



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

ON

CROSS-BORDER TRANSFORMATION AGENDA FOR

UGANDA (KARAMOJA AND SEBEI) - KENYA (TURKANA AND WEST POKOT)

(AS AMENDED ONSEPTEMBER, 2024)

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This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as the “MoU”) is made on this.....day of.....2024 between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Republic of Uganda (hereinafter shall be individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties”)

PREAMBLE

CONSIDERING the persistent conflicts in the Karamoja sub – region and Sebei of Uganda and the Turkana and West Pokot counties of Kenya, and the profound negative impact on the livelihoods of affected communities;

REAFFIRMING the commitment made during the cross-border peace initiative meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya on 31st August, 2018 to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and framework aimed at economically empowering the local communities through a deliberate mix of socio-economic transformative programmes;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to embark on an innovative, integrated programme to bring about sustainable peace and transformative development in the border regions of Uganda and Kenya in partnership with East African Community (EAC), African Union (AU), Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and United Nations Country Teams of Uganda and Kenya, and other development partners to support and develop the ongoing as well as new cross-border initiatives;

APPRECIATING the strong cultural ties, friendship and cooperation existing between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Government of the



Republic of Kenya;

RECALLING the Agreement Establishing a Joint Ministerial Commission between the Republic of Uganda and the Republic of Kenya signed on **20th February, 2014** that provides a framework for deepening and expanding bilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest;

FURTHER RECALLING the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Government of the Republic of Kenya on Agreed Priorities signed on **11th January 2018** in Kampala, Uganda that furthered the economic relations between the Republic of Uganda and the Republic of Kenya;

AIMING at further strengthening partnership and cooperation in the field of cross-border programmes on sustainable peace and socio-economic development;

ACKNOWLEDGING the challenges that the communities in border regions experience in the conduct of the cross border transactions due to geographical location, separation of resources across the border, causing conflict and poverty in those areas; and

COGNISANT of the need to strengthen the cross-border relations that exist between the Parties and to promote mutual cooperation and peaceful co-existence;

NOW THEREFORE, the parties have mutually agreed to amend the Memorandum of Understanding that was signed on 12th September 2019 as follows:

ARTICLE 1

SCOPE

This Memorandum of Understanding shall specifically apply to the Karamoja sub-region and Sebei in Uganda and the Turkana and West Pokot Counties in Kenya.

OBJECTIVES

1. The overall objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to accord Border communities of Uganda and Kenya opportunities for co-operation, close coordination and peaceful coexistence, to improve their livelihood and socio-economic conditions for sustainable peace and transformative development.
2. The specific objectives of the Memorandum are to;
 - i. Increase non-violent inter-ethnic interaction and collaboration;
 - ii. Reduce tensions and competition over access to resources, such as water and pasture; trade and investment; health and education.
 - iii. Ending trans-national organized crime that is; livestock rustling, arms trafficking, human trafficking and terrorism among others.
 - iv. Empowering border communities as well as Local, County and National Government agencies to prevent and resolve conflicts, develop rapid response mechanisms and promote sustainable peace and security for development;
 - v. Enhance community resilience and capability;
 - vi. Increase cross border trade & investment;
 - vii. Strengthen surveillance and response to cross border livestock and human diseases;
 - viii. Improve environmental and natural resource management in the region;
 - ix. Eradicate harmful practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV);
 - x. Improve livelihoods, food security, nutrition and support basic social services;
 - xi. Facilitate infrastructural development for socioeconomic transformation;
 - xii. Establish effective cross border management and coordination mechanisms to facilitate safe and orderly cross-border movement of persons, livestock and other commodities; and
 - xiii. Enhance Research and Development (R&D), knowledge and technology management, monitoring & evaluation.

