

# UGANDA PEOPLES CONGRESS

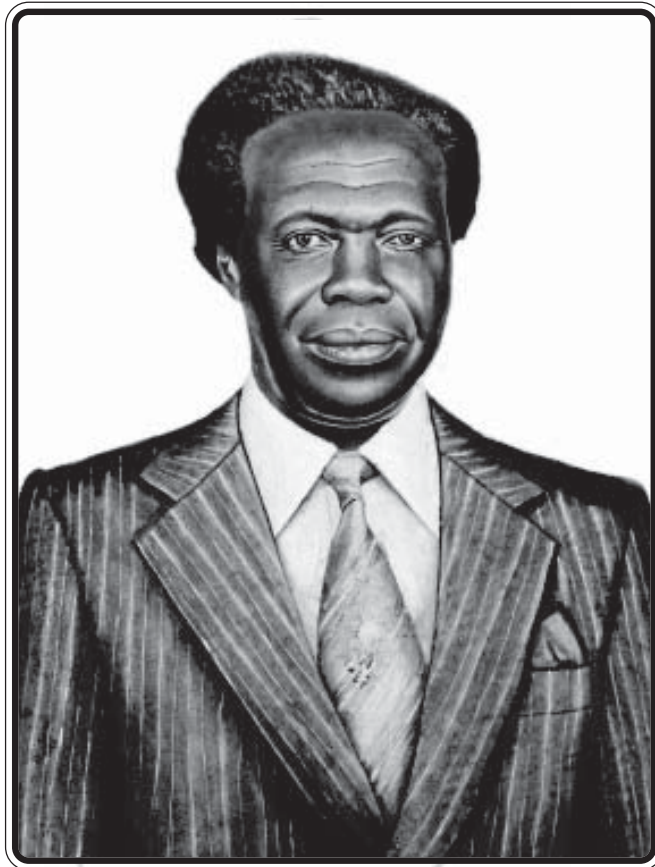
**MANIFESTO 2006**

**NEW LEADERSHIP  
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR UGANDA**



**MAMA MIRIA KALULE OBOTE  
PRESIDENT  
UGANDA PEOPLES CONGRESS**

## DEDICATION



**DR. APOLLO MILTON OBOTE**

This Manifesto is dedicated to the memory of the founder President of UPC and the father of the nation Dr Apollo Milton Obote, the illustrious nationalist, pan-Africanist and Champion of liberation of oppressed peoples. His legacy lives on.



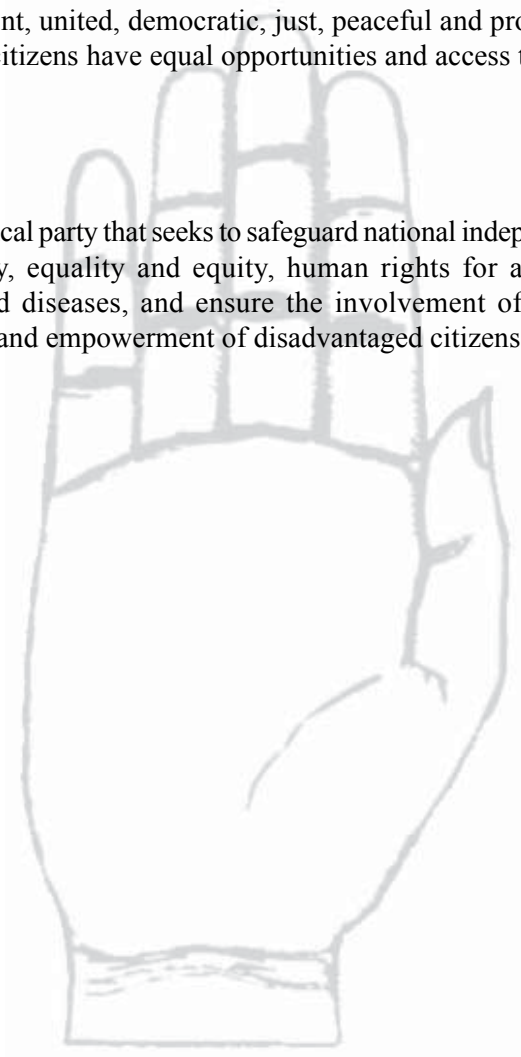
## UPC VISION AND MISSION

### **The Vision**

An independent, united, democratic, just, peaceful and prosperous nation where all its citizens have equal opportunities and access to the nation's resources.

### **The Mission**

UPC is a political party that seeks to safeguard national independence, promote national unity, equality and equity, human rights for all, fight poverty, ignorance and diseases, and ensure the involvement of all in economic development and empowerment of disadvantaged citizens.





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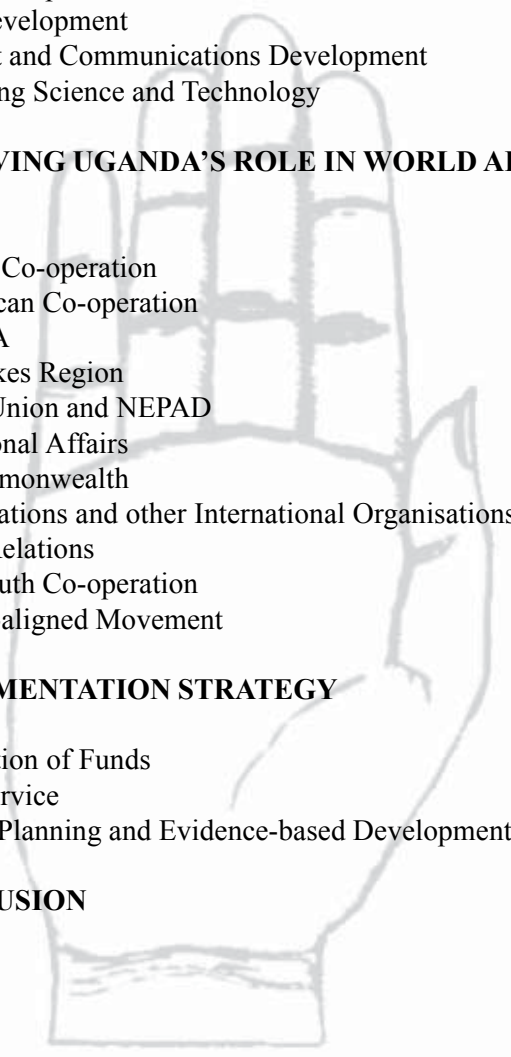
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## **FOREWORD**

### **The Road to Democracy and Prosperity**

The 2006 Manifesto of the Uganda Peoples Congress (UPC) presents the fragile state of the nation today, documents the failures of the National Resistance Movement (NRM) government and articulates programmes that the UPC will implement to address these failures in order to arrest the decline in the welfare of the people of Uganda. Accordingly, the Manifesto is organised in six main themes covering all sectors of the Government of Uganda.

To implement the Manifesto expeditiously, the UPC will immediately redefine the roles of government: the Executive, Parliament and the Judiciary; the private sector and the civil society. It will also formulate and implement proven and consistent policies for the promotion of the efficient performance of these roles. These policies will present the UPC Government as predictable and accountable to the people of Uganda and to the international community.

**Democracy:** The UPC reiterates its position that the NRM Government has never had any intention of creating a truly democratic political environment in Uganda. Throughout its twenty years of rule, it spanned a stream of lies and empty promises to justify its continued stay in power every time the nation puts forward pertinent demands for genuine democracy. It created an oligarchy in Uganda, a state of rule where policy issues are evolved and pronounced by and around the person of President Museveni. As a result, all institutions of government including the judiciary, the legislature and the executive are held at ransom to act only in answer to him.

The nation has been torn to shreds by civil strife covering a significant portion of the country for most of the twenty years of the NRM rule. Throughout this period, many Ugandans have lived in traumatic conditions in camps that lack the most basic security, social and other services and therefore have no appreciation of the role of Government.

The UPC Government will establish a transparent mechanism for the review and enhancement of the electoral systems, the management of justice and the rule of law and good governance. It will specifically address itself to eradicating the existing corruption and lack of accountability enigmas and to establishing a strong mechanism for equitable distribution of resources and evidence-based development.

It will also take all the necessary steps to end civil strife in the country and to return it to deserving peace, tranquillity and prosperity. We shall immediately put in place a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to bring about speedy reconciliation and an everlasting peace in the country. We will redefine and rationalise the roles of all the

security agencies including the army, police, prisons and intelligence organisations; and establish and implement a framework for ensuring their accountability.

**The Economy:** Over the last two decades, the bulk of the Ugandan economy has served only a few high ranking officials in the ethno-centric NRM Government. The status quo has prevailed while the bulk of Ugandans in both the urban and rural areas live in abject poverty. National statistics indicate that the level of poverty has worsened and that currently nearly 40% of Uganda's population (over 65% in Northern Uganda) live below the poverty line. The per capita Gross Domestic Product has stagnated at approximately US\$ 300. Yet over the twenty years of the NRM, Uganda's external debt burden has risen from US\$ 1.2 billion in 1986 to over US\$ 4.5 billion. It is estimated that, in the same period, Uganda has received grants amounting to US\$ 16 billion.

The President's Office and the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development seem to be responsible for both the planning and implementation of government programmes while, the National Planning Authority which according to the Constitution is responsible for planning, has been deliberately starved of resources and has never been effective. The result is that government planning and policy formulation and evolution are at best ad hoc and at worst non-existent.

The UPC Government will re-establish discipline in the evolution and financing of government programmes. The planning function, which evolve evidence-based development plans, will be empowered and separated from the financial management and implementation functions. Other agencies of Government including ministries, the Central Bank of Uganda, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, and Uganda Revenue Authority will be rationalised and strengthened to play clearly defined roles.

The UPC government will also facilitate the private sector to play its business role as a key partner in national development. The business environment will be reviewed and updated in a consultative manner. The government, on its part, will focus mainly on standard setting, regulation, monitoring and evaluation.

**Social Services:** Under the NRM government, the health sector has suffered the most brutal damages. For over twenty years, while the population of Uganda has more than doubled, there has been no increase in infrastructure development necessary to provide services to Ugandans as the last batch of hospitals were built by the UPC government in the 1960s.

Hospitals lack equipment, sufficient staff and recurrent expenditure to provide services effectively. As a result, there are no drugs; patients sleep on floors and medical staff are demoralised. It is not therefore surprising as political leaders and senior public servants have lost confidence and interest in their own medical services

and instead prefer to be flown abroad with their families for medical treatment at tax payers' expense.

The education sector has seen the decline of standards in the government owned or aided institutions of learning. These institutions have been starved of educational resources and their infrastructure deteriorated forcing teachers to move to greener pastures. There are no clear policies defining the roles of the public and private sectors. The existing policies are not fully implemented. As a result, the standard of education in Uganda has fallen drastically and the quality of graduates at all levels is not able to effectively service the country.

The UPC government will immediately strengthen the delivery of health services by providing more resources for the rehabilitation and re-construction of infrastructure required for the medical and education services. It will also immediately review and enhance the policy environment to clearly articulate the roles and responsibility of government and the private sector. As in other aspects of the economy, the UPC government will confine itself mainly to standard setting, regulation, monitoring and evaluation while empowering the private sector to fully play its role.

**Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment:** This sector which represents Uganda's comparative advantage has been neglected and left to collapse. Although a significant amount of external borrowing has been made in the name of modernising this sector, there is little evidence of positive achievements on the ground.

The agriculture, timber, mineral, energy and other resources have only been exploited under dubious, corruption-ridden and unsustainable arrangements and, as a result, the environment has suffered drastically. The NRM Government scrapped successful and transparent marketing arrangements and left a void that nurtured corruption and killed the productive incentives of the people of Uganda. As a result, the "food granary" of the region was no more and the population was exposed to the danger of starvation. The enormous hydro-power potential is unexploited yet the whole country is crippled by lack of power.

The UPC government will take deliberate and sustained actions to get this sector to recover and to rediscover and exploit the comparative advantages of the country. Programmes aimed at optimising the utilisation of our agricultural potential for food production and for sustainable exploitation of mineral and energy resources will be developed and implemented.

The UPC Government will redefine the roles of the public and private sectors in away that the former will focus on policy and standards setting, regulation, monitoring and evaluation while the latter will be empowered to play the business role. The UPC will create a business environment that promotes the creation of small and medium

enterprises and the revitalisation of other previously successful private marketing co-operatives. The UPC Government will also exploit to the full the available hydro and other sustainable energy resources including wind and solar energies with a view to providing power to the whole country and the neighbouring region.

**Infrastructure:** Under the NRM Government, Uganda's infrastructure has all but collapsed. Most of the country's once re-known road network is currently composed on murrum roads and road transport across the country depends on prevailing existing weather conditions. The town streets are riddled with pot-holes making driving a nightmare. The result is that Uganda's roads have become very dangerous and traffic accidents are a major cause of death. The railways, which would normally ease the roads situation, are in a worse state. The majority of the rail tracks have been looted and the rest abandoned. Similarly, most of the engines and wagons have broken down. The attempted regional concession initiative has stalled.

The UPC recognised the importance of infrastructure in economic development. It will therefore immediately develop appropriate programmes and, therefore, mobilise the necessary resources for the revitalisation of Uganda's infrastructure. Additionally, it will set up a strong and accountable implementation capacity to ensure the expeditious rehabilitation and re-construction of all vital infrastructure.

**Uganda's Role in the World:** The evolution and implementation of the NRM foreign relations policies are hinged on the person of President Museveni. The credibility of the institutions of Foreign Service has been undermined and Uganda's embassies and missions are neglected and underfunded. The result is that most of Uganda's diplomats spend their time doing additional private business to supplement their meagre salaries.

The NRM Government has committed a number of diplomatic blunders that have undermined Uganda's international image and credibility. President Museveni's deliberate attempts to amend the young Ugandan Constitution to give him a life presidency, the deliberate shift of alliance of the Government towards none credible leaders in the world and the radical shift of the development paradigm of the government to those of these allies hurts Uganda's interest.

As a result, Uganda is no longer in a position to influence international decisions that affect her. Some members of the East Africa Community have recently expressed concern about the future of the union, given the changing political landscape and conduct of NRM in Uganda.

The UPC Government will redefine policies, roles and responsibilities and re-establish institutions and provide the resources necessary for Uganda to play its rightful role on regional and international issues.

**Implementation:** Over the last twenty years of the NRM administration, Uganda borrowed over US\$ 14 billion as compared with the US\$ 1.2 billion national debt when the NRM took power in 1986. It is also estimated that in the same period Uganda received grants totalling over US\$ 16 billion. As a result, external resources have financed more than 50% of the recurrent national expenditure for all the period of NRM administration and yet there is no clear evidence to account for this level of financing.

While the UPC government recognises that development is costly, it will establish a rigorous framework for the evolution and approval of government programmes. The planning and the financial management functions will be separated. The planning function will evolve prioritised development programmes. It will also establish an independent mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of development programmes to ensure comprehensive and full accountability. The finance function will determine the most effective ways of financing the programmes and oversee the coordination of their management in consultation with the implementing agencies.

The UPC Government will package the financing of its programmes by rationalising government expenditure (both recurrent and capital investment) to manageable levels, mobilising internal revenue and external grants and through judicious borrowing.

Under a new leadership, UPC through this Manifesto presents new opportunities to the people of Uganda.

**FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY.**



A hand-drawn signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Obote', is positioned over a faint, large-scale illustration of a hand with fingers spread, palm facing forward. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

**Miria Kalule Obote**  
**President**  
**Uganda Peoples Congress**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.0 CREATING A VIABLE DEMOCRACY**

#### **1.1 The State of the Nation to day**

When NRM captured power from the Okellos' Military Junta in 1986, their interim Administration promised in their ten-point programme to provide, among others, a national constitution, good roads, an efficient police force, and an independent judicial system, peace, security, an integrated and self-sustaining national economy and justice for all. Twenty years later, Uganda is torn by ethnic and regional parochialism/sectarianism. Civil war still rages on and nearly 2 million people live in pathetic internally displaced peoples' camps. Government services are primarily extended to those who "vote wisely". Security agencies, have been trained to target for harassment those sections of the community who hold views deferent from those of the NRM government. Meanwhile poverty is biting the common man, particularly, the rural communities in spite of the hyped success economic stories.

#### **1.2 Creating a Viable Democracy**

Democracy is judged by a number of principles, the major ones being: level and honest playing field for all political actors where different political parties are free to organise and compete for political power; fair, free and regular elections devoid of intimidation and fraud; good governance and accountability by the elected leaders and freedom from domination by any powerful group. However, the NRM manifested itself as a fraud in as far as the democratisation process is concerned when it reneged on its pledge of 1986 "to return the country to multi-party democracy in four years".

The UPC, more than any other party in Uganda, recognises the consequences of lack of democracy whether real or perceived and is committed to establishing and upholding democracy. The Party is aware that only democratic parties can effect democratic governance and has undertaken internal re-organisation including holding a Delegates Conference. The UPC government will, in accordance with the Uganda Constitution and the Party's own Constitution, exercise tolerance to dissenting views and any attempts to gag people internally on account of "wrong fora" will be against the principles of the party and will be resisted.

To consolidate democracy in the country, UPC government will remove any laws and non-statutory obstacles barring multi-party politics and enjoyment of inherent rights and freedoms such as RDCs' influence and attempts to convert LCs into NRM organs. UPC will also ensure, by enforcing the relevant laws that state organs such civil service and security agencies remain professional, non-partisan and respect the constitution in matters of democratisation in order to serve all people equally.

### **1.3 Parliamentary Development**

Until the removal of Article 105 of the Uganda Constitution became the preoccupation of NRM Government, the administration had absolutely no intentions or plans to re-introduce multi-party democracy. The unlimited presidential term “kisanja” has thus become the price to pay for lifting the ban on multi-party politics.

UPC is committed to the establishment of genuine multi-party democracy that guarantees fundamental freedoms of choice, human rights and divergent views. We shall therefore remove any legal or political obstacles to the attainment and sustenance of these freedoms.

The Uganda Parliament currently consists of 214 constituency representatives, 56 district women representatives, 5 youth representatives, 5 representatives for people with disability, 10 army representatives and four workers’ representative. Clearly, every citizen has therefore more than one representative. UPC will review the current system of representation and number of Parliamentarians to ensure that it is cost effective, efficient and truly representative of the people, rather than the political interests and whims of the administration. At the same time, UPC will guarantee separation of powers of the Executive, Legislature and Judiciary. The Party will adopt policies that will restore the supremacy of Parliament to enable it to exercise its role of overseeing equitable development.

### **1.4 Electoral Systems Reform**

Ugandans should not, for any reason, take the ultimate life and death risks and shed blood of thousands of their compatriots to qualify for the leadership of this country, hence the need for transparent and honest conduct of elections. Unfortunately, over the past 20 years of the NRM administration, the electoral system has been characterised by violence, bias, inefficiency, corruption and mismanagement.

UPC shall review the structure and composition of the current Electoral Commission and ensure that the Commission is truly independent, run and managed by people of high integrity and morals in accordance with the Constitution.

UPC will fully fund and facilitate the EC in order to avoid past shortcomings such as; bloated voters’ register, multiple voting, underage voting, ghost voting belated delivery of electoral materials, confusion of delivery of materials, nepotism and financial mismanagement.

### **1.5 National Reconciliation and Unity**

For the last twenty years, the country has been engaged in wars in many parts with the longest and most brutal war in the North resulting into:

- large population displacement to the tune of 1,600,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) - living in poor and unbearable conditions since 1990

- hunger and malnutrition, despite food handouts by the UN and humanitarian organisations
- destruction of agriculture and livestock keeping
- lack of productive activities
- poor sanitation
- inadequate social services especially education, health, clean water etc.
- sexual abuse and therefore high HIV/AIDS epidemic
- negative GDP growth
- psychological damage and trauma
- loss of self-esteem
- loss of cultural and moral values
- violation of rights of women, children and men.

The few positive initiatives for peace have been frustrated by government's insensitive militaristic approach.

UPC commits itself to total and immediate end to the conflict and, in close consultation and collaboration with all stakeholders, will vigorously pursue honest and frank negotiations with the top leadership of LRA.

Although it has never been a deliberate policy of the UPC to do harm to any individuals or sections of the Ugandan society, in the spirit of national reconciliation, UPC regrets any wrongs that might have been done to any body or community during its two past administrations. In the same vein, the UPC condemns any wrongs done and persecution meted on it and its membership since the seventies and calls on all Ugandans to forgive one another. There should be no revenge or vindictiveness and Ugandans should exercise restraint, tolerance, moderation and understanding with one another so that the country may make a fresh start.

The past twenty years of NRM administration have seen, yet again, a resurgence of primitive, ethnic, sectarian and regional parochialism as an ingenious stratagem to divide and subjugate the populace.

UPC will relentlessly fight sectionalism and promote genuine commitment to unity, patriotism and nationalism. We shall remove any legislation on our statute books that frustrate or hinder achievement of these aspirations.

UPC will establish a truth and healing process based on the SA truth and reconciliation commission and undertakes comprehensive civic education to bring about forgiveness and nationalism. To this end we shall develop appropriate curricula to be taught through adult literacy campaigns and school programmes.



## **1.6 Justice, Rule of law and Constitutionalism.**

Laws are made for the purposes of dispensing justice, creating order, ensuring certainty and providing predictability. Unfortunately, there is a tendency on the part of the NRM Government to intimidate and compromise the independence of the Judiciary.

UPC shall undertake constitutional, legal and administrative reforms to re-establish, uphold and respect the Judiciary and safeguard its independence. Measures will be taken to ensure speedy delivery of quality justice.

There are delays occasioned by bureaucracy in the process of making laws in the country culminating into bills taking long to become law. The UPC government will review the ongoing Law Reform Programme and focus on the improvement of process to achieve speedy enactment of laws that will guarantee justice, order and equity to all.

UPC shall introduce and/or strengthen anti-trust laws to prevent concentration of business opportunities in the hands of a few individuals with a view to promoting competition, enterprise, innovation and protecting consumer choice, among others.

In light of the loopholes in the current Constitution, the UPC Government will review the Constitution with a view to eliminating inadequacies and contradictions. In particular, the UPC will reinstate Presidential Terms limits in the Constitution

## **1.7 Good Governance, Anti-corruption and Accountability**

Political Governance is the system by which a public organisation or Government is directed, controlled and held to account. It is the manner in which authority and power is exercised in the stewardship of a public office in order to increase and sustain economic and social growth of the country and satisfy expectations, needs and interests of all stakeholders, including tax payers, donors and the general citizenry.

Under NRM, Uganda has been consistently ranked among the 15 most corrupt countries out of a total of 145 worldwide, scoring less than 3 out of possible 10 points under the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) by the renowned Transparency International. In Uganda today, corruption is a cause of frustration to potential investors; obstacle to sustainable development and economic growth; a cause of loss of public funds needed to provide social services such as education and health etc. and an additional cost for doing business. Some reports of the numerous commissions of inquiry into cases of corruption have not been published, and the recommendations of those that have been published have either not been acted upon or have been used to victimise certain individuals.

Corruption takes many forms including: political interference in allocating resources, bribery, influence peddling in tender awards, flouting of procurement and tendering rules, frauds, conflict of interest and misuse and abuse of office.

UPC will make anti-corruption struggle its priority and will specifically:

- Ensure consistency of the rule of law and that culprits are appropriately sanctioned.
- Clearly designate responsibilities among different supervisory, investigative, regulatory and enforcement agencies
- Enact laws that define the ambits of politicians/leaders in the allocation of resources
- Introduce ‘No Bribery’ clauses in all major Contracts
- Ensure improvement of compensation of public servants and workers
- Encourage independent monitors and auditors as well as the civil society to do oversight and surveillance over public contracting process
- Put in place efficient mechanism for recovery of looted public property/resources
- Promote open competitive bidding while discouraging selective, direct and limited bidding;
- Ensure transparent mechanisms for awarding contract are adhered to.

The UPC government will re-establish its former system of good governance whereby institutions, rather than an individual, run the affairs of state in order to promote transparency and accountability.

### **1.8 Decentralisation and Local Government**

*Local Governments and Councils:* NRM’S decentralisation policy is nothing but a crude dispensal of patronage. It is “a vote catching” ploy lacking in honesty where the new districts are made to trade-off their demands with the Movement’s political opportunism.

UPC will review the entire decentralisation policy and ensure that districts and regional governments are created when:

- there is an overwhelming majority among the local population for a separate administration
- the respective areas demonstrate sustainable financial and economic viability.
- the offer of a new district/region is aimed at devolving power and taking services nearer to the people rather than political expediency.

Under the NRM Government the office of the Parish Chief has been replaced by LC1 and County Chief has been replaced by the Assistant Resident District Commissioner appointed by the President. Meanwhile, powers of the Sub-County Chief have been eroded by the LC3.

The UPC will re-introduce the offices of county, sub-county and parish chiefs to function under the office of the District Administrative Officer.

Urban Councils: The present NRM administration is more interested in winning political control of urban councils rather than the physical and economic development in these authorities. Instances where the central Government targets those urban councils where it has minority control for ridicule, frustration and financial squeeze are very common.

UPC will ensure that urban councils are guided by principles of better planning and development for rapid and easy movement of people, goods and traffic. Urban councils will be encouraged to revisit past studies and plans rather than make adhoc plans for short-term electioneering purposes to avoid chaotic and uncoordinated construction.

### **1.9 The Media and Civil Society**

In spite of the existence of many private newspapers and broadcasting stations, journalists in both the public and private media continue to work under fear of jail or prosecution for publications that criticise government or the army, recent favourable court rulings notwithstanding. The arrests, questioning and charging of many journalists in the recent past attests to NRM intolerance of criticism.

UPC commits itself to the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and will work to review the existing repressive laws affecting the media, including the Press and Journalists Statute, the Penal Code, criminal libel, defamation and sedition laws with a view to removing any obnoxious laws that work against the press freedoms. In consort with the relevant Journalists/Medias bodies, we shall however strive to find a balance between such freedom and national interest.

UPC will promote and facilitate civic and in formal education that work towards national integration

### **1.10 Freedom of Association**

UPC will guarantee that every person in Uganda shall enjoy the fundamental right and freedoms of the individual that is the freedom of conscience, of expression, of assembly and association.

### **1.11 The Right to Life (Death Penalty)**

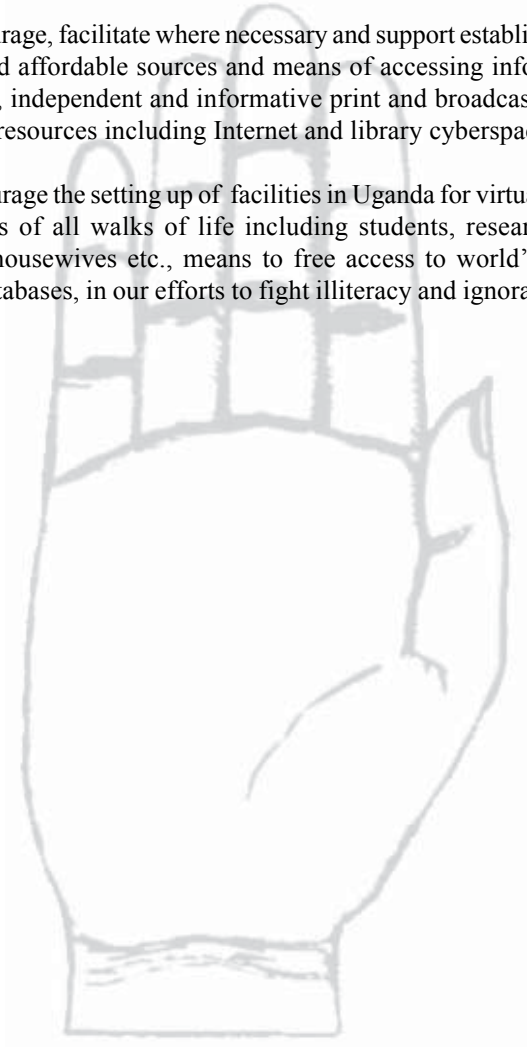
Death penalty is neither a punishment nor a lesson. It is murder by the State. It punishes family, relatives and friends of the executed. It does not restore the victims to life or otherwise remove the harm already inflicted on the victim. On the other hand the death penalty could result into state murders of innocent persons and once carried out it is irreversible. Accordingly, UPC will introduce a Constitutional amendment to abolish the dehumanising death penalty.

### **1.12 Access to Information**

Development, economic growth and success are knowledge based. Information is a gateway to acquiring the requisite knowledge and should therefore be a right for every one in Uganda.

UPC will encourage, facilitate where necessary and support establishment and growth of a vibrant and affordable sources and means of accessing information. We shall encourage free, independent and informative print and broadcast media; computer and electronic resources including Internet and library cyberspace.

UPC will encourage the setting up of facilities in Uganda for virtual libraries that will offer Ugandans of all walks of life including students, researchers, journalists, businessmen, housewives etc., means to free access to world's major electronic information databases, in our efforts to fight illiteracy and ignorance.



## **2.0 RE-ESTABLISHING SECURITY LAW AND ORDER**

### **2.1 General**

UPC's second administration adopted a national and non-partisan policy on security, although some of the elements recruited and trained under that policy ungraciously worked against the administration from within and some even treasonably defected to become generals and officers in NRA.

UPC recognises that peace and stability are prerequisites for rapid and sustained economic, social and cultural development of the nation on one hand and promotion of national unity, human understanding and reconciliation, on the other hand.

Under the NRM administration, life and property of people in many parts of the country are left unprotected and at the mercy of unscrupulous people. UPC government shall, therefore, provide security for all people and their properties and defend our national sovereignty.

### **2.2 Security Services**

We shall organise security into the following categories:

**2.2.1 Army, Air force, Marines:** The UPDF is characterised by the existence of ghost soldiers, lack of uniform and equipment, and irregular payment of salaries. The ongoing modernisation and professionalisation of the army, with massive donor support and involvement, has not been matched by any significant improvement in welfare, morale and efficiency of the military.

UPC will work to build a national, well-disciplined, well-trained and highly motivated army that is accountable to civil authority.

UPC will review policies on motivation of the men, women and officers in the armed forces and improve on the general welfare, especially on the care for dead soldier's families; regular and prompt payment of salaries; provision of modern and fully facilitated barracks, and provision of suitable uniforms and other amenities.

UPC will study the viability of reintroducing duty free military shops in barracks.

UPC will evolve and promote policies that will work towards wiping out tension and suspicions between Uganda and her neighbours in order to relieve the armed forces from obsession with senseless wars and quarrels. We shall therefore require a lean, efficient and professional army that will greatly reduce pressure on the national budget and yet remain equal to the task before it.

UPC will introduce faculties of military science at public universities.

UPC will set up machinery for evaluation of all officers and men and effect promotions, awards and citations on a timely, and meritorious basis. We shall do away with the current sectarian, politicised and belated promotions in the army.

**2.2.2 Intelligence Services:** The present proliferation of intelligence services is saddled with overlaps, confusion and inefficiencies and abuse of human rights and freedoms.

UPC will review the current structure of the intelligence services and streamline them to avoid duplication of roles and ensure maximum efficiency.

UPC will abolish operation of all illegal detention centres and “safe houses” that are currently being used by some or all intelligence services for torturing the citizenry.

**2.2.3 Police Force:** The Police force is under funded and ill-equipped. They live in extremely poor housing, do not have vehicles and equipment, their salaries are extremely low, irregular and delayed. Most of their functions have been taken over by the military and they are therefore very demoralised.

In addition, there has been a systematic attempt to turn the Police into a militaristic force to serve the interests of the NRM dictatorship.

UPC will review the structure and operation of the Police force and embark on building a national force capable of carrying out its main mandate of enforcing law and order, legally and equally without abuse or discrimination.

UPC will recruit, train and retain an adequate, efficient and well-motivated Police Force

UPC shall appropriately facilitate the police force with better and adequate transportation; communication; accommodation, remuneration and equipment to better perform its functions. UPC shall work for development, modernisation and professionalisation of specialised Police departments including Criminal Investigation, Special Branch, Government Chemist forensic expertise to bring them to international standards.

**2.2.4 Prisons and Prison Services:** During UPC’s past administrations, the Prison Service was a productive and virtually self-sustaining department of government. The present NRM administration has killed all the viable prison industries and agricultural farms that had been useful training grounds for prisoners and a source of revenue for the Prison services.

UPC shall put in place policies for rehabilitation and revitalisation of Prison industries and farms so as to make them economically productive as well as desirable for training and inmate-rehabilitation purposes.

The UPC will review the present laws regarding remand and introduce legislation that will improve on the terms and conditions of prisoners. UPC will pay great attention to improving jail conditions in all prisons, including; physical facilities, feeding, health and mental development.

It will be the policy of UPC to provide the Prison Service with better barracks and offices, transport, communication systems and conditions of service for the men and officers.

UPC shall rehabilitate existing institutions especially Kapingisa and Naguru Remand Home as well as re-establish new homes in other regions to cater for the rehabilitation of the swelling number of street kids and juvenile delinquents

**2.2.5 The Public:** The security of the nation and the individual is a shared responsibility between the security forces and the citizens.

The UPC shall mobilise the people of Uganda to be security conscious and to organise themselves for their own legitimate protection under a clearly defined legal framework.

### **2.3 Security of Person and Property**

UPC will ensure protection of privacy of every person's home and other property and protect from deprivation of property without prompt and adequate compensation. The current legal framework for compulsory acquisition of property will be reviewed to conform to the Constitution and good international practices. Like UPC did with properties expropriated by the military regime in 1970s, UPC will pursue legal measures to return all property wrongly expropriated in the last 20 years.

### **2.4 National Security**

Every person in Uganda shall enjoy the fundamental rights to life, liberty, and security of the person and the protection of the law.

The defence of the country is the principal responsibility of the armed forces. UPC shall formulate policies and schemes designed to keep the soldiers and the populace in constant contact and harmonious relationship through social and cultural activities.

With expected good relations with our neighbours, the armed forces will be released from constant tension. UPC will design schemes and projects that will engage the armed forces in productive, vocational, cultural, rescue and relief activities.

## **2.5 Citizenship**

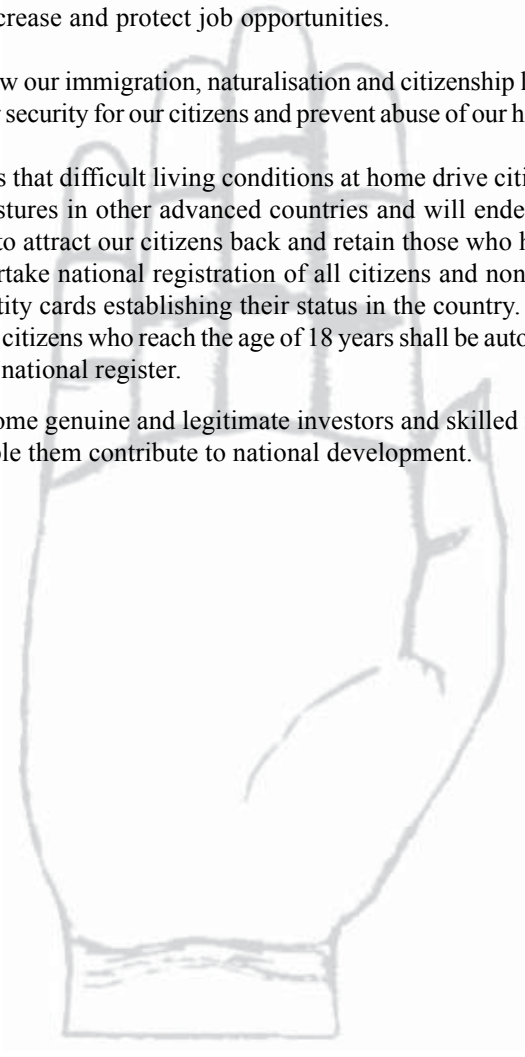
The current laws and policies on immigration have been seriously abused to the extent that Uganda has become everybody's country making it difficult to know who is a citizen and who is not, making it difficult to effectively control national security and increase and protect job opportunities.

UPC shall review our immigration, naturalisation and citizenship laws and policies to guarantee better security for our citizens and prevent abuse of our hospitality by aliens.

UPC recognises that difficult living conditions at home drive citizens to seek better and greener pastures in other advanced countries and will endeavour to make life better at home to attract our citizens back and retain those who have not left.

UPC will undertake national registration of all citizens and non-citizens and issue them with identity cards establishing their status in the country. From this register, the names of all citizens who reach the age of 18 years shall be automatically rolled on to the electoral national register.

UPC will welcome genuine and legitimate investors and skilled manpower into the country to enable them contribute to national development.





### **3.0 RESTORING ECONOMIC PROSPERITY FOR ALL**

#### **3.1 The Cost of Continuing with NRM's Poor Economic Record**

In its Census report of 2005, the National Bureau of Statistics summarises the NRM record as follows: "...of households in Uganda, 97% use firewood, 85% use tadooba (crude paraffin light box), 80% have earth floors in their living houses, 92% have not accessed electricity, 52% have no radio, 49% rely on word of mouth (radio Katwe) for information, 20% have no access to toilet facilities, 40% have no access to safe drinking water and 68% depend on subsistence farming for a living..." According to the UN Human Development Report 2005, Uganda is ranked 147<sup>th</sup> in human development despite the generous and mis-informed praise of the NRM's economic performance. All these must be judged against a massive borrowing over US\$4.5 billion, grants of approximately US\$16 billion and a so-called fastest growing economy at about 5.5% in average over the 20 years of the administration.

Poverty is not by choice but is created by a variety of circumstances. It is the role of Government to remove the constraints and factors that deny people good welfare.

The UPC commits itself to creating adequate opportunities for all citizens to engage in productive work. Accordingly, UPC will adopt Policies that will:

- Create jobs and wealth.
- Cause equitable distribution of wealth

#### **3.2 UPC's Economic Programme for Development**

In order to attain efficient financial conditions, UPC will review both government expenditure and revenue and adopt policies that will lead to the reduction of dependence on donor funding towards the National Budget and yet enable government to fulfil its contract with the population. In particular UPC will:

- Adopt a lean government with a view to reduction on government expenditure e.g. reduce cabinet, parliament and political appointees including presidential advisors.
- Control and monitor Government expenditure with a view to enforcing financial discipline, especially avoiding unbudgeted or unplanned expenditures such as Presidential pledges and reallocation of votes
- Adopt tax policies that encourage rather than discourage investment and broaden the tax base rather than increasing tax rates. Push compliance in the informal sector upwards and consider amnesty for people who have not paid tax for many years in the past.
- Review, in accordance with international conventions past, current and future privatisation deals and ensure that the country got, is getting or will get value for money for its assets.
- Review the current Pension regime with a view to making Treasury Instruments an attractive investment for pension funds.

- Rigorously pursue correct and effective macro-economic policies for stability of exchange rate and maintenance of low inflation rates
- Retire all domestic debt and avoid further accumulation of the same
- Retire all foreign debt and avoid excessive accumulation of the same

### **3.2.1 Interest Rates**

High interest rates in Uganda are a product of high Treasury Bills rates, cost of running banking industry, business and risk, among others.

UPC will continue with the liberalisation in interest rate policies. However, Bank of Uganda will be encouraged to effect downward reduction of Treasury Bills rates. BOU should review its Treasury Bills policies such that more are issued to the public than to Banks thereby obliging banks to seek alternative avenues of investment namely credit.

### **3.2.2 Finance and Financial Services**

UPC recognizes the crucial role of financial institutions in the development of the economy. Accordingly the UPC Government will encourage:

- The Central Bank to reduce Cash reserve requirements to free funds for more profitable investment (lending)
- Banks to mobilise deposits and increase the number of accounts from the present 1.5million, considering that the national population is 25million.
- Banks to increase lending for productive purposes, especially agriculture and manufacturing. Accordingly, UPC will consider ways of making lending to agriculture more attractive to banks
- Financial institutions to accelerate lending to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) at affordable cost to the borrowers.
- Micro Finance institutions to reduce their lending interest rates.
- The Central bank to revisit the establishment of Agricultural Bank and re-introduce the Cooperative Bank

### **3.2.3 Workers, Remuneration and Trade Unionism**

The NRM has used workers for its own selfish ends. For the last 20 years, workers representatives have lost sense of whom they represent and consider Government as their constituency. Though Uganda is a member of International Labour Organisation (ILO), The government is reluctant to uphold the principles of this body and has been unable to set a balance between corporate interest and human rights.

UPC acknowledges the role played by labour in national development. It affirms the right of the individual to work for a fair wage package including income, decent accommodation, transport, healthcare and food.

UPC labour policy will support Trade Unions in their quest for the betterment of the quality of workers' lives on one hand and the employers' expectations from workers they employ on the other. We shall expeditiously enact legislation that will be in consort with the constitution.

UPC will encourage good labour relations between employers and workers. UPC government shall formulate policies that are in accord with international labour standards and embrace ILO guidelines for social justice.

UPC, in consultation, with all stake-holders will cause a review of the structure and operations of the NSSF with a view to ensuring secure, profitable, sustainable and effective financial management of the Fund for the benefit of workers specifically and all stake holders generally.

We shall develop an appropriate employment policy to ensure productive deployment of all people. Accordingly, we shall establish a manpower planning unit under the National Planning Commission

#### **3.2.4 Wealth and Job Creation**

About 65% of Uganda's labour force is unemployed, On average, something in the region of 8,120 jobs out of the projected 390,000 are being created annually. A majority of college and university leavers are roaming the streets daily, unemployed for years since graduation. Poverty levels meanwhile are getting worse in spite of the rosy economic growth figures.

UPC believes that the creation of a sustainable and predictable economic environment that is conducive to Private Sector Development is the key to wealth and therefore job creation. We shall pursue policies that promote investment and manpower development with a view to creating employment and feeding productive ventures with skilled workers.

We shall identify the opportunities available for doing business in Uganda – agriculture, mining, trading and manufacturing etc. and encourage labour intensive but competitive enterprises with a bias to small and medium scale enterprises.

We shall identify and mitigate all factors that cause unnecessary high costs, including corruption, social and other costs as a condition for stimulating business.

In order for the country to be competitive, UPC government will facilitate and support provision of convenience at all stages of business, including living, banking, travel education, communication etc.

So as to attract investment that will provide employment to our people, UPC will adopt policies that will ensure capabilities in infrastructure, workforce, government

machinery etc. We shall offer standardised concession regime in order to give equitable opportunities to all investors.

UPC will design programmes and schemes for absorbing university and college leavers and we will seek external expertise from emerging economies such as India, Singapore and Malaysia etc., to assist in setting up small businesses/industries and equipping our young people with necessary entrepreneurial skills in order to self-employ themselves.

UPC will create entrepreneurial colleges in every region to train unemployed graduates and school drop outs in entrepreneurial and business skills and support them to start and manage small and medium scale enterprises in different sectors of the economy. Training will cover practical and theoretical skills in sectors of their interests and students will be required to undergo apprenticeship in related business enterprises.

UPC will encourage labour trade unionism and will engage them in areas of wages, worker welfare and support for employers businesses with a view to improving both business and labour climate and mitigating unnecessary strikes.

### **3.2.5 Housing and Home Ownership**

Shelter is a human right. Although there has been a modest increase in private sector involvement in increasing the housing stock, there remains acute demand for housing especially in the low-cost category.

UPC shall therefore formulate a housing policy that will ensure adequate, decent and affordable housing in both the urban and rural areas. The public and private sector will be charged with the responsibility of developing model houses for different categories of the population, the poor, the middle class and the rich. In every case cost must be the guiding factor. UPC will review the policy of disposal of government pool houses.

UPC will provide suitable incentives for both foreign and local investors to venture into cheap and modern housing projects not only around Kampala but also in towns all over the country. We shall consider suitable incentives for housing developers to induce them to go upcountry. UPC will encourage strengthening of the present mortgage financing institutions and the establishment of new institutions that will provide finance for house construction and acquisition. UPC will pursue policies that will bring down interest rates on mortgages.

UPC will pursue a policy of providing all basic infrastructures and utilities including roads, water, electricity and drainage to identified housing estate sites.

UPC shall encourage and support formation of home construction cooperative societies that will help its members in communal construction of modern homes. Such

projects shall be considered under a rural modernisation policy, which will include availability of funding, construction materials etc. Each village unit will be availed a variety of standard house designs from which a developer may choose his or her preferred house model.

### **3.3 Private Sector Development**

The Private Sector Foundation was expected to spearhead private sector development through out the country. However, it has not lived to its expectations and has remained a Kampala based organisation.

UPC will create an effective nation-wide mechanism as a bridge between government and private sector to facilitate regular and open dialogue for improvement of responsiveness of all government machinery to problems of the private sector. We shall encourage the private sector coordinating institutions to assume a national outlook to awaken, organise and develop private sector all over the country.

The UPC Government will create an enabling environment to enable the private sector to take off.

We shall ensure that whatever economic growth is registered, must be matched with purchasing power through specific policies aimed at putting money in the pockets of the local people to be able to absorb private sector products.

#### **3.3.1 Export Trade**

To achieve rapid economic growth, enhance Government revenue and maintain a strong shilling, focus will be directed towards boosting exports both traditional and non-traditional.

- Extra effort will be made to cause Ugandan producers and exporters to observe abide by and implement health, sanitary and other standards and values demanded by foreign importers of our goods. However UPC will spare no effort in fighting any trade barriers, regulations and procedures aimed at inhibiting the growth of our external trade which may border on protectionism.
- UPC will also deepen the Intra Africa Trade as an alternative force of economic growth especially given problems experienced with the European Union (EU). We shall review Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) such as corruption at the borders points, bureaucratic licensing procedures and cross border harassment that pose a threat to the East Africa (EA) Custom Union and work for their elimination.
- The UPC will also review transport systems (air, rail, water and road) currently available to exporters with a view to defining affordable options to promote export development

### **3.3.2 Promotion of Tourism**

Uganda's failure to capitalise on our endowment in tourist resources is primarily a result of our belligerence, internal conflicts and arrogance.

UPC shall revive tourism as a viable and major economic contributor to our revenue base. To do so, we shall first work to eliminate all factors that have been impediments to the growth of the industry.

We shall re-equip and rehabilitate the parks and other infrastructure therein; strengthen Uganda Wildlife Authority, Uganda Tourist Board and Uganda Institute of Ecology to enable them to carry out research, comprehensive training programmes, preserve, and improve tourist attractions and professionally manage wild life and the parks.

UPC will smoothen the progress of the Ugandan private sector to invest in tourism business including, tour operations, hotels and lodges and other facilities.

UPC will specifically ease the development of domestic tourism.

### **3.3.4 Promotion of Investment**

Despite the spirited effort by the NRM administration to attract foreign investment to and in Uganda, only minimal response has been realised, principally because of deficient policies and erratic behaviour of government. Corruption, biased and discriminatory treatment of potential investors or patronage which accords unequal information and influence together with unnecessary wars are just a few of the factors that have adversely affected our investment climate.

Recognising that Government policies and behaviours not only have great influence in but also shape the opportunities that impact on costs, risks and competitiveness, UPC will put in place policies and embrace governance characteristics that shall be judged and perceived by potential investors as acceptable, favourable, beneficial and equitable to both themselves and the rest of the population.

Specifically, UPC will address issues, including; property rights, regulation, taxation, access to infrastructure and investment capital finance and banking services, labour, corruption, peace, and justice delivery, predictability of laws and policies and macro-economic stability. We shall therefore create competitive advantages that will take full advantage of God-given factors such as natural resources and location etc

UPC will encourage domestic savings to facilitate development financing and support Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) with a view to plugging the missing link in the country's economic development.

### **3.35 Promotion of Industrial Development**

For twenty years now, there has been no policy on industrial development in Uganda. As in other aspect of government, decisions on industrial development as a mechanism

of distributing wealth across the country are initiated and pronounced by one individual, President Yoweri Museveni.

The UPC Government will put in place policies conducive to the rehabilitation, revival and spread of industrial development throughout the country. In particular, the Party will:

- Acquire land and layout the sites and establish services in all industrial sites across the whole country
- Encourage industrial developers to set up industries in upcountry towns by offering incentives such as tax holidays, property rates relief, good transport systems, including rail sidings, where possible.

The UPC Government will consider reviving the Uganda Development Corporation as an engine for development without compromising the policy of liberalisation. Promote industrial research and upgrade training institutes and facilities.

In order to bring about equity and balance in development, to create balanced employment opportunities for our people countrywide, our government shall identify and locate in each region, strategic agro-based industries based on public-private sector partnerships. This is not new. We have done it before. Ugandans will remember that we created the Meat Packers Industry in Soroti, the Spinning Mill in Lira, NYTIL and African Textile Mills (ATM) in Jinja and Mbale respectively and others. Under this arrangement Government will provide loans, grants, equity financing to the private sector and entrepreneurs who will wish to set up specific industries in the different regions. Farmers' groups or cooperatives shall be supported to produce and market their produce to a firm with processing facility. Where feasible, we shall support farmers and cooperatives to undertake small scale agro-processing in rural areas at the farm level as is the case with rural sunflower, maize and coffee processing.

## **4.0 MANAGEMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

### **4.1 General**

**Health and Education are vital and most important ingredients for creation of wealth.**

During the UPC administrations, we initiated and carried out one of the most imaginative and successful Rural Health programmes including construction, equipping and staffing of twenty three rural hospitals each with one hundred beds; construction, equipping, and staffing of dispensaries; training and deploying qualified Health Visitors in rural areas. UPC also greatly expanded, diversified, improved and strengthened schools and colleges in which moral and academic standards and quality of staff was high.

The huge parasitic administrative and political array of ministers, parliamentarians, presidential advisors, LCs, RDCs, ghost infested army and police forces and now an ever increasing assortment of unviable districts under the NRM government are a great drain on the national budget that has resulted in inadequate resource allocations to these sectors. There has thus been a marked fall in the quality of services, standards, ethics and morals in these areas.

The state of education under the NRM government today is characterised by schools and institutions being overcrowded, badly run and ill equipped. This problem has arisen because there has not been any systematic plan by the NRM government to address the rising demand for quality education. This has resulted in unacceptably poor Teacher-Pupil Ratio (TPR) and Pupil-Class Ratios (PCR) and very low standards.

### **4.2 The UPC'S Education Policy**

UPC considers Education as a key to achieving its declared objective and is committed to the raising of moral and academic standards in schools, colleges, universities and other institutions of learning and to drastically improve the environment in which the staff work and the students study, play and contribute to the nation building.

UPC shall review policies on UPE to ensure effectiveness, viability and sustainability. We shall specifically work to improve on Pupil-Teacher-Ratio (PTR) and Pupil-Class-Ratio (PCR) to ensure that each pupil will receive optimum attention; that teachers handle reasonable classroom size and workloads; that there are adequate class-rooms, facilities and scholastic materials and that pupils are suitably provided for in terms of feeding, accommodation and other amenities where necessary.

UPC will undertake proper planning to ensure that the increased intake of UPE pupils is matched with equally increased intake in secondary and other technical/artisan schools and institutions. Intake to universities and other tertiary institutions should accordingly increase.



UPC will commit sufficient resources towards rehabilitation and provision of modern additional facilities and necessary infrastructure in schools, colleges, training institutes and universities.

UPC shall introduce Information Communication and Technology (ICT) at all levels of education.

UPC will overhaul the current policies on teacher training colleges to ensure that the development, recruitment of teachers for the ever-increasing pupil/student population is duly achieved. In consultation with religious bodies we shall consider the reopening of strategic Teacher Training Colleges and support their operations.

UPC will formulate policies that will ensure quality, desirability, relevance, morality and affordability of tuition.

UPC will abolish the unlawful and discriminatory State House Scholarships Scheme and reactivate the National Scholarships Board in the Ministry of Education for the purpose of transparency, accountability and equity. Additionally, the UPC will review the discriminatory manner in which the so called bright students are sponsored by the state while the rest are left to fend for themselves.

UPC will study the feasibility of introducing a student loans scheme for all tertiary institutions.

As violence and militarism in schools has disrupted law and order and indeed caused colossal loss of property and sometimes human life, UPC will put in place effective mechanism for channelling student/pupil grievances and dispute resolution.

It will be UPC's policy to relate education to productivity and globalisation and the education curricula will be formulated to reflect that policy. We shall put in place employment policy and manpower planning for graduates. We will accordingly establish institutions for teaching languages such as French, Latin (Spanish, Portuguese, Italian) German, Russian Arabic, Hindi, Chinese, Korean and Japanese

UPC shall treat both science and art subjects equally and this policy will be reflected in the university admissions and support for eligible students. We shall uphold the student's right and freedom to choose his or her destiny while ensuring that our education will relate class work to our labour needs and demands and to the real world.

We shall emphasise skill-based education, will facilitate public vocational institutions to collaborate in developing a meaningful partnership with private institutions to achieve this policy .

UPC will formulate special policies for revitalising education in Northern Uganda, where education has been seriously disrupted, schools abandoned or destroyed,

children of school going age have dropped out of school, children are displaced and the majority of girls are not attending school.

We shall investigate and analyse reasons for perpetual inequality of performance among the different districts, and prescribe rational and long term solutions for turning around this perennial problem

### **4.3 The UPC'S Health Policy**

All people whether rich or poor are entitled to good health care as a fundamental right. No person should be condemned to die because he or she cannot afford treatment, yet regrettably, the health care gap between the rich and the poor continues to widen with very serious impact on labour productivity, family and social security.

Government officers and politicians up to the highest level, together with the wealthy, have lost confidence in the country's health services and are now spending colossal sums of money to travel abroad to treat themselves and their families, citing lack of appropriate facilities/technologies and unfairly condemning the medical profession as a whole for isolated clinical or medical errors of a few. Meanwhile the poor increasingly continue to face difficulties in accessing health facilities, obtaining necessary service and getting medicines.

UPC is committed to the provision of affordable health services to all Ugandans and shall adopt policies towards improvement and upgrading of the health infrastructure and facilities both urban and rural. The UPC will specifically fund and support upgrading and provision of theatres, wards, equipment, vehicles and other facilities in both Health Centres and Referral Hospitals equally to ensure balanced health service delivery in the country. Additionally, the UPC will build more hospitals duly provided with adequate living quarters for doctors, nurses and para-medical staff

We shall plan for the development of human resources necessary for the provision of quality health care; elimination of graft and corruption; procurement of medicines and appropriate technology thereby raising public confidence in the health sector .

All the Referral Hospitals will be equipped with up-to-date technology to make Uganda truly a centre of medical excellence that will not only save colossal foreign exchange currently being spent to treat a privileged few abroad, but also to attract outsiders with hard currency to seek treatment here.

UPC will place emphasis on the rehabilitation and provision of adequate and effective health services in the North where: (i) maternal and infant mortality rates are high, (ii) prevalence of diarrhoeal diseases among children is high and (ii) most people live in displaced people's camps and live below the poverty line.

UPC will create conditions that make it less attractive for doctors, nurses and other medical professionals to flee into economic exile. Currently, low pay has not only compromised ethics, morale and professionalism but also caused a large exodus of qualified medical staff. Accordingly, we shall review packages for medical staff, including retirement benefits and ensure that they are relatively comparative, competitive and commensurate with their workload, status and the risks involved in their nature of work.

UPC is committed to finding an effective anti-malarial treatment and control, which is affordable, safe and acceptable. We shall support research and identification of therapies most suitable for Uganda.

UPC will emphasise the policy on clean water, sanitation and hygiene as agents for prevention of disease and will require inclusion of the subject on hygiene in the education curricula right from primary school as well as in the community civic education programmes to improve the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours of the population.

