.18

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH (GENERAL DUTIES) (Ms Anifa Kawooya):** Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. I want this House not really to take it on record that the areas represented - maybe some areas - but do not generalise that they are all better than the others.

Madam Speaker, I have served in the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources for 21 years. This is the committee which deals with electricity distribution.

Madam Speaker, I can tell you when you reach the constituency where I come from, you cannot find electricity there. Some poles have been there for 16 years.

Madam Speaker, I have been here for close to 30 years. I do not know but I am starting five years – *(Interjection)* - No, relax. I am talking about 25 to 30 years; first, wait and I tell you. I would like to be clear. When you come to -

**THE SPEAKER:** Leave *Ssenga* to talk.

**MS KAWOOYA:** I would like to allay your fears about where ministers are. I assure you when you come to look for water, Madam Speaker, because I am inviting you – *(Interjection)*- are you ordering me? *(Laughter)*

**MR MACHO:** Madam Speaker, a minister in the ruling Government is shedding political crocodile tears to the extent of explaining that for the 21 years that she was on the Committee on Natural Resources and appointed as a minister, her area has never received electricity. Is she in order, yet she sits in the Cabinet but her area has no water? They are using water from Sofia in Busia.

Is she in order to come in front of the august House and lament, when the NRM government is saying it has achieved its manifesto since it came into power? *(Laughter)* Are you not exposing the Government that you are serving? Are you in order?

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I do not know why we went back to that discussion. Rule 222(2) concerns reconsidering a decision of the House. We had already closed that discussion, and the Leader of Government Business had already committed to bringing the NDPIV. Therefore, it is not prudent for us to continue discussing that issue on the Floor.

**MS KAWOOYA:** Madam Speaker, with due respect, I accept your guidance but something must be on record. It is not for somebody to say that I have been in Government for 21 years and he is confused. I have just been appointed; I am in my fourth year.

On Thursday, I am supposed to go and launch big things in Busia. Is he also in order to come here and confuse the House? *(Laughter)*

**THE SPEAKER:** Next item? *(Hon. Alioni rose\_)* Hon. Odria, is it on the same? I will allow you to bring it under the women's debate.

MOTION FOR RESOLUTION OF  
PARLIAMENT URGING GOVERNMENT  
TO ACCORD DUE CONSIDERATION TO  
THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE SECOND  
WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, you will recall that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament was held on 3 March 2025. The Women's Parliament passed various resolutions for which we will

require action from the Executive. This motion seeks to make those resolutions part of the record of this House and accord them a referral status to the Executive for action.

I will now invite Hon. Linda Auma, the Lira District woman representative, to move the motion regarding women.

3.24

**MS LINDA AUMA (Independent, Woman Representative, Lira):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker, for loving the women of this country. Before I move the motion, I beg to lay it.

Madam Speaker, receive my greetings from the women of Uganda who were in these Chambers. They were very excited because, in the history of Uganda, it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament.

We thank you so much for giving us these Chambers, especially since we had the last one in the conference hall. You made them feel like Parliamentarians, and they are now behaving like parliamentarians.

Madam Speaker, I move a motion for a resolution of Parliament, urging the Government to accord due consideration to the resolutions arising from the second Women's Parliament. I move under rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Uganda.

*“WHEREAS Objective XV of the National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy of the 1995 Constitution of Uganda obligates the state to recognise the significant role that women play in society;*

*AND WHEREAS Articles 32 and 33 mandate the state to take affirmative action in favour of marginalised groups, including women, to redress historical imbalances and ensure full participation of women in all spheres of national life, including political representation;*

*AWARE that to enable the people to participate in the formulation and implementation of development plans and programmes which*

*affect them, Parliament held the 1<sup>st</sup> Women's Parliament on Tuesday, 7 July 2015 as a platform to foster the progress of women in political participation, economic empowerment and transformative leadership;*

*FURTHER AWARE that the Parliament of Uganda, through your leadership, hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament on 3 March 2025 under the theme, “Consolidating Women's Social and Economic Transformation in Uganda”, as part of the commemoration of the International Women's Day;*

*NOTING that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament considered the following motions:*

- a. Motion for a resolution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament, urging the Government to strengthen and enhance opportunities and access education for the girl child;*
- b. Motion for a resolution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament, urging the Government to implement gender-responsive change action and resilience building in support of women's efforts in the agricultural sector;*
- c. Motion for a resolution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament, urging the Government to strengthen the policies and initiatives for women economic empowerment and financial independence; and*
- d. Motion for a resolution of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament, urging the Government to strengthen women's participation in politics and eliminate barriers to inclusive democracy;*

*FURTHER NOTING that arising from the motions, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament made 30 resolutions attached to this motion, including the following:*

- a. Government agencies, civil society, development partners and private sector actors work collectively to dismantle barriers that hinder women's education and leadership opportunities, ensuring a more inclusive and equitable future for Uganda;*

- b) *All Government agencies, local authorities, private sector stakeholders and civil society organisations work collaboratively to strengthen gender-responsive climate action, ensuring that Uganda's climate resilience efforts are inclusive, sustainable and equitable for all;*
- c) *All Government institutions, financial bodies, private sector actors, and civil society organisations work collaboratively to ensure that women's economic empowerment remains a national priority, leading to sustainable development and inclusive economic growth; and*
- d) *Government commits to continuous legislative review and oversight to ensure the full realisation of gender-responsive governance and effective implementation of policies aimed at enhancing women's political empowerment in Uganda;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by Parliament that: Government accords due consideration to the resolutions arising from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Women's Parliament.*” I beg to move.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, Hon. Linda. Is the motion seconded? Okay, it is seconded by honourable - let me start with the men, Hon. Odur, Hon. Nambeshe, Hon. Ssewungu, Hon. Jonathan, Dr Baryomunsi, honourable for Tourism, Hon. Wilfred, Hon. Nyeko, Hon. Allan, Hon. Mwijukye, Hon. Allan Ssewanyana, Dr Abed, Hon. Okello, Hon. Gerald, Hon. Emmanuel, Hon. Okot, Hon. Margaret, Hon. Connie, Hon. Apea, Hon. Paska, the honourable member for workers, the honourable member for Dokolo, Hon. Santa, Hon. Akello, Hon. Lawrence from Zombo and the honourable member for Alebtong.

It is also seconded by , Hon. Lillian, Hon. Patrick, Hon. Baba, Hon. Ochwa, the honourable member for Lyantonde, the whole of Arua, “Matchbox”, and Hon. Atima, honourable minister *Ssenga*, Hon. Victoria, Hon. Mamawi, Hon. Wokorach, Hon. David, Hon. Jane, Hon. Patience, Hon. Akumu, Hon. Mpindi, Hon. Jessica, Hon. Jennifer, Hon. Catherine, Hon. Noelina, my uncle from Bugisu, Hon. Ethel, Hon. Rita, Hon. Okot Ogong, Hon.

Gen. Elwelu, Hon. Kamukama and the whole House. Do you want to speak to your motion?

**MS LINDAAUMA:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. These resolutions that were made in the second Women's Parliament cut across all sectors of development. It handles welfare, upbringing and nurturing in all forms. This motion is very key and it is through your wisdom that you decided that the women should come and we hear their voices.

Women are the brains of a nation and a family. We are modified creatures. That is why we are created after you. We are not analogues. We are technical. When you support us, we produce better results.

Therefore, I urge this honourable House to support the resolutions so that the Government can take appropriate actions. When you give a woman a coin, that coin will not be the same. I support you so much and I am happy that you will also support this motion.

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Ethel - local government.

3.34

**MS BETTY NALUYIMA (NUP, Woman Representative, Wakiso):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me to thank you for the second Women's Parliament that we had. I second the motion, especially regarding the resolution of the second national Parliament urging the Government to strengthen and enhance opportunities and access to education for the girl child.

We have a duty, as Parliament, to put in place mechanisms that should make sure that the Executive brings on to all those mechanisms and policies that are going to ensure that our girls that drop out of school due to pregnancy, get back to school. We should also see that our girls are granted those very opportunities to resume and see that they strengthen their right to education.

Looking at Resolution 4, where the Women Parliament asked the Government to introduce mentorship programs for women in leadership,



forgetting that female teachers, university students, and young professionals prepare for high-level leadership roles - we should be the ones entirely ensuring that all those are in place; we should not only leave the children to be by themselves but let us see how our teachers are mentored.

Under Resolution 6 the Government was asked to strictly enforce policies against all forms of gender-based violence, including sexual harassment in schools and universities, ensuring accountability measures for perpetrators, and strengthening mechanisms for reporting abuses and access to appropriate support services for the survivors of other violence, that is under the girl child.

Madam Speaker, allow me to draw this House to the fourth motion that was asked to ensure that we strengthen women's participation in politics and eliminate barriers to inclusive democracy. As we realise, today, several women are being put away from politics. When you look at the way the justice system is treating women- if you critically look at what happened some time back on the women who were brought to court - one woman had her back entirely open. Her bra was showing and that demeans a woman.

We are supposed to have a system that entirely looks at a woman in her way and away from the public. We need to protect women when they are accessing justice, but we also need to stand firm for their justice.

As I am about to summarise, we should not forget that under Resolution 26, it was clearly stated that the Government should implement a zero-tolerance policy against all forms of gender-based electoral violence, ensuring legal action against perpetrators of violence, harassment, intimidation, and cyber-bullying against women in politics.

We should not forget under Article 44 where we have non-derogable rights, we should have women who can be in a position where their rights and freedoms are not interfered with. We should stand firm for women whose husbands have been political prisoners for five years

now. You are indirectly hurting a woman when you keep her husband, she has not been heard and nothing has been done to that level. We are indirectly forcing those women not to associate with the political system, yet it is their right to participate in politics.

We also look at the way women are violently arrested. Can we look at the procedures for arresting a person? This is not only to the women but to all persons in this country. If it is about the dignity of a person, let us turn to fairness and to what our Constitution provides for.

Otherwise, we want to stand, once again as per our Constitution. To have freedom against torture, cruelty, intimidation and degrading treatment and we shall be better people. I thank you, very much.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable members, making the local woman down there to shine is brought by their financial inclusivity. If you are giving Parish Development Model (PDM) funds, what percentage is going to the local woman? And if you are giving money for Growth Opportunities and Productivity for Women Enterprises (GROW), how many women out there get it? If you are talking about education, how many women are able to go to school?

Let us look at the issues of domestic violence, ownership of property and how women are tortured in all aspects-yes, Hon. Rita - let me finish with the main seconders then I come to you.

3.40

**MS RITA ATUKWASA (Independent, Woman Representative, Mbarara City):**

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to second the motion, but also to thank you, for allowing the women to come to this august House, to feel and see it so that it can become a point of motivation for them to go and work hard. I am told that for the chairperson who sat in your chair, life will never be the same again. *(Laughter)*

I would like to speak much to motion and about the climate change action, resilience and then economic empowerment. Climate change, even to some of the people in this august House, is still an abstract content.

The issue raised by the women here was to urge the Government; to make sure that the Climate Change Act is implemented and that we have money to educate people.

In this country we have come from far away – we have learnt so many things about science, HIV and making money. Climate change is very alive to all of us.

Until now, you see the heat wave and most of the women who go to the gardens to work and toil using hand-hoes. They cannot link what is happening with the change of weather to issues of climate change. They do not even understand what is happening to their motherland.

Therefore, we need to make sure that the Government and all its agencies and the private sector come together to sensitise and educate people. Of course, this is not far from the issues and the cardinal role of women.

In Uganda, specifically, people who are behind a meal at the table to cook, are usually women and girls. They cannot understand why many years ago you would walk into the neighbour's farm or somebody's garden and pick firewood but today, you cannot because it is not even available.

I, who represents a city, have situations where people cannot eat because they have no energy to use to cook. Therefore, implementing the Climate Change Act and investing in it could see the Government being able to prioritise renewable energy.

We say do not cut trees but what is the alternative? There are - the Minister of Energy and Minerals Development had intimated on the issues to do with cheap and affordable gas 2023, and that they were going to start a programme to reduce the cost of gas so that people can afford it.

The way our planning is done, especially for the cities - when we travel, we see estates or villages accessing gas. They are linked, so why you do not even need these cylinders? However, because our planning does not rhyme with the changes in the world-we need to up our game as a Government.

Lastly, we earlier talked about equity and access to resources. When it comes to women, we may even close this august House. They are the poorest, most illiterate, most sick and most vulnerable.

The 30 per cent that the law requires in procurement and doing business with Government, to the interest groups, is not practically actualised. The way we have seen change come to women –

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Mao, on the implementation of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets (PPDA) Act and all the other laws that would bring in women, we shall want to hear from you for us to ensure women empowerment. How best can we handle it?

**MS ATUKWASE:** Yes! When a law is created, there is a deliberate effort to achieve something. We have not seen this Government come out with deliberate programmes to teach women how to do business.

Talk about the African free continental trade, regional integration within East Africa - where is the Government programme that is building a cadre of women in business to deal with all this?

Lastly, we cannot fail to speak about affordable financing. GROW, we need to fast-track it –

**THE SPEAKER:** Before you go to GROW, you have been here trying to give money to Uganda Development Bank (UDB), what percentage is going to the women? You are here getting a loan. Ninety nine per cent of the responsibility in a home lies on a woman - and banks trust in lending money to women because they know they will pay; how much is going to the women? Go ahead.

**MS ATUKWASE:** Madam Speaker, we want to see the Government being deliberate about



making women have money in their pockets, not just policies that are designed and abandoned to gather dust on the shelf.

Anyhow, we thank you. I hope that, together, we can continue to have these women experience this but also have their voices in the august House. Thank you, very much. I submit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Yes, honourable minister—honourable members, I will give you chance to speak.

3.47

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH (Ms Anifa Kawooya):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The resolutions that are here are very specific and outright. That is why, I think, the whole House supported them. To me, it is a question of implementation.

**THE SPEAKER:** Yes.

**MS KAWOOYA:** That is where we should now focus. Whatever has been put here was well thought out. My request is that when we are debating, let us focus on how we are going to implement these resolutions instead of just passing them and then live it as a paper.

Having said that, I think the people who put you in that chair, your mother, and God, saw something in you – (*Applause*) - and I am being sincere.

I want to start with this Parliament. You have given the Parliamentary women representatives the strength and determination to come out openly and voice their issues because you have given them a chance. In the past, women went back after five years without speaking in this Parliament. They are getting encouragement and determination from you.

When you look at them, you notice that they do not just come on this microphone to say uncoordinated things - at times, you find men with due respect - but the women are very focused (*Laughter*). I am saying that at times, but men -

**THE SPEAKER:** Listen to *Ssenga*.

**MS KAWOOYA:** Madam Speaker will bail me out, that whenever the women come on the microphone, they are focused on their issues.

Lastly, I want to appeal: when you look at most of these issues and the percentage of women in Government or the Cabinet, each of us, as ministers, has an issue to address. When we talk about government -

**THE SPEAKER:** It is a multi-sectoral issue.

**MS KAWOOYA:** My appeal would be, if you so wish, you call us as the women ministers to sit with you, look at this and that and start looking at:

- a. In health, how far have you gone with women?
- b. In education, how did you do this?
- c. In finance - where we have Hon. Evelyn and Hon. Musasizi - who can come with us; that will give way for implementation.

We are on this side, but we need to join hands with you and account. Most of these issues are for the ministry for gender, where the majority of the ministers are women. In the Ministry of Health, all of us are women. In the Ministry of Works and Transport, where we do not have a woman, we can co-opt somebody to come with us.

Therefore, my movement is that we have time with you on how we can implement and achieve the intention of the resolution that we are going to pass.

**THE SPEAKER:** I thank you. Hon. Anifa Kawooya is correct because, at the end of the day, the Women's Parliament sat here, and we will need actions taken under rule 220 on the resolutions of the women. The women were very passionate in their debate. If you are getting up to speak, you are only making an amendment and an addition to the solutions of the women that you think can make it better. Hon. Victoria?

3.52

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT (Ms Victoria Businge):**

With gladness, I thank you, Madam Speaker, for this historical event. It has spread all over the country, and the women are happy. I saw women on this microphone enjoying themselves. The world over, women are known for “phd” - pulling each other down, but you consoled us because some women went through that.

Someone is appointed into a position, and she is intentionally not vetted for years; another is shortlisted, and a fellow woman goes backstabbing. Your confidence has also helped us to become confident. When you are confident, you do not block others. Thank you, and may God bless you for that.

You have empowered us to think of every woman and not to leave anyone behind. This has energised us, and we implore the Government to change the laws. We have to think of the coming budgets to make sure that things that prevent our young ladies from growing up and replacing us in the future are cleared. It hurts to find a very brilliant girl dropping out of school just because she lacks pads. We have all the power to enact and change laws so that part of the money goes to rescue these girls.

A life-saving environment and encouraging environments are a big blockage to our girl's success. Why don't we think of making compulsory infrastructure in schools? An additional changing room and little money for spare uniforms, pads and knickers so that these girls can attend school, complete their education, and rise to higher horizons. I promise you that we are many who are very prepared to rally behind your wishes and endeavours.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you so much. There was a promise of providing pads for all the girls at school. When a girl reaches that level - most girls drop out of school because they are stigmatised and cannot contain being there, yet they are from very poor families.

We, therefore, need to look at that when we are making our budgets and make sure that this money reaches the last girl down in the village.

Let me get a man first; Hon. Francis, then *Mukatuliki*, I am coming, all of you are going to speak.

**MR FRANCIS MWIJUKYE (FDC, Buhweju County, Buhweju):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is proper that we, men, speak about these affairs because we are husbands, sons of the women -

**THE SPEAKER:** We are your daughters -

**MR MWIJUKYE:** Yes, we know what women go through but they go through some of these challenges with us. Yesterday, I was in Mulago specialised hospital, trying to help a woman who was asked to pay Shs 2 million for delivering through a caesarean section in a government hospital.

I noticed that you need:

- i. A consultation fee of Shs 50,000;
- ii. Antenatal is Shs 890,000;
- iii. Examination under Anaesthesia is Shs 800,000;
- iv. Fistula reconstruction is Shs 2.5 million;
- v. normal delivery is Shs 800,000; and
- vi. Caesarean section is Shs 2 million.

We have a Ministry of Health with lady ministers like *Ssenga* pointed out. You ask: how did such a policy pass? How many women can afford such money in a specialised hospital for women at Mulago?

When we go to implementation, I agree with you, honourable minister for health - we ask for a woman in business - because we need to help them; the conditions they go through - and we are talking about the local woman. This one was asked - she is a primary school teacher - to pay Shs 2 million, but she could not afford it and I had to come in. Actually, I did not also have the Shs 2 million. I had to borrow, to assist a woman. Now, you can imagine. If a Member of Parliament is getting a challenge, what about this primary school teacher?

So, as we come up with policies, can we look at these women so that it does not become rhetoric – we just talk about it, but when it comes to implementation, we do not pay attention. I was concerned, and I am happy that we are talking about this.

Honourable minister for health, as you interact with the Speaker, please, let us see how to help our women. I am sure that this may be happening in many of these public hospitals – you go to a health centre IV or a regional referral hospital and you have to pay money, yet it is a Government hospital. However, this is specifically for Mulago.

**THE SPEAKER:** Doctor?

**DR BARYOMUNSI:** Thank you, Hon. Mwijukye. I just want to provide information that in Government hospitals, from the level of a district hospital, regional referral hospital and national referral hospitals, the policy is that there are Grades A and B services. There are services, which are free, but there is also a private wing in these Government hospitals. That is the policy, which obtains now - unless we sit and review it.

So, in all Government hospitals, there is a window for free services and a window for private services.

**MR MWIJUKYE:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would also like to thank the minister for ICT, for the information. I agree and I said it is a policy, but I also said that this policy is not fair. I did not say that it is not a policy –

**THE SPEAKER:** Doctor, what can be done is to ensure that the amount is revised for every woman to be able to go and give birth there. Do you get it? Then, the woman will choose whether to go to the private wing or where they give birth for free, but not go to the local attendant in the village – because most women have died because of that. That can be revised and the ministry for health will handle it.

**MS KAWOOYA:** Madam Speaker, it is true that in most of our facilities, there are private wings. However, I agree with you and I promise

that, with the information from my colleague – and when we are talking about these resolutions, I will take it on and call management and, as a ministry, we will look at how we can have affordable costs for our women. I will come back and share the outcome of the meeting. It may be a policy, but you cannot ask somebody for Shs 2 million and all that.

We will have to discuss it because we are looking – yes, it is private, but how can we make people receive affordable services even if it is a private wing?

**MR MWIJUKYE:** Finally, Madam Speaker, even with the A and B grading, there is another young woman, again, from Buhweju who came for an operation. She had a tumour, and because it was Grade B - free services – she was asked to come back next year, in March. Of course, when I intervened, she was operated upon after one week.

However, you can imagine that with free services, you have to wait longer. They will tell you “we have bookings up to the end of the year” – because it is free. So, even where we have free services, it is a problem.

So, honourable minister – and, again, it is for women; some of these complications are women-related. As you look at the A and B grades, also, look at people who are told: “It is free, but wait for six months. It is free, but wait for one year.” At the end of the day, you would not have helped her but forced her to go to a private hospital or Grade A and pay. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you.

4.03

**MR JOSEPH SSEWUNGU (NUP, Kalungu West County, Kalungu):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me to thank these Members of Parliament. I have gone to a number of occasions since I came to Parliament, and when you meet these Members at their functions, they give a lot of support to women, where the Government is supposed to come in. I thank you very much, honourable members.

Secondly, the phrase, in English, is very clear: “Ladies and gentlemen.” Whoever started that, in the English language, must have seen the value of women at that time – “ladies and gentlemen”. When you start with “gentlemen” and, then, “ladies”, you are totally off-topic. *(Laughter)*

In my constituency - I can attest to this – it is known to my supporters. I always ask: show me any man who is beating a woman. The moment I get that man; he faces it rough. It is not about his vote or anything, but the moment - even if you are my friend, we will hang out together in the evening, but the moment I get information that at your home you beat a woman, you lose the friendship.

However, Madam Speaker, policies by the Government - Leader of Government Business, there is a very big challenge that we need to address, as a country. Two young people - a man impregnates a student at school.

The girl goes away from school for nine months. The boy stays studying, but the girl does not continue studying. Why does that happen? From primary to secondary, attention must be given to both. If this –*(Interjection)*- how can I refuse

**THE SPEAKER:** Do you have information?

**MR BASALIRWA:** Thank you, Hon. Ssewungu. The information I want to give is that these days, there are more women beating men. I do not know how you are handling it in your constituency when it comes to that.

**MR SSEWUNGU:** Thank you, Hon. Basalirwa. Okay, you might say that and think – I do not know where you got that research result from. Your research might not be well founded. At least, I know that a man, sometimes, is stronger than a woman – and that is natural.

However, Madam Speaker, because I want to leave the microphone –

**THE SPEAKER:** Maybe he is the one who is being beaten. *(Laughter)*

**MR SSEWUNGU:** Ladies are the ones being beaten, and I insist on that but Hon. Basalirwa is saying that – maybe Hon. Basalirwa is beaten by his wives more often than not. If you are also beaten, I will come and defend you as well.

Madam Speaker, I am seeking a policy that gives attention to girls, who get pregnant while still in school. The majority of these girls are left out. We must come out very seriously on parents who go for money from the boy so that they get –

**THE SPEAKER:** The early marriages.

**MR SSEWUNGU:** Yes, the early marriages – my daughter was impregnated; she was in P. 6, but I want money. After getting the money, he does not use that money to continue educating her daughter, but rather for his benefit, thereby making the girl a source of income – because of mischief that took place without her willingness or because of her young age.

We need to address all these issues and the Government – in the NRM manifesto, honourable minister, you have it stated that you must provide girls with sanitary pads. In this era, in districts and areas like Kalungu or Karamoja, you should be having small factories manufacturing these simple things for these girls.

As I conclude, one time, when I was teaching at Shimoni - I was a P. 7 teacher. The training we had for girls, because of the use of senior women teachers – you could see a girl getting that problem during class, but a boy would come and inform you, as you are on the blackboard: “Mr Ssewungu, Jane has got a challenge.” Without making noise, you would move out all the boys, remain with the girls and handle the challenges. Let us work on senior women teachers – build their capacity while in these schools – to manage our girls. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Hon. Patrick?

4.08

**MR PATRICK BINGI (NRM, Butemba County, Kyankwanzi):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to start by commending the women for holding the second Women Parliament on 3 March 2025. I will hasten to address myself to the first motion speaking to enhance and strengthen access to education.

Madam Speaker, first, I want us to look at the proximity to educational institutions. We all know that there is a policy that parishes should have primary schools, and subcounties should have seed secondary schools. The problem is that in most of our constituencies, secondary schools are in one subcounty. When you go to the next subcounty, they are not there. A girl child has to move 20 kilometres; they have to go through one subcounty to get to the next –

**THE SPEAKER:** And in between there, they find hungry men who defile them.

**MR BINGI:** That is exactly what I wanted to bring out. Along the way, there are different levels of temptations. If we can only address ourselves to the Government policy, it will shorten the distance to the education institutions.

**THE SPEAKER:** The amendment is that the Government policy on education of having a school in every subcounty should be enhanced to avoid that kind of scenario.

**MR BINGI:** Madam Speaker, if we can have that per subcounty, and also the parishes for primary schools, that would be fine.

4.10

**MS MOURINE OSORU (NRM, Woman Representative, Arua City):** Madam Speaker, the women referred to you as an Iron Lady, if I remember very well, on that day. Indeed, thank you very much for making our women feel very comfortable.

You are one of the champions when it comes to empowering the girl child. You have given so many scholarships to girls. We thank you as a country. You are actually a role model to many outside there, Madam Speaker.

As we talk of financial inclusiveness of women in economic empowerment, Madam Speaker, the women, I remember, commended the Parish Development Model. However, when it came to the Generating Growth Opportunities and Productivity for Women Enterprises (GROW) Project, there was a general problem.

Last week, the presiding officer requested the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development to come and lay on the Floor of Parliament a comprehensive report.

In fact, Members cried out loud that they just hear about GROW for women, but they do not know how many beneficiaries they have in their districts. In Arua City, we do not have any beneficiary. We wondered how this GROW Project was designed.

Madam Speaker, in refugee camps, the NGOs are doing very well when it comes to training the girl-child in making reusable sanitary towels. Our parents in the ancient days did not use pads. They used clothes.

Today, Madam Speaker, women cannot even afford - that rural person in Bukedea, and Arua City - to buy a sanitary pad of Shs 3,000. Why can't the Government come up with a programme in every school to train our girl-child to make reusable sanitary towels, in order to curb them from dropping out of school?

**THE SPEAKER:** Leader of the Government Business, we really need to understand how the GROW Project works. If you ask any Member of Parliament what the GROW Project is all about, and how it works, I do not think some people understand it. We need to understand what it is. We need to help the minister explain to the people outside there.

I saw a woman crying and saying that this money was supposed to be given to them, but they did not know – yes, Hon. Kangwagye.

4.13

**MR STEPHEN KANGWAGYE (Independent, Bukanga County, Isingiro):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also thank my brother, Hon. Mwijukye. In the health sector, much as the honourable



minister has said that we have grades A and B in hospitals, in grade B, if you have the capacity, you can pay for an extra service and be treated well. Remember, the majority of our women down there in the village do not have the capacity to do that.

There are reasons people go to a private health facility to be treated well. It is because they know that there are a number of challenges in grade A, whereby in that very facility in the hospital, you are being attended by the same doctors. If the hospital has more than five or ten doctors, those are the very ones who will attend to those in grade A and B.

Madam Speaker, my issue is one: if we are to look at how we can help our mothers, can we have a specific number of doctors working in grade A, with the same qualifications as those working in grade B so that they have enough time for the women? Remember, the reason most of them lie there and end up dying, is because they take a long time to be attended to moreover they are in the same hospital.

The doctors prefer to treat those in grade B because there are some extra allowances. Even if you were a doctor, you would prefer to go and treat the other one, and get your money. In the end, you balance yourself.

For grade A, we need to have a clear policy on how to attend to our mothers or to the needy; those who are in our villages suffering. I thank you.

4.15

**MR LAWRENCE SONGA (NRM, Ora County, Zombo):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. First of all, I congratulate you for hosting this very important conference for women. I pray that these kinds of conferences are held in the villages so that the rural women can also participate actively. That will be an encouragement to them.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, first of all, the women who came here are rural women. They were not Members of Parliament. These were councillors from the villages.

**MR SONGA:** Thank you for that. We can still go deeper into the villages so that the women get empowered.

**THE SPEAKER:** As leaders of different districts and constituencies, I urge you to take this kind of training down to the local women, and educate them on what their entitlement is, how best they can get financial inclusion, and be empowered.

**MR SONGA:** Thank you very much, for that guidance. I support this motion by emphasising that the policies focusing on women should really work to address women's health. If you go to the rural areas right now, especially in the primary schools, the health of the girl-child is a big challenge because of poor hygiene and sanitation in schools. Policies should be able to address that so that we control infections right from the primary schools.

On issues of water and sanitation, many women move long distances looking for water and cook very late. It causes a lot of domestic violence. That should be addressed.

The issue of education is also very important. I have a foundation called Songa Community Foundation since I joined this Parliament. Much as many of us support first graders, I went ahead –

**THE SPEAKER:** Bringing water nearer to the women should be an addition to the –

**MR SONGA:** Exactly! In that foundation, I have been supporting first graders, but I have also gone ahead to pick girls who have got second-grade scores, just to promote them in education. Therefore, access to education should be very important. Then expanding economic opportunities for the rural sector, focusing on women, access to land, access to resources that can help them invest - that will be very important.

Coming to the issue of people who are helping women in the rural area; nurses and VHTs, these people are suffering. If there can be a way to hold the hands of the VHTs and the nurses,



who are working in rural areas - they are really helping these women. That is a call.

Another thing is when you give a woman money, they will first think about education, food at home, priority things, but when you give a man, I do not know what the priority things are to start with that money. We think that giving access to economic resources to women will develop communities -

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable minister, are you hearing; that access to financial inclusion should be a priority for women because it is women who know how to maximise the use of money.

**MR SONGA:** I am talking as a member of UWOPA, by the way. Since 2017, I have been a member of UWOPA.

Access to markets

Most of our smallholder farmers are women in Uganda and these smallholder farmers are trying to do small kinds of businesses that should help them to educate their children, to access health, but they do not have access to markets. We need to focus on that area so that we can improve infrastructure that can enable these women to get access to markets.

Finally, on the issue of corruption, there are so many programmes that are going targeting women but what is happening is some of the money, some of the resources, are not reaching the women. Therefore, I pray that – (*Member timed out.*)

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a motion. Honourable members, you need to understand the rules.

4.20

**MR ASUMAN BASALIRWA (JEEMA, Bugiri Municipality, Bugiri):** Madam Speaker, the resolutions that were reached are direct to the Government. They are straightforward, obvious and the supplementary comments being made are equally good and welcome. The danger is that now we are becoming repetitive with the risk of undermining the

original resolutions. I, therefore, beg to move that we adopt the resolutions *Mutatis Mutandis*, Madam Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Is it seconded? (*Members rose*) Okay, it is seconded by Hon. Macho, Hon. Kubeketerya, Hon. Bahati, Hon. Isamat, Hon. Winfred, honourable member for Alebtong, Hon. Jennifer, Hon. Noeline, Hon. Orone, Hon. Afoyochan, Member for Butaleja, Hon. Akumu Mavunjina, Hon. Jessica, Hon. Mpindi, Hon. Musa, Hon. Rita, Hon. Mzee Kagabo, Dr Apea, Hon. Margaret, Hon. Mwijukye. Thank you very much.

Honourable members, the resolutions - do you want to say something? No, the minister.

4.22

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE (Dr Chris Baryomunsi):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I take the opportunity to thank the honourable members, for the debate and the contribution they have made.

Let me start by thanking you, Madam Speaker, for having accorded an opportunity to the women of this country to come and sit in this Parliament and deliberate on issues, which affect them. Of course, the issues which affect women also affect us as men. Therefore, I would like to appreciate you and thank you for having accorded that opportunity to the women of Uganda.

I thank Hon. Auma, for the motion. The motion is for a resolution of Parliament urging the Government - and now I speak for the Government. I have gone through the various resolutions which were passed by the women. They are very positive and they add value to the work that we do as a Government and a country. We receive them with enthusiasm and warmth.

Let me say that they have also come at the right time when we are in the budgeting process because some of the resolutions have budgetary implications. Since we are now presenting ministerial policy statements and

the committees are going to be interrogating the budgetary proposals, I urge our Members that when we interact with the ministers and agencies, let us also see how much we can integrate into the budgeting process. I just want to express our commitment, as a Government, that we shall take the resolutions and work on them.

Let me also say that women are special. Even God who created us made women special. I can give you a statistic, Madam Speaker, that at birth there are more male babies who are born compared to female ones. The average sex ratio at birth is for every 100 females, there are 105 males but in life, more males die compared to women. Even when you check what we call life expectancy at birth, you will find it is higher for women and lower for males and the reasons are both social and environmental and also biological.

For instance, you will find women possess hormones, chromosomes, and other biological biomarkers, which offer protection to them compared to us, the men. Even God realised that and gave special physiological protection to the women. Therefore, we are duty bound as males to give all the support to the woman so that we move together.

Madam Speaker, that is what urged me to move a law on the prohibition of female genital mutilation, even when I am a man, because as men, we must support women in all causes.

There are some specific issues, which have been raised, but in the interest of time, let me just comment on a few issues. Yes, the Government pledged to provide pads to our girls. The challenge has been a budgeting issue. The Government remains committed to ensuring that girls get the pads but let us, together, address it through budgeting, and then we will be able to support our girls.

There was an issue raised by Hon. Francis Mwijukye and others about the Entebbe Grade A and Entebbe Grade B services. I think Hon. Francis has a point, that even when the Government created a private wing, the

intention was not to commercialise government hospitals. Therefore, the Ministry of Health should be able to look at that policy perspective and be able to regulate the money which is being charged in the government hospitals.

The intention was to provide a quick service for those who can afford and want a quick service, but the intention was not for commercialisation; putting exorbitant and astronomical figures, like Shs 2 million for a caesarean section. I think the Committee on Health should engage with the ministry so that there is a proper regulation on the fees and amounts which are being charged.

The policy on girls getting pregnant when they are in school, I think, has been settled and the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, the other day, also clarified that girls who get pregnant are allowed to get back to school. That should not be a reason for them to drop out.

You have requested that the minister for gender comes and makes a presentation on the GROW project. I will relay this information because we need to know, as Members of Parliament, how these projects work, so that when we get back to our constituencies, we can to explain to our constituents from an informed point of view.

I agree with you, Madam Speaker and I will request the minister for gender, at the earliest time, to come up with an information paper for Parliament in order for us to understand this. Thank you very much, honourable members. I pledge that we shall take the resolutions, work on them and integrate them in the budgeting and planning processes of the Government.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you so much, honourable minister. We also need the annual report on the steps that have been taken to eliminate gender-based violence on women and discrimination against women. We always have this convention in New York every year, but we never get a report in this House. Can we have a report on what happened and what has been agreed on?

When you look at SDG 5, you notice that it talks about gender equity. I thought this was what would be presented on International Women's Day, giving us a status report on gender equity, other than going there to praise yourselves and giving yourselves medals. No, tell us about gender equity. What have we done? What is the percentage now? Where are we now? Where are we coming from? That is what we should be doing. But we go for Women's Day and praise ourselves, instead of telling us how a local woman down there is benefitting.

I now put the question that the motion for a resolution of Parliament, urging the Government to accord due consideration to the resolution of the second Women's Parliament be adopted with amendments by this House.

*(Motion adopted.)*

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**THE SPEAKER:** I will now instruct the Clerk to extract all the resolutions and forward them to the relevant ministries for action taken and report back to this House within three months, as per rule 2020. Thank you so much, Hon. Linda Auma. *(Applause)*

**MS LINDA AUMA:** Thank you so much, Madam Speaker, for giving the women space. May you receive a distant hug from the women of Uganda and all my colleagues for supporting us in this move? May God bless you all. *(Applause)*

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Next item?

MOTION FOR THE HOUSE TO RESOLVE ITSELF INTO A COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY TO CONSIDER THE SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE NO.3 FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024/2025

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, you will recall that yesterday, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development tabled Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.3 for Financial Year 2024/2025. It was referred to the Budget Committee for consideration and

the committee is ready to report, as required by Article 156(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 and Rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure.

I will now invite the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to move a motion to that effect. Honourable minister? *(Hon. Macho rose\_)* Hon. Macho?

4.32

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi):** Madam Speaker, I beg to move a motion that this House resolves itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the Supplementary Schedule No. 3 for Financial Year 2024/2025. I beg to move.

**THE SPEAKER:** Is the motion seconded? Okay, it is seconded by Hon. Ogwang, Hon. Wilson, Hon. Biraaro, Hon. Jane, Hon. Patience, Hon. Adriko, Hon. James, Hon. Macho, Hon. Gerald, Hon. Akello, Hon. Emmanuel, Hon. Apea, Hon. Twaha, Hon. Basalirwa, Dr Baryomunsi, Hon. Bahati, Member from Sheema, Hon. Pascal, Hon. Elwelu, Hon. Afoyochan, Hon. Okot-Ogong, Hon. Rita, Member from Zombo, Member from Alebtong, Hon. Lillian, Hon. Amos, Hon. Stephen, Dr Keefa, Hon. Enos, Hon. Baba, Hon. Max, Hon. Atima, Hon. Mourine "Matchbox", Hon. Isamat, Hon. Joel, Hon. Mutiwa, Hon. David, Hon. Akifeza, Hon. Annet Mugisha, Chairperson of innovation, Hon. Catheline, Member for Kaliro, Hon. Noeline, Member for the elders and Hon. Kamukama. Speak to your motion.

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Speaker, this motion is moved pursuant to Article 156 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and Section 24 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015. It arises out of the need to provide for Government commitments and obligations which include outstanding certificates for the road construction companies, security-related expenditure under the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs and the Uganda Police Force, completion of Hoima Stadium, construction of Akii Bua Stadium training facilities, and operational expenses in the preparation for the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2027.

In order to provide for these expenditures, the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development issued a supplementary expenditure within 3 per cent of the approved budget, amounting to Shs 1.113 trillion, representing 1.54 per cent of the approved budget. This exhausts the supplementary limit under 3 per cent.

Additionally, we sought and obtained approval from the Cabinet to present to this House the supplementary expenditure amounting to Shs 3.142 trillion, which is above the 3 per cent legal limit, and therefore requires prior parliamentary approval before the funds are utilised by the respective votes.

The total supplementary expenditure under this schedule is summarised below:

1. Under 3 per cent, Shs 1.113 trillion;
2. Above 3 per cent – Shs 3.142 trillion; and
3. Total - Shs 4.255 trillion.

Madam Speaker, I beg to submit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, honourable minister. Can we now receive the report from the chairperson of the committee?

4.38

**THE VICE CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON BUDGET (Mr Dicksons Kateshumbwa):** Madam Speaker, I am here to present the report of the Budget Committee on the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.3 for the Financial Year 2024/2025. I beg to lay the report, minutes of the committee and a minority report.

#### 1.0 Introduction

Madam Speaker, the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) presented a Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.3 amounting to Shs 4.255 trillion.

The Budget Committee has examined the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule and now wishes to report.

Schedule 3 constitutes Shs 1.13 trillion which is within the 3 per cent legal limit and Shs 3.142

trillion which is above the 3 per cent legal limit of the total approved budget of Shs 72.136 trillion for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

Honourable members, it is important to note that the Government has so far presented to Parliament supplemental requests for the Financial Year 2024/2025 as summarised in Table 1. You can look at the supplementary.

I will skip the methodology and the documents examined - we interfaced with the Minister of Finance and the accounting officers of the various MDAs that are listed in the schedule. We have also highlighted the legal framework, specifically under Article 25 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), which indicates that:

- a. The total supplementary expenditure that requires additional resources over and above what is approved by Parliament shall not exceed 3 per cent of the total approved budget for that financial year, without the approval of Parliament; and
- b. Where funds are expended under subsection (1), supplementary estimates showing the sum spent shall be laid before Parliament within four months after the money has been spent.

We are making further reference to the regulations 18(5), (6) and (7) of the PFMA that indicate:

(5) that Parliament may approve the supplementary appropriation or the minister may approve a supplementary budget as the case may be where the supplementary expenditure is unavoidable and unforeseen.

#### 2.0 Source of Funding

According to Rule 153(2) of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, the supplementary estimates presented to Parliament shall clearly spell out the source of funding for the supplementary expenditure requested for each Vote.

This particular Schedule 3 is being funded from a combination of additional external borrowing, additional domestic borrowing,

additional Non-Tax revenues, and petroleum fund resources, among others. The table highlights the various categories as sources of funding.

### 3.0 Committee observations and recommendations

Part 1: Supplementary requests within a 3 per cent legal limit, which amounts to Shs 1.113 trillion –

**THE SPEAKER:** Procedure.

**MR ODUR:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am rising on a procedural matter. When a supplementary schedule, which forms part of the budget is brought to this House, rule 153, which should be read together with rules 148 and 149, requires you to subject this supplementary to scrutiny by the sectoral committees first, before the budget committee can report.

There are sectors where I belong. For example, under Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the sectoral committees did not - and these supplementaries are not a stand-alone, they anchor on the policy positions that were articulated by the Executive to the sectoral committees.

And now, the chairperson is here reporting on these matters, which is a breach and a violation of our own rules of procedure for which, Madam Speaker, you are the custodian.

The point of procedure that I am raising is for you, as the custodian, to clarify under what powers were these mandatory provisions disregarded or in another way abused to the extent that the Budget Committee overtook the mandate of the sectoral committees.

The first procedural matter is because it would help us avoid repetitions and also hold the Executive by the commitments they made during the processing of the ministerial policy statements.

The second one is that this report was uploaded and availed to members of Parliament about 12 minutes ago, and you are talking about Shs 4 trillion. Unless otherwise, this is not

an adequate time for a diligent Member of Parliament to scrutinise and pass the budget.

Even a robot may require time to process - the computer to give instructions to a robot to do that. Even if I assume that we are machines that can be programmed and coerced to do that, we must be given time.

The second procedural matter which is by way of objection, is to request and require you to allow this report to be tabled as the rules provide, give us time to assess and it is in good spirit; I am not saying the supplementary is bad but when we pass it we can own and also explain it to the public.

Remember, there are so many supplementaries that have been requested for by our districts and stakeholders. We would like to be convinced why this one and not the other one.

The last one is for us to appreciate the details, which at the moment are not available. I inquire from you, Madam Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, Hon. Jonathan Odur. I appreciate what you are saying but the matters of urgency on some of these issues that are being brought are what is pre-empting us to do whatever we are doing because- if I could give an example, Hon. Ogwang will stand up and say, my contractor is leaving Akii Bua Stadium, we have CHAN in August and so on.

Two, the members of sectoral committees are members of the budget committee. We are alive to that fact and our imagination and belief is that they have been there to make sure that these issues are being handled.

We appreciate what you are saying but we have had this kind of scenario. As we go into the budgeting process, we should be able to conclude this. Systems cannot stop working because we do not have the money yet we have obligations to meet. *[Hon. Alioni rose]* Do you want to say something?

**MR AOGON:** Madam Speaker, I want to appreciate Hon. Jonathan Odur, for having that



in-depth thinking about what we are doing. However, I want to note the following - for instance, I, who belongs to the Committee on Education and Sports, when we talk about the African Cup of Nations (AFCON) and if we squander the kind of opportunity that we have got for the first time as a country, just know that we have lost it. Africa will never trust us again.

First of all, this House already has members who are in these sectoral committees, away from being in the Budget Committee. It does not mean that as a House we are not concerned at all. The Speakers of the House also have the powers to relate and take these matters to relevant authorities. They take decisions, for instance, when they say that this is referred to the Committee on Budget, that comes from the presiding officer –

**THE SPEAKER:** I thought you were adding something -that is what I had already said. I was talking about issues of urgency of the matter. Anyway, before we go into a serious discussion on this, let me first congratulate my friend.

Honourable members, the gentleman who gave us the chance to host AFCON, Dr Patrice Motsepe, has been re-elected unopposed, as the President of the Confederation of African Football (CAF). As Parliament, we want to congratulate and thank him for that. (*Applause*)

**MR AOGON:** I was continuing –

**THE SPEAKER:** I had stopped you.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, the point of order and by way of orientation –

**THE SPEAKER:** I had stopped him from talking because he was repeating what I had said. Allow Hon. Odur to bring up the issue. One thing you should know is that Hon. Jonathan Odur is not bringing it up in bad faith. He is only mindful that we should have sent this to the sectoral committees first.

Two, why are we in a hurry? Three, we are going into a budgeting process. Couldn't we put this into the budget? Then we are saying,

yes, while we appreciate his issues, we have obligations that we must meet now; we have a timeline.

Secondly, the chairpersons of committees are ex-officio members of the Budget Committee and they have been in the committees. I just want you to bear with us.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, I perfectly understand – (*Interjections*) – I am also on procedure. Courtesy demands of this House, and we keep learning that when a Member of Parliament rises, even on order or something else, you sit down. I usually do that. The point I raised does not go into the merits and justification for a supplementary budget. I am totally acting as per our rules. That is why I have not even touched anything in it because we shall debate it.

My point was first, for us to deal with that. With your guidance, Madam Speaker, I think that if the Government and the Executive were looking for what, in law, we call a pleader - somebody who pleads on your behalf - then you have won the medal. I did not expect that the Speaker would side with the Government in this aspect as a neutral arbiter.

The Government has all the tools to plan and know what to do. No one stopped them from bringing it yesterday or the other day. Their emergency cannot, therefore, turn out to be ours so that we do not scrutinize and pass this. Members of Parliament here –

**THE SPEAKER:** Government, I am not your pleader. Please speak for yourselves.

**MR ODUR:** Thank you for coming back and now being the new arbiter. That is what I wanted. Thank you, Madam Speaker. If the Government has anything urgent, Parliament is here. They have ever called you and said, please recall the House. All I am saying is that Parliament must not be taken for granted. It is not the first time.

Two, even if there are urgent things, this supplementary, I can submit authoritatively; it is not only about the urgent things. If we



are allowed to interrogate and we ask: “Is this really urgent?” The minister will tell us it is not urgent.

Let me address the issue of AFCON. I am an ardent football supporter. I love AFCON to come here, but let me tell you, already –

**THE SPEAKER:** I have even told you to board and go to watch on your own.

**MR ODUR:** That must be some rumour. Madam Speaker, AFCON was supposed to have already started. By now, we should have been in the African Nations Championship (CHAN).

Madam Speaker, I wanted you to note the violation of the rules. As I mentioned, we are still available. If it pleases you, you could follow the rules but if it does not and you want to proceed, you are the custodian, the Speaker of Parliament; it is within your powers.

**THE SPEAKER:** I responded to what was raised.

**MR AOGON:** Madam Speaker, I had not completed.

**THE SPEAKER:** Okay, complete.

**MR AOGON:** Normally, God appoints leaders with wisdom, and leaders give guidance. God has given me wisdom, just like he has given to other people. Today, the wisdom that I have is that, let us follow the wisdom that comes from the presiding officer because I know that is what steers the country. God cannot give a leader just leadership without wisdom. By the time they decide that - let us take this to the budget committee, it is wisdom. It comes through our rules; the Speaker has powers.

Madam Speaker, those who have spoken have already spoken. This was from me. I did not speak with the intention of making somebody jump off their bench. That would not be a good thing.

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a point of order - are you still speaking?

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, this House and the position that we get appointed to are by virtue of laws: the Constitution, first and then the Rules of Procedure of Parliament. Nowhere is wisdom provided for in the Constitution as a yardstick for the appointment of leaders. Wisdom is good for the exercise of your power, but those offices are because you exist for the people.

Is he in order to portray and just mislead us that God is around in this House, always sending His wisdom, and that my being here, it is not God that elected and gave me wisdom to also raise this procedural matter? (*Applause*)

**THE SPEAKER:** God is there for all of us. There is a point of procedure then I come to you.

**MR ALION:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity. I am not against the request for the supplementary. If you look into the submission by the chairperson of the committee, the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) has been respected. We are not beyond the three per cent, and the sources of these funds are very clear. I think my brother, Hon. Odur, expected one thing. To the best of my knowledge, I believe you have not ruled.

I think my brother wanted to know, because so many times here, we have suspended some rules to see that we work towards the request of the Government – if we have matters of emergencies, such as security. Hon. Odur expected something like a motion to be raised or that you use your powers that rule – (*Mr Odur rose*) - I request for protection.

Hon. Odur expected that rules 148, 149 and 153 would be suspended.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I have given my guidance and said that we are looking at the urgency of these matters.

Number two, the schedule that has been given is very clear – and the rules are not the end of everything. We must look at the situation at hand. We cannot say that because of the rules, if there is a place on fire, or famine in Teso, we should wait until that time. Let us be realistic. Let us hear from the Government.

4.59

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE (Dr Chris Baryomunsi):** Madam Speaker, there are parliaments which have, in their rules, what we call “filibuster motions”, where people can filibuster the House and delay business, but we do not have them.

The honourable member was submitting on the Floor, but he was interrupted. Madam Speaker, you guided me on the points being raised by Hon. Odur. I suggest that the honourable member be allowed to present and conclude his presentation. Otherwise, we are just moving in circles – raising points of procedure – before he can complete the submission. I beg that you allow him to submit and, then, we debate the presentation.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. (*Hon. Ssemujju rose*) You have a minority report; you will have your time to present it. Let us have the report presented.

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Madam Speaker, part one is the one that is attributed to the three per cent legal limit. This is where the Government spends and reports to the House. For the Votes under this part, money has already been spent.

Vote 002: State House – Shs 8.967 billion –

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a procedural matter.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, the Government Chief Whip, as mandated by our rules, presented to us a list of designated chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of committees. I know both the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Committee on Budget.

You have severally referred to the pre-current holder, Hon. Kateshumbwa, as the chairperson without due regard to the Members who approved the chairperson and the vice-chairperson.

Wouldn't it be procedurally correct that we —

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Jonathan Odur, that is Hon. Kateshumbwa, a member of the Committee on Budget. I did not want to say this, but I am now forced to: the chairperson of the committee – actually, this morning, I left the hospital at 3 a.m. From nowhere, the chairperson of the committee, Hon. Opolot-Isiagi, collapsed, and he is hospitalised. I had already permitted his deputy to travel. I am the one who gave him permission to take on the responsibility.

For your information, Hon. Opolot is still in hospital.

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Vote 002: State House – Shs 8.96 billion.

The committee was informed that the State House required Shs 5.7 billion for classified expenditure and Shs 3.2 billion to support internal security to carry out operations to stop citizens from abusive use of wetlands.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 8.967 billion to Vote 002: State House.

Vote 004: Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs – Shs 186 billion

The committee observes that Shs 186 billion was requested to cater for classified expenditure and operational shortfalls.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 186 billion to Vote 004: Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs.

Vote 005: Ministry of Public Service – Shs 1 billion

The committee observes that Shs 1 billion was required to enable the ministry to meet

shortfalls on emoluments, medical and funeral expenses for former entitled leaders.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 1 billion to Vote 005: Ministry of Public Service.

Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs – Shs 18.403 billion

The committee observes that the Ministry of Internal Affairs provided Shs 16 billion for the delivery of internal security coordination services; Shs 1.99 billion for community service orders to address the increase in the number of prisoners, thus leading to higher costs for feeding prisoners, utilities and managing human rights challenges; and Shs 413 million for effective monitoring and regulation of the NGOs Bureau and their contribution to the common good.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 18.403 billion to Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Vote 012: Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development – Shs 11.953 billion

The committee observes that the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development provided for compensation for land at Kiyuni Parish, Gayaza Subcounty, Kyankwanzi District. This is in line with the presidential directive of 11 July 2022, for the Government to settle the squatters.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 11.953 million to Vote 102: Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development.

Vote 013: Ministry of Education and Sports – Shs 7.090 billion

The committee observes that the Ministry of Education and Sports requires Shs 7.090 billion for WALIMU Teacher's SACCO Limited.

The Ministry of Education and Sports signed an MoU with the Microfinance Support Centre Limited to manage the funds for WALIMU Teacher's SACCO, amounting to Shs 9.317 billion. However, the SACCO leadership objected

to the arrangement in favour of managing the fund themselves. At the time of the objection, only Shs 7.09 billion had not been disbursed. Accordingly, the Shs 7.09 billion was transferred to the Bank of Uganda and, later, to the Uganda Consolidated Fund.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 7.090 billion to Vote 013: Ministry of Education and Sports for WALIMU Teacher's SACCO Limited.

Vote 014: Ministry of Health – Shs 12.287 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Health received GAVI funding for malaria vaccine introduction and co-financing requirements for routine vaccines in order to sustain the routine immunisation programme.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 12.287 billion to Vote 014: Ministry of Health.

Vote 015: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives – Shs 115 billion

The committee was informed that Atiak Sugar Factory requires Government funding. The Government acquired 40 per cent ordinary shareholding in Atiak factory. However, since 2020, when it started operations, the factory has been facing a number of challenges, including but not limited to failure to attain the planting needs, frequent fires, inadequate infrastructure, labour shortages, and high cost of raw materials. The funding is required for:

- i. Providing agriculture extension services;
- ii. Public infrastructure and housing development;
- iii. Irrigation; and
- iv. Factory expansion and debt financing.

The committee, therefore, recommends approval of Shs 115 billion to Vote 015: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, funding Atiak Sugar Factory.

Vote 016: Ministry of Works and Transport – Shs 61.9 billion

The committee observed that for the Ministry of Works and Transport, Shs 61.9 billion was provided for, for the settlement of the outstanding SGS compensation payment. The committee was further informed that the failure to meet the obligation would mean that the Government will not have access to the inspection sites which are needed as sites for fitting digital number plates and exposure to litigation damages.

The committee therefore recommends approval of Shs 61.9 billion to Vote 016: Ministry of Works and Transport for settlement of outstanding compensation to SGS.

Vote 018: Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – Shs 800 million

The committee observed that the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development requires Shs 800 million as additional amount to meet the shortfalls for hosting the Ateker Reunion Festival.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 800 million to Vote 018: Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Vote 019: Ministry of Water and Environment – Shs 31.749 billion

The committee observed that the Ministry of Water and Environment requires Shs31.749 billion for counterpart funding obligations under strategic towns water supply and sanitation project.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 31.749 billion to the Vote 019: Ministry of Water and Environment.

Vote 126: National Information Technology Authority – Shs 18 billion.

The committee observed that the National Information Technology Authority requires Shs 18 billion to enable the Vote to settle outstanding obligations with Soliton to ensure uninterrupted ICT services.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 18 billion to Vote 126: National Information Technology Authority (NITA-U).

Vote 130: Treasury Operations – Shs 380.496 billion

The committee was informed that Shs 380.49 billion was provided as follows:

- a. Shs 298 billion being funding for Promissory Note obligations in respect of completion of Lubowa Hospital;
- b. Shs 37.496 billion in interest payment on the IMF Special Drawing Rights, quota allocation;
- c. Shs 15 billion is debt management fees for the rural electrification project; and
- d. Shs 30 billion for court awards.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 380.496 billion to Vote 130: Treasury Operations.

Vote 131: Office of the Auditor-General – Shs 15 billion

The committee was informed that the Office of the Auditor-General requires Shs 15 billion for operational shortfalls to maintain the audit scope.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 15 billion to Vote 130: Office of the Auditor-General.

Vote 132: Education Service Commission – Shs 1.3 billion

The committee observed that the Education Service Commission requires Shs 1.3 billion to facilitate the Vote to recruit 2,852 teaching and non-teaching staff required to operationalise the 92 Phase II Seed Secondary Schools and the Uganda Intergovernmental Fiscal Transfers Programme (UgIFT).

The committee recommends approval of Shs1.3 billion to Vote 132: Education Service Commission.

Vote 141: Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) – Shs 38.137 billion

The committee observes that the Uganda Revenue Authority requires Shs 38.13 billion for payment to RIPPLE NAMI INC in respect of the 25 per cent of the net rental income taxes collected for greater Kampala area over and above the baseline.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 38.17 billion to Vote 141: URA.

Vote 144: Uganda Police Force – Shs 190.969 billion

The committee observed that the Uganda Police Force requires Shs 190.969 billion to meet operational shortfalls for the Financial Year 2024/25 with respect to food, crime intelligence and investigations, utilities, classified assets, vehicles for DPCs and domestic arrears.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 190.969 billion to Vote 144: Uganda Police Force.

Vote 302: Mbarara University – Shs 3.998 billion

The committee observed that Mbarara University requires Shs 3.998 billion for non-tax revenue collections which are over projections in the Budget and have been confirmed by the Accountant-General.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 3.998 billion to vote 302.

Vote 415: Moroto Regional Referral Hospital – Shs 481 million

The committee observed that Moroto Regional Referral Hospital requires Shs 481 million to cater for renovation and replacement of old and dilapidated structures and the old drainage system.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 481 million to Vote 415: Moroto Regional Referral Hospital.

Vote 506: Uganda High Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania – Shs 749 million.

The committee was informed that Uganda High Commission in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania requires Shs 749 million to enable the vote meet budget shortfalls on rent, financial constraints in the Uganda Consulate in Arusha and organisation and participation in the 5<sup>th</sup> Session of the Uganda-Tanzania Joint Permanent Commission.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 749 million to Vote 506.

Vote 512: Uganda Embassy in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa – Shs 2 billion

The committee was informed that the Uganda Embassy in Addis requires Shs 2 billion to cover budget shortfalls on rent, AU peace and Security Council activities and to cater for salary shortfalls. The committee recommends approval of Shs 2 billion to Vote 512.

Vote 513: Uganda Embassy in China, Beijing – Shs 219 million

The committee was informed that the Uganda Embassy in China, Beijing, requires Shs 219 million to cater for unpaid premiums on medical insurance to avoid legal action against the vote.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 219 million to Vote 513.

Vote 515: Uganda Embassy in Japan, Tokyo – Shs 1.5 billion

The committee was informed that the Uganda Embassy in Japan requires Shs 1.5 billion to facilitate the 2025 Osaka World Expo in view of economic and commercial diplomacy.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 1.5 billion to Vote 515.

Vote 516: Uganda Embassy in Saudi Arabia – Shs 273 million

The committee was informed that the Uganda Embassy in Saudi Arabia requires Shs 273



million to cater for outstanding medical bills of the head of mission.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 273 million to Vote 516.

Vote 517: Uganda Embassy in Denmark, Copenhagen – Shs 904 million

The committee was informed that the Uganda Embassy in Denmark requires Shs 904 million to cater for the vote to take on additional accreditation functions, rent increments, security enhancements, and anticipated costs for recalling and posting officers. The committee recommends approval of Shs 904 million to Vote 517.

Vote 523: Uganda Embassy in German, Berlin – Shs 2.959 billion

The committee was informed that the embassy in Germany requires Shs 2.959 billion to cater for the operationalisation of the new office in Austria because of the strategic nature of Vienna as a diplomatic hub and opportunities and cater for the relocation of the mission premises, which was not planned for at the time of finalisation of the Financial Year budget 2024/2025.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 2.959 billion to Vote 523.

Vote 524: Mission in Iran – Shs 1.038 billion

The committee was informed that the Uganda Mission in Iran requires Shs 1.038 billion to cater for the Vote in order to meet the budget shortfalls under rent, medical, travel abroad, and wage return to the Consolidated Fund in the Financial Year 2023/2024, given the need to travel and collect funds from Uganda.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 1.038 billion to Vote 524.

Vote 537: Uganda Mission in Havana, Cuba – Shs 314 million

The committee was informed that the Uganda Mission in Havana, Cuba, requires Shs 314

million to cater for deficits in rent costs, furniture, household items, and branding and promotional materials. The committee recommends approval of Shs 314 million to Vote 537.

Part II: The supplementary requests, over and above the 3 per cent legal limit

This is the one that requires prior parliamentary approval, and it amounts to Shs 3.142 trillion. Part I was already done; so this is where the ministry cannot spend before they get parliamentary approval.

Vote 001: Office of the President – Shs 3.6 billion

The committee was informed that the Office of the President requires Shs 3.6 billion to cater for shortfalls on wage, for the Deputy Resident District Commissioners.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 3.6 billion for Vote 001: Office of the President, to cater for the wage shortfalls of the Deputy Resident District Commissioners.

Vote 002: State House – Shs 358.068 billion

The committee was informed that the State House requires Shs 358.068 billion to cater for the classified expenditure shortfalls.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 358.068 billion to Vote 002.

Vote 003: Office of the Prime Minister – Shs 2.249 billion

The committee was informed that the Office of the Prime Minister requires Shs 2.249 billion for operational requirements, for the Office of the Deputy Head of Public Service.

The committee recommends the approval of Shs 2.249 billion to Vote 003.

Vote 004: Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs – Shs 47.174 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs requires Shs

47.174 billion to be used as follows:

- a. Shs 33.3 billion for compulsory acquisition of land in Mpigi District, which is owned by the Parliamentary SACCO, for the establishment of a military police barracks; and
- b. Shs 13.874 billion for operational shortfalls. The committee recommends approval of Shs 47.174 billion to Vote 004.

Vote 007: Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs – Shs 10.6 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs requires Shs 10.6 billion to cover shortfalls on compensation of third parties.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 10.6 billion to Vote 007.

Vote 008: Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development – Shs 166.5 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development requires Shs 166.5 billion to meet shortfalls on the East African Crude Oil Pipeline financing under the Uganda National Oil Company. The Uganda National Oil Company already has these funds but requires appropriation.

The committee, therefore, recommends approval of Shs 166.5 billion to Vote 008.

Vote 010: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) – Shs 27.481 billion

The committee was informed that MAAIF requires Shs 27.481 billion to provide the following:

- a. Shs 18.252 billion to replenish funds that were used for hosting the African Union extraordinary summit on comprehensive AFRIC agriculture development programme, which was held in January; and
- b. Shs 9.229 billion to cover the costs of terminal benefits for staff impacted by the Rationalisation of Government Agencies

and Public Expenditure (RAPEX). These are from the Uganda Coffee Development Authority, Cotton Development Organisation, Dairy Development Authority, and National Agricultural Advisory Services.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 27.481 billion to Vote 010.

Vote 011: Ministry of Local Government – Shs 76.157 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Local Government requires Shs 76.157 billion, of which, Shs 35.2 billion is for the vehicles for local political leaders, such as the district chairpersons, city and municipal mayors; and that Shs 40.957 billion is for external funding from the Islamic Development Bank, for implementation of the Local Economic Growth Support project.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 83.462 billion to Vote 011.

Vote 900: Ex-gratia arrears to local governments – Shs 7.304 billion

The committee was informed that various local governments under Annex II, required Shs 7.304 billion for arrears for ex-gratia and honoraria, for lower local council leaders.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 7.304 billion for arrears of ex-gratia and honoraria, for various local governments as listed in the annex.

Vote 020: Ministry of Information and Communications Technology – Shs 1.31 billion

The committee was informed that the ministry received non-tax revenue (NTR) from the Uganda Communications Commission, from a 2 per cent levy collected from the communication operator.

The ministry intends to spend the funds on the development of an artificial intelligence policy, and operationalisation of the parish development management information system. The committee recommends Shs 1.31 billion to Vote 020.

Vote 115: Uganda Heart Institute – Shs 158.863 million

The committee was informed of the available funds from the Arab Bank for Economic Development (BADEA). BADEA reimbursed funds worth Shs 158.863 million to the Government of Uganda to cater for the Uganda Heart Institute, for the funds utilised in the Financial Year 2023/2024.

However, these funds were not appropriated in the budget for the Financial Year 2024/2025, and require a supplementary, for the Uganda Heart Institute to utilise.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 158.863 million for Vote 115: Uganda Heart Institute.

Vote 013: Ministry of Education and Sports – Shs 97.786 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Education and Sports requires Shs 97.786 billion, to be provided as follows:

1. Shs 941 million for wage and operation of the National Library of Uganda, which was transferred from the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development during RAPEX;
2. Shs 9 billion towards the Uganda National Institute for Teacher Education (UNITE). On 2 July 2024, UNITE was established as a degree awarding institution for specialised education programmes, for pre-service and in-service.....2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024, Uganda National Institute for Teacher Education (UNITE) was established as a degree-awarding institution for specialised education programmes for pre-service and in-service teachers in pre-primary, primary and post-primary education.

However, the structure of UNITE had not been approved by the Ministry of Public Service in time for inclusion in the budget for the Financial Year 2024/2025 and therefore, the institution is facing a shortfall of wage, statutory obligations and operational costs; and

3. Shs 87.845 billion for upgrading Nelson Mandela Stadium to Confederation of African Football (CAF) standards in preparation for Uganda hosting of 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON).

The committee recommends approval of Shs 97.786 billion to Vote 013: Ministry of Education and Sports for those listed items.

Vote 166: National Council of Sports – Shs 257.155 billion

The committee was informed that the National Council of Sports required Shs 257.155 billion towards the completion of Hoima Stadium, construction of the Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium, and upgrading of the approved training facilities in preparation for AFCON and operation expenses for hosting the African Nations Championship (CHAN), which is a precursor to AFCON.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 257.155 billion to Vote 166.

Vote 111: National Curriculum Development Centre – Shs 7.132 billion

The committee was informed that the National Curriculum Development Centre required Shs 7.132 billion for immediate and interim interventions to implement the A-Level curriculum. The committee recommends approval of Shs 7.132 billion to Vote 111.

Vote 015: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives – Shs 1.3 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives required Shs 1.3 billion to support the ministry in ensuring the growth in manufacturing and industrialisation and to support the export growth strategy unit to cater for wages and rent. The committee recommends approval of Shs 1.3 billion to vote 015.

Vote 016: Ministry of Works and Transport – Shs 955.812 billion

The committee observed that the Ministry of Works and Transport requires Shs 955.812 billion to be provided as follows:

1. Shs 63.512 billion to cover the cost of terminal benefits for staff impacted by RAPEX under UNRA and Uganda Road fund;
2. Shs 61 billion for outstanding obligations on the SGS compensation for the non-tax revenue (NTR) (Shs 15 billion), Soroti Flying School/East African Civil Aviation Academy, Railways, Kalangala, and National Review Board;
3. Shs 500 billion, outstanding debt against the interim payment certificates for the National Roads Projects and the District and Urban Community Access Roads (DUCAR);
4. Shs 40.2 billion for the construction of a steel jetty at Pakwach Bridge and access roads to a cement factory in Karamoja; and
5. Shs 291.1 billion for the preliminary works for the commencement of the Malaba-Kampala SGR project to finance the works under the limited notice to proceed.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 955.812 billion to Vote 016.

