



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND VETERAN AFFAIRS

Fulfilling the NRM manifesto in military and security



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The mandate of Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs is to support and facilitate the UPDF carrying out its Constitutional mandate. It also includes ensuring that UPDF officers and militants are integrated and settled into civilian life upon retirement. The Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces will continue to;

- Preserve and defend of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Uganda
- Co-operate with civil authority in emergency situations and incase of natural disasters;
- Foster harmony and understanding between the defence forces and civilians; and
- Engage in productive activities for the development of Uganda

The vision 2040 identifies Peace, security and Defence as one of the fundamentals that must be strengthened in order to harness the abundant opportunities if Uganda is to realise the envisaged social-economic, political, technological, and ideological transformational goals. The Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs therefore has the responsibility for national defence and security which is a prerequisite for sustainable socio-economic transformation.

Improved capability of Defence and Security Forces

- Acquisition, refurbishment and maintenance of defence capability equipment: The acquired capability caters for changes in the dynamic security environment particularly in strategic areas of border security, internal security and civil emergency response in order to respond to emerging threats in all their complexity.
- Combat service support will be strengthened through provision of logistics to the troops to enable the sustenance of troop operations and combat readiness. There will be enhanced information collection and analysis capability to deter and curtail hostile activities both from within and out of the country. This will be through enhancing Command, Control, Communication, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and the Reconnaissance capabilities.

Effective combat service support will boost mobility, deployability and general morale of the troops. Logistics is a key driver of the UPDF operations and is organized to ensure that the Force is adequately sustained during force generation and deployment to be able to respond to and deter threats.



**SPECIAL FORCES CONDUCTING COUNTER
TERRORISM TRAINING DRILLS**



Administration block; Uganda Military Academy - Kabamba



A UPDF Cadet officer in an obstacle crossing drill

Development and implementation of human capital development programmes

The ministry is strategically aware of the need to attract, develop and retain the best personnel to deliver on the defence mandate. Focus on implementing policies and processes to achieve this strategic purpose will be through;

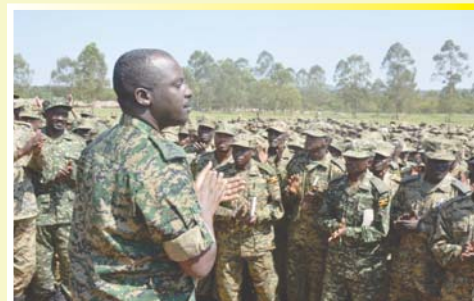
- Recruitment for regular soldiers into the Forces for Infantry and Specialized arms, and other specialties like medical, engineering, statisticians, among others. The recruitment exercise which is open to all youthful Ugandans irrespective of gender will be conducted proportionally using projected population figures of each district of Uganda to form a basis of computing quotas. This will cater for equity in terms of gender, ethnicity and geographical location. Recruitment will be done with a purpose of enlisting talent.
- Training: In addition to the general training program, the UPDF emphasizes on:
 - Strengthening the 5 Infantry Divisions
 - Completion of the Mountain Division with support being given to Mountain Warfare Training.
 - Strengthening of Division Training Schools.
 - Training of NCO and Instructors
 - Promotion and dissemination of modules of UPDF

doctrine, ethos, core values, patriotism and civil-military relations.

- Career development will enhance Force effectiveness since it presents them with opportunities to discover new skills. The following are the Force's specific outputs
 - Manpower Audits to align Establishment
 - Promotion Exams are undertaken
- Deployment: Deployment continues to be undertaken both within operational and non-operational areas on assignment as determined by command. There is consolidation of systems of selection and deployment in external missions.

Enhance Defence infrastructure including health and sanitation; accommodation, training and office facilities in line with the Defence Strategic Infrastructure Investment plan (DSIIP 11). Key outputs include;

- Air force core infrastructure in Nakasongola and Entebbe.
- Military Referral Hospital at Mbuya
- Completion of Joint Operations Centres (JOCs) at Mbuya and bombo
- Completion of Kaweweta Training School
- Kick-starting on construction of the 30,000 housing units



The Chief of Defence Forces, Gen. David Muhozi briefing troops before their departure to Somalia at Peace Support Training Centre - Singo



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In 1986, NRM liberated Ugandans from a government backed by neo-colonial army that was synonymous with extra-judicial killings, unspeakable violence and many other atrocities against the very people they were supposed to defend and protect. The NRM picked up the liberation struggle from earlier liberation struggles of the 1970's such as the Front for National Salvation and the Uganda National Liberation Front against dictatorship and state terror on the people.



Kaweweta Recruit Training school dormitories

The final liberation in 1986 deftly brought about the restoration of dignity amongst the people and the state after two decades. Since 1986, the NRM has built its Military and security forces from scratches to the current National force in a multi-party dispensation, carrying out regional peace and stability responsibilities on its shoulders.

This has been possible because the NRM leadership ensured Uganda builds a security force with a conscious knowledge that the interests of the people come first. These military and security forces have since 1981 bush struggle continually consolidated a strategic relationship with people doctrinally described by the Commander-in-Chief:

"A well organized, well led, united people, with a legitimate cause can defeat an aggressor with superior weapons. Therefore the population, their attitudes towards a war effort, is part of the strategic forces. If the people are with us, we can win any war," he asserts

The security forces under the NRM leadership were able to encounter and defeat a host of insurgents, rebels and all terrorist groups in the country, including the LRA who were defeated and completely driven out of Uganda as per the NRM 2006 election Manifesto, as part of the continuing effort to ensure good governance in the country.

