

THE CONCEPT NOTE OF THE SECOND NATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FORUM (NSDF) TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY-FRIDAY 22RD-23TH SEPTEMBER, 2011 AT IMPERIAL ROYALE HOTEL, KAMPALA.

BACKGROUND

The second National Sustainable Development Forum (NSDF) is a follow up on the Forum held on 21st and 22nd January 2010 at which the proposal for the formation of National Sustainable Development Think Tank (NSDTT) was endorsed. Arrangements for the operationalisation of the NSDTT have been finalized.

The second NSDF is taking place after the swearing of a new Government in Uganda and therefore this will be an opportunity for renewed political commitment to the sustainable development of the country. Further more, the second NSDF is taking place in the wake of country and African preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012. The focus of Rio+20 is on the Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and institutional framework for sustainable development. The second NSDF will therefore inform national preparations for Rio + 20 that will as well feed into the African preparation for the Rio+20 Conference. Consequently, in the sprit of the Rio + 20, the theme of the second NSDF is **“Towards Rio+20: Uganda’s Road Map”**.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SECOND NSDF

Against this background, the specific objectives of the NSDF include the following:

- (i) To bring stakeholders together to discuss sustainable development challenges, emerging issues and opportunities facing the country;
- (ii) To Secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development;
- (iii) To inaugurate the NSDTT.
- (iv) To inform Uganda’s participation in the Rio +20 Summit

PARTICIPANTS

In order to deliberate effectively on the key sustainable development issues, a multi stakeholder forum is planned and will include the following participants: Cabinet ministers, Members of Parliament, Central government officials, Local government officials, Development partners, Civil Society Organizations, the Academia, the Media houses and the Private sector among other

stakeholders. All together, the forum is expected to bring together approximately 300 participants.

METHODOLOGY

In order to give ample time to cover and adequately discuss the topics on the programme, the 2nd NSDF will have both plenary and panel sessions covering the different sub-themes and topics. Each of the panels will have a facilitator and the different topics will have presenters and discussants. A rapporteur will report the key emerging issues and way forward to the plenary session.

PROGRAMME

The theme of the Forum as noted above is; **Towards Rio + 20: Uganda's Road Map**. This theme will be discussed under the following sub-themes: Green Economy, Sustainable Development Strategies, Sustainable Livelihoods, Governance for Sustainable development and National preparations for Rio + 20.

(i) Panel discussion on Green economy (GE)

This session will discuss initiatives on green economy currently witnessed in the country and how they fit into the overall sustainable development debate, and in the broad context of Rio+20. Speakers will highlight the role of individuals, private sector, Government ministries and agencies, bilateral and multilateral initiatives in promoting sustainable production and consumption practices.

The Panel will provide additional international and national perspectives on GE in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The panel will discuss the following topics:

- (a) Exploring pathways to Green Growth in developing and emerging economies (Fred Onyai, NEMA)
- (b) Sustainable production and consumption as an engine for sustainable growth and poverty eradication in Uganda (Silver Sebagala, Uganda Cleaner Production Centre)
- (c) Exploring policies and measures for promoting green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication (Eugene Muramira, NEMA)

The presentations are expected to cover the following key questions/issues relating to strategies, experiences and challenges of moving towards a GE in context of poverty reduction in developing countries:

- Defining key terms/concepts; Green Economy/Low Carbon Green Growth, Sustainable Production and Consumption and conceptualizing green economy in Uganda ;

- Addressing the structural transformations required to equip Uganda's transition to a green economy (financing, roles of the state, international community and non state actors);
- Exploring forestry and climate smart agriculture in context of green jobs (REDD+, PES, organic agriculture)
- Identifying the benefits, challenges and risks of a transition to a green economy by developing and emerging economies in the context of sustainable development.

(ii) Panel discussion on Sustainable Development Strategies

This session will discuss sustainable development strategies, progress, challenges, and opportunities a sustainable society and explore the past, present and future progress towards sustainability. Speakers will highlight the issues of sustainability and its indicators, emerging and persistent sustainable development issues, national, regional and global efforts towards sustainable development including the legal (multilateral environmental agreements (especially the 3 Rio conventions)), policy and institutional frameworks for sustainable development. The role and responsibilities of different actors/players in sustainability including the non-state actors such as the CSOs will be explored.