Vote 017: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development – Shs 928.014 billion

The committee observed that the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development requires Shs 928.014 billion for the following:

1. Umeme buyout (Shs 725.42 billion), and Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) Shs 190 billion;

2. Shs 7 billion for the construction of a dedicated power line in Ntungamo, to provide reliable power to the Inspire Africa Coffee Factory and H5 Tin Factory. The line will pick its supply from the Mirama Hills substation and will be completed in six months; and
3. Shs 5.59 billion reimbursement of funds utilised from the electricity transmission infrastructure project which were used to pay for outstanding thermal power capacity charges.

The committee recommends the approval of Shs 928.014 billion to Vote 017.

Vote 018: Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development – Shs 8.53 billion

The committee observed that the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development required:

- a. Shs 4.6 billion for the national celebrations - Women's Day, Youth Day, Day for Older Persons and People with Disabilities and Labour Day; and
- b. Shs 3.88 billion to support Masuulita Remand Home.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 8.53 billion to vote 018.

Vote 022: Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities – Shs 3.24 billion

The committee observed that the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities requires Shs 3.24 billion for additional NTR. The committee was informed that the NTR collected by the Uganda Hotel and Tourism Training Institute in Jinja from school fees and hotel revenue is to be used for the payment of contractual gratuity, training, and operationalisation of the new administration block.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 3.24 billion to Vote 022.

Vote 122: Kampala Capital City Authority – Shs 70 billion:  
Shs 6.711 billion

The committee was informed that KCCA provided Shs 6.71 billion to cater for shortfalls in the city cleaners’ wages. Shs 6.594 billion resulting from the increase in the number of workers and the new terms of employment for the cleaners, and allowances for parish chiefs for PDM monitoring.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 6.711 billion to vote 122.

Vote 131: Office of the Auditor-General (OAG) – Shs 17.2 billion; The committee was informed that the Office of the Auditor-General requires Shs 17.2 billion for restoration of the budget for OAG to enable efficient operations for the rest of the financial year.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 17.2 billion to Vote 131.

Vote 137: National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) – Shs 436.872 million

NIRA required this money for the civil registration department was received from URSB during RAPEX.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 836.872 billion to Vote 137: NIRA.

Vote 138: Uganda Investment Authority – Shs 5 billion

The committee observed that the Uganda Investment Authority required Shs 5 billion from contractual obligations for the owner’s engineer for works at Kampala Industrial and Business Park Namanve.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 5 billion to Vote 132.

Vote 142: National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO)

The committee observed that the National Agricultural Research Organisation required

i) Out of which Shs 10 billion was for the management of aflatoxins in cereals and other related products. NARO has developed aflatoxin mitigation products and established a production and research facility with the capability to produce the desired tonnage of aflatoxin mitigation in the country. It required 60 billion for the roll-out of the anti-tick vaccine. This will enable NARO to roll out the anti-ticks’ vaccine, after which the facility will be self-sustainable.

NARO has completed the clinical trials of the vaccine, and it has been proven to be 95 per cent effective. This supplementary will enable the production and distribution of 20 million doses of the vaccine.

The committee recommends Shs 70 billion to Vote 142: National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO)

Vote 167: Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation – Shs 60 billion

The committee was informed that the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation required Shs 60 billion for the completion and operationalisation of the Coffee Value Addition Park in Ntungamo.

The funds are for completion of the standards and certifications, and working capital to enable purchase of coffee from farmers, operational funds for running the coffee processing hub, marketing and branding. The committee recommends the approval of Shs 60 billion to Vote 167.

Vote 301: Makerere University – Shs 5 billion

The committee was informed about the shortfalls in education material, support for research and support for gender and equity interventions to replace donor funding which has ended, as we all know.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 5 billion to Vote 301.



Vote 409: Masaka Hospital – Shs 600 million

The committee was informed that this hospital required Shs 600 million for running the regional equipment maintenance workshop which repairs and services medical equipment for referral hospitals and health facilities in Greater Masaka. So, the committee recommends Shs 600 million to Vote 409.

Vote 417: Kiruddu National Referral Hospital – Shs 2 billion

This money is needed to enable the hospital to procure dialysis consumables to cater for the increased number of patients and also support other satellite sites in Lira, Mbale and Mbarara hospitals. The committee recommends the approval of Shs 2 billion to Vote 417.

Vote 505: Uganda High Commission in Kenya – Shs 1.8 billion

The Uganda High Commission in Kenya provided Shs 1.8 billion as funding that will be used for remedial works on the restoration of Uganda House, which was destroyed during protests in Nairobi to avoid deterioration of the building.

The committee was further informed that these funds arose from a saving from tax exemption on building materials and appreciation of Uganda shillings against the Kenya shillings. The committee, therefore, recommends approval of Shs 1.8 billion to Vote 505.

Vote 600: Local Governments – Shs 9.536 billion

The committee was informed that this money was provided to various local governments for additional local revenue to local governments that are projecting to collect more local revenue for the financial year. The local governments are listed in annex 1. Therefore, the committee recommends Shs 9.536 billion to various local governments, as provided in the annex.

Vote 808: Amuru District – Shs 1.271 billion

The committee was informed that Amuru District required Shs 1.271 billion to cover the shortfall on the verified wage bill.

The committee recommends the approval of Shs 1.271 billion to Vote 808: Amuru district to cover the verified wage bill.

Vote 837: Isingiro District – Shs 2.348 billion

The committee was informed that Isingiro District required Shs 2.348 billion to cover the shortfall on the verified wage bill.

The committee recommends approval of Shs 2.348 billion to Vote 808: Isingiro District to cover the shortfall on the verified wage bill.

#### Conclusion

Madam Speaker, I request that the House approves the supplementary expenditures under Schedule No.3 for Financial Year 2024/2025, totalling to Shs 4,254.968 billion, as outlined in table 3 and detailed by Vote in the supply schedules of the proposed supply schedules. I beg to report. *(Applause)*

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you, so much. Just a minute, chairperson; I would like to take you to number 36; that is Vote 011– *(Hon. Ssemujju rose)* Let us hear from the minority.

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Madam Speaker, as I had mentioned earlier, among the reports I laid on the Floor is a minority report from one of my members, Hon. Ibrahim Ssemujju Nganda, and it is part of the committee report. I request him to take us through his minority report.

5.43

**MR IBRAHIM SSEMUJJU (FDC, Kira Municipality, Wakiso):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I thought Hon. Kateshumbwa and I are just members of the committee; I am not your member. *(Laughter)* We are of the same status, if you heard me.

Madam Speaker –

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Kateshumbwa is the chairperson-designate, as of now. Anyway, all of us are Members of Parliament, including myself.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker, this report – and I am now on the background – is in line with Rule 205 of our Rules of Procedure. Parliament approved a total budget of Shs 72.130 trillion for this financial year. The Ministry of Finance, in January this calendar year, revised this budget through a supplementary schedule No. 1 to Shs 73.18 trillion.

The ministry then tabled a second supplementary request in February primarily to transfer money meant for rationalised agencies to ministries. It has now trafficked another supplementary schedule No. 3, totalling to Shs 4.255 trillion that will revise the budget of this financial year to Shs 77.4 trillion. This supplementary request is in two parts. Just for emphasis, the main report captures one that is below three per cent and one that is above, so I will skip those two paragraphs.

Remember that this budget started with Shs 52.7 trillion in the Budget Framework Paper. It grew to Shs 54.5 trillion in the draft estimates and Shs 58 trillion in the Appropriation Bill, finally becoming Shs 72 trillion with the last minute corrigenda; remember the one they brought here at lunchtime?

This, therefore, has been a chaotic appropriation process, one not seen in the modern history of this Parliament.

Non-compliance with the law

For emphasis, Hon. Odur dealt with this matter. Rule 153 – and I will go to sub-rule (3) specifically – states that the Speaker shall commit the proposed supplementary estimates to the Committee on Budget and to each sectoral committee, the part of the supplementary that falls within the jurisdiction of the respective sectoral committee. That is to save the committee because ordinarily they are supposed to look at procurement plans, recruitment, work plan, etc.

Please take note, before I resume, that we have three months to go to the end of the financial year. The money you are passing, there must be capacity to absorb it.

This supplementary budget request was only laid in Parliament yesterday. Suspiciously, the Committee on Budget – whose chairperson is indisposed and the vice chairperson who is not around – scheduled a meeting to consider this request today, March 12.

This meeting was still ongoing at the commencement of today's sitting, yet the matter was on the Order Paper already. Tens of accounting officers who came to Parliament to explain the need for a supplementary budget were not even afforded adequate time to explain as they were being marched out of the Committee on Budget even before introducing themselves.

Mind you, this is a Shs 4 trillion supplementary request that must be scrutinised. In truth, no serious scrutiny has been done as envisaged by our rules.

The Public Finance Management Act is very clear in Section 25(7). It states, "*Parliament may approve a supplementary, or the Minister may approve a supplementary budget, as the case may be, where the expenditure is un-absorbable, unavoidable, and unforeseeable.*"

In fact, this is not in the report but in the introduction of the chairman – the one who assumed the chair. He said none of these things fit in this description of the law. That was his introductory remark. I hope he has included it in the minutes.

These terms are defined below:

"Un-absorbable" means an expenditure that cannot be funded through virement.

"Unavoidable" means an expenditure that cannot be postponed to the next financial year.

"Unforeseeable" does not include an expenditure that was foreseeable by the Vote at the time of preparation of the budget of the Vote or an

expenditure that should have been included in the budget of the Vote.

Madam Speaker, all the items – some, by the way, are very important items that were either included in the budget as unfunded priorities or were foreseeable. You can look at the examples I am giving below:

1. Office of the President – the RDCs: We are required to look at the recruitment plan before you pass a budget. Do you mean this Parliament wants to indict itself that it looked at no recruitment plan? State House wants Shs 358 billion for emerging classified, I will come to that later;
2. Ministry of Defence: Shs 13 billion for operational shortfall;
3. Ministry of Education and Sports – for upgrading Nelson Mandela National Stadium. I do not know where they were not to know that you needed to upgrade the Mandela stadium;
4. National Curriculum Development Centre: Children have already reported for A-Level. They are getting money to do a curriculum. God save Uganda;
5. Ministry of Science and Technology: They want Shs 60 billion to support coffee manufacturing.

I said the point I am articulating is that none of these items is of an emergency nature to qualify under the Public Finance Management Act. I have also picked a few items that we have had problems with in this Parliament, and I will start with the Pinetti's Lubowa Specialised Hospital. They now want another Shs 290 billion.

In this request, there is Shs 380.496 billion for debt servicing, of which Shs 290 billion is for Lubowa Specialised Hospital, being constructed by the famous President Museveni's Italian friend, Enrico Maria Aristidina Pinetti. *(Laughter)* Do you want to change Pinetti's name?

**THE SPEAKER:** Can you finish?

**MR SSEMUJJU:** But I am reading the report –

**THE SPEAKER:** You continue.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** In this request – You interrupted me, and I lost the flow – In this request, there is Shs 380.496 billion for debt servicing, of which Shs 298 billion is for Lubowa specialised hospital being constructed by the famous President Museveni's Italian friend Enrica Maria Aristidina Pinetti.

The money – I have even provided her photo; people may forget. Look at the photo there. The money, Shs 298 billion for Pinetti's hospital, has already been paid under the three per cent that does not require prior parliamentary approval. This brings the total so far paid to Pinetti for this hospital to Shs 774.469 billion. I do not need to remind the country where and when Uganda fell in love with Italian investor, Pinetti. Mentioning her name is painful enough. I provided a table there to show you how we have been pumping money into Lubowa. I do not know when she will be coming next. Please wait. I do not need to go on the table.

The Auditor-General's report on treasury operations for the year ending June 30, 2023, highlighted the concern that although the owners' engineer issued milestone certificates based on progress reports from the contractor, the engineer faced restricted access to the construction site. This limitation undermined their role in safeguarding the interests of both the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

The audit further revealed that the milestone certificates were primarily based on contractor-submitted reports, engineer fees are not the actual physical work completed. Public Accounts Committee (Central) in its review of the Auditor-General's report observed that the Government failed to conduct adequate due diligence on the agreements and the project overall, raising doubts about the validity of the payments relative to the work completed.

The committee was unable to verify the progress of the work at the site due to repeated obstruction by the project developer – that is the Committee on Public Accounts.

In light of these issues, there is significant risk of financial loss for Uganda if additional funding is allocated to the project. It is recommended that the project be halted until a special audit report is completed and Parliament can deliberate on the findings.

From Museveni to Pinetti to Amina. I am now on another Vote.

Ministry of Finance is also seeking approval of Shs 115 billion already given to another woman investor, Ms Amina Moghe Hersi of Somali origin. The money has been pumped into her company, the Horyal Investment Holding Company Limited, to facilitate Atiak sugar factory. They are facilitating its return to operations. This money is being requested by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives and it has been transferred to Amina through Uganda Development Company.

We have so far spent Shs 553.71 billion on this factory. If you approve Shs 115 billion, you will have given Amina Shs 668.710 billion.

The stake of Uganda in this factory is 40 per cent ordinary shares bought at Shs 80 billion. This company was last valued in 2018/2019, and its value was put at Shs 205 billion.

The Government also has preferential shares in this company. The Government is almost absent on the board, but continues pumping money into this factory. Please, take note that Ms Amina, who has invested only Shs 125 billion in the company, has 60 per cent shares and the Government which has invested Shs 668 billion, has only 40 per cent shares. Only a madman continues making such an investment. We are being taken for a ride. These sorts of agreements are the reason we have ended up where we are with Umeme.

How we have been giving money to this factory – that is the table that follows.

Country spending Shs 2.8 billion on President Museveni and wife daily – *(Interjections)*– I am now on the State House. They are the occupants. You can say “No”, but that is the law. I have even put their picture. *(Laughter)*

The approved budget for State House for the Financial Year 2024/2025 was Shs 452.2 billion. In January – I do not know why they are not putting the picture. Aah, you have given them too much money; they are now staging weddings. *(Laughter)*

In January, about a month ago –

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a point of order from Hon. Macho, first.

**MR MACHO:** Madam Speaker, I am happy that my good friend, Hon. Ssemujju, is presenting his minority report. He is an honourable Member of Parliament. “Honourable”, in the English dictionary, means “respect” – *(Interjections)* – in Luganda, I do not know what it means, but one day, Hon. Odur described it here.

He is presenting a report for which he wants support from Members of Parliament, but the language he is using, and even the pictures – we had a majority report from the Government side, which did not show any picture personalising anybody.

Therefore, is my brother, Hon. Nganda, proceeding well when he is trying to insinuate and attack the personality of the President and his family by even showing the pictures?

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Ssemujju, it is just out of courtesy and respect for you to present your report without bringing in the pictures – it is not required. If it is an issue of State House – for instance, if you are allocating money to Parliament of Uganda, are you allocating to Ms Among? You allocate to everybody; all the Members of Parliament, the security – all those people. Those are the people who are taking care of your life – protecting you.

I do not know whether you can ever finish a debate in this House without mentioning the

names “Museveni” and “Janet”. Can’t you do that? That would even make your submission better.

There is a procedural matter.

**MR KANGWAGYE:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think Hon. Ssemujju needs to understand this: Article 98 of the Constitution of Uganda tells us that there shall be a President, the Commander-in-Chief and a Head of State. In this case, we have the President, who was elected by the majority of Ugandans – of this nation.

There is a very big difference between State House and President Museveni. Once we sit here, as Parliament, and allocate money to cater for the State House, it has to do with State House duties and functions, and that is not President Museveni. It is just like Parliament. For instance, Hon. Ssemujju is a Member of Parliament but is being facilitated by the Government of Uganda to go and perform duties that are totally meant for him to perform, for the good of his constituents. That does not mean that when you, Hon. Ssemujju Nganda, give out something to your constituents, you have cheated Uganda.

Secondly, I would like to inform you, Hon. Ssemujju, that President Museveni and his family are not as poor as you think, to be sincere. Even the money that we give out is not meant for them but for the State House as an entity or institution.

Is he proceeding well to continue bringing personal pictures – photos – and everything and even giving out people’s names without giving us clear evidence? Even for the money that you talk about, there are people who can be able to account for it. Even today when we were in a committee meeting, you asked that question and it was fully answered.

I think this should stop, Madam Speaker; it has become a habit here.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable members, our rules dictate that we do not

discuss persons who are not in this House. President Museveni, with his family, are not in this House. It is not proper for you to start mentioning their names. If the money is for State House, let it be for State House.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker, you need to go and read the law called, “The Emoluments and Benefits of the President, Vice-President and Prime Minister Act, 2010.” This is personal.

**THE SPEAKER:** Who are you telling to read the law?

**MR SSEMUJJU:** The one who is very angry that the family is talked about.

**THE SPEAKER:** What is wrong with them getting the benefits by virtue of their offices?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Madam Speaker, first of all, I have heard a statement from my good friend, Hon. Ssemujju, saying that “This is personal.” Like the honourable colleague did say, first of all, it is constitutional that this country takes care of the bills of the Head of State. Is he in order to begin to assume that the figures that he has attributed here, specifically, go to the Head of State as Museveni, personally?

**THE SPEAKER:** By the way, if it is your entitlement, it is your entitlement. For example, today, the Leader of the Opposition’s vehicle was smashed. It is his entitlement. As Parliament, we are going to repair it again, even if we did not send him to Kawempe.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker –

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a procedural matter. Honourable members, I will be forced to push it to debate – if you are not finishing.

**MR OGUZU:** Madam Speaker, I need your guidance in accordance with Article 164(1) –

**THE SPEAKER:** On accountability?

**MR OGUZU:** Yes. It says: “(1) *The Permanent Secretary or the accounting officer in charge of*



*a Ministry or department shall be accountable to Parliament for all funds in that Ministry...*”

Article 64(3) says: “(3) Parliament shall monitor all expenditure of public funds.”

So, I do not know if we are not proceeding well, when a Member chooses to inquire into how money derived from the Consolidated Fund is spent. What law would have that member breached? I need your guidance on that.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable member, it says, “the accounting officer”. Gen. Museveni is not the accounting officer. *(Applause)* We have an accounting officer in that office who has never failed to account for the monies that are given to that Vote. For that case, we can interrogate the Vote and the accounting officer – In fact, I am a beneficiary. I do not mind whether there is fuel in my car or not but it has to be there because it is my benefit *(Hon. Kibalya rose\_)* Let him finish.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker, about a month ago, in January –

**THE SPEAKER:** To whom are you raising the point of order? *(Hon. Oguzu rose\_)*

**MR KIBALYA:** Madam Speaker, my point is that we spent two weeks here discussing the dress code of Members of Parliament. We were clear; our rules were amended, and they began with immediate effect.

Madam Speaker, I remember two weeks ago, an honourable colleague argued about cultural dressing and we ruled it out. Is Hon. Oguzu Lee in order to dress as if he has come for a ceremony in Nigeria? Yet, the rest of –

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, I am yet to gazette the rules; the rules are not yet gazetted. Once gazetted, they will take effect. Can you finish?

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker, under the rules, you have a duty to protect me but you are also joining those who are harassing me. *(Laughter)* I have to read the report. In January – *(A Member rose\_)* you are a senior MP; so stop heckling like you are in a market.

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a point of order. Why are you harassing me?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Madam Speaker, first of all, it is very absurd that I am moving on a point of order to a senior honourable member who has been here with me from the time we came. Is he in order to begin using derogatory language against the Chair and doubting the authority of the Chair?

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, there is growing up and being brought up. Thank you.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker, I want to stick to the report because this is important for the country.

**THE SPEAKER:** Please go on. Stick to the report.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** In January, about a month ago, the State House came back to Parliament, requesting to increase its budget by Shs 234.75 billion for classified expenditure. You, obedient MPs, approved it, bringing the total State House budget for this financial year to Shs 686.6 billion.

They have come back again with another request of Shs 367 billion, which, if approved, will bring the State House’s budget for Financial Year 2024/2025 to Shs 1 trillion, even before the year has ended. If we divide this money by the number of days in a year, it means the country is spending Shs 2.8 billion on the residence of our dear President and his wife, daily; Shs 120 billion per hour – Shs 120 million, and; Shs 2 million per second.

In these two minutes that I am speaking to you, the President and *Mama* have already spent about half a billion shillings. *(Laughter)*

Honourable members, you also need to take note that classified expenditure has become the code for siphoning taxpayer’s money. State House was given Shs 8 billion for classified in the budget –

**THE SPEAKER:** There is a point of order.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Why doesn't Hon. Ogwang stand here since he has a point of order for every sentence?

**MR MUGARRA:** Thank you. Madam Speaker, you have guided that His Excellency the President, Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni is not a Vote. Is Hon. Ssemujju, therefore, in order to continue speaking about the President as if he is the Vote? Can you please stick to the State House or the President's office? Is he in order to insist on continuing to mislead himself?

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Ssemujju, can you read the report? Stick to your report. Can you finish your report?

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Honourable members, you also need to take note that classified expenditure has become the code for siphoning taxpayer's money.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, you are now – *(Members rose)*

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Madam Speaker, I am moving on a point of procedure. With due respect to my colleague, Hon. Ssemujju, I have looked at the report, and the wording of that report lacks the decorum of this House. If you look at what my honourable colleague had previously submitted here, it also brings in the accounting officer in question and at the same time, he is lumping it to the Head of State as a person. For instance, he gives a day, a minute, a second. These figures cannot be accepted and quoted to the Head of State.

Madam Speaker, I am moving on a point of procedure. Is Hon. Ssemujju Nganda procedurally right to continue misleading and giving irrelevant reports which do not conform to the decorum of this House?

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, the more you continue interjecting, the more relevance you are giving him. Let him finish his report then we will go to Vote by Vote.

Honourable members, listen. It is a minority report. You cannot reject it. Why don't you read the rules? Finish your report.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Yes. I am being interrupted, including honourable colleagues who do not even know that when the Speaker makes a ruling, you cannot move a motion. Maybe some orientation is still necessary.

Honourable members, you also need to take note that classified expenditure has become the code for siphoning taxpayers' money. The State House was given Shs 8 billion for classified expenditure in the budget. The subsequent requests are all of a classified nature, totalling now to Shs 600 billion, which is 57 per cent of the total State House budget.

What is classified about a residence? I see honourable colleagues who are agitated. What is classified about a residence? We need to assign a parliamentary committee to interview our President and his wife to tell us what classified things they do at their residence.

**THE SPEAKER:** We have a committee on classified – and reports are always made.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** State House is the creature – This is important – *(Interruption)*

**MR ODUR:** Thank you. Madam Speaker, I am glad that you have confirmed and informed the House that – the issue on how we proceed with classified expenditure has been bothering me. Therefore, Madam Speaker, would you be pleased to go a little bit extra on record and inform us about the chairperson of classified committee and its members of this House?

**THE SPEAKER:** You know the word "classified"? *(Laughter)* Honourable members, we have two classified committees. We have classified for budget purposes and classified for oversight. The chairperson for oversight is the Speaker. The members include the chairperson, PAC and the two classified MPs who are vetted and are put there. Those members are there. There are four members on that committee.

Then in the classified Committee on Budget, it is Chairperson of the Committee on Defence and Veteran Affairs; Chairperson of the Committee on Budget and one other classified Member.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, thank you very much for that information. I did not have it and with the information you have provided, it is the first time in the history of the Commonwealth, unprecedented, that the Speaker chairs a committee and reports to herself. Thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** It is the law and I got it there. I did not invent it.

**MR ODUR:** In the law, the committee is supposed to report to you, the Speaker, but now since you are the chairperson, you can see that you are now reporting to yourself, which is still okay.

**THE SPEAKER:** Do not worry.

**DR BARYOMUNSI:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The rules do not allow a Member to start arguing with the Chairperson while the session is on.

I rise on a point of procedure. While Hon. Ssemujju is presenting a minority report – and he has all the rights to do that – the rules provide for decorum and he should not use language which is objectionable.

I would like to move under Rule 229 of the Rules of Procedure which says – and I want to invite you to form that opinion:

*“Where the Speaker is of the opinion that the words that have been used in debate are defamatory, indecent, un-parliamentary or undignified, the Speaker shall order that such words be expunged from the official record of Parliament.”*

You have guided, Madam Speaker, that there is a world of difference between State House as a public office and President Yoweri Museveni and his family. For instance, I know we have been passing money under State House. That

money is audited by the Auditor-General and the report comes to Parliament.

However, Hon. Ssemujju keeps insisting, trying to persuade us, that the budget we allocate is for President Yoweri Museveni – as a person. I find this objectionable.

**THE SPEAKER:** There is no where they are saying the budget is for President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. Let us leave that. Can you finish your report because we want to go to the Votes? Let us go to the Votes.

**MR SSEMUJJU:** Madam Speaker, this was going to be a presentation of 20 minutes.

**THE SPEAKER:** Can you finish?

**MR SSEMUJJU:** It is colleagues who are making it longer. I am also tired and I want to finish. *(Laughter)*

State House is a creation of the Emoluments and Benefits of President, Vice-President and Prime Minister Act, 2010. The second schedule provides for a free, fully facilitated State House. If you read the interpretation section, it even restricts the President to one wife.

I know you ruling party MPs love the President so much, but you have a duty to save him from himself and save the country from his family’s rubbish expenditure –

**THE SPEAKER:** How many wives does he have?

**MR SSEMUJJU:** I am reading the report and now you are inviting me to debate. What you are asking me, Madam Speaker, is not in my report. I, therefore, urge you not to allow this colossal abuse of taxpayers’ money by our dear leader.

The good thing is that the President and his dear wife both earn a monthly salary. For once, let them use their salaries to finance their lives. The money you are spending on two old people is equivalent to what you are spending on 37 per cent of the population under PDM –

15 million people, Ntungamo Coffee Factory wants Shs 67 billion. Being requested for in this supplementary is Shs 67 billion for Mr Nelson Tugume's factory in Ntungamo. The money is for completion and operationalisation of the coffee value addition park and a power line.

There is Shs 60 billion being requested by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation and Shs 7 billion by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development. How comes for Tugume, nobody is standing to complain because I am also reading his name? Mind you, we have no legal relationship with this factory in which we have so far invested Shs 112 billion and we are now adding another Shs 67 billion. Remember, this factory first received Shs 37 billion in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and Shs 75 billion in this current budget, but we are now giving it more through a supplementary.

The accounting officer of the ministry for science and innovation has told the Committee on Budget today that they are in consultation with the Attorney-General for purposes of establishing a legal relationship with this company. We are just putting money there and then – what exists is a memorandum of understanding which the accounting officer promised to present to the committee but the speed at which the committee was proceeding – we came here before he had returned.

Finally – and this is to illustrate the earlier points – the Umeme buyout. In the supplementary, there is a Shs 725.42 billion for the Umeme buyout. Energy minister, Hon. Nankabirwa – I hope nobody will complain again that I am putting names – told the Committee on Budget that Umeme was initially demanding \$225 million which is Shs 832.5 billion, but after an audit, it was reduced to \$190.9 million which is Shs 725 billion.

The minister for energy told the committee that in the case of Eskom, when the concession ended, there was no buyout like the case is with Umeme. That is what happened with Jacobsen.

Madam Speaker, because no serious scrutiny was done, I was also just trying – I had 20 minutes to do a report and while I was working on the report, the matter was being called. Therefore, there are many things – your duty today, as colleagues, is to subject every single request to the law. Is it unforeseen? Is it unavoidable? Is it an emergency? That is the duty you have on behalf of the country. If you betray the country, one day, you will have to answer.

I thank you, Madam Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you for the report. Hon. Katesh, I was referring you to number 36. The Ministry of Local Government – Shs 76.157 billion is what was requested. When you make an addition of the two, you get that amount. However, the committee recommends approval of Shs 83.462 billion. Is it an error?

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Madam Speaker, in paragraph 36, Vote 011, the correct amount is Shs 76.157 billion, which is the split under one and two, and so the recommendation of the committee should read Shs 76.157 billion.

Madam Speaker -

**THE SPEAKER:** Just a minute. Under item 51, you have asked for Shs 5 billion to go to Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) -

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Yes.

**THE SPEAKER:** But in your recommendation, you are talking about the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA). Who are you giving the money? NIRA or UIA?

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Madam Speaker, it was another typo. The committee recommendation is to provide Shs 5 billion to Vote 138, not Vote 137. Vote 138 is for the Uganda Investment Authority.

**THE SPEAKER:** Under item 60, Vote 837. The Vote you are giving money is Vote 808. Which one is correct?

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** The correct one is Vote 837: Isingiro District, not Vote 898. Our sincere apologies.

**THE SPEAKER:** Okay, then - Yes, Hon. Alioni.

6.27

**MR ODRIA ALIONI (NRM, Aringa South County, Yumbe):** Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the opportunity. Mine is a simple clarification because I do not have a hard copy of the document. Somewhere you mentioned a figure of Shs 87 billion -

**THE SPEAKER:** Shs 87.845 billion.

**MR ALIONI:** On Mandela National Stadium, is the constituency where Mandela National Stadium is, Kira Municipality? I would like to know whether the stadium generates local revenue for Kira Municipality. I believe it is within Hon. Ssemujju's constituency. Is he against it or in favour?

6.28

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi):** Madam Speaker, the correct figures under Vote 011: Ministry of Local Government, are the following:

Shs 7.3 billion as arrears for ex-gratia and honoraria for lower local government council leaders;

1. Shs 35.2 billion for vehicles for local political leaders, including district chairpersons, city and municipal mayors and;
2. Shs 40.957 billion as external financing from the Islamic Development Bank for the implementation of the Local Economic Growth Support Project.

This totals to Shs 83.462 billion.

**THE SPEAKER:** He asked about NTR; whether you get money from Mandela National

Stadium. There was a question from Hon. Odria Alioni.

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Speaker, we get Non-Tax Revenue from Mandela National Stadium that goes to the Consolidated Fund.

6.30

**MR JOHN BAPTIST NAMBESHE (NUP, Manjiya County, Bududa):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The clarification I seek from the minister is on the expenditure within the three per cent on item 10, Vote 018: Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development.

Madam Speaker, Ateker Reunion Festival, which you actively participated in, was conducted and –

**THE SPEAKER:** I did not participate. I was here chairing the House. I was not there.

**MR NAMBESHE:** I am sure you are aware of it.

**THE SPEAKER:** I am not aware of any expenditure. Do not put me into it. *(Laughter)*

**MR NAMBESHE:** Okay, much obliged, but I am sure it is common knowledge. This festival was conducted to its logical –

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Musasizi, there is a question about the money for the Ateker Reunion Festival.

**MR NAMBESHE:** This festival was conducted to its logical conclusion without any shortfalls. I would like you to give the justification for smuggling Shs 800 million, additional.

**THE SPEAKER:** That was under the three per cent.

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Speaker, I thought Hon. Nambeshe has been here long enough to appreciate some of these dynamics.

Under three per cent, I am seeking retrospective approval by Parliament. It means that for all



these items that fall under three per cent, we have already spent the money. The Ateker Reunion Festival is one of the activities where we have already spent the money.

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable member, under item 41, regarding the money going to Hoima Stadium, Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium, and others, will it hurt you if you gave us a breakdown of what goes where?

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Speaker, I prepared this summary for purposes of ease of reporting to Parliament. However, we can provide all the particulars.

**THE SPEAKER:** Okay. Yes, Hon. Santa Alum.

6.33

**MS SANTA ALUM (UPC, Woman Representative, Oyam):** Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. Given this supplementary report, as a country and Parliament, we have to plan better. As I was scanning through, I noticed that most of these issues are really of great importance, for example, the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) and Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium in particular.

Madam Speaker, when you look at ex-gratia, it is also very important –

**THE SPEAKER:** And the vehicles for LCV chairpersons.

**MS ALUM:** And the money for the lower local government.

The clarification I seek is whether this money is going to the LCIs for the newly created town councils that have not been getting their money. Otherwise, Madam Speaker, because of the urgency of most of these matters before Parliament, I propose, after the clarification, that we move and go Vote by Vote.

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Speaker, we have councillors who have not been receiving their ex-gratia, going as far back as 2017. This has been in arrears for some time, and it is what we are paying.

We are not paying newly created administrative units. These are outstanding arrears for the councillors who are already recognised in the local government units.

**THE SPEAKER:** They have not been getting money. At least this is one good thing. Yes, there is a motion.

6.35

**MR SILAS AOGON (Independent, Kumi Municipality, Kumi):** Madam Speaker, we have listened to the majority and minority reports. I have looked at the length of this report. We need to look at these items one by one so that we select those that we know qualify to go through the gate.

With that said, I want to move a motion that, Madam Speaker, you put the question for the adoption of this report to allow us to move to the Committee of Supply. I beg to move.

**THE SPEAKER:** Is it seconded? (*Members rose*) It is seconded by Hon. Kubeketerya, Hon. Bahati, Hon. Ogwang, Hon. Kaberuka, Hon. Elwelu, Hon. Afoyochoan, Hon. Rita, Hon. Oulanyah, Hon. Alioni, Hon. Macho, Hon. Walyomu - the whole NRM side, including Hon. Akumu.

Honourable members, you have – (*Hon. Oguzu Lee rose*) - Let us finish first. Hon. Tayebwa, first wait.

I put the question that the House resolves itself into a Committee of Supply to consider the supplementary Schedule No.3 for the Financial Year 2024/2025, pursuant to Article 156(2) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Section 25 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 and Rule 153 of the Rules of Procedure.

(*Question put and agreed to.*)

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

**MR OGUZU:** Madam Chairperson, can I raise my point of privilege?

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Rita and Hon. Okot-Ogong, I am marking you. Honourable members, we are going to read a figure per Vote and then I will put the question for the subtotal.

**MR ODUR:** At what point then do we seek clarification on a particular Vote because some of the figures - I can give an example; AFCON have lumped up the figure and they have said -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** That is what I asked -

**MR ODUR:** There is Hoima, Akii Bua - we do not want to be used. Then in the final figure, you find just something tiny. At what point can we seek clarification?

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** That is exactly what I asked; give us the breakdown of what goes to Hoima, Akii Bua - We shall ask when we get to that Vote. We are starting, be attentive with issues of figures.

**MR OGUZU:** Madam Chairperson, I have a point of privilege -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Let us first read the figures.

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE  
SCHEDULE NO.3, FINANCIAL YEAR  
2024/2025, RECURRENT EXPENDITURE

- i. Vote 001 – Office of the President - Shs 3,610,000,000;
- ii. Vote 002 – State House: Shs 367,035,660,047;
- iii. Vote 003 – Office of the Prime Minister - Shs 2,249,000,000;
- iv. Vote 004 - Ministry of Defence - Shs 183,174,647,400;
- v. Vote 005 - Ministry of Public Service - Shs 1 billion;
- vi. Vote 007 – Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs - Shs 10,600,000,000;

vii. Vote 008 - Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development - Shs 166,500,000,000;

viii. Vote 009: Ministry of Internal Affairs – Shs 18,403,000,000;

ix. Vote 010: Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries – Shs 27,481,926,033;

x. Vote 012: Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development - Shs 11,953,497,720;

xi. Vote 013: Ministry of Education and Sports - Shs 104,395,993,101;

xii. Vote 015: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Co-operatives – Shs 115,300,000,000;

xiii. Vote 016: Ministry of Works and Transport - Shs 186,412,000,000;

xiv. Vote 017: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development – Shs 915 -

**MR OGUZU:** We have been informed that part of the money we are about to supply is going towards the Umeme buyout. I am privileged to sit on the Committee on National Economy and the minister came to us saying that they want to borrow money to buy Umeme out, but when we interrogated whether the claims are justified, there has not been a conclusive position.

Until now, the figures of the claim have been disputed. Why? It is because Umeme has been recovering its costs through what we call a “feed-in tariff”. They are supposed to add their costs and charge it in the tariffs.

Umeme is now coming to demand money from Ugandans when their concession is about to expire. This matter has not been resolved to a logical conclusion but this House is moving ahead to appropriate money to pay. Who wants to loot this country?

We even asked for a report on audited accounts from the Auditor-General, but he has not

brought it. We are supposed to interface with the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) that approves all investments in the energy sector, but that has not happened.

This House is now moving to allocate money. We cannot continue to be a rubber stamp Parliament. This Parliament must, for once, do a service to Ugandans. Therefore, Madam Chairperson, I implore you that we stand over that budget.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Remember, this is what has already been spent; the three per cent.

**MR OGUZU:** But this one is not spent; we can also refuse. Why are they coming to us to borrow because right now, there is a loan before us to buy out?

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Let the chairperson of the committee first clarify that.

**MR MIGADDE:** Thank you, Madam Chairperson. It is true we have a request referred to the Committee on National Economy by this Parliament to borrow US\$ 190 million for the Umeme buyout. It is true that we have interacted with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development but we have not concluded because the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development was supposed to produce a report of the Auditor-General on how they arrived at that US\$ 190 million.

The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development has not come back to the committee. Actually, we do not know what will happen to the request before the committee.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Minister?

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Chairperson, whenever we present a budget, we present it with the source of financing, which is revenue from taxes, external borrowing, domestic borrowing, etc., which is always approved by this House as a resource envelope.

On Umeme, we are going to borrow US\$ 190 million from the domestic market to finance the

obligations which have fallen due as a result of the winding up of Umeme. As a result of this, we are seeking the approval of Parliament to allow us to borrow from the domestic market.

What we presented today in the committee was our financing requirements totaling Shs 4.255 trillion, and the question was: "Can we provide how we are going to finance them?" We said, "Yes, we are going to borrow Shs 3.1 trillion, out of which the Shs 726 billion is for Umeme" and that is why we are here.

What this means is if we approve this borrowing, the one in the Committee on National Economy collapses.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Honourable members, it is a matter of knowing debit and credit; it is as simple as that. If you are spending, where is the source of money?

**MR EKANYA:** Madam Chairperson, thank you very much. Honourable minister, you need to give us the right information because there are two critical issues here. The issue of the buyout and the issue of the loan are totally different because you present the loan to the committee, which has to look for the terms and conditions. They are totally separate.

Honourable minister and honourable colleagues, you present the loan to the committee, which then looks for terms and conditions. What you are presenting here is the budget for the Umeme buyout.

Madam Chairperson –

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Honourable member, the loan does not collapse; it is a source of financing.

**MR EKANYA:** Madam Chairperson, there are two issues. The loan does not collapse because the committee looks at the terms and conditions of the loan. What we are presenting here is the budget. It is important that we understand this.

Let us look at the Umeme buyout objectively. We should separate accountability from the Umeme buyout because Umeme makes a profit

of 20 per cent. If it is Shs 1 trillion, Umeme gets Shs 200 billion. We should interrogate the issue of accountability, how much and so forth. (Applause)

We should make sure we investigate who is stealing money and exaggerating costs. We should make sure that Umeme exits and we save the billions that we have been using. We need to separate that. We can interrogate and audit who is exaggerating how much we should pay Umeme, but Umeme needs to quit because they have been robbing us.

**MR OGUZU:** The information I would like to give the Member is that we have not come to a conclusion that the Government owes Umeme this obligation. Until that matter is resolved, you cannot move ahead to allocate money. What are you going to allocate money for? This is broad daylight robbery.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Honourable members, the question that Hon. Oguzu Lee is raising should be taken to the Committee on National Economy. We are supplying here; let us supply what is there. Actually, you are giving us information yet we do not even know what is in the Committee on National Economy. You are not supposed to discuss what is before the committee before it comes to the House. Yes, Hon. Silas?

**MR AOGON:** Madam Chairperson, additionally, I am aware that where there is a contract, it details how parties are going to operate. There is already a contract that exists between Umeme and the Government of Uganda and it stipulates how it exits.

Let us leave that matter alone and deal with the matters, which have come to this committee. The other time will also come and we will deal with the matter the way it will come. We will check by the fruits, the symptoms and the signs.

1. Vote 017 - Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development - Shs 915,420,000,000;
2. Vote 018 - Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development - Shs 9,330,000,000;

3. Vote 020 - Ministry of Information and Communications Technology – Shs 1,310,000,000;
4. Vote 022 - Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage – Shs 3,240,000,000;
5. Vote 111 - National Curriculum Development Centre – Shs 7,123,473,500;
6. Vote 122 - Kampala Capital City Authority – Shs 6,711,980,000;
7. Vote 126 - National Information Technologies Authority - Shs 18,000,000,000;
8. Vote 132 - Education Service Commission - Shs 1,300,000,000;
9. Vote 137 - National Identification and Registration Authority – Shs 436,872,000;
10. Vote 138 - Uganda Investment Authority - Shs 5,000,000,000;
11. Vote 141 - Uganda Revenue Authority - Shs 38,136,913,704;
12. Vote 142 - National Agricultural Research Organisation – Shs 70,000,000,000; and
13. Vote 144 - Uganda Police Force – Shs 62,969,000,500.

Vote 16 –

**MR OGUZU:** Why do you want me to wait? I am not here to wait; I have issues to raise on NITA-U. UTL was sold and the backbone was given to the new investor. Money has been allocated to NITA-U – Shs 18 billion. I want to understand what that money is going to do since NITA-U is no longer responsible for the fibre backbone – because we have already dumped –

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Oguzu Lee, I want to guide you to get a schedule, which has all the explanations for each amount. By the

time we give you a schedule, we know that you know how to read.

1. Vote 144 - Uganda Police Force – Shs 62,969,000,500;
2. Vote 166 - National Council of Sports – Shs 68,894,694,780;
3. Vote 167 – Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation – Shs 60,000,000,000;
4. Vote 301 – Makerere University – Shs 5,000,000,000;
5. Vote 302 - Mbarara University – Shs 3,997,829,950;
6. Vote 409 – Masaka Hospital – Shs 600,000,000;
7. Vote 415 – Moroto Regional Referral Hospital – Shs 481,000,000;
8. Vote 417 – Kiruddu National Referral Hospital – Shs 2,000,000,000;
9. Vote 505 - Uganda High Commission in Kenya, Nairobi – Shs 1,800,000,000;
10. Vote 506 – Uganda High Commission in Tanzania, Dar es Salaam – Shs 749,000,000;
11. Vote 512 - Uganda Embassy in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa - Shs 2,000,000,000;
12. Vote 513 - Uganda Embassy in China, Beijing - Shs 219,000,000;
13. Vote 515 - Uganda Embassy in Japan, Tokyo – Shs 1,500,000,000;
14. Vote 516 - Uganda Embassy in Saudi Arabia, Riyadh – Shs 273,000,000;
15. Vote 517 - Uganda Embassy in Denmark, Copenhagen – Shs 904,000,000;
16. Vote 523 - Uganda Embassy in Germany, Berlin – Shs 2,959,000,000; and

17. Vote 524 - Uganda Embassy in Iran, Tehran – Shs 1,038,000,000; and

18. Vote 537 - Uganda mission in Havana, Cuba – Shs 314,000,000.

Sub-total (Central Government) – Shs 2,489,823,488,735.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that a total sum of Shs 2,489,823,488,735 be provided for as supplementary recurrent expenditure for the Central Government for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Local governments (recurrent expenditure)

1. Vote 601 - Arua City – Shs 64,613,108;
2. Vote 602 – Fort Portal City – Shs 348,225,108;
3. Vote 603 – Gulu City – Shs 116,433,601;
4. Vote 604 - Hoima City – Shs 62,006,925;
5. Vote 605 - Jinja City – Shs 233,784,000;
6. Vote 606 – Lira City – Shs 484,320,000;
7. Vote 607 – Masaka City – Shs 203,216,400;
8. Vote 608 – Mbale City – 10,533,056;
9. Vote 609 - Mbarara City - Shs 81,600,000;
10. Vote 610 - Soroti City – Shs 169,800,000;
11. Vote 701 - Apac Municipal Council - Shs 18,350,000;
12. Vote 703 – Bushenyi-Ishaka Municipal Council – Shs 57,960,000; Vote 704 – Busia Municipal Council – Shs 7,249,302;
13. Vote 715 – Koboko Municipal Council – Shs 24,318,144;



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| 14. Vote 722 – Moroto Municipal Council - Shs 137,831,048;   | 32. Vote 835: Ibanda District – Shs 12,000,000;      |
| 15. Vote 724 - Mukono Municipal Council – Shs 157,843,584;   | 33. Vote 837: Isingiro District – Shs 2,633,333,265; |
| 16. Vote 726 – Nebbi Municipal Council – Shs 38,895,597;     | 34. Vote 842: Kaberamaido District – Shs 31,589,664; |
| 17. Vote 729 - Rukungiri Municipal Council - Shs 11,011,184; | 35. Vote 844: Kakumiro District – Shs 448,858,700;   |
| 18. Vote 730 - Sheema Municipal Council - Shs 4,109,634;     | 36. Vote 847: Kaliro District – Shs 310,200,761;     |
| 19. Vote 802 – Adjumani District - Shs 19,860,000;           | 37. Vote 848: Kalungu District – Shs 6,117,000;      |
| 20. Vote 803 – Agago District - Shs 81,984,000;              | 38. Vote 849: Kamuli District – Shs 65,029,474;      |
| 21. Vote 807: Amuria District – Shs 57,525,000;              | 39. Vote 853: Kapelebyong District – Shs 88,207,238; |
| 22. Vote 808: Amuru District – Shs 1,271,000,000;            | 40. Vote 854: Karenga District – Shs 39,240,000;     |
| 23. Vote 811: Budaka District – Shs 45,500,000;              | 41. Vote 855: Kasese District – Shs 142,590,000;     |
| 24. Vote 812: Bududa District – Shs 99,504,000;              | 42. Vote 857: Katakwi District – Shs 157,861,200;    |
| 25. Vote 813: Bugiri District – Shs 107,555,970;             | 43. Vote 858: Kayunga District – Shs 11,270,000;     |
| 26. Vote 817: Bukedea District – Shs 235,603,000;            | 44. Vote 862: Kibuku District – Shs 399,326,980;     |
| 27. Vote 821: Buliisa District – Shs 31,440,000;             | 45. Vote 863: Kikuube District – Shs 127,115,012;    |
| 28. Vote 827: Butambala District – Shs 31,633,858;           | 46. Vote 866: Kisoro District – Shs 78,755,970;      |
| 29. Vote 828: Butebo District – Shs 15,360,000;              | 47. Vote 867: Kitagwenda District – Shs 700,600,000; |
| 30. Vote 832: Gomba District – Shs 31,395,000;               | 48. Vote 868: Kitgum District – Shs 117,742,657;     |
| 31. Vote 836: Iganga District – Shs 37,200,000;              | 49. Vote 870: Kole District – Shs 64,680,000;        |

50. Vote 871: Kotido District – Shs 503,436,072;
51. Vote 872: Kumi District – Shs 202,740,000;
52. Vote 879: Lamwo District – Shs 47,114,000;
53. Vote 880: Lira District – Shs 23,760,000;
54. Vote 881: Luuka District – Shs 56,760,000;
55. Vote 884: Lyantonde District – Shs 6,720,000;
56. Vote 885: Madi-Okollo District – Shs 44,695,393;
57. Vote 886: Manafwa District – Shs 251,040,000;
58. Vote 887: Maracha District – Shs 103,800,000;
59. Vote 892: Mbarara District – Shs 18,195,000;
60. Vote 896: Moyo District – Shs 11,070,000;
61. Vote 900: Nabilatuk District – Shs 36,240,000;
62. Vote 902: Nakaseke District – Shs 27,735,600;
63. Vote 904: Namayingo District – Shs 6,580,000;
64. Vote 906: Namutumba District – Shs 472,752,800;
65. Vote 907: Napak District – Shs 186,300,000;
66. Vote 910: Ntoroko District – Shs 23,400,000;
67. Vote 911: Ntungamo District – Shs 17,160,000;
68. Vote 912: Nwoya District – Shs 259,740,012;
69. Vote 914: Omoro District – Shs 92,920,000;
70. Vote 917: Pader District – Shs 356,782,000;
71. Vote 919: Pallisa District – Shs 114,335,970;
72. Vote 923: Rukiga District – Shs 51,000,000;
73. Vote 924: Rukungiri District – Shs 6,298,000;
74. Vote 925: Rwampara District – Shs 26,694,209;
75. Vote 928: Sironko District – Shs 60,000,000;
76. Vote 929: Soroti District – Shs 56,881,000;
77. Vote 932: Tororo District – Shs 3,035,429,737;
78. Vote 935: Zombo District – Shs 153,577,688; and
- Sub-total for local government – Shs 15,985,336,921.
- THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that the total sum of Shs 15,985,336,921 be provided for as supplementary recurrent expenditure under local government for the Financial Year 2024/2025.
- (Question put and agreed to.)*
- THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that the total sum of Shs 2,505,808,825,656 be provided for as a total recurrent expenditure for the Financial Year 2024/2025.
- (Question put and agreed to.)*

SUPPLEMENTARY EXPENDITURE  
(DEVELOPMENT)

1. Vote 004: Ministry of Defence and Veterans Affairs – Shs 50,000,000,000;
2. Vote 014: Ministry of Health – Shs 12,287,000;
3. Vote 019: Ministry of Water and Environment – Shs 31,749,077,543;
4. Vote 144: Uganda Police Force – Shs 128,000,000,000;
5. Vote 011: Ministry of Local Government – Shs 76,157,405,623;
6. Vote 115: Uganda Heart Institute – Shs 158,863,138;
7. Vote 013: Ministry of Education and Sports – Shs 479,828,788;
8. Vote 166: National Council of Sports - Shs 188,260,305,220 –

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Clarification?

**MR ODUR:** Madam Chairperson, I seek clarification on Vote 166: National Council of Sports, in respect of the details pertaining to the construction of Akii Bua Stadium and the financing/contract model. Two, whether the money has been released in the past for the same or this is the first financing and how much was released.

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** Madam Chairperson, when we were interfacing with the National Council of Sports – *(Whereupon Ms Ruth Nankabirwa entered the Chamber)* -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Nankabirwa, why are you annoyed? First smile.

**MR KATESHUMBWA:** We asked about major issues that came through:

- 1) We wanted to know whether the stadiums will be ready for the Africa Cup of

Nations (AFCON), and we were given an affirmative answer.

- 2) We wanted to know the budget for each project: how much has been spent and how much is left. We have a commitment from the ministry to provide a brief on the status and the amounts that have been spent, but the major confirmation was that these projects are on track and will be completed.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Kateshumbwa, why are you bothering yourself as if there is no minister for sports here? Let the minister tell us how much has been committed for Akii Bua Stadium and how much has been paid. What does the agreement say? How much of this is going to Akii Bua?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all, I thank you for allowing me to explain these very important projects for the country, for the purpose of all of us understanding.

Madam Speaker, let me begin by thanking you for being part and parcel of the historical journey of Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania to host the first AFCON in the history of the three countries; Pamoja.

Secondly, Madam Speaker, it is through your concerted effort, as a person, that we were able to first secure Shs 100 billion for Akii Bua Stadium, and I thought the august House should clap for you.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** You clap for me on that one. *(Applause)* Hon. Okot-Ogong, I am saying you should first clap for me for getting Shs 100 billion. We do not need your answer. Let him finish. *(Hon. Okot-Ogong rose\_)*

**MR OKOT-OGONG:** We would like to thank the Speaker, the President, and the entire Parliament for approving Shs 100 billion for Akii Bua. Last week, I was in Lira and work had stalled because of resources. I do not know how they are releasing the resources.

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Madam Speaker, there is a reason I am coming with this background, and I want honourable colleagues to take note of it carefully. If you recall very well, we had another stadium called Hoima City Stadium. Through a supplementary budget again, we gave US\$ 39 million in this august House. In the subsequent financial year, there was no provision for us to continue financing this stadium, despite the fact that we needed to have a stadium ready by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December this very year.

For that matter, Madam Speaker, with consultations with the finance ministry, we were able to use part of the money because we had already signed a contract with Summa Construction Company to construct Hoima from Akii Bua money.

I want to confirm that we used that money from Akii Bua Stadium because what we have so far paid to Akii Bua as of now - to confirm what Hon. Odur is asking - we paid the contractor for Akii Bua Shs 47 billion out of the Shs 100 billion. Therefore, with this supplementary, we will be able to pay an additional Shs 57 billion to raise 100 per cent of the budget that was provided before. That gives Akii Bua 100 per cent.

Remember, because I want us to go back to the origin of the first project, I have Hoima, which is also part of the project. I have come to ask for money here. First, regarding Akii Bua, I confirm that out of the Shs 100 billion you gave me, I used part of it to pay the first certificates, which we specifically needed and certificate -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Hon. Ogwang, how much is the total cost of construction for Akii Bua?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Akii Bua is meant to cost us Shs 505 billion and Hoima City Stadium is meant to cost us Shs 510 billion. That is the construction; that is US\$ 130 million and US\$ 129 million. In terms of shillings, that is the cost of the stadium.

When I talk about the facilities, it is not football alone. I talk about multisport. When I talk about multisport, I mean football, athletics, indoor games like basketball, volleyball, netball, futsal, swimming, and then the others are also all embedded in that. That is why, in our plan and our structural drawings of both the Akii Bua and Hoima, we have an outdoor basketball facility, an indoor games facility, and an outdoor swimming pool.

In Akii Bua, we were able to provide what we call a hostel, which is equivalent to 60 rooms for the purposes of the team camping in Akii Bua - *(Interruption)*

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, at the end, I will make other remarks that will please Hon. Ogwang. The issue I want to be clear about is that this Parliament appropriated Shs 100 billion for Akii Bua. That money, according to -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** He says they borrowed it for Hoima; repurposed it.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, I respect you as a financial expert. The correct word for that is diversification.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** No.

**MR ODUR:** It is the diversion of funds under public finance. We may want to call it something else, but once money is provided for a particular project -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** It is called a virement in accounting. It is provided for under the Public Finance Management Act, where an accounting officer must get authorisation from the PS/ST before you do a virement.

What I want to ask, Hon. Ogwang, before you come in, is now that you did a virement of the money which was meant for Akii Bua, is this money part of what you are going to take back, of what was taken? On top of what you are taking back; the Shs 67 billion, is there an addition for the work to move faster?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Madam Speaker, I would like to confirm to you that in line with our budget request for a supplementary, all that you have asked for is provided for up to the end of this financial year. It will also allow us to pay the other contractor; Summa, additional certificates to make sure that we are aligned by the end of this financial year. It is already budgeted and planned for. We will not come here to ask for a supplementary for both Akii Bua and Hoima City Stadiums.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Speaker, with this confirmation, it is clear. Let the justification of the name of Akii Bua not be used. They are going to refund the money for whatever - whether through virement - which I understand it is not, but what is in this supplementary is that no additional money is being provided for Akii Bua. They are just replenishing.

Therefore, the name of the Akii Bua should not be used to justify it. We appreciate the steps taken so far to implement the project because we need to report to our people.

However, the other question I ask is, we need to understand the financing model and the agreement. If it pleases the minister, it should come here for ease of reference and also follow-up.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Honourable, does it hurt to share the financing model with the team?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** I request that on the issue of the financing model, it is entirely a matter of finance and I am happy that the minister for finance is here.

Madam Speaker, allow me, on behalf of our country, to congratulate Dr Patrice Motsepe for again becoming the CAF President. Why do I say this? I know the relationship with your husband - because I have just read the news here. *(Interjections)* I was here.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** But I had already mentioned it.

**MR PETER OGWANG:** And the Chairperson had already mentioned it but as the minister responsible for sports, it is important that I congratulate the CAF President on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Uganda. Thank you.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Thank you. Honourable members, the fact remains that Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium has to be completed. It must be completed. How you complete it is not our business but a baby has to be born. Once you conceive, it must come out.

Therefore, Hon. Ogwang, we, as the people there, want our stadium.

**MS DORCUS ACEN:** Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I appreciate that you have indicated that Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium has to be completed, and we are so happy because we need it to be completed. However, when I listened to the honourable minister, we are getting worried because December, which is the timeline he is giving, is so soon and yet they are moving money, which is supposed to be used for Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium to Hoima. When do you hope to complete Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium?

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Madam Chairperson, for the record, I signed a contract with the contractor of Akii-Bua Olympic Stadium for 20 months and it is within the time for AFCON 2027. I want that to be clear. What we are only doing - and I thank all of you for always standing with me - is that for purposes of us not defaulting on the contractual obligations we made with the first contractor for Hoima - and Madam Speaker, if you permit, I want to invite the entire august House -

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Actually, I was going to invite Members to go and visit Hoima Stadium, which is almost complete. *(Mr Oguzu rose)* Next item?

1. Vote 015: Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives - Shs 1 billion;
2. Vote 016: Ministry of Works and Transport - Shs 831,300,000,000;



3. Vote 017: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development -12,594,000,000; and
4. Vote 131: Office of the Auditor-General - Shs 400 Million.

Subtotal: Central Government - Shs  
1,332,386,480,312.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that the total sum of Shs 1,332,386,480,312 be provided for as a supplementary for development expenditure for central government for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE

1. Vote 722 - Moroto Municipal Council: Shs 160 million;
2. Vote 820 - Bulambuli District: Shs 202,244,620;
3. Vote 827- Butambala District: Shs 36,356,530;
4. Vote 838 - Jinja District: Shs 213 million;
5. Vote 845 - Kalaki District: Shs 74,776,279;
6. Vote 858 - Kayunga District: Shs 235,200,000;
7. Vote 865 - Kiryandongo District: Shs 120 million;
8. Vote 866 - Kisoro District: Shs 567,851,100;
9. Vote 867 - Kitagwenda District: Shs 412 million;
10. Vote 875 - Kyankwanzi District: Shs 80 million;
11. Vote 882 - Luwero District: Shs 540,756,000;

12. Vote 898 – Mubende District: Shs 378,616,912;

13. Vote 906 - Namutumba District: Shs 40 million;

14. Vote 924 – Rukungiri District: Shs 198,591,279;

15. Vote 926 – Sembabule District: Shs 350 million;

16. Vote 928 – Sheema District: Shs 50,442,000;

17. Vote 932 – Tororo District: 651,605,442; and

18. Vote 933 - Wakiso District: Shs 165,137,504.

Subtotal for Local Government: Shs  
4,476,577,666.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that the total sum of Shs 4,476,577,666 be provided for as a supplementary development expenditure for Local Government for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

TOTAL DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE:  
Shs 1,336,863,057,978

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that a total sum of Shs 1,336,863,057,978 be provided for as a supplementary for total development expenditure for Financial Year 2024/2025.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Supplementary Expenditure Statutory - Vote  
130: Treasury Operations: Shs 380,496,222,025

Vote 131: Office of the Auditor-General: Shs  
31,800,000,000.

Total Statutory: Shs 412,296,222,025.

**MR ODUR:** Madam Chairperson, I wanted clarification on Vote 130. The interest payment to the IMF. Remember in ministry for finance, there was a big fraud and the money was purportedly for payment of interest and the monies lost have not been recovered.

So, is this money paying for that lost money because it was interest payment on –

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** He is asking if this is interest payment for the money lost or it is both principal plus interest plus commitment fees – from the banking background.

**MR MUSASIZI:** Madam Chairperson, the item is not related to the Member's concern. What we are seeking is the unforeseen special drawing rights obligation under the IMF. Thank you.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** Honourable members, I put the question that a total sum of Shs 412,296,222,025 be provided for as supplementary statutory expenditure for Financial Year 2024/2025.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

#### MOTION FOR THE HOUSE TO RESUME

7.34

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi):** Madam Chairperson, I beg to move a motion that the House do resume and the Committee of Supply reports thereto.

**THE CHAIRPERSON:** I put the question that the House does resume and the Committee of Supply reports thereto.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

*(The House resumed, the Speaker presiding.)*

#### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

7.35

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi):** Madam Speaker, I beg to report that the Committee of Supply has considered the Supplementary Expenditure Schedule No.3 for the Financial Year 2024/2025, amounting to Shs 4.255 trillion, and passed it without amendments.

#### MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

7.35

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (GENERAL DUTIES) (Mr Henry Musasizi):** Madam Speaker, I beg to move a motion that the report from the Committee of Supply be adopted.

**THE SPEAKER:** I put the question that the report of the Committee of Supply be adopted in this honourable House.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

*Report adopted.*

**THE SPEAKER:** Honourable members, as I guided – yes?

7.36

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON BUDGET (Mr Dicksons Kateshumbwa):** Madam Speaker, thank you very much for the support. Allow me, on behalf of the committee, to raise a very important matter for Members to take note. While we have finished this exercise, we are in the budgeting process. Ministerial policy statements have been laid and we shall be processing the Budget.

One of our biggest concerns is for the sectoral committees to do enough work so that when the

entities appear, you scrutinise the work plans, procurement plans and recruitment plans.

By the time you appear before the Budget Committee, you must have exercised your mandate to make sure that these gaps in planning and budgeting are sorted. It is very bad to find that we are dealing with wage shortfalls when we could have actually dealt with them in that process.

Our appeal, as a Budget Committee, is that the sectoral committees should help us to further scrutinise budgets. The budgets that do not have work plans should not be entertained, so that we make our work easier going forward.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable members, I refer you to rule 146, on the policy statements. Each minister responsible for a Vote or a ministry, or the head responsible for a Vote shall, by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, submit to Parliament a policy statement for the preceding financial year for the ministry or Vote.

It gives you what is required when you are making an analysis of your report; what should be provided for by the ministry or by the Vote holder when they are presenting the policy statement. You need to work within the rules that are provided.

Honourable ministers, as I guided before, we need credible reports that have been analysed properly. We will suspend the sittings of the House and let Members concentrate on all sectoral committees.

We shall start reporting to this House by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. The minister for finance is also expected to bring the tax Bills by 1<sup>st</sup> of April.

The ministerial statements that have not been brought or laid on the Table will be brought to my office and I will refer them administratively to the committees. However, for now, the sectoral committees should sit. They take precedence over the House.

Number two, we have the alternative statement. As I guided in my statement, it will be referred

administratively, for it to be looked at alongside the government ministerial statements, and they will be brought to the House as a whole report. You will bring it and we will send it to the committees.

Three, we have the Iftar Dinner on Friday here. All the Members are invited to join our Muslim brothers and sisters.

7.41

**MR GEOFFREY EKANYA (FDC, Tororo North County, Tororo):** Madam Speaker, with your permission, before my leader comes on, you have read the rules but we have had scenarios where during the policy statement discussions, most ministers and accounting officers do not turn up but they send commissioners.

I urge the Leader of Government Business –

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Ekanya, rule 208 is on special powers of a committee. Exercise your special powers as a committee to compel a minister to appear.

**MR EKANYA:** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Finally, we also have a very important issue that you need to guide the House on. The Department of Treasury Operations needs reforms before we go to the next Budget and the Minister of Finance needs to bring the necessary reforms as that department needs to operate. It cannot be a department that manages debt, accounting and internal audit.

**THE SPEAKER:** Do you want me to micromanage?

**MR EKANYA:** Madam Speaker, we are not requesting you to micromanage, but we are just putting the -

**THE SPEAKER:** I am in the Legislature; I am not in the Executive. Do not make me micromanage.

**MR EKANYA:** Madam Speaker, we are putting the Ministry of Finance on notice. We shall bring a motion -

**THE SPEAKER:** Can you sit? Hon. Ekanya, first manage your house before you go to manage other people's houses.

Yes, Hon. Basalirwa -

7.43

**MR ASUMAN BASALIRWA (JEEMA, Bugiri Municipality, Bugiri):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker, for inviting colleagues to the Iftar Dinner on Friday. I inform colleagues that the Iftar will begin at exactly 5.00 p.m. in the parking yard. It is being hosted by the Speaker for all Muslims and friends of Muslims so it is important that we keep time. Make sure the caucus ends before 6 p.m., because we really want all of you to come here.

Madam Speaker -

**THE SPEAKER:** Hon. Daudi -

**MR BASALIRWA:** We look forward to receiving our colleagues on Friday. Inshaa Allah. Assalamu aleikhum.

**THE SPEAKER:** Waleikhum Salaam.

7.45

**MR DAVID KABANDA (NRM, Kasambya County, Mubende):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to request Hon. Ogwang to come and clear the *Hansard* because he said that he signed a contract.

**THE SPEAKER:** He does not have the powers to sign for - The Attorney-General -

**MR DAVID KABANDA:** If our *Hansard* remains like that, it will be very bad for the future of our country and for this House. If he signed, we should also know whether ministers have the powers to sign the contract.

**THE SPEAKER:** The Attorney-General clears the contract and the minister has delegated powers. Yes, I always see contracts signed by Hon. Nankabirwa in Energy.

7.46

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION AND SPORTS (SPORTS)**

**(Mr Peter Ogwang):** Madam Speaker, let me put it on the record. If we go back to the *Hansard*, I said "we" and when I talk about "we", I mean the ministry -

**THE SPEAKER:** Collective responsibility.

**MR PETER OGWANG:** Yes, I mean the Ministry of Education and Sports under the National Council of Sports. If I said, "I" then let me say it was a slip of the tongue.

**THE SPEAKER:** Replace "I" with "we".

**MR PETER OGWANG:** "We", but because I am a minister in the sector of education, I only wanted to make that - Madam Speaker, before I sit down, allow me to say thank you to the House for always supporting the sports subsector because what AFCON has brought for Uganda is not only going to benefit football. It is benefiting even other sports, which are not football-related. Mine is to thank you, honourable colleagues, that - I call upon you, Madam Speaker, to invite Members to visit some of the facilities that we have worked on. I also invite you to visit Hoima, Akii Bua, and we are going to Gulu, Kyambogo and Lira. All these facilities are going to be worked on. Thank you and you are most welcome. We are open to visits. I thank you.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. Honourable members, as I said, the sectoral committee activity takes precedence from now until you report to the House and -

7.48

**MR JOHN BAPTIST NAMBESHE (NUP, Manjiya County, Bududa):**

Madam Speaker, I stand guided by your directions, but the puzzle is about the alternative policy statements, which were ready for submission. Now that you have said you are going to have it handled administratively, I wish you could give the time -

**THE SPEAKER:** The rules do not say, it shall be tabled in the House. The rules say, the shadow minister may submit the alternative and I am saying, as the head of the institution, I will refer them administratively so that they are looked at together with the ones of the Government and they make one report. When they come, we will refer them to the committees by 27<sup>th</sup>. Even if you bring them tomorrow, we shall refer them.

**MR NAMBESHE:** Much obliged, Madam Speaker.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thank you. The House is adjourned *sine die*.

*(The House rose at 7.49 p.m. and adjourned  
sine die)*