Maintenance of peace

The NRM pledged, in the 2011 election Manifesto, the maintenance of peace and security as a fundamental policy priority. This has indeed been achieved because Uganda has remained totally peaceful, with all citizens assured of security of person and their property.

There were other three areas that the NRM pledged in 2016 Manifesto under the heading 'The Military and Security Forces'. They are; the continued professional development of the UPDF, the continued maintenance of

high professional standards by the security organizations, continued investment by the Defence and Security Sector in defence diplomacy.

Implementation of the Defence Strategic Infrastructural Investment (DSII) Plan

The implementation of the Defence Strategic Investment plan has been critical in the professionalization development of the UPDF. The Israeli Entebbe raid crippled Uganda's Air assets because much was destroyed and the 1979 liberation war against Idi Amin worsened the situation because most of the Defence infrastructure was lost.

The Defence policy and White paper on transformation of the Uganda People's Defence Forces proposes a small, well trained and equipped force with a view to improving the welfare of troops. Since inception of the Defence transformation program, UPDF top leadership has been striving to increase UPDF efficiency and effectiveness by providing better health services, training, working and living environment.

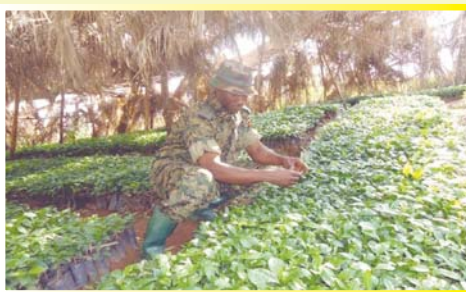
The UPDF housing design evolved from one-room units in 2002 to two-bedroom housing Units in 2006 which is now its standard construction design.

In order to keep abreast with new set building standard design, In FY 2008/2009, MOD conducted a Needs Assessment, focusing on infrastructure requirements. The Needs Assessment estimated the total cost for the infrastructure development to be UGX 2.37 trillion.

Welfare

One of the Objectives of the Implementation of the DSII is improvement of welfare of the Forces. The Ministry of Defence and the UPDF top leadership has put up several welfare improvement programs and three key ones are;

WAZALENDO SACCO, the biggest SACCO in Uganda, is a UPDF/MoD cooperative that enables its members to save together for the future and access loans to enhance their individual socioeconomic welfare. It is in line with Uganda's National Policy, "PROSPERITY FOR ALL".



A UPDF WASACCO beneficiary in his coffee seedlings - Mubende Barracks

Starting with savings of Uganda shillings 238 million, WASACCO was registered in September 2005 under the Co-operative Act Cap 112 (Registration No 7419) and by December 2013, it had a savings portfolio of U Sh65bn, share capital of U Sh26.1bn, and a loan portfolio of U Sh76bn, with 71,687 members.

The Defence Forces Shop, one of the UPDF welfare Projects that provides building materials at subsidized prices.

ROWOSA, founded in 2000 stands for Reach Out Wives of Soldiers Association. It aims at empowering wives of soldiers and those of fallen comrades with practical technical knowledge on how to harness the environment for the betterment of their wellbeing without husband's involvement.

High professional standards by the security organizations To have a professional Force, the Ministry of Defence



Limb manufacturing machine at Mubende Rehabilitation Centre

ensures continued training for the defence forces, both locally and abroad. The UPDF continues to develop Training Infrastructure/training schools to address the leadership and command challenges at recruit, Non-commissioned officer, cadet and officer Level. Locally UPDF has 23 Training schools spread across the Country with the same Mission but producing men and officers of the Army with different capabilities.

Continued investment in defence diplomacy

The NRM Government has remained a bulwark for stability in the entire region, ably and decisively containing the threat of global and regional terrorism. MOD/UPDF is mandated among other things to contribute to Regional and International peace through Peace Support Operations. To this end, over time, the UPDF has generated capacity to deal with the volatilities in various parts of the region. Uganda has sent Military Observers to Darfur, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast.



The Chief of Defence Forces - UPDF Gen. David Muhozi giving Black Hawks Rising book to Maj. Gen. Giles Hill, The British Asst. Chief of Defence Staff / Commander of the British Empire (CBE)

UPDF as national army is guided by its mandate both within and outside the country. Its mandate has influenced its several engagements in several peace keeping missions outside the country notable of them; Liberia and presently in Somalia under the auspices of AMISOM and the UN.

The UPDF's recent rapid response and timely arrest of the fast deteriorating security situation in South Sudan and successful rescue of Ugandans trapped in the youngest Nation is one of the indicators of professionalism of the Force and its dedicated contribution to regional peace and stability.

The UPDF is now part of a bigger family of both Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) and the African Union which have a joint capacity building mechanism for maintaining peace and security on the African Continent.

Conclusion

The MoD/UPDF will continue to build Defence Capability to guarantee a sustainable peace and security, which is a prerequisite for Economic Development and Prosperity of our people.



UPDF Fighter jets