ARTICLE 3
JOINT ACTIVITIES

The Parties will jointly implement and coordinate in collaboration with the decentralized and/or devolved governance structures which activities will include:

1. Identifying the causes and impacts of conflict so as to improve conflict prevention, management and resolution capacities of the communities;
2. Strengthening and supporting peace committees in order to bring about sustainable peace and social cohesion; and
3. Designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating integrated cross border Programmes to promote sustainable peace and inclusive economic growth in the two Countries provided under a joint detailed framework to be agreed on and implemented by the Parties.

ARTICLE 4
BOUNDARY DEMARCATION

The Parties mutually agree to undertake joint boundary delimitation, demarcation and reaffirmation for purposes of determining the international boundary of each country.

ARTICLE 5
INSTITUTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

1. The Parties will establish a Joint Technical Steering Committee (JTSC) under the Ministry responsible for East African Community (EAC) Affairs in Uganda and Ministry responsible for Arid and Semi-Arid Lands in Kenya, which will oversee the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

2. In the discharge of this mandate the ministries will work closely with other relevant National Government Ministries, Departments, County/Local Governments, Regional Agencies, UN Country Teams, IGAD, AU and other Development Partners.
3. The Parties will agree on the composition and mandate of the Joint Technical Steering Committee as well as other relevant implementation structures/frameworks.

ARTICLE 6

CROSS BORDER MOVEMENT

In addition to existing border points, the Parties will designate and gazette transhumance routes to be used for crossing into each other's territory by both livestock and human beings.

ARTICLE 7

TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME

The Parties will enhance measures to detect, prevent and curtail criminal practices including organized crimes within the communities along the border.

ARTICLE 8

FUNDING

The Parties will jointly and separately mobilize resources from internal sources, development partners and the private sector in order to achieve the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 9

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

All notices, approvals, consents or other communications made pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding will be through agreed the established diplomatic channels of either party.

ARTICLE 10

CONFIDENTIALITY

1. Each Party shall undertake to preserve the confidentiality of information,

documents or data received from the other Party during the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding, such information shall not be communicated to any third Party without prior consent of both Parties.

2. In the event of termination, the Parties agree that the preservation of confidentiality shall continue to apply to activities undertaken during the duration of the Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 11

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any dispute between the Parties arising from the interpretation and/or implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be settled amicably between the Parties through established diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 12

OTHER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

The Parties through the respective Authorities will conclude such other Agreements as may be necessary for the effectual implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE 13

APPLICABLE LAW

This Memorandum of Understanding and all matters arising from it will be governed by and construed in accordance with respective national laws and international conventions that both countries are party to.

ARTICLE 14

REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS

- 14.1 The Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed annually to assess the status of its implementation.

- 14.2 The Memorandum of Understanding may be renewed and/or amended by the mutual consent of the Parties basing on the report of the status of its implementation.

ARTICLE 15

EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon signature by the Parties and will remain in force for a period of five (5) years from the date of signature.

ARTICLE 16

TERMINATION

1. Either Party may terminate this MoU at any time by giving the other Party six (6) months prior written notice of its intention to do so.
2. The termination shall be effective upon expiry of the notice period stated in clause 1 above.
3. Any ongoing activities at the time of termination arising out of the MoU shall be carried out to their logical conclusion as if the MoU was in force.
4. Termination of this MoU will not affect the provision on confidentiality.
5. In the event that this MoU is terminated, each Party shall be solely responsible for payment of any expenses incurred pursuant to the termination.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned on behalf of their respective Governments, signed this Memorandum Of Understanding at Moroto, Uganda on thisday of, 2024 in two copies in the English language.

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
UGANDA

.....
H.E HON. BEATRICE ASKUL MOE
CABINET SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF EAST AFRICAN
COMMUNITY (EAC), THE ASALS

.....
H.E REBECCA ALITWALA KADAGA
1ST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER
OF EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS-
UGANDA



AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
REPUBLIC OF KENYA

WITNESSED BY:

.....
KELLO HARSAMA (MR)
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF EAST AFRICAN
COMMUNITY(EAC), THE ASALS
AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

.....
EDITH N MWANJE(MRS)
PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS
THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

