

Justice clockety," the commissioners assert.

"The 1st respondent's agents to which the permanent secretary to the Ministry of Public Service and permanent to the JSC, have deliberately refused to pay the revised emoluments," they add.

She further accused Mr Mao of lacking the traits of a true administrator in case of a conflict, and warned that Mao's actions will not deter them "from pursuing the bigger goal of liberating Uganda, after which they will liberate them from the pumpkins."

said, "that some people, like him are like pumpkins; they are green outside but yellow inside."

The Mukono Municipality legislator explained: "There will be no way the pumpkins will love the watermelons because their colour inside is different; we only share the colour outside..."

where she said she does not regret her membership in Dr Besigye's cabinet. She also said she would gladly avail herself for any disciplinary action from DP.

"He said Nambuuzee, Erias Lukwago and Allan Ssewanyana are like water-

innet on Tuesday. Mr Mao quipped: Nambuuzee and other leaders including Kampala Lord Mayor Erias Lwago and Makindye West MP Allan Ssewanyana to "watermelon, which is on the surface, but red inside."

Mr Mao said the DP leader would queried on what informs their alle-

## MINISTRY OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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### PRESS STATEMENT

## PUBLIC STATEMENT ON UGANDA JOINING EITI

Uganda's oil and gas sector has transitioned from the exploration and appraisal phase to the development phase in preparation for production of the petroleum resources that have been discovered in the country.

To date, the country's proven crude oil reserves stand at 6.5 billion barrels of which 1.4 billion barrels is recoverable. To date, nine production licenses have been granted to three international upstream companies - Total E&P Uganda, Tullow Uganda Operations Pty Limited and CNOOC Uganda. When production commences, the Government of Uganda will begin to earn revenues from the sale of crude oil through the Pipeline and refined products through the Refinery. Similarly, the mining sector continues to grow and attract more foreign investments.

The existence of large quantities of extractive resources can translate into prosperity and economic development if the revenue is managed well. The revenue can be used to support infrastructure development and social services that have a potential to lead to sustainable economic growth and development. The resource revenues will increase the country's public finances if managed in a transparent and accountable manner.

On 28<sup>th</sup> January, Cabinet approved Uganda to join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). The decision to join EITI was informed by the appreciation of the values that EITI promotes with regard to disclosure of information about the whole extractives governance chain from allocation and ownership of licences; to the contractual, legal and fiscal terms; the production and export; the payments companies make to Government and the expenditures of revenues by Government. We believe that initiatives such as EITI that emphasize transparency have the potential to strengthen the efforts of Government in ensuring overall transparency in the sector; strengthen tax collection; improve investment climate, build trust and creating lasting value of petroleum resources.

EITI was established in 2003 as a global standard to promote open and accountable management of oil, gas and mineral resources. It provides an avenue for companies, Governments and other agencies and entities engaged in extractive industries to comprehensively report on production,

payments and revenues from the sector on a regular basis. Currently, there are fifty-one countries implementing the EITI.

The implementation of EITI will involve multi-stakeholder participation comprising representatives from Government, civil society and the private sector. This approach helps foster fact based dialogue and understanding of natural resource governance issues. Government is in the process of constituting a multi-stakeholder group whose role will be to oversee the implementation process.

The multi-stakeholder group will include representation from Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Ministry of Water and Environment, Ministry of Lands and Urban Development, Ministry of Works and Transport, National Planning Authority, Uganda Revenue Authority, National Environmental Management Authority, Petroleum Authority of Uganda, Uganda National Oil Company, Bank of Uganda, extractive companies, and civil society, Donor agencies and other international institutions will also be involved in the process as observers.

I, therefore, wish to inform the public of Uganda's decision to join EITI, the establishment of the multi-stakeholder group and Government's commitment to ensuring that the management of extractives sector is done in an accountable and transparent manner to benefit all citizens of Uganda.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

  
A. Matia Kasajja (MP)  
MINISTER OF FINANCE, PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT