

# Diplomatic Notes

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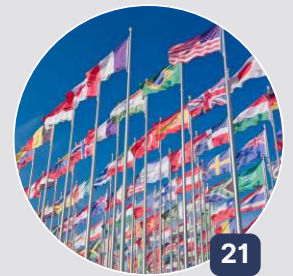
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**THIRD SOUTH SUMMIT**  
KAMPALA, UGANDA 2024  
"LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND"

**Uganda's Chairmanship:**  
Non-Aligned Movement (2024 - 2027)  
The Group of 77 and China (2024 - 2025)





## HEY, DEAR ESTEEMED READERS,



We are excited to unveil the August edition of Diplomatic Notes. August was an exciting month because the MoFA family gathered at the Annual Ambassadors Conference, an iconic event that presses the reset button on our foreign policy.

August was iconic on the sports calendar because we got to cheer our Sports Ambassadors on the international stage. Our Missions and diaspora ramped up the adrenalin in Paris and this issue contains a special supplement to commemorate team Uganda's outstanding performance at the 2024 Paris Summer Olympics.

Commercial Diplomacy is central to our Foreign Policy execution. We are witnessing the dividends of implementing Bilateral Air Service Agreements to facilitate route expansion by Uganda Airlines, with consignments of fresh fruit and vegetables delivered to South Africa.

Where do you find Ugandan cuisine when you travel abroad? Our gastrodiploamcy sleuths discovered Ugandan Chefs promoting Uganda's cuisine in different parts of the world through food.

For the last couple of years, the MoFA and Missions abroad have partnered with Rotary to extend the reach of the Annual Rotary Cancer Run. This year we had 9 Uganda Embassies holding mini-marathons in their host countries.

Our Ministers of Foreign Affairs have been at the forefront of the international arena, gallantly representing Uganda bilaterally and in multilateral fora, speaking for Uganda from the UN Security Council, to the African Union.

We hope you enjoy catching up on August's diplomatic highlights.

Editor-in-Chief  
Head, Public Diplomacy Department

DIPLOMATIC  
HIGHLIGHTS



SPECIAL  
FEATURE  
STORIES



UGANDA  
MISSIONS  
ABROAD



TÊTE-À-TÊTE  
MEETINGS





*The New Jinja Bridge (also known as Second Nile Bridge) is built across Nile River connecting the town of Njeru to Jinja, which is part of International Trunk Road (east-west direction) of Kampala(Capital)-Jinja-Malaba(Kenya border) for land-linked Uganda. The bridge is the region's first stay cable bridge (financed by the Japanese Government), complementing the existing Nalubaale Bridge (Owen Falls Dam), which was built in 1954 located 750m downstream.*

[Learn more](#)

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— “ —

*This document is a publication of the Department of Public Diplomacy. Any comments or recommendations can therefore be channeled to the Department for feedback or action.*

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MFA Gen. Odongo and PS Bagiire, along with Ugandan Ambassadors and Heads of Mission, pose for a group photo at the opening of the Ambassadors' Conference, taking place from 26th to 30th August 2024 in Jinja City.

## Economic Transformation and Regional Stability at Fore Front During Ambassadors Conference 2024.

**Jinja** - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Uganda convened its Ambassadors' Conference from August 26–30, 2024, at the Civil Service College in Jinja. Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakhar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, emphasized the crucial role of Uganda's diplomatic missions in aligning with the nation's development frameworks, particularly Vision 2040 and the Third National Development Plan.

He stressed that economic and commercial diplomacy should be at the forefront, with ambassadors tasked to drive value addition, industrialization, and trade. "Economic and commercial diplomacy has taken center stage in our foreign policy work," Gen. Odongo said. He urged ambassadors to leverage their positions to attract investment, technology, and expertise essential for Uganda's economic transformation.



The Minister also highlighted the significance of regional cooperation, pointing to the East African Community (EAC) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) as vital frameworks for boosting intra-Africa trade. He asserted that these regional mechanisms are strategic pillars supporting Uganda's national development ambitions.

In addition to economic diplomacy, Gen. Odongo addressed regional peace and security issues. He called for proactive engagement in addressing conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, South Sudan, and Somalia, stressing Uganda's role in fostering stability and cooperation within the region.

Permanent Secretary Bagiire Vincent Waiswa highlighted the need for effective and efficient approaches to promote economic and commercial diplomacy, particularly in areas such as agro-industrialization, tourism promotion, mineral development, and science and technology (ATMs).

PS Bagiire re-echoed the importance of mobilizing Ugandans in the diaspora for national development, and promoting international law and commitments. "We need to have a concerted effort to attract investors, eliminate non-tariff barriers, and enhance trade relations," he said.

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The Ministry has participated in coordinating and mobilizing grants for national development, including the Chinese Government grant of US\$5.3 million to finance the MoFA Extension building project." Waiswa commended some Heads of Mission for heeding guidance on effective service delivery but expressed concern over others who have disregarded official guidance, leading to acrimonious situations.



On the sidelines of the conference, Mr. Ramathan Ggoobi, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development, highlighted the role of ambassadors in enhancing Uganda's economic growth through innovative branding and marketing strategies. He emphasized the potential of tourism as a critical area for growth and outlined Uganda's ambitious target to double its economy every five years, despite challenges.

PS Bagiire acknowledged the substantial, albeit often unseen, impact of the Ministry's efforts. He cited notable achievements such as the Jinja Bridge project, the Karamoja airport, and the polytechnic institute funded by Sharjah as examples of successful diplomatic engagements. The conference aimed to enhance performance and innovation among Uganda's diplomatic missions, facilitate peer-to-peer knowledge sharing, and promote both regional and international peace and security.

----- **Story by Margaret A. Kafeero | Photos by MoFA Press**







## Uganda to Host Pivotal 2025 Summit on Africa's Agricultural Future.

**Kampala** - In a significant move, Uganda has agreed to host a major summit on Africa's agricultural future, scheduled for January 9-12, 2025.

This decision follows a courtesy call on August 8, 2024, by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) and the African Union to Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.



The discussions centered on the post-Malabo Kampala Declaration roadmap, a critical initiative for accelerating agricultural growth and transforming livelihoods across the continent. In 2014, The African Union Summit in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea adopted concrete agriculture goals to be achieved by 2025.

The summit emphasized agriculture's importance in Africa's development agenda, as it is a critical policy initiative for economic growth and poverty reduction.

As Uganda prepares to host this landmark event, the Minister of Agriculture will seek the endorsement of both the Cabinet and the President. This summit is expected to assess progress since the Malabo Declaration and forge a path for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods through agriculture, highlighting Uganda's leadership role in Africa's agricultural transformation.

By **Christiana Ampeire** | Photo by **MoFA Press**

## Algerian Ambassador Pays Courtesy Visit to Minister of Foreign Affairs.



**Kampala** - The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda, Hon. Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakhar graciously welcomed H.E Mourad Amokrane at the Ministry headquarters in Kampala, symbolizing the enduring and amicable relations and bilateral ties between Uganda and Algeria.

H.E Amokrane expressed his profound appreciation for the opportunity to serve in Uganda and extended his gratitude to the government for its unwavering support & warm hospitality.

Hon. Gen. Odongo emphasized the enduring and strong bonds between Uganda and Algeria that transcend mere diplomatic interactions. The Minister also underscored the significance of African solidarity.

On the economic front, the MFA broached the topic of Ugandan milk exports to Algeria and further conveyed his appreciation to the Algerian Government for its generous scholarship opportunities extended to Ugandans, which have profoundly impacted the growth and development of Ugandan students. Gen. Odong warmly welcomed Amb. Amokrane to Uganda, thanking him for his dedication to collaborating on various matters of mutual interest between Uganda and Algeria.

By **Herbert Ssekatawa** | Photo by **MoFA Press**







## British High Commissioner Kate Airey Bids Farewell to Uganda.

**Kampala** - Hon. Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakhar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, met with the outgoing British High Commissioner to Uganda, H.E. Kate Airey, as she formally bade him farewell following the completion of her three-year tour of duty. The meeting took place at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kampala on August 8, 2024.

Hon. Gen. Odongo praised H.E. Airey for her outstanding service and significant contributions to strengthening Uganda-UK bilateral relations. While expressing regret at her departure, he hoped her extensive experience would continue to benefit Uganda in the future.

Ambassador Airey expressed deep gratitude to Hon. Gen. Odongo for his unwavering support and their constructive partnership, also commending PS Vincent Bagiire and the MOFA team for their professionalism in strengthening bilateral relations.

They discussed regional issues, including the Eastern DRC, Somalia, and Ethiopia, with Amb. Airey praising Uganda's Operation Shuja for fostering regional trust. Hon. Odongo highlighted the shared cultural ties between southeast Ethiopia and northeastern Uganda, mentioning an upcoming November gathering in Soroti to discuss pastoral issues and enhance cooperation.

The outgoing British envoy expressed satisfaction with her service in Uganda, assuring the MFA that their professional relationship has grown into a lasting friendship. She affirmed that he now has a steadfast ally beyond Uganda's borders, ready to offer support.



