

# **VOTE: 528 Uganda Embassy in United Arab Emirates, Abudhabi**

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## **I. VOTE MISSION STATEMENT**

To Promote and Protect Ugandas Interests in United Arab Emirates

## **II. STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE**

1. Promote Commercial and Economic Diplomacy including technology transfer.
2. Promotion of regional Peace and Security
3. Promote Uganda image through Public Diplomacy
4. Strengthen the Provision of Protocol Diplomatic and Consular services in UAE
5. Strengthen the institutional capacity of the Mission.
6. Enhance the participation of the Ugandans in UAE for National Development

## **III. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023/24**

1. Met the President of Dubai Chamber of Commerce and discussed preparations for the UG UAE Business Forum agreed to strengthen cooperation between the chamber and UNCCI.
2. Held discussions with Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry to facilitate their upcoming Trade Mission East Africa that is scheduled to take place in Uganda from 7th November 2023.
3. Met the Executive Director of the Logistics and Trade Facilitation sector in Abu Department of Economic Development ADED and discussed strategies aimed at augmenting bilateral trade and fostering expansive investments as well as collaborating to organize the upcoming Uganda UAE business forum
4. Met Economic Licensing Department under ADED and focused on actions to facilitate Ugandan businessmen in establishing their enterprises in Abu Dhabi providing licensing regulations and procedures related to foreign business.
5. Strengthened bilateral relations btn UAE and Uganda through attending events organized by the UAE among which included Emirati Women and the Sustainable Environment which focused on protecting the environment through embracing better cooking practices
6. Met officials from the MOFA UAE and discussed issues of mutual interest among which included Uganda participation at COP 28 30 Nov 12 Dec 23 in Dubai UAE
7. Organized meetings btn MoWE and the appointed country manager of Uganda to discuss the Expression of Interest submitted by Uganda to have a pavilion at COP 28 and its branding
8. Attended two virtual diplomatic briefings organized by MoFA UAE to brief diplomatic corp on the preparations of the upcoming COP 28 which brief in turn was shared with Uganda focal Ministry
9. Attended hybrid inter ministerial task force COP 28 meetings organized by the MoWE to better prepare Uganda for the upcoming COP 28 and optimizing the pavilion space to attract green investment opportunities
10. Participated in the 5th Annual Future Food Forum 2023 by the Islamic Organisation for Food Security
11. 2 day working visit of H.E from 13-14 Nov 2023 on the invitation of H.H the President of UAE
12. H.E met key authorities from UAE to discuss investment opportunities in Uganda
13. 2nd Edition of Uganda UAE Business Forum held in Kampala 10-13 Oct 2023
14. Attended the Pre Cop 28 meetings between 30 31 Oct 2023 in Abu Dhabi. Uganda highlighted its position on a number of issues that included the Global stock take
15. Uganda attended COP 28 from 30 Nov 12 Dec 23 under the leadership of Rt. Hon Prime Minister in Dubai UAE. The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister delivered Uganda statement at the opening of the World Climate Summit on 2nd December 2023
16. The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister addressed delegates on the theme of A just Journey towards Net Zero were she highlighted transformations Uganda has undertaken in the energy sector and electricity cooking
17. On the sidelines of the COP 28 we discussed attendance of the upcoming NAM and G77 summits in Uganda
18. To enhance Uganda visibility the Embassy organized media engagements for the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister with different media houses on the sidelines of COP 28
19. Coordinated signing of three MoUs between Uganda and companies in the UAE in areas of energy and Agro processing on the sidelines of COP 28
20. Organized a pre media briefing engagement ahead of COP28 and Published an article in khaleej Times
21. Facilitated Sharjah Chamber of Commerce to visit Uganda from 7-10 Nov 23
22. Attended 8th World Investment Forum that was held in Abu Dhabi, 16-20 Oct 23
23. Uganda attended the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference (ADIPEC) from 2-5 Oct 23
24. Participated in the Annual Convention of the Ugandans in UAE (AUU) in Dubai 25-26 Nov 2023

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## IV. MEDIUM TERM BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Table 4.1: Overview of Vote Expenditure (Ushs Billion)

	2023/24		2024/25	MTEF Budget Projections			
	Approved Budget	Spent by End Dec	Budget Estimates	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29
<b>Recurrent</b>	Wage	1.098	0.549	1.831	1.831	1.831	1.098
	Non-Wage	5.150	4.357	5.150	5.150	5.150	5.150
<b>Devt.</b>	GoU	0.000	0.000	10.790	10.790	10.790	0.000
	Ext Fin.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>GoU Total</b>		<b>6.248</b>	<b>4.906</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>6.248</b>
<b>Total GoU+Ext Fin (MTEF)</b>		<b>6.248</b>	<b>4.906</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>6.248</b>
Arrears		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
<b>Total Budget</b>		<b>6.248</b>	<b>4.906</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>6.248</b>
<b>Total Vote Budget Excluding Arrears</b>		<b>6.248</b>	<b>4.906</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>17.771</b>	<b>6.248</b>