UPC shall vigorously encourage protection of Uganda's medicinal plants by controlling exportation of the plant species. We shall ensure that cooperation between the modern medicine and traditional medicine through the Uganda Herbalists Association will be effectively enhanced under a clear legal regime.

#### **4.4 HIV/AIDS Policy**

Uganda's widely acclaimed success in curbing the spread of HIV/AIDS notwithstanding, the scourge remains a serious health and social problem. Indeed a research report in a reputable academic journal '*The Lancet*' by researcher Juslin Parkhurts casts doubt on NRM's claims on success in reducing prevalence and incidence of HIV/AIDS. It is therefore clear that HIV/AIDS threatens the foundation of family, economic and social activities and the future of mankind.

UPC will ensure prevention of the spread of the disease, support programmes that will fight against HIV/AIDS and offer medical treatment, food and other necessities to the victims of the pandemic. We shall formulate an elaborate policy on HIV/AIDS patients in terms of financial support, Social support and education of orphans and criteria for paid or free treatment. In implementing this policy we shall depend on the cooperation of family, community, employers and NGOs.

UPC will fight against stigma and discrimination, in work places, health facilities, associations, schools and families, which undermine prevention, care and treatment.

Every one has a right to be protected from HIV/AIDS and therefore UPC will enact laws against malicious and intentional spread of the disease.

#### **4.5 Gender and Opportunities for Women**

Under the NRM administration, women have been used for political purposes and their representation has only been a tokenism.

Everything in this Manifesto applies with equal effect to all in our society – men, women and children. UPC however recognises the important and special role played by women in our society and supports all efforts towards obtaining gender balance and equality in all spheres, opportunities and efforts in life.

UPC will support financially and materially all legitimate women organisations that work towards achievement of equal opportunities in homes, politics, social life, public service, private employment, education, health etc. We shall support their efforts in nation building, raising awareness among womenfolk on their rights and standards in all fields of human endeavour.

UPC shall pursue policies that give women acceptable levels of representation in the Party, Government and other organs of governance and shall pay particular attention to women's rights and participation in decision-making processes at all levels.

We shall intensify public education against negative socio-cultural practices together with all procedures, pronouncements and records that are in gender-sensitive language that discriminate against women and will work to safeguard the dignity of women.

We shall encourage women organisations to be inclusive such that the rural and the underprivileged are offered equal opportunities to participate in their affairs and ensure that a section of women are not catered for at the expense of the other. We shall work towards improvement of the conditions of rural women. Our policy focus shall therefore be on effective economic, political and social empowerment of women in a sustainable manner.

#### **4.6 Population Policy**

Uganda does not have a coherent and predictable national population policy; consequently the country has currently the fastest growing population, recording a growth rate of around 3.5% per annum. Quite a sizable number of top officials in the NRM administration and their sympathisers are proponents of a huge population because, they contend, a big population will provide a larger market and purchasing power to buy products, a large workforce to undertake production and thus widening the tax base and creating a fertile ground from which to recruit army conscripts to fight selfish/sectarian wars

UPC believes that planned population growth helps speedup economic growth through more savings for productive investment and higher productivity. Our policy shall work to manage the current population growth to balance it with the available resources, levels of economy and to reduce pressure on social services, infrastructure, land and environment.

We shall support and facilitate family planning programmes and consider other population programmes that help in managing population growth. We shall specifically ensure that men are made central in family planning programmes to guarantee success and effectiveness. UPC shall further engage religious and cultural groups to ensure their participation in acceptable family planning programmes.

UPC shall put in place massive community education and information programmes aimed at changing some of the entrenched customs and cultures that are a hindrance to achieving effective reduction in population growth.

Regular, periodical, accurate and timely national census is vital for proper national planning and equitable allocation of resources. UPC shall therefore facilitate and support the Uganda Bureau of Statistics in its functions.

We shall work for comprehensive peace in the country to stop the current wars and conflicts, work to engage every able-bodied person productively to avoid idleness and relieve women from man's domination all of which are agents of fast population growth.

#### **4.7 Caring for Our Children and Child Rights**

The future of this country depends on the children/youth of the present generation. UPC will continue to champion and promote well-being, welfare and rights of children and youth in accordance with the international conventions and the constitution and laws of Uganda.

UPC will encourage relatives to adopt orphans. Each orphan will be entitled to a minimum financial package covering nutrition, clothing, medical care and shelter. Free education at all levels to all orphans. Vocational training to orphans above 18 years who are not in tertiary institutions.

It will be our policy to provide opportunities for basic education, secondary and other academic advancement as well as technical training to all children in Uganda to prepare them for meaningful employment and optimum contribution to the development of the nation specifically and mankind generally.

UPC shall formulate schemes and programmes for the youth to be involved in voluntary community work and international exchange programmes.

We shall pursue a policy that guarantees children's welfare and protection from exploitation on account of their youth and vulnerability. We shall investigate the causes of street children and find solutions that will greatly reduce their number and pursue programmes to rehabilitate the growing number of delinquent children.

#### **4.8 Caring for the Elderly**

The NRM administration has no respect for the elderly and pensioners. Pensioners have not been paid their dues promptly and as a result some have died prematurely while the majority live in abject poverty.

UPC recognises the important role played by senior citizens, of all walks of life, over the years in the development of Uganda. We shall formulate policies that will accord special status, privileges and concessions to the elderly.

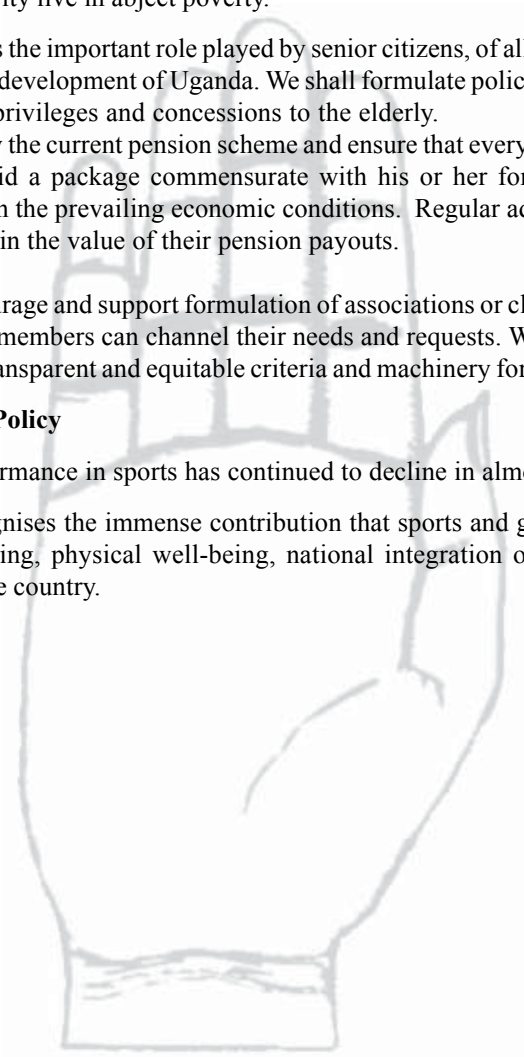
We shall review the current pension scheme and ensure that every eligible pensioner is promptly paid a package commensurate with his or her former status and in accordance with the prevailing economic conditions. Regular adjustments shall be made to maintain the value of their pension payouts.

UPC will encourage and support formulation of associations or clubs for the elderly, through which members can channel their needs and requests. We shall ensure that there exists a transparent and equitable criteria and machinery for eligibility.

#### **4.9 Sports Policy**

Uganda's performance in sports has continued to decline in almost all disciplines.

The UPC recognises the immense contribution that sports and games can make in character building, physical well-being, national integration of our peoples and publicity for the country.



Talented sportsmen and women require special training and would need a specialised educational set up that recognises their potential and needs. UPC will establish sports academies where students are instructed not only in academic syllabi but also in specific sporting disciplines.

We shall adopt youth-based grassroots approach in talent spotting and encourage any programmes and initiatives that will nurture and guide potential future sports men and women. We shall create conditions at home that encourage top sportsmen and women to become and remain competitive nationally and internationally.

UPC, in collaboration with the private sector as well as the international and national sports bodies, will direct real investment in cash and facilities and offer political and social support for development, administration and growth of sport in the country.

UPC shall pursue a policy of building modern and spacious stadia of international standard in Uganda.

#### **4.9 Culture and Community Development**

Culture is crucial to the social and economic development of a society.

UPC will formulate policies that will preserve, promote and develop Uganda's divergent cultures and revive and revitalise the national cultural identity through traditional arts, literature, crafts, music dance, drama and sports. We shall encourage and support rehabilitation and modernisation of the National Theatre and build cultural centres in other towns.

We shall spear-head community development programme and build community centres throughout the country where the community shall gather for meetings, debates, rehabilitation, entertainment and lectures which will be for the benefit of the community. UPC shall equip these centres with necessary equipment including, radios, TVs, News Papers and Magazines, indoor games and sporting facilities to engage the community usefully and fight idleness, crime, alcoholism, drug abuses and ignorance.

UPC will pursue a policy that encourages educating our youth in culture, tradition and heritage.

Cognisant of the past experiences with the traditional rulers and kingdoms, UPC shall engage these institutions and consider their genuine aspirations and popular demands to ensure harmonious co-existence with public administration.

## **5.0 DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND ANIMAL INDUSTRY**

### **5.1 General**

Poverty in Uganda is basically rural and subsistence based. Over 90% of the country's poor live in the countryside and over 80% of the poor households depend on agriculture for their living. The situation on the ground is that subsistence farmers have a marked rise in poverty.

Agricultural sector contribution to the GDP has been steadily declining and the population that live in poverty is about 38% despite the so-called improved economic growth.

The Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture (PMA) and National Agricultural Advisory Services have yielded little, if anything, since launching because their budgets are consumed by administration and management costs, seminars and workshops with service delivery accounting for just 15% of the budget. Furthermore agriculture despite its importance in the economy receives only 4% share of the national budget. Until the industrial sector is fully developed and is up and running efficiently, agriculture will remain a major contributor to Uganda's economic development and social stability.

### **5.2 Developing and Modernising Agriculture**

UPC will accordingly formulate policies that focus on provision at affordable costs, of farm inputs such as tools, machinery, finance, extension services, improved seeds, pesticides and fertilisers to farmers.

UPC will encourage Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and local investment in agriculture. We shall encourage production of export crops in which we have a natural advantage and experience such as, cotton, tea, sugar cane, coffee, banana, fruits, flowers and cocoa and food crops of cereals, pulses and roots and tubers.

UPC will formulate policies on absorption of farm produce through the private sector marketing channels to ensure that farmers do not suffer losses through non-purchase of their products.

UPC shall support and facilitate agricultural research on crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry and appropriate technological advancements so as to improve agricultural production.

UPC shall re-invigorate Agricultural Census Programme and require improved data collection machinery and methodologies that will provide appropriate information for proper planning.



The UPC policy shall be to encourage organic farming in order to attain competitiveness in the International market. We shall promote and revive farming methods including: crop rotation, terracing (where necessary), and resting land in order to conserve soil quality.

UPC will encourage safe application of biotechnology in agriculture.

UPC will formulate policies that will facilitate development of irrigation and food storage so as to ensure food security especially in the face of the current unpredictability of weather condition. The District Farm Institutes shall be revitalized and farmers will be taught modern farming practices.