The panel will feature presentations and discussions on the following topics:

- (a) Setting the context for sustainable development in Uganda (Ronald Kagwa, NEMA)
- (b) Rapid economic growth and social transformation in Uganda: Lessons from the Chinese development model (Andrew Mwenda)
- (c) Developing the national sustainable development strategy for Uganda: Reflections on Uganda's National Development Plan (Dr. Kisamba-Mugerwa, Chairman, National Planning Authority (NPA))

Panel will provide perspectives on:

- The concept of sustainable development and its dimensions
- Indicators for Sustainable development in Uganda
- Strengthening the environmental pillar as well as integration of relationships with other pillars (Social and economic)
- Strategies for rapid socio-economic development
- The Uganda National Development Plan and how it can deliver the country's sustainable development strategy

(iii) Panel discussion on sustainable livelihoods

The session will discuss how to ensure both urban and rural sustainable livelihoods. Speakers will highlight issues on people centered approach to reducing poverty e.g. community driven development programme in Local Governments, planning sustainable cities and enhancing citizen participation and accountability.

The Panel will also deliberate on the following topics:

- (a) The Land Resource as an engine of growth and Sustainable development in Uganda (Vincent Byendamira)
- (b) Sustainable Rural development and Urbanisation: Exploring Strategies and Policy options for Uganda (Gordon T. Mwesigye);
- (c) Indigenous knowledge, Culture and Education for Uganda's Sustainable development (Dr. Daniel Babikwa, NEMA)
- (d) Enhancing citizens participation and accountability in the context of sustainable development (Ms. Barbara Kaija, New Vision Publishing Corporation)

The presentations and discussions are expected to cover the following key issues:

- The land question in Uganda including its strategic role in sustainable development, the key issues, the land policy and challenges in its implementation;
- Sustainable livelihoods options
- Land use planning, planned urban development, water and sanitation, energy, housing, population and health
- Education and culture for sustainable development

(iv) Plenary discussions on national preparation for Rio+20 (UN conference on Sustainable Development, June 4-6, 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and the inauguration of the National Sustainable Development Think Tank (NSDTT)

The plenary session will review Uganda's achievements since the Rio Summit in 1992 and discuss how Uganda can prepare herself for the up coming Rio+20 and will as well feature the inauguration of the NSDTT.

Speakers will highlight current preparations process at both regional and global levels. The following topics are to be presented and discussed:

- (a) Inauguration and Operationalisation of the National Sustainable Development Think Tank (Christine Akello, NEMA)
- (b) Research and Development (R&D) as a Vehicle for Sustainable Development (Prof. Opuda Asibo, Kyambogo University)
- (c) Towards Rio+20: Taking stock of Uganda's achievements since the Rio Summit in 1992 (Eugene Muramira)
- (d) Uganda's preparations for participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012 (Samuel Otuba, MWE)
- (e) Uganda CSOs (Civil Society Organizations) Preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Robert Bakiika, EMLI Bwaise Facility)

Panel will provide more input on:

- Role of permanent Mission of Uganda to UN in preparing for Rio+20, state and non-state actors
- What will be the national coordinating body?
- Exploring possible bilateral and multi lateral engagements
- Drawing time frame and activity plan for the conference
- Rethinking the Institutional framework for sustainable development and National Focal Institution for Sustainable development
- What key messages to inform the public and finding consensus on what to take to Rio +20.

Panel discussion on Environmental governance for Sustainable Development

The plenary session will focus on ways of reforming and strengthening the current system of environmental governance in Uganda.

Speakers will revisit the current environmental governance framework in Uganda and deliberate on its adequacy to deliver on sustainable development. The panel will discuss the institutional framework for sustainable development.

The following issues will be presented;

- What is environmental governance and how does environmental governance relate to the overall Sustainable Development Agenda?
- What are needs, gaps and achievements in Uganda's environmental governance? (NEMA)
- National institution coordinating Sustainable Development.

The panel will provide more input on;

- a) Where has Environmental Governance failed and why? What problems identified are really problems of Governance as opposed to implementation?
- b) Institutional reforms for Sustainable Development: what are the institutional options for improving coherence and synergies?

PROPOSED PROGRAMME

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER/DISCUSSANT	CHAIRMAN
8:00-9:00	Arrival and registration of participants	Joy, Perry, Bonnie, Rhona (NEMA)	
9:00-9:30	Welcome remarks and objectives of the 2 nd NSDF	Dr. Tom Okurut (ED NEMA)	Hon. Minister of State for Privatization
9:30-10:00	Statement from the MWE	Hon. Betty Bigombe (Minister of State for Water)	
10:00-10:30	Opening Remarks	Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, John Patrick Amama Mbabazi	
10:30-11:00	COFFEE BREAK	All	
	Presentations in Plenary		Hon. Minister State for Water
11:00-11:30	Setting the context for Sustainable Development in Uganda	Ronald Kaggwa Environment Economist, NEMA	
11:30-12:00	Exploring Pathways to Green Growth in developing and emerging economies	Fred Onyai (Internal Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, NEMA)	
12:00-12:30	Towards a national Sustainable Development Framework for Uganda: Reflections on Uganda's National Development Plan	Dr. Kisamba-Mugerwa, (Chairman, National Planning Authority (NPA))	
12:30-1:00	Discussion of the presentations	All	
1:00-2:00	LUNCH BREAK	All	
A	Panel discussion on Green economy (GE)		Hon. Minister of State for Environment