By **Jadrine Komukyeya** | Photo by **MoFA Press**.

## Minister Odongo Reiterates Demand for Africa's Seats at UN Security Council.



**UN, New York** - Uganda's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Hon. Gen. Odongo Jeje Abubakhar, addressed a critical issue during the United Nations Security Council debate under the agenda item "Maintenance of International Peace & Security" on August 13, 2024.

He highlighted the historical injustice and unfair exclusion of Africa from key positions within the UN Security Council. Despite Africa's substantial contributions to UN peace operations and its prominent presence on the Council's agenda, the continent continues to be underrepresented in the decision-making processes.

Hon. Odongo emphasized that Africa, which is home to over a billion people and numerous ongoing conflicts, is unjustly sidelined in discussions that directly impact its future. He argued that this exclusion not only diminishes the credibility of the Security Council but also perpetuates a legacy of inequality that has persisted for decades.

The minister called for urgent reforms to ensure Africa's rightful representation, asserting that global peace and security can only be achieved when all voices, particularly those most affected, are heard. His message was clear: the time has come to correct this longstanding imbalance.

By **Marvin Ikondere**, **Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Uganda to the UN.**  
Photo by **UN Press**.







## President Museveni Receives Credentials from Newly Appointed Ambassadors.

**Entebbe** - H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni received newly appointed Ambassadors to Uganda on August 3, 2024 at a presentation of letters of credence ceremony at State House, Entebbe.

President Yoweri Museveni while receiving the envoys pledged unwavering collaboration between Uganda and their respective nations.

The newly appointed Ambassadors include; Algerian Ambassador to Uganda, His Excellency Mourad Amokrane, Kenyan High Commissioner to Uganda, His Excellency Josh Arthur Maangi, Netherlands Ambassador to Uganda, Her Excellency Frederieke Quispel, and Eswatini Kingdom's High Commissioner to Uganda (Non-Resident), His Excellency Mahlaba Almon Mamba.

In attendance at the State House were officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs represented by Amb. Julius Kivuna, Head of Regional Peace and Security (RPS) Department, Amb. Santa Mary Laker Kinyera, Head of International Economic Cooperation (IEC) Department, and Amb. Charles Ssentongo, Chief of Protocol and Marshall of Diplomatic Corps.



Algeria



Kenya



Netherlands



Eswatini



By Herbert Ssekatawa | Photos by State House PPU







## Uganda to Host 3rd Uganda-Kenya Coast Tourism Conference.

**Kampala** - Uganda is set to host the third Uganda-Kenya Coast Tourism Conference, under the theme “Promoting Job Creation, Inclusiveness & Sustainability,” slated to take place from November 20-21, 2024 at the Speke Resort, Munyonyo. This was revealed at a media briefing on August 7th 2024 at the MoFA HQ in Kampala.

During his remarks, Amb. Paul Mukumbya, Uganda's Consul-General in Mombasa, stressed the importance of this event in evaluating the progress made since the previous two conferences.

“Following two highly successful Kenya-Uganda tourism conferences held in the coastal towns of Mombasa and Diani, more citizens in the two countries have increased the urge to visit different tourist attraction centres,” Amb. Mukumbya said.



Additionally, during the event, Kenyan comedian Oga Obinna, musician Prince Indah and Director of Akothee Academy Esther Akoth Kokeyo, an influencer in Kenya, were unveiled by State Minister for Tourism Hon. Martin Mugarra, as the Tourism Ambassadors.

This significant event aims to strengthen synergies between key tourism players from Uganda and Kenya's coastal region, addressing barriers and challenges to their partnership. The conference will explore investment opportunities within Uganda's tourism sector while focusing on consolidating networks, synergies, and diversity to maximize the tourism potential between the two regions.

----- **Compiled by Jadrine Komukyeya**  
**Photo by MoFA Press**

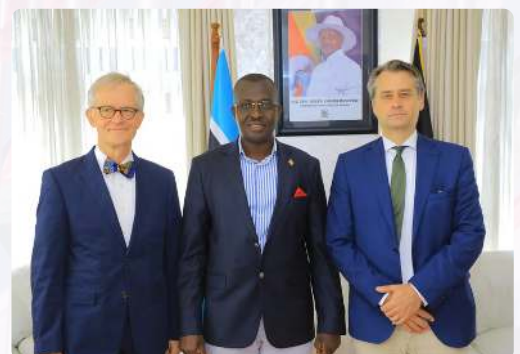
## Uganda & Germany Reaffirm Commitment to Peace & Security in the Horn of Africa.

**Kampala** - On August 16, 2024, the Honorable Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Hon. John Mulimba, met with Mr. Heiko Nitzschke, the Special Envoy of the Federal Republic of Germany for the Horn of Africa, and His Excellency Matthias Schauer, the German Ambassador to Uganda. The meeting, held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kampala, focused on the critical issues of peace & security in the Horn of Africa.

Hon. John Mulimba emphasized Uganda's commitment to fostering stability and development in the region, highlighting the crucial role of peace and security as the foundation for prosperity. He stressed Uganda's readiness to collaborate closely with international development partners and underscored the importance of finding African-led solutions to the challenges facing the region.

The German delegation, led by Mr. Nitzschke, reaffirmed Germany's unwavering support for initiatives aimed at promoting stability and development within the Horn of Africa. The discussions reflected a shared vision between Uganda and Germany in addressing regional security complexities and pursuing lasting peace.

The meeting concluded with mutual understanding & a renewed commitment to deepening bilateral cooperation in peace, security, and regional stability. Both sides agreed to continue their collaboration in addressing the pressing challenges in the Horn of Africa and to explore new avenues for partnership in pursuit of common goals.



----- **By Guma Jeremiah | Photo by MoFA Press**







## Hon. Oryem and Minister Tsuji Forge Stronger Japan-Uganda Ties.

**Tokyo** – On August 25, Hon. Oryem Henry Okello, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs (International Relations) of the Republic of Uganda, held a significant meeting with Mr. Tsuji Kiyoto, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. This discussion was part of Hon. Oryem's visit to Japan for the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) Ministerial Meeting.

Hon. Oryem and State Minister Tsuji explored avenues to further enhance bilateral relations and international cooperation. Hon. Okello expressed deep appreciation for the longstanding support Japan has provided to Uganda, emphasizing the fruitful progress in their relationship and his anticipation for even greater cooperation.

In turn, State Minister Tsuji noted that Japan has been cooperating with Uganda's development for more than 60 years in a wide range of fields and reaffirmed Japan's commitment to continuing its support in various sectors, including infrastructure and human resource development.

The meeting underscored both leaders' commitment to advancing Japan-Uganda relations in anticipation of TICAD 9 next year. They also discussed broader international cooperation, including potential reforms in the Security Council.

On the sidelines of the TICAD Ministerial meeting in Tokyo, Hon. Okello and State Minister Tsuji Kiyoto expressed their mutual appreciation for the progress made and reaffirmed their dedication to strengthening the already robust bilateral ties between Uganda and Japan.



By **Diana Maria Asimire** | Photos by MoFA Japan.







  
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NOVEMBER 2024

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## President Museveni and Lesotho's Prime Minister Explore Agricultural and Educational Partnerships



*President Museveni flanked by senior Ugandan officials, holds bilateral talks with Prime Minister Matekane and the delegation from Lesotho.*

**Entebbe** – President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on August 13, 2024 hosted the Prime Minister of Lesotho, Rt. Hon. Sam Matekane, at State House, Entebbe. The two leaders emphasized the importance of strengthening the longstanding ties between Uganda and Lesotho.

He highlighted Uganda's agricultural potential, noting the country's self-sufficiency in food production, with a surplus in milk, which Uganda exports to countries like Algeria and the Middle East. He invited Lesotho to invest in Uganda's dairy sector and offered scholarships for Lesotho's youth to study agriculture in Uganda.

The President also recalled the historical connection between the two countries, mentioning that many Ugandans found refuge in Lesotho during Idi Amin's regime. He expressed Uganda's readiness to collaborate with Lesotho in medical fields, particularly in vaccine development, and suggested establishing a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize this cooperation.

Prime Minister Matekane, expressed gratitude for the warm welcome, commending Uganda for its leadership in the AU Peace and Security Council and its economic progress.

He introduced Lesotho's candidate for Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr. Joshua Phoho Setipa, seeking Uganda's support. President Museveni expressed his support for Lesotho's candidate and accepted an invitation to attend Lesotho's 200th anniversary of its founding.



*By Christiana Ampeire | Photos by State House PPU.*







## President Museveni and King Mswati III Advocate For A Unified African Market and Stronger Political Ties.



L-R: King Mswati III, President Museveni, First Lady and Queen Inkhosikati.

**Entebbe & Jinja** - On August 14, 2024, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, accompanied by First Lady Janet Museveni, warmly welcomed King Mswati III of Eswatini accompanied by his wife, Queen Inkhosikati Make Lamashwama, and their delegation at Entebbe International Airport for a significant three-day state visit. This visit marked an important milestone in strengthening the relationship between Uganda and Eswatini, with discussions centered on unifying African markets and enhancing political cooperation.

