MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
UGANDA PEOPLE'S DEFENCE FORCES

Congratulations!!

The Minister of Defence, State Minister for Defence, Permanent Secretary, Chief of Defence Forces, Deputy Chief of Defence Forces, all Staffs, UPDF Officers and Men wish to extend their congratulations to H.E Y. K. Museveni President of the Republic of Uganda/Commander in Chief of all Armed Forces Upon his 5th re-election and swearing-in ceremony as the next Head of State. The Ministry pledges to continue overseeing the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces to ensure a professional force which is accountable to the people while focusing on protecting the citizens, defending the country's sovereignty and contributing to regional stability.

Long Live H.E The President Y. K. Museveni Long Live Uganda

UPDF - A professional army
In order to establish the UPDF as a professional army, the NRM government has implemented a defense strategic infrastructure development plan aimed at professionalizing the Uganda People's Defence Forces and the Uganda Police.

Improvement of Land Forces
In line with Professionalization, the Land Forces have been improved and have the capacity to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Uganda on land.

Evolution of Armoured Brigade
Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces Armoured Brigade has also been improved and achieved the following: Provision of adequate Armour support to the UPDF in all its operations within and outside Uganda, building of a professionally trained Tank Force which is adequately capable of contributing to the fulfillment of Armoured Brigade mission in support of National and Pan African cause among others.

Achievements in the Artillery division
The UPDF has been successful in building of a standard well trained officers and men core capable of adequately contributing to the fulfillment of the Uganda Artillery mission and supporting regional campaigns. There has been participation in regional peace missions including AMISOM, and task force operations in South Sudan as well as provision of fire support in the deflect of 27 rebel groups in Uganda since 1986.

Peace in Karamoja
The Pacification of Karamoja region and the neighbouring districts through the disarmament programme enabled the land mark introduction of normal economic activities in the region.

Improving military capacity
Military capability has been enhanced through acquisition of military equipment and training which enabled the defeat of the Lord's Resistance Army and the Allied Democratic Forces in Northern Uganda and Rwenzori areas respectively.

A pro-people army
The 1988 liberation brought the much needed restoration of dignity among the people and the state, built its military and security forces from scratch to the current national force in a multi-party dispensation that carries out national peace and stability responsibilities on its shoulders.

Karamoja, From cattle wrestling to modern agriculture after disarmament.

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Africa continent. Col Felix Kulayigye the UPDF Political Commissar says, "right from 1986 the NRM government faced a big challenge of its neighbours viewing it as bad example to the oppressed people in the region who would be expected to demand for their freedom. Uganda's influence has been seen in Rwanda, Kenya, Burundi, DRC, South Sudan and now Somalia and the Central African Republic not only in Military terms but also education, health, trade among others.

Wazalendo SACCO - Achievements
Having been in existence for 10 years, Wazalendo SACCO has achieved tremendous growth and built eminent goodwill among its state holders.

Way forward
In order to ensure security of every person and their property the NRM government will invest in crime prevention and reduction as well as promotion of peace and internal security. There will also be continued professionalization of security and defense forces, a police academy will also be established to offer specialized training of police officers in command and control skills offering specialized training in areas such as cyber-crime and anti-money laundering.

To improve crime control, detection, prevention and investigation, the NRM will appropriate technologies such as CCTV cameras to help the police fight crime as well as focusing on investing in community policing which ensures citizen participation in ensuring their security.The government will also continue to develop defense and security infrastructure by constructing more barracks so as to provide a conducive and habitable living environment for the personnel.

The government will also encourage production for wealth creation and self-sustainability, strengthening of internal and external security as well as establishment of a modern national service programme for the youth, school leavers, and pre tertiary students aimed at insulating patriotism, nurturing and mentoring for positive attitudes towards hard work and equipping them with basic military skills for personal and national development.