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Table 4.2: Budget Allocation by Department for Recurrent and Development (Ushs Billion)

<i>Billion Uganda Shillings</i>	Draft Budget Estimates FY 2024/25	
	Recurrent	Development
<b>Programme:16 Governance And Security</b>	<b>5.381</b>	<b>10.790</b>
<b>SubProgramme:01 Institutional Coordination</b>	<b>5.381</b>	<b>10.790</b>
<b>Sub SubProgramme:01 Overseas Mission Services</b>	<b>5.381</b>	<b>10.790</b>
001 Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	5.381	10.790
<b>Programme:18 Development Plan Implementation</b>	<b>1.600</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>SubProgramme:02 Resource Mobilization and Budgeting</b>	<b>1.600</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Sub SubProgramme:01 Overseas Mission Services</b>	<b>1.600</b>	<b>0.000</b>
001 Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	1.600	0.000
<b>Total for the Vote</b>	<b>6.981</b>	<b>10.790</b>

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## V. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS AND PLANNED OUTPUTS

Table 5.1: Performance Indicators

Programme: 16 Governance And Security

SubProgramme: 01 Institutional Coordination

Sub SubProgramme: 01 Overseas Mission Services

Department: 001 Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Budget Output: 000014 Administrative and Support Services

PIAP Output: Administration support services provided

Programme Intervention: 160605 Undertake financing and administration of programme services

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	2023/24		Performance Targets
				Target	Q2 Performance	2024/25
Number of reports prepared	Number	2022	13	13	7	40

Project: 1744 Retooling Mission in Abu Dhabi

Budget Output: 000003 Facilities and Equipment Management

PIAP Output: Administration support services provided

Programme Intervention: 160605 Undertake financing and administration of programme services

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	2023/24		Performance Targets
				Target	Q2 Performance	2024/25
Number of reports prepared	Number					4

Programme: 18 Development Plan Implementation

SubProgramme: 02 Resource Mobilization and Budgeting

Sub SubProgramme: 01 Overseas Mission Services

Department: 001 Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Budget Output: 560009 Cooperation frameworks and Development Assistance

PIAP Output: Bilateral and multilateral resources for national development sourced

Programme Intervention: 180109 Expand financing beyond the traditional sources

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Sub SubProgramme: 01 Overseas Mission Services

Department: 001 Embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

Budget Output: 560009 Cooperation frameworks and Development Assisstance

PIAP Output: Bilateral and multilateral resources for national development sourced

Indicator Name	Indicator Measure	Base Year	Base Level	2023/24		Performance Targets
				Target	Q2 Performance	2024/25
Value (USD Million) of bilateral and multilateral resources for national development	Value	2022	\$600m	\$1 Billion	\$500m	USD 1Bn

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## VI. VOTE NARRATIVE

### Vote Challenges

1 Delayed release of funds. Quarter one and two funds are always released in August instead of July and Quarter three and four funds are released end of January. This delay affects activities that would have been implemented earlier.

2 Landlords require a one off payment for rent. However this cannot be achieved with the half year release instalments from Ministry of Finance.

3 Dubai is a transit station and therefore the embassy spends a lot of funds on offering protocol services to entitled government officials.

4 Limited funds required by the embassy to realize its full potential and to exploit all the opportunities in line with its core mandate of promoting Economic and Commercial Diplomacy.

5 Funds allocated to mission staff salaries are not enough hence constraining other budget items.

6 Insufficient space to accommodate distressed maids. There is need to acquire or rent a rescue accommodation in Dubai and also rent a bigger one in Abu Dhabi

7 No operational funds for the rescue accommodation. Funds are required for meals electricity medical treatment for the sick maids and wages for the care taker

8 Unlimited funds to fully cater for mandatory benefits for local staff like housing and medical care.

9 Deployment of staff without corresponding increase in the embassy budget. There are currently two officers who are unable to report due to budget constraints.

10 Zero budget allocation for travel abroad yet the Embassy has activities which require travel abroad. Therefore there is urgent need to lift the ban on this budget item reinstate it and have funds appropriated to it.

11 The Embassy lacks sufficient personnel to render consular services. For example it lacks a dedicated Labour Attache to receive and resolve complaints raised by externalised Ugandan workers against their employers. Two Consular Assistants one at the Embassy and another at the Consulate in Dubai and dedicated officer for national ID services

12 There are approximately 100000 Ugandans in the UAE yet the embassy Consular Section has only five members of staff all of whom also handle other duties besides Consular Services provision. The large Ugandan diaspora presents a unique overwhelming demand for consular services which puts considerable strain on the staff.

13 UAE is a large country comprised of seven emirates therefore rendering consular services is so challenging in terms of coverage area and distances to be travelled without an operational budget. For example demands for rescue operation of distressed girls are abrupt in most cases.

14 High Internet and Computer maintenance costs required for passports and NIRA computers and equipment

15 The climate in the UAE is characterized by hot temperatures with humidity levels that make being outdoors unbearable. At the height of summer temperatures in the UAE are around the 50 degree mark. It is our appeal that the Uganda Embassy in Abu Dhabi and Consulate in Dubai are considered for hardship allowances as it experiences extremely hot conditions which increases the cost of cooling accommodation facilities and offices.

16 The embassy in Abu Dhabi requires furniture for home based staff and a utility vehicle while Uganda Consulate in Dubai requires furniture for the chancery staff and official residence Official Representation vehicle and utility vehicles. The transportation fleet is constrained since the consulate has no utility van and the ones at the embassy have outlived their useful life and the embassy is incurring a high cost on the repair and maintenance

### Plans to improve Vote Performance

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1. Increased engagement of the relevant authorities Uganda Tourism Board, Uganda Investment Authority for promotional materials and increased participation in trade and tourism fairs.
2. Acquisition of premises for both the chancery and official residence.
3. Engage Ministry of Finance and Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee for an increased funding to enable the embassy fully execute and exploit its potential in Economic and Commercial Diplomacy.
4. Organize staff retreats annually to appraise ourselves of our mission strategic plan and workplan for the coming financial year.
5. Recruitment of a consular assistant to provide additional support to the consular section.
6. Engage Ministry of Labour to post a labour attache.
7. Hold an inhouse workshop for capacity building of the consular section staff.
8. Engage MoFPED and MoPS to consider Uganda Embassy in Abu Dhabi and the Consulate in Dubai for hardship allowances to enable officers meet the high costs associated with the adverse health conditions and extreme heat.
9. In order to address the challenges of distressed Ugandans, the embassy has initiated a number of interventions including temporarily accommodating them in the rescue facility as they await reconciliation with their employers, issuance of emergency travel documents and air tickets to repatriate them home.
10. The embassy also undertakes rescue missions of the distressed maids across all the seven emirates.
11. Engage Ministry of Foreign Affairs for capital development allocation to enable the Embassy purchase furniture for the chancery, official residences and officers residences.
12. MoFPED should consider enhancing the budget of the Embassy to cater for the deployment of officers which has been put on hold because of insufficient funds.

### **VII. Off Budget Support and NTR Projections**

#### **Table 7.1: Off Budget Support by Project and Department**

N/A



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<b>Revenue Code</b>	<b>Revenue Name</b>	<b>FY2023/24</b>	<b>Projection FY2024/25</b>
142204	Visa fees	0.012	0.010
142206	Other migration permits (excluding passport and visa fees)	0.011	0.030
142223	Document certification fees	0.026	0.120
<b>Total</b>		<b>0.050</b>	<b>0.160</b>

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## VIII. VOTE CROSS CUTTING POLICY AND OTHER BUDGETARY ISSUES

Table 8.1: Cross- Cutting Policy Issues

### i) Gender and Equity

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	To promote responsive development
<b>Issue of Concern</b>	High levels of marginalization of vulnerable groups more especially persons with disabilities, women and children
<b>Planned Interventions</b>	High levels of marginalization of vulnerable groups more especially persons with disabilities, women and children Build capacity of staff in mainstreaming gender and equity in the Mission activities.
<b>Budget Allocation (Billion)</b>	0.100
<b>Performance Indicators</b>	05 staff trained in gender and equity mainstreaming. 60% score in gender and equity assessment by Equal Opportunities Commission

### ii) HIV/AIDS

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	Scaling up HIV/AIDS prevention, care and social support to staff, and promoting a culture of living a responsible lifestyle.
<b>Issue of Concern</b>	Ensure full realization of economic, social, cultural and civic rights of the people threatened, infected and affected by HIV/AIDS.
<b>Planned Interventions</b>	Encourage HIV/AIDS Education and information, sensitization and awareness. Support HIV/AIDS workplace programs
<b>Budget Allocation (Billion)</b>	0.100
<b>Performance Indicators</b>	Number of sensitization activities engaged in

### iii) Environment

<b>OBJECTIVE</b>	Protect , restore and promote adoption and sustainable use of renewable energy.
<b>Issue of Concern</b>	Promote restore and protect forests, combat desertification and reverse land degradation
<b>Planned Interventions</b>	Negotiate the Climate change agreement to Uganda's advantage.  Promote use of renewable energy.  Follow-up the MoUs, Agreements and resolutions made during CoP28
<b>Budget Allocation (Billion)</b>	0.100
<b>Performance Indicators</b>	Climate change and Renewable agreements signed

### iv) Covid

N / A

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## **IX. PERSONNEL INFORMATION**

### **Table 9.1: Staff Establishment Analysis**

N / A

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**Table 9.2: Staff Recruitment Plan**

N / A