During their meeting at State House Entebbe, President Museveni emphasized the critical need for a unified African market to achieve continental prosperity. Drawing from his experiences as a student activist and liberation leader, he stated, "If Africans want prosperity, it comes from producing goods or services and selling them."



He warned against the dangers of a fragmented market, noting that Africa's potential could be stifled, similar to Latin America, which, despite its natural wealth, struggles with poverty due to its fragmented markets. President Museveni called for a cooperative model where African nations not only produce but also share in the benefits of their resources.

He highlighted Uganda's petroleum sector as an example, inviting East African nations to co-invest in infrastructure such as pipelines and refineries, asserting, "It's not common sense that I produce, and you only buy. You can't say that to a brother."

King Mswati III echoed these sentiments, advocating for stronger cooperation among African nations. "If we work together, there is much we can achieve. But if one country moves on its own, it cannot go far," he remarked.

The King also proposed establishing regular communication channels between Uganda and Eswatini to strengthen ties and ensure that existing agreements are upheld. He further suggested opening direct flight routes between the two countries to boost trade and tourism, emphasizing Uganda's rich natural attractions like the Nile River and mountains as significant tourism draws.

The visit also fostered discussions on cultural and economic collaboration. King Mswati III highlighted the cultural similarities between Uganda and Eswatini, proposing the organization of cultural festivals to promote tourism.

Additionally, King Mswati III extended an invitation to President Museveni for a reciprocal visit to Eswatini, reaffirming the importance of continued collaboration. The visit culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding, further solidifying the relationship between the two nations.



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King Mswati III's visit also included a special visit to the Busoga Kingdom on August 15, where he graciously gifted land in Eswatini to the Kyabazinga to accommodate the cattle he was given during his maiden visit.

His Majesty William Wilberforce Kadhumbula Gabula Nadiophe IV, the Kyabazinga of Busoga, warmly welcomed the Eswatini royal family and expressed gratitude to President Museveni for fostering strong bilateral relations between Uganda and Eswatini. He also commended King Mswati III for attending the grand Busoga Royal wedding and thanked him for the hospitality extended during their official visit to Eswatini in July 2024.



L-R: 1st Deputy Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, Inhebantu (Queen) Jovia Mutesi of Busoga, Kyabazinga (King) Gabula Nadiophe IV of Busoga, King Mswati III, Queen Inkhosikati Make Lamashwama of Eswatini, Hon. Justine Kasule Lumumba, Minister for General Duties.



[Read about King Mswati III's State Visit](#)

[Read about King Mswati III's visit to the Kingdom of Busoga](#)

By Christiana Ampeire | Photos by State House PPU.



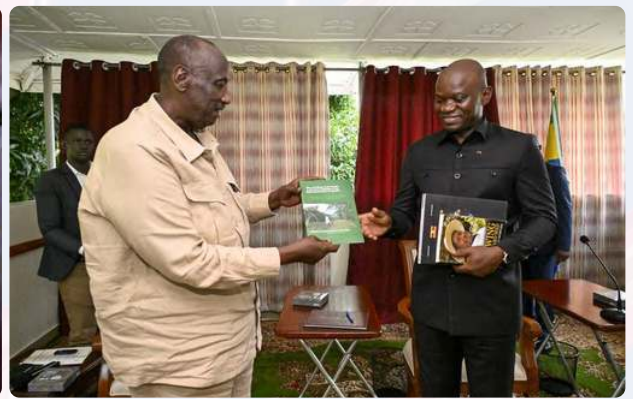




## A New Chapter in Uganda-Gabon Relations: Strengthening Ties Through Strategic Collaboration.

**Entebbe** – Gabon’s Transitional President, H.E. Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema, along with the First Lady, H.E. Zita Oligui Nguema, embarked on a two-day official visit to Uganda from August 1st to 2nd, 2024, at the invitation of President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. The visit underscored the deepening relationship between Uganda and Gabon, focusing on shared goals of economic development and cooperation.

During their stay, President Nguema and his delegation engaged in high-level discussions with President Museveni at State House, Entebbe. The leaders discussed Gabon’s ongoing political transition, emphasizing the importance of returning to constitutional democracy. They also explored ways to enhance bilateral cooperation, particularly in agriculture and defense, aligning with the mutual interests of both nations.



*H.E. the President and First Lady of Uganda warmly receive their counterparts from the Gabonese Republic at State House Entebbe. H.E. Gen. Nguema also paid a courtesy call on the Chief Coordinator of Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), Gen. Caleb Akandwanaho, in Gulu District.*



*The team at Luwero Industries Complex, led by Gen. James Mugira, conducted a guided tour for President Nguema and his delegation. Later in the day, Uganda’s Vice President, H.E. Jessica Alupo, bid farewell to President Nguema and his delegation at Entebbe Airport.*

The visit also included a tour of significant industrial sites in Uganda. At Fine Spinners Uganda Limited, President Nguema witnessed firsthand Uganda’s success in value addition to raw materials, a model he expressed interest in replicating in Gabon. The tour of Luwero Industries Complex further highlighted Uganda’s strides in defense manufacturing, reinforcing the importance of self-reliance and strategic collaboration.

As the visit concluded, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening ties between Uganda and Gabon, setting the stage for future cooperation that will benefit the people of both countries. The discussions and site visits marked a significant step forward in fostering economic growth and enhancing regional stability through mutual support.

**By Angel Kabera | Photos by State House PPU.**







## From Fruitful Beans To Yummy Bars As Ugandan Cocoa Opens Doors For Agricultural Exports.

Compiled by *Christiana Ampeire* | Photos by *UCDA*

The cocoa value chain in Uganda is brimming with opportunities, as highlighted by a recent report from the Uganda Coffee Development Authority (UCDA).

They explain that they are working closely with partners, including the European Union in Uganda, to significantly boost cocoa production and processing, opening doors for entrepreneurs to venture into the creation of value-added products like chocolates, cocoa butter, wines, and more.

A part of UCDA's broader efforts under the Market Access Upgrade Programme (MARKUP), it aims to address supply and market access constraints in key export-oriented sectors, particularly coffee and cocoa.

By enhancing the value of these exports to the European Union, the programme is set to contribute meaningfully to Uganda's economic development.

Uganda's recent success in the coffee sector underscores the potential for similar growth in cocoa. In the 2023/24 fiscal year, coffee exports reached an impressive 6.13 million bags, valued at US\$ 1.144 billion—a 6.33% increase from the previous fiscal year.

With Uganda Coffee enjoying high demand and the UCDA generating significant revenue UGX 82.2 billion in FY2023/24, the focus is now on replicating this success in the cocoa sector.







## UK Chamber Uganda Launches: A New Chapter in Trade & Investment.

Compiled by Angel Kabera | Photo by UK in Uganda

The British Chamber of Commerce Uganda (BCCU) has been officially inaugurated, marking a significant milestone in enhancing the economic relationship between Uganda and the United Kingdom. The launch event, held at the British High Commissioner's residence in Kampala, underscores the strategic importance of this new initiative.

The BCCU is set to be a key player in advancing trade and investment between Uganda and the UK. By acting as a collective voice for British businesses in Uganda, the Chamber will work to influence trade policies, remove entry barriers, and promote economic collaboration. This move highlights Uganda's growing attractiveness as a destination for international investment.

Kate Airey OBE, the outgoing British High Commissioner to Uganda, remarked on the Chamber's role, saying, "As the economy and investment environment became more difficult, we need to strengthen our community in order to succeed. That is why I am delighted to be launching the British Chamber of Commerce Uganda, which will help all of us." She further emphasized, "Individually our voice is small, but collectively, we can partner to support Uganda's growth."

Sanjay Rughani, CEO of Standard Chartered Bank and a founding member of the BCCU, expressed the Chamber's mission: "We want to be the trusted voice of British business in Uganda, advocating for our members' interests, facilitating networking and collaboration, and contributing to economic prosperity of both nations."

The establishment of the BCCU comes at a time when trade dynamics between the UK and Uganda are evolving, partly due to Brexit. Brendah Akankunda, a trade and investment policy analyst, noted that while Brexit has impacted trade volumes, it also presents new opportunities for Uganda to negotiate favorable terms directly with the UK.

For foreign investors and other nations, the BCCU's launch is a clear signal of Uganda's growing economic potential and its strategic value as an investment destination. The Chamber's presence demonstrates a commitment to enhancing trade relations and creating a conducive environment for international business. This development sets a precedent for other countries to consider Uganda as a prime location for investment, contributing to the country's economic advancement and global integration.







**Monica Rubombora**  
Guest Contributor

## Exports Of Uganda's Fresh Agricultural Produce To South Africa.

*The writer is Uganda Airlines' Country Representative, South Africa.*

*Courtesy Photos.*

Last month, I was filled with excitement as I set out to pick up a special delivery a box of organic, fresh produce that had travelled all the way from Uganda to South Africa, courtesy of Uganda Airlines.

These delicious products will find their way into the kitchens and onto the tables of South African families, bringing a taste of Uganda with love.

Why am I so thrilled about this? It's not just about the fresh produce. It's about the realisation of a dream. Andrew Mukiibi, the visionary behind Federal Foods Pty Ltd., has been working tirelessly to bring fresh produce from Uganda into South Africa.

I first met Mukiibi two years ago at the South Africa-Uganda business summit, hosted by H.E. Paul Amoru, Uganda's High Commissioner to South Africa, in Pretoria. Mukiibi was showcasing Uganda-grown pineapples; everyone was awestruck by their enormous size and beauty.



However, it was a real struggle to get the necessary paperwork and certification done that would enable people like him to export fresh produce from Uganda into South Africa. Fresh produce could be exported to Europe, the Middle East, and China, but South Africa remained elusive. Yet, Mukiibi's energy, enthusiasm, and determination never wavered.

After more than 18 months of relentless effort, Mukiibi has finally broken into the South African marketplace. He now operates a warehouse in Kempton Park, equipped with refrigeration facilities to store these precious perishable goods.

It's where anyone can pick up a piece of fresh and organic Uganda. Mukiibi's success is not just a personal victory but an inspiration to all who dream of breaking new ground in international trade.

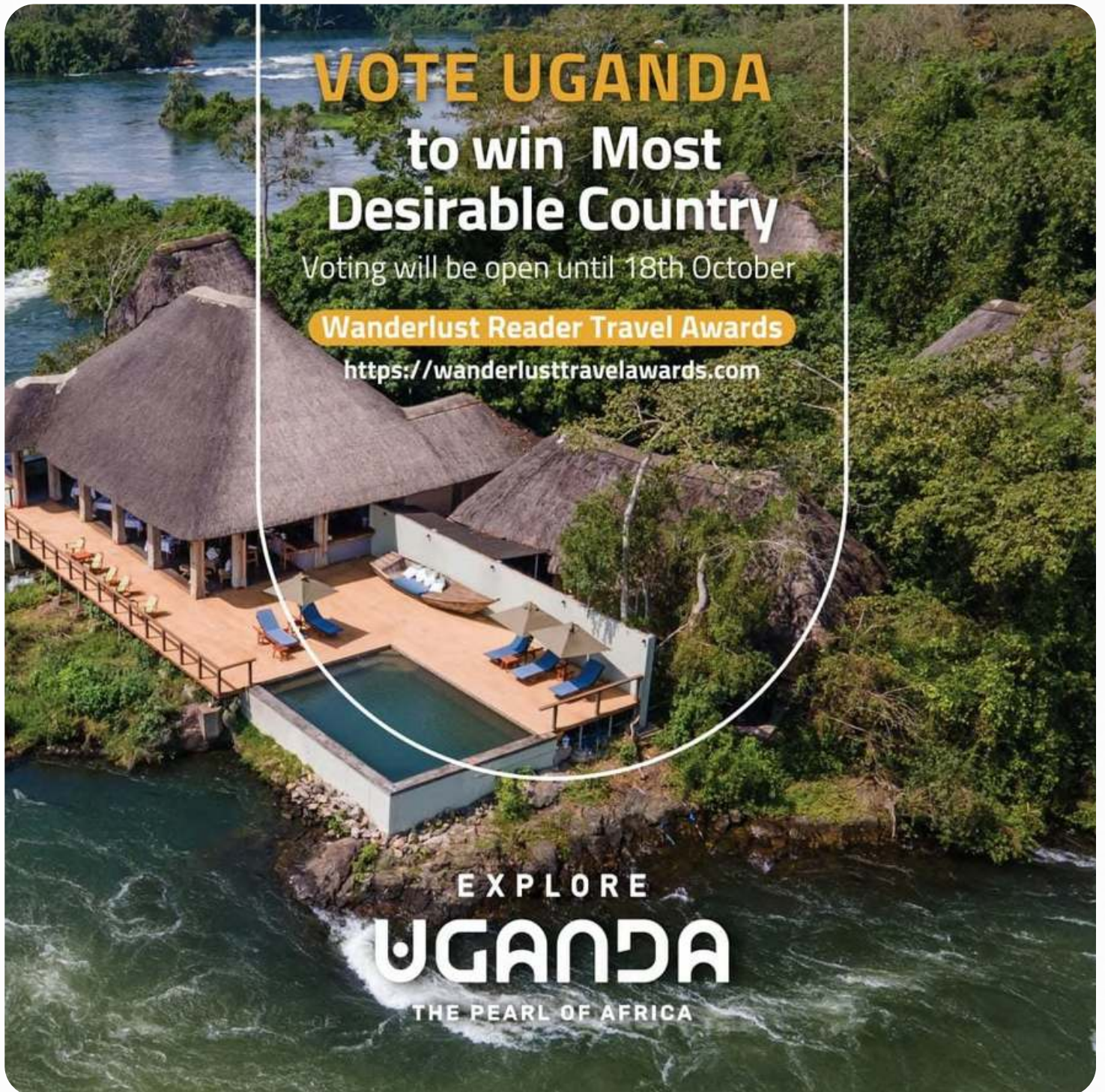
I'm incredibly proud of Uganda Airlines for its invaluable role in opening new markets and giving South Africans a chance to savour the natural, indigenous, organic fresh produce from Uganda. Their efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we are all grateful for their contribution to this venture.

May I add that Uganda Airlines headed back to East Africa with a cargo load of delicious apples, fine wines, hatching eggs, and lots of other white goods and energy-generating machinery?

What a beautiful way to merge food and culture: using an air bridge to connect the hearts and homes of two African countries.







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## Collectively, We Can Save Tomorrow's Climate Today!

The Earth's natural control system is vital for maintaining temperatures that support life and economic activities. This system relies on atmospheric gases such as water vapor, carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, ozone, and methane.

These gases trap infrared radiation, reflecting it back to Earth, which causes warming and contributes to the current climate crisis.

Addressing this crisis requires bold and transformational actions from nation-states, non-state actors, and the private sector. Adaptation and mitigation strategies are crucial for achieving the 2015 Paris Agreement's temperature goals and safeguarding tomorrow's climate.



**Amb. Adonia Ayebare during the 19th Non-Aligned Movement Summit 2024, in Kampala.**

The challenge lies in achieving these ambitious goals given the disparities and capacities of different countries.

The central thesis to meeting this ambition is that nation-states must engage with each other in a fair, equitable, and balanced manner. This cooperation is essential for contributing to the global good and addressing the climate crisis effectively.

Adaptation and mitigation policies should be based on fair contributions from each country, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).

However, stark contrasts and realities exist between countries, groups, and individual efforts, influenced by special interests, lobbyists, civil society, and the private sector. This polarization and inequality add complexity to policy implementation, placing international cooperation and diplomacy at the heart of the response.

The importance of international cooperation was highlighted during the 8th Ministerial on Climate Action (MOCA 8) held in Wuhan, China, from July 22-23. World leaders discussed key issues that support global climate action and the implementation of long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

The discussions underscored the fundamental differences among groups and the need for a shared ecosystem despite these differences. While there is some consensus on the climate crisis, disagreements emerge over responsibility. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) designates developed countries as primary contributors to climate response.

In contrast, the Paris Agreement attempts to involve all countries in climate action while reinforcing the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

An example of cross-country action is highlighted in the UAE consensus outcome, specifically the Global Stocktake (GST) Decision 1/CMA.5. This decision emphasizes the importance of conserving, protecting, and restoring nature and ecosystems to achieve the Paris Agreement's temperature goals.

It includes efforts to halt and reverse deforestation and forest degradation by 2030 and supports investment in financial resources, technology transfer, and capacity building.

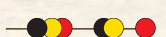
Similarly, the UAE dialogue (paragraph 98, Dec 1/CMA.5) calls for a follow-up dialogue on the adequacy of financial provisions, an enabling means of implementation (MOI), for actions and international cooperation among Parties to implement the GST outcomes. Paragraph 120 of the GST addresses carbon capture, usage, and storage, acknowledging the challenges of deploying this technology without resorting to magical thinking.

Climate finance is crucial for implementing climate action. Developing countries emphasize the need for sufficient finance beyond the promised \$100 billion, addressing systemic barriers such as high capital costs and limited fiscal space.

The discussions in Wuhan highlighted three key pillars: legal responsibility for emission reductions, ethical and moral questions about who should act first, and scientific questions about who has the right to emit within the remaining global carbon space, considering the historical responsibility of developed countries.

**By Amb. Adonia Ayebare, Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations, New York. | Photo by MoFA Press.**

[Click to read full Article](#)







## African Union Support and Stabilization Mission (AUSSOM) To Replace African Union Transition Mission In Somalia (ATMIS).

By Robert Mugimba, Counsellor, Uganda Embassy Mogadishu, Somalia.

**Mogadishu** - On January 1, 2025, Somalia will experience a pivotal transition in its peacekeeping landscape as the African Union Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) hands over responsibilities to the newly established African Union Support and Stabilisation Mission (AUSSOM). This change marks a significant step in Somalia's ongoing journey towards stability and self-reliance, reflecting a renewed commitment by the African Union to support Somalia in consolidating peace and security across the region.

Somalia occupies a strategic location on the Horn of Africa shores of the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean which is one of the most crucial trade routes in the world. It has the longest national coastline (3333 km) in Africa, which links the hinterland with the Arab coast.

Due to its location, Somalia acts as a cultural and trade bridge between Africa and Arabian Gulf countries including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Yemen and the UAE. Somalia is now the 8th Member of the East African Community (EAC).



Between the fall of Siad Barre's government in January 1991 and the establishment of the Transitional National Government in 2006, there was no central government in Somalia. The country witnessed both insecurity, destruction, business collapsed causing mayhem and agony.

With the intervention of the International Community, Regional and International stabilization forces deployed in Somalia have evolved during this period as follows:

**AMISOM:** On 6th March 2007, Uganda Peoples Defense Forces (UPDF) pioneered a deployment to actualize the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1744 (2007) which mandated the establishment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Uganda was later joined by Burundi and other Contingents followed. The UPDF intervention has to a large extent paid off.

Beyond military victories against Al-Shabaab, UPDF achievements can be evaluated in terms of political and socio-economic development ushered in by the relative secure environment and subsequent political transitions including conducting of peaceful elections.

**ATMIS:** The United Nations Security Council mandate for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) ended on 31st December 2021. The Mission had operated for fifteen (15) years in Somalia with significant impact, primarily to support the Federal Government of Somalia and its institutions against Al-Shabaab's insurgency. It was transformed into ATMIS effective 01st April 2022, **with the following mandate:**

Reduce the threat posed by Al-Shabaab.

Conduct a phased handover of security responsibilities to Somalia Security Forces (SSF).

Support capacity building of the integrated Somali Security & Police Forces (SNA/SNP).

Support peace and reconciliation efforts in Somalia.

The ATMIS draw-down was authorized by the UNSC Resolutions 2628 & 2670 (2022) and 2687 (2023) as well as 2710 & 2719. Drawdown was conducted and still on-going as follows;

**Phase I:**  
2000 Troops  
by June 2023.

**Phase II:**  
3000 Troops  
by September 2023.

**Phase III:**  
4000 Troops  
by June 2024.

**Phase IV:**  
10,626 Troops  
by December 2024.

**AUSSOM:** As the mandate of the ATMIS concludes on December 31, 2024, a new chapter begins with the establishment of the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM). Set to commence on January 1, 2025, this new mission was endorsed by the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) through Communique PSC/PR/COMM.1225(2024), which approved the Concept of Operations (CONOPs) for AUSSOM, outlining its role in continuing the vital work of stabilizing Somalia in the post-ATMIS era.

With the African Union Mission is in its transition phase, Somali Security Forces will soon assume security responsibilities as has been the case in the recent draw-down of ATMIS. The Major tasks for AUSSOM are: -

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- Support SSF by employing appropriate force enablers and multipliers;
  - Support SSF, within its capabilities, in its offensive operations against Al-Shabaab;
  - Expand the establishment and strengthen the joint operations and logistics bases in all sectors to enhance the conduct of joint and independent operations, as well as the reporting and monitoring of service delivery and logistics support;
  - Support vetting, recruitment, training, advising of the Somali Police Force (SPF) as requested;
- Leverage the capacities and support of relevant departments of the AU Commission and other AU Organs where appropriate, and as will be determined by the FGS and the AU;
  - Support the forces pledged by T/PCCs to carry out their mandates in compliance with international law including IHL and IHRL, with regard to the protection of civilians, especially women and children, in line with the AUCF, and cooperate with the UN entities in Somalia in implementing the HRDDP across the preparatory, conduct and review phases of operations;
  - Support the facilitation of safe passage, humanitarian access and humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations including through protection of humanitarian personnel and objects, as may be required;
  - Monitor incidents and receive reports on allegations of violations of IHRL, IHL, standards of conduct and discipline, investigate and take appropriate response and remedial actions to ensure accountability.

Uganda with her strong Pan-Africanism credentials remains committed to ensuring a successful transition to AUSSOM and being an ardent support and promoter of peace, security, stability and development in Somalia, the region and entire African continent.



**Left to Right:** Brig, Gen. Peter Omola; Ag. ATMIS Force Commander and UPDF Contingent Commander in Somalia, Ambassador El-Amine Souef, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to Somalia, Ambassador Linda Thomas- Greenfield Permanent Representative of the USA to the United Nations, Mr. Robert Mugimba; Charge D' Affaires, at the Uganda Embassy in Somalia, Ambassador Thomas Kipkosgei Chepkuto of the Republic of Kenya to Somalia, and Amb. Larry Andre, Outgoing USA Ambassador to Somalia, at the African Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS)' working lunch held in Amb. Greenfield's honor at the USA Embassy in Mogadishu.







## CDA Meets Ugandan Students in Iran.

By Julius Malinga Amese, Second Secretary, Ugandan Embassy, Tehran. | Photo by Embassy.

**Tehran** - The Charge d'Affaires (CDA) Mr. Edule J. Oscar on 13th August, 2024 met with the Uganda students' leadership of Ahlul Bayt International University, Tehran.

During this interaction, the CDA engaged the student leaders on the issues affecting them at the University, their challenges, and a way forward.

This engagement followed recent questions raised in Parliament and various social media reports regarding the welfare of Ugandan students in Iran.

Contrary to the portrayal on social media, the students expressed their gratitude for the scholarships and confirmed their satisfaction with the quality of education and facilities at the university.

The CDA assured the students' leaders of the continued support of the Embassy as long as they were in the Islamic Republic of Iran.



## Uganda Embassy Washington To Issue Passports and IDs.

By Guma Jeremiah | Photo by Embassy.

**Washington D.C.** - The Uganda Embassy in Washington D.C. announced on August 29, 2024, that it will soon begin issuing passports and national identification cards (IDs) to Ugandans residing in the United States.

This development was revealed in a post on the X (formerly Twitter) page of the State House Uganda Diaspora Unit, following a visit to the U.S. by Mr. Mohammed Bagonza, Head of the State House Diaspora Unit and Special Presidential Assistant (SPA) to H.E. the President.

The initiative aims to provide easier access to essential travel and identification documents for Ugandans abroad.







## Marathon Heroes Racing Against Cancer With Heart & Sole.

By Githa Ogume | Photo by MoFA Press & Uganda Missions



**Kampala, and at Uganda's Missions Abroad** - Sunday August 25, 2024 witnessed a number of Rotarians and Ugandans assembling at Lugogo millennium grounds, popularly known as UMA show grounds for the 12th edition of the Rotary cancer run. In the same spirit, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs joined the marathon. The event kicked off at 6:30am, with tense but fun warm exercises and right after the run proceeded.

In Entebbe City, Mr. Fred Bamwesigye, Director General of Uganda Civil Aviation Authority (UCAA) lauded the winners and participants at the Rotary Cancer Run, commending their collective efforts in fighting cancer. "While some ran faster, each one contributed significantly", he added. Mr. Amos Aine President, Rotary Club of Kajjansi, urged all to undergo cancer screenings for early detection, highlighting the joint efforts of 14 clubs in the Entebbe area. Expressing gratitude to non-Rotarians, he encouraged them to join in serving humanity.

In Kampala, the main event was hosted at Lugogo Millennium Grounds, gathering thousands of participants to support the completion of the One-Stop Cancer Center at Nsambya Hospital. The event featured 21km, 10km, and 5km runs, vibrant aerobics sessions, entertainment, and a raffle draw. Organizers celebrated surpassing fundraising targets, with over 50,000 runners and 2.5 billion shillings raised. The event emphasized continued efforts to fight cancer, aiming to complete the radiotherapy center by 2027.

Resident Missions in Kampala, as well as Uganda's Missions Abroad i.e. Kigali, Bujumbura, Abu Dhabi, Riyadh, Addis Ababa, Mombasa, Paris, Khartoum, among others, participated in the run.







## Uganda's Diplomatic Missions Shine at Ambassadors' Conference In Jinja.

By Margaret A. Kafeero | Photos by MoFA Press.



**Left to Right:** Amb. Paul Mukumbya, Consul-General Mombasa, PS MoFA Bagiire, Ms. Juliet Ssekitoleko Accounting Officer Uganda Consulate, Mombasa; Amb. Paul Amoru Uganda High Commissioner, Pretoria, PS MoFA Vincent Bagiire, Mr. Dennis Kalikola Accounting Officer Pretoria.

**Jinja** - The Uganda Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has recognized the outstanding achievements of its diplomatic missions during the ongoing Ambassadors' Conference in Jinja. The event celebrates excellence in diplomatic service, highlighted the exceptional efforts of various teams, reinforcing Uganda's commitment to effective foreign policy & international engagement.

