

PRESS STATEMENT

28TH, SEPTEMBER, 2015

UPC CALLS FOR ACTION ON EL NINO EFFECTS AND THE ECONOMY

1. According to the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA), for the period of September to December 2015, El nino rains will have devastating effects in the Districts across all Regions and will greatly affect sectors such as Agriculture, Food security, Health, Water and sanitation, infrastructure, works and Transport. UPC calls upon all sector Ministries and the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness and the Office of the Prime Minister to come up with Mitigation measures. UPC also calls upon government to intervene by providing farmers with storage for their produce, inputs and Subsidies to the farmers.

2. According the UPC Constitution, Article 2.5” To plan Uganda’s economic development in such a way that the public sector, private sector, workers, peasants and farmers, through the cooperative movement, commerce and industry will effectively contribute to increased production and wealth thus raising people’s welfare and the standard of living in the Country .” we are therefore charged under this article to ensure that Ugandans are planned for and urge Government to make an emergency plan with local governments and Households to ensure emergency plans exist at every unit of government, schools, and Health Units. Have an emergency plan for every incident or hazard that can impact the community or homes as a result of this El Niño.

Uganda People’s Congress Party, calls upon Government to set up The El nino Mitigation Fund and an Assistance Program to help Farmers and Households mitigate the impacts of the hazard risk.

3. Uganda People's Congress notes with concern deteriorating economic situation in Uganda, which is directly affecting the livelihood of the Ordinary people. Being the Vanguard of the fight against Poverty, Ignorance & Disease, UPC shall strive to mobilize the country to realize that investment can only be achieved through savings first that can propel investment and production in the economy.

4. The Proposed amendments of the Public Finance Management Act where the Government is seeking powers to borrow money from Bank of Uganda, without the approval of parliament in case of revenue shortfalls, should be a concern to taxpayers and all the stakeholders in the country. Uganda People's Congress is very much concerned with this development and calls for a review of this proposed amendments.

5. Uganda People's Congress Party School of Ideology in conjunction with the Department of Ideology ,Research and Documentation has launched its Program with the Training in Kole District on the 23rd -24th October 2015 under the theme "**Knowing your Party**".Therefore we call upon all UPC Members to fully support the activities of the ideology School and we take special appreciation to the great sacrifices and Commitment showed by Hon Fred Ebil Ebil and Hon Ruth Achieng who contributed a lot in making this event to succeed .

6. Uganda People's Congress Joined Zambia to celebrate her 51st Independence that was celebrated on 24th October 2015. The history of Zambia and Uganda dates back from the glorious days of Mulungushi Club that brought UNIP, CCM & UPC in a greater solidarity and fraternal relationship. Dr Apolo Milton Obote in his address to the 9th Conference of UNIP at Mulungushi Rock of Authority-Kabwe, August 1983, he said this "we know that our membership means:

- ❖ Commitment and sacrifices for the total liberation of Africa;
- ❖ Commitment and sacrifices for the freedom of the African people;
- ❖ Commitment and sacrifices for the economic and social progress of the people of Africa ;

- ❖ Commitment and sacrifices for international understanding and peaceful co-existence; and
- ❖ Commitment and sacrifices to provide a platform where sister parties may develop greater understanding, solidarity, fraternal and closer relations.”-

8. We send messages of great comradeship, Solidarity and Fraternity to CCM and the People of Tanzania who have spoken loud and clear and returned CCM leadership in Government in the just concluded Presidential and Parliamentary Elections. It has to be remembered that Tanzania and Uganda are all weather friends and this victory is a great inspiration to your ideological sister Political Party UPC, who promote and defend the core values of Nationalism, Pan Africanism and Internationalism.

EDWARD SEGGANYI

SECRETARY GENERAL