UPC will ensure that the delivery of quality extension services by farmers themselves is improved and implemented fully.

UPC will ensure that livestock development shall be seriously undertaken to ensure our competitiveness in the world market and to satisfy the local market in meat, milk hides and skin. UPC shall encourage large scale commercial farming and ranching. Food production for domestic use shall be a priority to ensure food security.

### **5.3 Developing Fisheries**

Fish is not only a vital source of food protein to a significant number of our population but also an important sub-sector in the country's economy in terms of foreign exchange earnings and offering employment to fishermen, processors, transports etc. The opening up of the overseas market, especially the European Union, to the Uganda fish exports has put considerable pressure on the fishing industry causing immense depletion of lake and river resources.

UPC shall formulate policies that will ensure optimum fish production while at the same time ensuring the correct balance between breeding and harvesting of fish in the lakes and rivers. We shall encourage efficient fishing methods and practices.

We shall demarcate and gazette specific swamps where large fish ponds shall be constructed for breeding fish to be released into lakes and rivers from time to time. Appropriate infrastructure including cold storage systems will be constructed to promote the fishing industry.

We shall construct and equip fisheries training schools at strategic areas throughout the country for training fishermen about fishes and how to harvest them appropriately. Fishermen will be encouraged to form themselves into viable associations to facilitate their training in fishing practices and skills as well as in swimming and life saving techniques. UPC will work to ensure quick resolutions of disputes on shared water resources

### **5.4 Developing and Managing Forestry**

Forests constitute an invaluable renewable resource for fuel, building materials, wood, environment and habitat for numerous living creatures. Unfortunately the NRM policy

on management of forestry resources is inadequate in terms of funding and management.

UPC shall pursue a policy that will focus on afforestation programmes, reclamation and rehabilitation of forests, expanding existing soft wood forests, preservation of natural forests and sustainable utilisation of forests for the benefit of present and future generations. Adequate funding shall be allocated for this vital sector.

We shall invest in research programmes in various aspects of forestry including utilization and protection.

UPC will encourage and support private investment in commercial forestry not only in appropriate locations, outside gazetted forest reserves, but also in specific depleted forest reserves. Local residents shall be facilitated to plant and own holdings of forests.

### **5.5 Reviving and Developing the Co-operative Movement**

It was a strategic policy of the NRM to kill the co-operatives in order to impoverish the people on the premise that poor people are easy to rule and manipulate. The administration's new drive to revive co-operative unions seems to be targeted at well-off movement cadres who currently have the capacity and ability to acquire shares therein.

During the UPC administrations, co-operative societies had reached parish levels in most parts of the country and had enabled peasants to earn decent incomes. The co-operative movement was an excellent medium for uniting the population to struggle constantly to raise their individual standards of living, advancing democracy and providing a training platform for public self-government, improving farming skills and marketing.

UPC will renew emphasis on reactivating and spreading the co-operative movement throughout the country and ensure that qualified, honest and reliable persons manage the unions, societies and the ministry responsible for co-operatives.

UPC will review the existing laws and formulate policies that will permit the co-operative unions and societies to carry out multi-purpose activities including farming, agro-based value addition, manufacturing, financial services and; transportation.

UPC shall restructure the co-operative unions in order to bring their management and control closer to the co-operators.

UPC shall revive the Co-operative Bank.

UPC shall ensure that Government pays for co-operative societies and union properties wrongly disposed of or expropriated by the NRM Government.

## **6.0 MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **6.1 Management of Land**

Uganda is blessed, not only with fertile arable land so vital for agriculture, but also with minerals and forests, which are increasingly playing a significant role in our economy. Unfortunately, under the NRM government some citizens have been deprived of their land rights without any or adequate compensation.

UPC will develop policies for effective and optimal utilisation of land resources for economic development. The Uganda Land Commission and the District Land Boards will be restructured to make them responsive to the needs of the people.

The Land Registry will be modernised with the technology to ensure efficiency in handling and safeguarding people's title deeds. UPC will review all land transactions with a view to giving redress to those whose land rights have been violated.

UPC will review the setup of land tribunals all over the country and ensure that land disputes are adjudicated upon expeditiously and justly.

### **6.2 Management of Water**

That the world's climate is changing is now a generally agreed and scientifically proven phenomenon. Africa and Uganda in particular, is a part of this change. It is predicted that by 2020s Africa will be warmer by 0.6°C - 2.4°C relative to the 1961-1990 baselines and this will increase up to 3.8°C by 2080. In some parts of Africa rainfall is predicted to decrease by 5% by 2020 and by 10% by 2050 while certain areas will receive a significant increase in rainfall. The predictions further indicate that the dry and rainy seasons are likely to be unpredictable with occasional droughts and floods. These changes will have profound impacts on our agricultural and related industries.

Access to clean water is a basic human right. Uganda is well endowed with water resources and availability of sufficient quantities of clean, dependable and affordable water will not only improve the health of the people but also promote and facilitate economic activities based on agriculture, livestock and industry.

Currently National Water and Sewerage Corporation (NWSC) effectively operates in only 16 towns. This translates into coverage of 26.6% of major urban centres given that there are now almost 72 districts in Uganda. This would contradict the present administration's claim that urban water coverage is 65% while the rural water coverage is 57.2%.

To ensure the provision of adequate, clean water, UPC will:

- prioritise rehabilitation and construction of water supply to vital establishments including hospitals, schools and public institutions,

- establish an authority to manage and supervise water harvesting through damming, boreholes and irrigation infrastructure for agriculture, fish farming, animal and human consumption,
- mobilise resources and technical assistance to exploit water resources,
- put in place mechanisms to harness and utilise rainwater and
- construct deep boreholes fitted with wind mills to supply villages with clean water.

### **6.3 Management of Mineral Resources.**

UPC regards mining industry as an important component in the overall regeneration of our economy. We shall strengthen the relevant organs in government involved in the mining industry so that they are better equipped to undertake their supervisory and monitoring roles.

UPC government shall encourage private sector investment, especially foreign investors with solid experience, in the mining sub-sector and will pursue a policy of value-addition to our mineral exports aimed at minimising Uganda's exposure to fluctuation in world prices that usually afflict raw mineral exports.

We shall encourage and support establishment of industries that use our industrial minerals as inputs.

We shall review and streamline structures and mechanisms for awarding of mining rights as well as the relevant mining laws to ensure equity and an attractive environment to both the investors and the local communities.

UPC shall institute special programmes for the promotion and support of small-scale mining enterprises.

### **6.4 Development of Energy Resources**

Although Uganda is well endowed with vast natural resources of hydropower with estimated potential of over 2000 MW, there is a serious energy crisis in the country, mainly as a result of greed, corruption and faulty planning within the NRM establishment. The energy sector has been and is characterised by:

- Unreliable and intermittent power supply causing destructive power fluctuations and frequent power cuts which have negatively impacted on the competitiveness of manufacturers
- High tariffs, which have driven poor members of society to using firewood and charcoal at the expense of forests and the environment.
- Wrong decisions leading to building the second dam (Kiira) at adjacent to the Owen Falls Power station.
- Indecision on the development of Bujagali and Karuma Dams.

At its current level of tariffs, extension of electricity to the rural areas is inconceivable and is therefore not a realistic proposition. Meanwhile only approximately 7% of the total population has access to electricity.

The UPC government will evolve a comprehensive policy on energy that will involve a national strategic plan for rural electrification with a combination of hydro, thermal, solar and wind energy.

UPC shall re-examine the cost build-up of electricity tariffs keeping in view the divestiture of UEB and concession protocols and procedures as well as management and operational efficiencies and in consultation with all stakeholders pursue policies that ensure that the electricity distributors and generators will provide affordable and reliable power.

UPC government will review the developments in respect of the proposed Karuma and Bujagali dams and if found satisfactory, implement the simultaneous development of both projects.

In collaboration with appropriate technology providers, we shall support biogas and biomass energy systems in communities which provide natural basic raw material or have comparative advantages.

In the petroleum sub-sector, UPC will promote, support and closely follow oil and natural gas exploration programmes in all possible sites and wells throughout the country and accelerate oil and gas production.

We shall continue with the traditional method of importing refined oil products and liquefied petroleum gas but will also revive negotiations with producers of crude oil to consider setting up refining facilities for their products in Uganda.

We shall support any programmes that advocate energy conservation measures by use of efficient equipments, tools and accessories and good practices in industries and homes. We shall equally ensure that poor people do not destroy trees and therefore environment on account of inability to access other energy sources.

## **6.5 Management of the Environment**

Environment is vital for sustenance of life of all living creatures. Worldwide industrialisation, high poverty levels in Uganda, greed and sheer inconsiderate attitudes have all contributed to serious degradation of the environment.

UPC will adopt policies that will strike a balance between economic demands and protection of environment for posterity. We shall review existing legislation and regulations regarding the environment and bring them in consonance with international conventions and national interests.

We shall include environmental studies in school curricula and in community training and mobilisation programmes.

## **7.0 DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **7.1 General**

Balanced and equitable development and maintenance of infrastructure throughout the country has been NRM administration's miserable failure. Consequently, conditions of life in the rural areas have dramatically deteriorated since we last left political power. Even the hyped success in the communications sub-sector is of little benefit to the rural poor as the current systems are hardly affordable and accessible to them.

The first UPC administration developed an excellent network of transport and telecommunication system covering roads of various grades, railways, airports, aerodromes and Post and Telecommunication links. During its second tenure in office, UPC rehabilitated much of the infrastructure that had suffered years of destruction and neglect, despite limited resources and insurgency in the central region of the country. UPC considers road, water, rail, air transportation and communication network as the central nervous system for the development and growth of other sectors and therefore in the management of public affairs. The UPC will implement a coherent programme of development of all infrastructure in Uganda based on rational and clear development evidence.

### **7.2 Rural Development**

Over 90% of our population live in rural areas and while they contribute about 50% of the total domestic output and a significant value of our exports earnings, their rate of poverty has now degenerated to unacceptable levels.

UPC will revive its multi-sectoral programme encompassing a wide range of political, economic and social activities, designed to transform and enhance production and other rural activities into business rather than subsistence ones. We shall encourage and support production of non-traditional crops for export and commercialisation of various activities including culture, music and drama.

UPC will allocate considerable expenditures of the national budget towards rural development including provision of infrastructure through both central and local governments under strict supervision, monitoring and accountability mechanisms. We shall mobilise sufficient resources, encourage and support the rural people's efforts towards construction of better affordable rural homes and improved amenities including clean water, sanitation and solar electrification.

UPC will offer special tax holiday, land concessions and other suitable incentives to private sector investors to provide rental and low-income housing for workers and low-income earners in remote trading centres or around rural projects.

UPC government will review the existing political, economic and other structures to achieve a balance between participation of grass-roots people in decision making on one hand and project implementation, monitoring and evaluation on the other.

### **7.3 Urban Development**

Owing to ill conceived decentralisation policies of the current NRM administration, all urban areas are afflicted by appalling deterioration in the road network, inadequate water and sewerage services, poor refuse disposal systems and dilapidated public housing. UPC will formulate and implement a policy for reconstruction, rehabilitation and development of all major cities, municipalities and towns all over the country. We shall work towards phasing out urban slums in orderly and systematic manner, particularly after alternative sites have been identified and suitably prepared.

We shall support construction of low cost housing estates by both the private and public sectors and urban authorities. We shall revisit the original system of urban areas being responsible for their respective water and sewerage systems in light of the proposed privatisation of NWSC.

UPC will ensure that new constructions as well as upgrading of existing structures are carried out strictly in accordance with approved plans and under competent and qualified architectural supervision to guarantee public and personal safety and avoid creation of heavy and uncontrolled traffic density, narrow streets and access roads even if it means creating new urban centres.

We shall encourage the private sector investment in city/town bus service to reduce congestion created by small omni-buses. Existing taxi owners shall be encouraged to establish companies that would operate bus services.

We shall encourage and promote setting up of satellite towns and urban centres throughout the country that are fully provided with quality amenities, utilities and facilities in order to reduce pressure on big cities owing to internal migration.

### **7.4 Transport and Communications Development**

Uganda has a road network of approximately 70,000 kilometres. Of these, 10,000 kilometres (2,500 paved and 7,500 gravel) constitute the national network, 27,000 kilometres, the district network, 2,800 kilometres the urban network and 30,000 kilometres the community network. There are also approximately 1,350 kilometres of railway line; three airports at Entebbe, Gulu and Soroti; nine airfields and 8 airstrips.

The management of all transport and communication infrastructure under the NRM administration has been influenced more by political expediency rather than national considerations.

UPC will, as it has done before, place priority over the rehabilitation, upgrading and construction of the existing road, railway line networks and runways as a national policy. We shall upgrade more national roads from gravel to bitumen and rehabilitate the entire railway network.

The UPC will ensure quality road construction in terms of width, workmanship and safety in both national and district roads. Notorious accident spots shall be identified and eliminated or secured to reduce the present road carnage.

We shall undertake a national master plan study on traffic and formulate policies which ensure that vehicle importation and licensing is matched by development of new and large roads. We shall introduce flyovers in strategic and congested junctions on our urban and country roads. We shall aim at high occupancy vehicles and encourage private sector to increase on their investment in bus services both in the cities and on long routes.

### **7.5 Developing Science and Technology**

Cumulative experience has demonstrated clearly that nations with strong scientific capacity, well developed small and medium enterprises and infrastructure, have been able to achieve rapid economic growth. Science is important because it creates knowledge and technologies, which can be turned into goods and services through small to medium enterprises. A well developed infrastructure enables a country to efficiently and promptly deliver these goods and services to its population in different parts of the country resulting into improved services, increased income and better well being of the population.

As already pointed out, Uganda is a country with huge natural resource potential. The country could dominate regional and global markets if this potential were well exploited. Exploitation of this potential will depend greatly on the capacity of our science and technology institutions to stimulate creativity and innovation and generate knowledge and technologies which can be turned into goods and services that can compete effectively in the domestic, regional and global markets.

To be able to successfully implement our industrialisation and modernisation policies and programmes for development, UPC will embrace policies that promote the teaching and application of science and technology. We shall support programmes that will demystify and make science and technology pupil/student friendly at all levels of schooling. We shall encourage and support the fusion of activities of the scientific and technological institutions with those of the private and public sectors so that knowledge, discoveries and innovation from the former is easily disseminated to and applied by the latter.

We shall support scientific and technological research in both established and non-traditional research institutions and promote linkage of the results of research to demands of the market. We shall provide sufficient funding to research institutions throughout the country.

UPC government will take keen interest in research findings and formulate effective policies for their implementation to transform knowledge and technology into goods and services. UPC will create incentives that will attract, retain, motivate and reward scientists and innovators.

In addition, UPC will deliberately create links between knowledge, investment and business development through small and medium sized enterprises. UPC will establish an appropriate authority to manage and direct science and technology.



## **8.0 IMPROVING UGANDA'S ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS**

### **8.1 General**

NRM's belligerent and militaristic attitude towards our neighbours, long running internal wars, corruption and slow and indecisive democratisation process has undermined Uganda's image in the international arena. Uganda's relations with almost all neighbours and the international community are at the lowest ebb and the country is now being isolated and abandoned by our development partners. The UPC will re-establish well staffed and funded foreign missions in strategically selected capital cities of the world in order to ensure effective delivery of Uganda's foreign policies.

### **8.2 Regional Co-operation**

UPC values peaceful and cordial relationships with other countries and will respect, uphold and honour the territorial integrity of all our neighbours like we have done in the past. We shall work to end any outstanding conflicts, suspicions and misunderstandings between Rwanda, Congo, and Sudan respectively on the one hand and Uganda on the other.

We shall prohibit refugees or any other nationals of neighbouring countries from using Uganda as a base for either military or political action against those countries. We shall project Uganda's interests in the international arena with dignity and with due respect for the views of other peoples and their leaders.

**8.2.1. East African Co-operation:** UPC will strengthen the revived East African Community and enhance our role within the community by providing balanced approach to problems peculiar to each country in regard to proposed single monetary system, customs union, non-tariff barriers, transport and communication linkages for mutual benefits.

UPC government will foster the special relationships that have existed between the countries of Tanzania and Uganda on the one hand and Kenya and Uganda on the other and will support the applications of Rwanda and Burundi to join the East African Co-operation..

In close consultation and cooperation with other sister countries within the East African Community, UPC will address issues of cross border crime, cattle rustling, drug trafficking, smuggling and trafficking in illegal arms.

We shall promote the reactivation of shared institutions of research and work for cooperation in regional peace and security.

### **8.2.2. COMESA**

UPC government shall enhance economic and social cooperation within the COMESA sub region and work for acceleration of the removal of all obstacles to trade, commerce and rapid economic development within the sub-region.

**8.2.3 Great Lakes Region:** UPC government shall give the fullest meaning to the rejuvenation of mutually beneficial cooperation in areas of security, commerce, social and economic development and good neighbourliness in our relations with all countries within the Great Lakes Region and most especially with Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

**8.2.4 African Union and NEPAD:** UPC supports the principles of African Union and Pan-Africanism and will work to cause closer cooperation and continental unity within their frameworks. We shall work for the provision of good governance under the NEPAD's regional agenda and will strongly support effective non-discriminatory and fair application of the Peer Review Mechanism.

We shall support African Union's effort to achieve continental peace and will offer our facilities including peacekeeping and conflict resolution effort within our capacity.

We shall support legitimate developments towards fostering cooperation in the fields of science and technology, transport and communications, natural resources, democracy, infrastructure development and socio-economic transformation.

UPC government will continue to work for the absolute and complete emancipation of oppressed peoples of Africa

### **8.3 International Affairs**

NRM's foreign policy is characterised by, on the one hand irresponsible, reckless and hostile postures to other countries and their leaders and on the other, political expediency.

UPC is committed to independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Uganda and will formulate a foreign policy that will promote international peace, justice for all, commerce and economic development while preserving and protecting Uganda's economic, political and security interests.

UPC government shall participate in world affairs for the achievement of international peace, stability and development. We shall review Uganda's diplomatic representation in the world, in light of the current globalisation trend and ensure efficiency and desirability.

**8.3.1 The Commonwealth:** UPC government will actively play its role in the Commonwealth. We shall observe and implement the Commonwealth principles especially on values of democracy and good governance.

**8.3.2 United Nations and other International Organisations:** UPC values the role of the United Nations and its agencies and our government will support its principles and charter.

We shall support the UN's function of maintaining world peace, stability and human rights. Within the framework of the United Nations, UPC government shall work against international terrorism and fully cooperate with the international community in eliminating it. We shall urge the international community to study the root causes for international terrorism and find lasting solution to them. UPC shall study all International Conventions and Protocols which Uganda has not ratified and consider their ratification

**8.3.3 Special Relations:** UPC government shall seek new bilateral, multilateral and foreign alliances that bring political, social and economic benefits to the country, outside the framework of established bodies to which we are already linked.

**8.3.4 South-South Co-operation:** To mitigate the adverse effects of globalisation and marginalisation, we shall enhance our participation in the South-South cooperation.

**8.3.5 The Non-aligned Movement:** UPC supports the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement and will foster cooperation within the movement and champion its ideals.

## **9.0 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

### **9.1 Mobilisation of Funds**

The NRM administration has relied heavily on foreign and domestic borrowing to finance its budget in spite of the large foreign grant and funding that it receives. The UPC Government considers this unacceptable.

The UPC government will be financed by affordable resources. We will accordingly mobilize domestic revenues which will be supplemented, firstly, by grants and then by judicious borrowing.

The UPC government will create a domestic environment where tax payers are key partners in development and appreciate the role and use of the taxes they pay. This will be done through the UPC policy of zero tolerance to corruption and misuse of national resources. It will be a clear policy of the UPC Government to reduce on commercial borrowing.

## **9.2 Public Service**

Over the years of the NRM rule, the Public Service has been neglected as government has created parallel structures staffed by its cronies to implement its programs. The UPC Government will utilise the established public service management systems to implement its programs. The UPC will prioritise capacity building in the civil service to ensure that it regains the glory and respectability that it once had.

## **9.3 National Planning and Evidence-Based Development**

Policy is the expression of political will of a government and policy making is the process by which the government translates its political vision into programmes and actions to deliver desired changes/outcomes in the country.

Under the NRM Government, the unilateral decisions and pronouncements of the President have, in many cases, replaced sound policy making and decisions which would have normally been made through established government institutions and machinery.

The UPC Government will re-establish and adhere to established and approved procedures and processes.

We shall specifically pass through the broad stages of : (i) issue identification; (ii) policy analysis and decision making; and (iii) implementation and evaluation in the evolution of our policies.

In all instances, we shall ensure clarity of roles and minimise conflict of interests amongst the institutions and individuals.

## **10.0 CONCLUSION**

The Uganda Peoples Congress has presented this manifesto to the people of Uganda as its third Contract. At the dawn of Independence, UPC made its first Contract with the people of Uganda. We are most proud to have fulfilled that Contract by achieving Independence, national unity and sovereignty and making giant strides in the struggle against poverty, ignorance and disease.

After the overthrow of the Idi Amin dictatorship, the UPC made its second Contract with the people of Uganda in its 1980 elections Manifesto. We promised that the Pearl of Africa shall rise and shine again. Again, the UPC did not let the people down. Within three years in government UPC was able to restore sanity to the country. Under the Recovery Programme, and later the Revised Recovery Programme UPC

was able to bring down inflation, achieve macro-economic stability, revive production in agriculture and industry and rebuild the shattered civil service.

After the unfortunate overthrow of the second UPC administration by gunmen, the UPC waged a relentless campaign to restore multiparty governance to Uganda. The fruits of our struggle is the multiparty campaign that we shall vigorously participate in under this Manifesto.

The people of Uganda should repose their confidence in the UPC which has twice demonstrated its will and ability to deliver on its promises. This Manifesto by a new leadership presents new opportunities for all the people of Uganda, to reconcile with each other and move along a new path of democracy and prosperity. UPC asks for your support, the support that will be rewarded by successful implementation of this, our peoples Manifesto.



# UGANDA PEOPLES CONGRESS

**MANIFESTO 2006**

**NEW LEADERSHIP  
NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR UGANDA**



**MAMA MIRIA KALULE OBOTE**  
**PRESIDENT**  
**UGANDA PEOPLES CONGRESS**