The two categories of Awards given were the Foreign Service Performance Awards and Foreign Service Innovation Awards. The Uganda Consulate in Mombasa, led by Amb. Paul Mukumbya, was honoured as the best performing Mission citing their leveraging of their location on the East African Coast to boost tourism numbers between Uganda and Kenya, and using the events as platforms for businesses to network.

"This accolade reflects the Consulate's dedication to promoting Uganda's interests in the region and underscores the importance of effective diplomatic engagement in enhancing Uganda's international stature," said Mukumbya.

In a display of innovative diplomacy, the Uganda High Commission in Pretoria was awarded the Missions Innovative Award for their adept utilisation of Diaspora networks to expand their commercial diplomacy footprint. Amb. Paul Amoru and his team were commended for producing an impressive newsletter that effectively highlighted their activities and initiatives.

"It is both humbling and gratifying to see our efforts recognized in this way. The success of Team Pretoria is a testament to the hard work and dedication of everyone involved," stated Amb. Amoru, emphasizing their commitment to advancing Uganda's foreign policy objectives.

The Abu Dhabi Mission, under the leadership of Ambassador Zaake W. Kibedi, clinched the title of first runner-up for best performing mission, while the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations in Geneva, led by Ambassador Marcel R. Tibaleka, secured the second runner-up position. "These accolades reflect the commitment of all Missions in promoting Uganda's interests abroad and enhancing its global presence," said a visibly excited Tibaleka.

**...story continues on next page.**







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Amb Julius Kivuna, Chairperson of the Rewards and Sanctions Committee, announced the awards, symbolizing the Ministry's recognition of hard work and dedication among its diplomatic corps. 'The Awards entrench a culture of results across all Missions, to provide for an opportunity for open appreciation and rewarding of performance excellence, the elimination of complacency among staff and teams at Mission level through expressed interest in their performance.'

Amb. Amoru also expressed gratitude to His Excellency President Museveni for his leadership and to the political leadership within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He extended special thanks to Permanent Secretary Mr. Vincent Bagiire Waiswa for his ongoing support and guidance, highlighting the collaborative spirit that fosters success at both headquarters & missions abroad.

Speaking at the Award Ceremony, the Permanent Secretary, Bagiire said that the symbolic rewards not only celebrate the individual accomplishments of Uganda's diplomatic teams but also reinforce the Ministry's broader mandate to advance Uganda's foreign policy and enhance the nation's influence on the global stage.

"The Awards serve as a reminder of the vital role that diplomacy plays in promoting national interests, strengthening bilateral and multilateral relationships, and enhancing the welfare of Ugandans both at home and abroad," said Bagiire. He further explained that the method of selecting winners was developed through the circulation of a standard reporting tool to all Missions.

"The tool, which has clear parameters against which the evaluation was based, outlined set targets, key innovations in execution of targets, measure of excellence, Mission management, quality of reporting and submission of evidence of success", he said.

"As Uganda continues to navigate complex international relations, the dedication and innovation demonstrated by our Diplomatic Missions will be critical in achieving our strategic objectives".



**Left to Right:** Amb. Arthur Kafeero, Deputy Perm. Rep. Uganda Mission to the UN, Geneva, Ms. Mary Namono Kibere, Accounting Officer, Geneva, PS Vincent Bagiire, Amb. Marcel Tibaleka Permanent Representative of Uganda to the UN, Geneva. Ms. Asha Nabbanja, Accounting Officer Uganda Embassy Abu Dhabi - PS MoFA Vincent Bagiire







## Uganda's Envoys Visit Kiira Motors and Modern Group.

Ambassadors attending the week-long retreat visited Kiira Vehicle Plant at Mutayi in Jinja City. They were received by Prof. Sunday Togboa Tikodri and briefed on the evolution of the Corporation. The first product was launched by H.E. the President in November 2011 and since then the Kiira Motors Corporation has a diverse product portfolio.

The Ambassadors were also briefed about the plans for supply chain localisation & mobility infrastructure. They were taken on a guided tour of the plant and concluded with planting a tree.

Amb Philip Odida on behalf of the PS commended the Kiira motors for the resilience and transformative work done towards building a sustainable & scalable e-mobility ecosystem.

He assured Prof. Tikodri and the staff of the commitment of the Ministry and Missions abroad to expand markets and promote the products of Kiira motors in the respective countries of accreditation in order to contribute to the socio-economic transformation of the country.



The Ambassadors also visited Modern Group in Njeru Industrial Park, Buikwe District. They were received by Mr. Jagdish Shrivastava Group CEO Africa Region. He briefed them on the Tile product range manufactured at the factory and other products like sugar and carbon dioxide produced for the local and export market.

Speaking on behalf of the MoFA Permanent Secretary, Amb. Philip Odida commended the management for the important contribution made towards national development. The visit he said, had exposed the Ambassadors to the vast potential of the Group's capabilities and assured that they would continue to promote and market Uganda products abroad.







**KAMPALA**

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# BY NIGHT

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## Uganda's Young Innovators Shine with Silver at African Robotics Championship.

By Herbert Ssekatawa | Courtesy Photos.

In a remarkable achievement, a team of talented teenagers from the African School of Innovation Science and Technology (ASIST) has brought home a silver medal from the Pan African Robotics Championship, held on July 29, 2024, in Dakar, Senegal.

Competing under the Young Engineers STEM Education Programme, the Ugandan robotics team stood out among participants from 25 African countries and 94 teams, showcasing their technical prowess and innovation.

In the Tech League Triumph category, Uganda's team demonstrated exceptional skill by securing the highest points in their group, advancing confidently to the semi-finals.

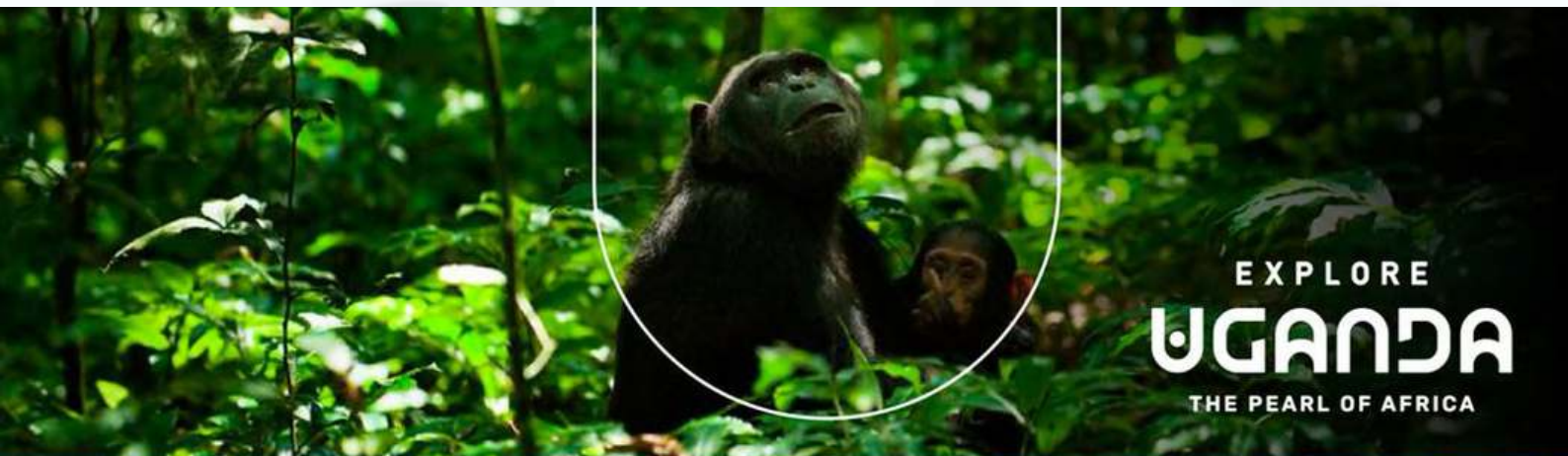
Their outstanding performance was a testament to the team's hard work and dedication, positioning Uganda as a strong contender in the robotics arena.

Notably, under the Stars League Excellence category, the Ugandan team, led by the gifted young engineer Roshan, dominated the initial rounds against formidable opponents from Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, and Mali earning them the highest points in the group stage.

However, in the finals, they faced stiff competition from Robots Mali, the national team of Mali, and the host nation, Senegal.

Despite a fierce contest, Uganda secured an admirable second place, finishing just four points behind the winning team, Robots Mali.

The team's success at the Pan African Robotics Championship is a source of pride for the nation and a beacon of inspiration for future innovators.







## TEXTILE AND DESIGN

### Transforming Uganda's Fashion Industry: The MoTIV Fashion Vertical's Mission.

By *Diana Maria Asimire* | *Photos by MoTIV*

Uganda's fashion and textile industry has witnessed impressive progress in recent years, showcasing a vibrant and talented scene. However, the sector still faces several challenges that hinder its full potential. At the forefront of addressing these issues is MoTIV, Uganda's home for creatives and East Africa's biggest makerspace, working to transform the fashion landscape with innovative solutions.

**In a conversation with Tomas Rwabajungu who is the Textile Lead at MoTIV**, he talked about how the organization was surmounting some of these barriers which involved limited resource access, confined market opportunities and inadequate skills.

For example, among other things, MoTIV addresses industry related issues including lack of resources and infrastructure, constraints on market accessibility, skills mismatch; sustainability & ethical practices as well as cooperation & networking opportunities.

MoTIV, through its makerspace, Omwoleso Platform, training, mentorship, sustainability promotion, and collaborative community, is unlocking the industry's full potential and empowering Ugandan designers to succeed locally and globally.



Since 2021, MoTIV has successfully impacted more than 4,000 young people in the fashion industry, nurturing the next generation of fashion entrepreneurs.

The success rate of fashion and textile businesses birthed from MoTIV is reflected in the substantial achievements of participants, including increased market access, enhanced skills development, successful product launches, and the establishment of sustainable enterprises.

Many businesses have been able to scale their operations, enter new markets, and gain visibility both locally and internationally, thanks to MoTIV's support.

MoTIV, an organization in Uganda, has significantly transformed Uganda's fashion landscape by promoting cultural heritage and lifestyle through fashion and textiles.

It empowers designers to incorporate traditional patterns and techniques, preserving cultural knowledge. MoTIV nurtures local artisans and uses indigenous materials, protecting Uganda's unique identity and promoting Ugandan culture globally. Specific success metrics are yet to be evaluated.

MoTIV is urging stakeholders to recognize the potential of the fashion and textile industry in Uganda's economic and social development. They are calling for increased awareness, market access, collaboration on cultural exchange initiatives, and resources to enhance the industry's capabilities. This will help celebrate Uganda's rich heritage and share it globally through the power of fashion and textiles.

[Click to learn more about MoTIV](#)







## GASTRO DIPLOMACY

### Ugandan Chefs Abroad Bringing Authentic Flavours To Global Tables.

By Christiana Ampeire | Courtesy Photos.

Foodies, rejoice! There's nothing quite like the delight of savouring exquisite cuisine, and the Pearl of Africa offers a culinary experience like no other. This edition showcases Ugandan restaurants and chefs in the diaspora who are bringing the vibrant flavours of Uganda right to your table.

**Boogie Bytes (Nyumbani Street Food), owned by Chef Jeff Bogere**, is located in Stockholm, Sweden. Specializing in Ugandan street food like Rolex, Samosas, Nyama Choma, Pilau, and Tilapia, Chef Bogere has been preparing these dishes for the past four years.

His meals are infused with spices imported directly from Uganda, a commitment that comes with challenges. "It's too expensive to import spices from Uganda. The reason I import Ugandan spices is because I need the original Ugandan taste in my food. I'm still trying to find a way to overcome this problem, and now I need help from the Ugandan Government since I'm raising the Ugandan flag here in Sweden. There's nothing like this here," he explains.

Despite these challenges, Boogie Bytes has become a popular spot for people from all over the world. "All nationalities visit my restaurant," Chef Bogere notes, although he often has to explain and offer samples of foods like Rolex to those unfamiliar with them.

The most popular items on the menu among non-Ugandans are Samosas and Rolex, demonstrating the universal appeal of these Ugandan street food staples.

Chef Bogere points out that, aside from Ugandans, other nationalities especially East and Central Africans often find his restaurant through social media platforms.



*Chef Jeff Bogere, Sweden, at his Nyumbani Street Food Franchise.*

He highlights that his customers keep coming back because, as he confidently states, "I make the best food in the world."

His dedication has also afforded him the opportunity to serve diplomats at the Ugandan Embassy in Denmark, the Rwandan Embassy, and high-profile Swedish dignitaries from traditional, political, and entertainment circles.

Across the Atlantic in the United States, **Chef Paul Ofwono has been running Hakuna Matata Grill (Hakuna Matata Kitchen & Bar)** for 15 years. His menu is rich with Ugandan delicacies such as Goat Stew, Katogo, Coconut Beans, and Samosas.

Like his counterpart in Sweden, Chef Ofwono faces challenges sourcing fresh products and a variety of spices, but he has taken proactive steps to address these issues. "I've launched an import and export company to combat the shortage challenges," he explains.

This initiative has not only ensured a steady supply of ingredients but has also opened up new avenues for promoting Ugandan cuisine.

Chef Ofwono's restaurant attracts a wide range of customers, including Africans, Americans, Spanish, and Europeans living in the diaspora. The favorite dish among non-Ugandans has been Goat Stew with Katogo.



*Boogie Bytes packed food.*



*Chef Paul Ofwono, USA, at his Hakuna Matata Grill. Pictured below is Hakuna Matata's special Goat Soup.*



...story continues on next page.







## GASTRO DIPLOMACY

...story continued from previous page.



*Chef Ofwono's Hakuna Matata is a Fusion of the indigenous Katogo & Continental Flavors.*

Chef Ofwono has been discovered by customers through internal marketing, social media, and local media. He notes that people keep coming back because they love the authentic taste of Uganda.

His restaurant has hosted a number of high-profile guests, including Maryland state council members, State County representatives, the Minister Counselor of the Uganda Embassy, and the Third Secretary of the Uganda Embassy.

One of Chef Ofwono's proudest achievements is representing Uganda's cuisine at the World Bank in Washington, DC, for Uganda Heritage Day, where he won first place.

He also catered the 2022 UNAA convention in San Francisco, further solidifying his reputation as a top Ambassador of Ugandan food in the U.S.A.

**In South Africa, Chef Hannington Kasirye operates Hannington's Braai, located at 28 Villa St. Clydesdale, Pretoria.**

With over 15 years of experience, Chef Hannington creates a variety of Ugandan cuisines, including Goat Meat, Chicken, Pork Chops, Beef Steak, Sweet Potatoes, Cow Hooves, Chapati, Boerwors, Fish, Boiled Oxtail, Garlic Rolls, Pap, Chakalakka, and Vegetable Salads.

He sources his ingredients from local butcheries like Blu Bulls Butchery by Bosman Train Station and Uityk Butchery in Silverton, Pretoria.

For spices, he often imports from Uganda, particularly favoring the yellow curry in the metallic tin (Simba curry) and ingredients used in Pilau.

Chef Hannington explains that his clientele has been diverse over time, & includes nationals from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, D.R. Congo, Ghana, Zambia, and South Africa.

He has also attracted clients from Namibi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, among others. The favorite items for non-Ugandans are Boerewors, Garlic Rolls, and Chakalakka.



*Chef Hannington Kasirye, proprietor of Hannington's Braai in Pretoria. Pictured is his masterfully prepared and pristine Braai BBQ, ready to tantalize the taste buds of eager guests.*

Non-Ugandans usually find Chef Hannington through his Facebook page, HANNINGTON'S BRAAIS, as well as Instagram posts and word of mouth.

He emphasizes that people keep coming back because he is "good at what he does."

As the Chief Braaier for the Uganda High Commission, all their dignitaries have tasted his meat.

Notably, he has served Amb. Kivuna, Amb. Kintu Nyago, Amb. Julius Peter Moto, Amb. Paul Amoru, Amb. Nekesa, Hon. Tim Lwanga, Ms. Nakamya Sarah, many Members of Parliament from Uganda, and other dignitaries from South Africa.

He has also served high-profile guests from USAID, PEPSICO, and the Rotary Club of Pretoria East.

Every 9th October, he proudly serves as the Chief Braai Master for the Uganda High Commission's Independence Day celebrations in Pretoria.







# **SAMAKI** **Hub**



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## Successful Combine In Kampala Marks A New Era For American Football Within East Africa.

By Steven George Okeng | Courtesy Photos, Kawowo Sports.

East African Confederation of American Football and American Football Federation of Uganda conducted a successful Combine at the Legends Rugby grounds in Kampala.

At least 30 players from different East African Countries were part of the three-hour interactive session that entailed tackling, positioning, ball catch, passing and other technical components of the game.

The Combine was conducted by the newly appointed head coach for Uganda's national team of American Football Dylan Shelley

Growing the American Football regionally is a major strategic priority for the EACAF and developing our footprint and fandom in East Africa is an important part of this vision.

We are excited to expand American Football in East Africa and look forward to creating opportunities for the next generation of players and fans here to engage with our sport. From NFL Flag inspiring young people to play the game around the world, to building pathways for more international athletes to play in the NFL, there is a place in our sport for everyone."







Joshua Cheptegei Breaks Olympic Record to Win the Men's 10,000m.



Charles Kagimu during the men's road Cycling race at the Paris Olympics.



Amb. Amule (3rd right) hosts Team Uganda for lunch at Uganda Embassy Paris.



Uganda's swimming duo, Jesse Ssengonzi and Gloria Muzito.

## Uganda's Performance at the 2024 Summer Olympics Paris 2024.

The Uganda Olympic team's inauguration at State House Entebbe on July 16, 2024, was led by H.E. President of Uganda Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, with esteemed dignitaries like Hon. Janet Kataaha Museveni, the First Lady & Minister of Education & Sports, and the Delegation Head, Hon. Peter Ogwang, Minister of State for Sports.