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER/DISCUSSANT	CHAIRMAN
2:00-2:30	Culture, Indigenous Knowledge and Education for Uganda's Sustainable Development	Dr. Daniel Babikwa (Environmental Education Coordinator, NEMA) Environment Education Coordinator, NEMA	
2:30-3:00	Exploring policies and measures for promoting green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication in Uganda	Mr. Eugene Muramira (Director, Policy, Planning and Information, NEMA)	
3:00-3:30	Linking climate change to sustainable development: key issues and response Options for Uganda	Prof. John Kabasa, (Makerere University)	
3:30-4:00	Reactions to the Presentations		
	EVENING TEA BREAK		
B	Panel discussion on Sustainable Development Strategies		Chairman Parliamentary Committee on the Economy
2:00-2:30	Uganda CSOs(Civil Society Organisations) Preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development	Mr. Robert Bakiika, (EMLI Bwaise Facility)	
2:30-3:00	Financing Sustainable development	Mr. Joseph Enyimu (MFPED)	
3:00-3:30	The Land Resource as an engine of growth and Sustainable development in Uganda	Mr. Vincent Byendamira (Asst. Commissioner (MLHUD)	
3:30-4:00	Discussion of the presentations	All	
	EVENING TEA BREAK		
	Friday 23rd September, 2011		
	Plenary discussions on the inauguration of the National Sustainable Development		Chairman NEMA Board

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER/DISCUSSANT	CHAIRMAN
	Think Tank (NSDTT) and national preparation for Rio+20 and the		
9:00-9:30	Inauguration and Operationalisation of the National Sustainable Development Think Tank (NSDTT)	Ms. Christine Akello (Senior Legal Counsel, NEMA)	
9:30-10:00	Research and Development (R&D) as a vehicle for Sustainable Development	Prof. Opuda Asibo, (Kyambogo University)	
10:00-10:30	Towards Rio+20: Taking stock of Uganda's achievements since the Rio Summit in 1992	Mr. Eugene Muramira (Director Policy, Planning and Information, NEMA)	
10:30-11:00	COFFEE BREAK		
11:00-11:30	Uganda's preparations for participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012	Mr. Samuel Otuba (Commissioner, Planning, MWE)	Permanent Secretary (MWE)
11:30-12:00	Rapid economic growth and social transformation in Uganda: Lessons from the Chinese development model	Mr. Andrew Mwenda (The Independent)	
12:00-1:00	Discussions		
1:00-2:00	LUNCH BREAK		
C	Panel discussion on Sustainable Livelihoods		Hon. Jessica Eriyo
2:00-2:20	Sustainable Rural development and Urbanization: Exploring Strategies and Policy options for Uganda	Gordon T. Mwesigye (Uganda Human Rights Commission)	
2:20-2:40	Sustainable production and consumption as an engine for sustainable growth and poverty eradication in Uganda	Mr. Silver Sebagala, (Uganda Cleaner Production Centre)	

TIME	TOPIC	PRESENTER/DISCUSSANT	CHAIRMAN
2:40-3:00	Enhancing citizens participation and accountability in the context of sustainable development	Ms. Barbara Kaija (New Vision Publishing Corporation)	
3:00-3:30	Discussions	All	
D	Panel discussion on Governance for Sustainable Development		Chairman Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources
2:00-2:30	Institutional reforms for Sustainable Development: exploring options for improving coherence and synergies among institutions	Col. Nuwe Amanyu Mushega (Former Secretary General, East African Community (EAC))	
2:30-3:00	An overview of Governance in Uganda as a vehicle for Sustainable Development	Dr. Ben Twinomugisha (Faculty of Law, Makerere University)	
3:00-3:30	Discussion of the presentations	All	
	CLOSING PLENARY SESSION		
3:30-4:00	Summary of the Proceedings and the Way Forward		
4:00-4:30	Closing Remarks	Hon. Amelia Kyambadde (Minister of Trade and Industry)	
4:30-7:00	COCK TAIL	All	