**Moses B. Mwase**  
 Chef de Mission - Uganda  
 PARIS Olympics 2024  
 Courtesy Photos.

Led by Team Captains Joshua Cheptegei in Athletics and Kathleen Noble in Rowing, the athletes achieved new personal best times and national records. The team consisting of 25 athletes, showcased impressive performances at the Paris Summer Games 2024.

The standout moment came when Joshua Cheptegei clinched gold in

the Men's 10,000 meters final, setting a new Olympic record with a time of 26:43.14.

Peruth Chemutai also shined by winning silver in the Women's 3000 meters Steeplechase while setting a new national record.

Globally, Uganda tied for 55th place with Botswana, Chile, and St. Lucia. In Africa, **991 athletes** from

various sports participated, with Kenya leading the African Medal Table with 11 medals. Uganda's success saw them tied for 7th place in the medal rankings alongside Botswana.

Upon their return, the team was honored with a welcome dinner & recognition at Uganda's Parliament. Government awarded Joshua Cheptegei UGX 100 million for his gold medal, Peruth Chemutai UGX 50 million for her silver medal, and provided each participating athlete with an allowance of UGX 29 million.

I'd also like commend Uganda's Envoy to France, Amb. Doreen Ruth Amule and her Team for hosting Team Uganda to an evening cocktail at Uganda's Mission in Paris for providing logistical support to our guests during the Games.







Athlete	Sports Discipline	Event
1. Gloria Muzito	Aquatics (Swimming)	100 Freestyle Women
2. Jesse Ssengonzi	Aquatics (Swimming)	100 Butterfly Men
3. Joy Cheptoek	Athletics	5000m Women
4. Belinda Chemutai	Athletics	5000m Women
5. Esther Chebet	Athletics	5000m Women
6. Halimah Nakaayi	Athletics	800m Women
7. Peruth Chemutai	Athletics	3000m Steeplechase Women
8. Winnie Nanyondo	Athletics	1500m Women
9. Sarah Chelangat	Athletics	10000m Women
10. Annet Chelangat	Athletics	10000m Women
11. Stella Chesang	Athletics	Women's Marathon
12. Rebecca Cheptegei	Athletics	Women's Marathon
13. Mercyline Chelangat	Athletics	Women's Marathon
14. Joshua Cheptegei	Athletics	10000m Men
15. Jacob Kiplimo	Athletics	10000m Men
16. Martin Kiprotich	Athletics	10000m Men
17. Leonard Chemutai	Athletics	3000m Steeplechase Men
18. Tarsis Gracious Orogot	Athletics	200m Men
19. Oscar Chelimo	Athletics	5000m Men
20. Tom Dradriga	Athletics	800m Women
21. Victor Kiplangat	Athletics	Men's Marathon
22. Andrew Rotich Kwemoi	Athletics	Men's Marathon
23. Stephen Kissa	Athletics	Men's Marathon
24. Charles Kagimu	Cycling	Men's Road Race
25. Kathleen Noble	Rowing	Women's Single Scull



Born to Irish parents, Kathleen Noble competes for her native Uganda.



Table: Extract of Medal Tally. Source: IOC

Rang	Pays	Or	Argent	Bronze	Total
52	Egypt	1	1	1	3
52	Tunisia	1	1	1	3
55	Botswana	1	1	0	2
55	Chile	1	1	0	2
55	Saint Lucia	1	1	0	2
55	Uganda	1	1	0	2
59	Dominican Republic	1	0	2	3

Table: Africa's Medals at the Paris Summer Games. Source: ANOCA

Rang	Pays	Or	Argent	Bronze	Total
1	Kenya	4	2	5	11
2	Algérie	2	0	1	3
3	Afrique du Sud	1	3	2	6
4	Ethiopie	1	3	0	3
5	Egypte	1	1	1	3
6	Tunisie	1	1	1	3
7	Botswana	1	1	0	2
8	Ouganda	1	1	0	2
9	Maroc	1	0	1	2
10	Cap vert	0	0	1	1
11	Côte d'ivoire	0	0	1	1
12	Zambie	0	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>39</b>

Team Uganda, led by Hon. Peter Ogwang, Minister for Sports, in Paris.







## Demise of Marathoner **REBECCA CHEPTEGEI**.

The Team's happiness was dampened by the tragic death of Marathoner Rebecca Cheptegei on September 5, 2024, who succumbed to injuries she sustained after being doused in petrol and set ablaze by her former boyfriend, Dickson Ndiema in Eldoret, Kenya.

There has been an outpouring of messages to condemn violence against Athletes and calling for more to be done to stem from this ever-increasing vice. The Mayor of Paris announced plans to name a sports venue after the Rebecca Cheptegei, in honour of her legacy and to celebrate her life.

Rebecca finished 44th in the Paris 2024 Women's Marathon and will be remembered for her competitiveness and her commendable performances in World Cross Country Events and the 1500m, 800m and other races that she espoused.

**TEAM UGANDA**  
**LOST A TRUE CHAMPION**

   
PROUD PAINT PARTNER  
of UGANDA OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

**REBECCA  
CHEPTEGEI**  
1991 - 2024

Our heartfelt condolences go to her family, friends, and the sports fraternity. Her legacy will inspire future generations. May her soul Rest In Peace.










**BOOK REVIEW**

**The World Is Ours.**



**Author & Podcaster:**  
Ms. Lucy Chihandae



**Reviewer:**  
Ms. Racheal Kizza

**THE REVIEW:** The World is Ours is a perfect blend of romance and adventure with the right dosage of plot twists to keep you hooked.

At 741 words, this coming-of-age story following the lives of Ameena, Shenzi, and Kevin through three decades and across four countries: Uganda, Kenya, Congo, and the USA.

The novel is divided into four books or parts, with each book exploring the transition of the characters: Books one and two explore Ameena’s life, while books three and four focus on Shenzi and Kevin.

The four books are interlinked to create a powerful, poignant story with strong thematic areas of love and loss, betrayal, culture and gender, tradition, politics, and dominion.

The book’s narration is through multiple voices, which aptly capture the characters’ emotions and perspectives. The reader is not quick to judge them, thus defying the danger of a single story, as Chimamanda admonishes.

The plot is character-driven, with vital characters well fleshed out. The story is imbued with information about Somali Culture and folklore, which enriches it greatly. Readers will have an opportunity to learn something new upon reading this book.

The novel is well-researched and provides great insights about Kampala’s Street life and the mining in Congo. It reveals how capitalists are profiting from gold with the help of the locals. I felt like I understood how it all works.

The language is beautifully peppered with humour in English, Luganda, Swahili, and Somali, making the story palatable.

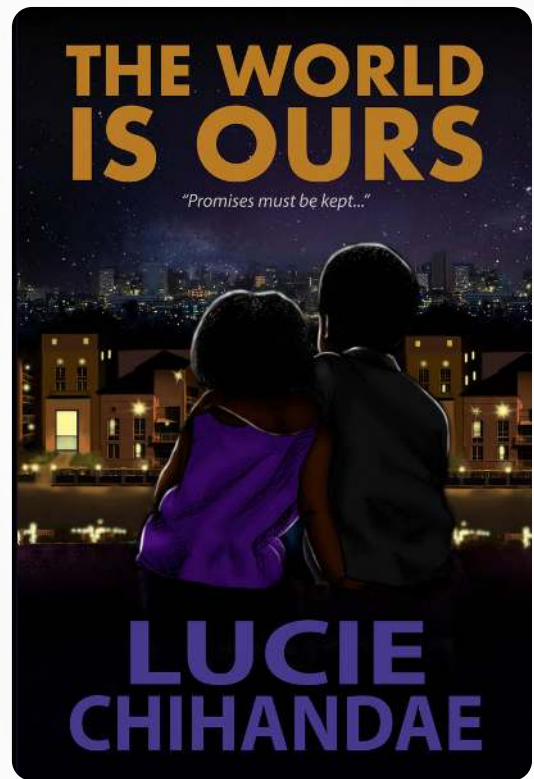
The novel is fast-paced and compelling, and the ending is superb; it felt like the perfect way to end an endless plot full of dark twists and turns.

**Lucy Chihandae** is a writer, an award-winning podcaster, & co-founder of the media company 2Sistars Media, LLC.

Having started writing at the age of nine, Lucie, throughout her career, has worked in various media as a writer, radio host and journalist, where she honed her storytelling skills through words, images, and voice.

She lives in Maryland USA, to find out more about her and The World Is Ours;

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# Spotlight Photo



Uganda's Peruth Chemutai leads the pack in the steeplechase at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, with Kenya's Faith Cherotich close on her heels as they clear the water jump. Chemutai, the 4th ranked steeplechaser on the planet, set a world-leading time of 8:55.09 in May and comfortably cruised to victory in her Paris heat with a time of 9:10.51—the fastest across all qualifying heats. (© Mattia Ozbot / World Athletics)



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