

A look into the NRM manifesto

By Umaru Kashaka

President Yoweri Museveni won because his 2016-2021 manifesto appealed directly to Ugandans. Museveni, who is also the party chairman, says in the foreword that it is a right of every Ugandan to understand what their government intends to accomplish, so that they are not only able to demand for accountability as well as efficient and effective service delivery, but also participate in the pursuit of these goals. He says their strategic goal is to transform Uganda into a middle-income country and argues that this manifesto is a diagnosis of their problems and a prescription for the cure. "In it, we simplify for the population our strategic goal, obstacles we have surmounted, what we have achieved and what we intend to do," he says.

Stages of progress

This manifesto is the fifth since 1996, when Uganda held its first general elections after the war that brought the ruling party to power in 1986. Each of the NRM manifestos has a theme in tandem with the stages of the country's progress.

The 1996 had *Tackling the Tasks Ahead* as the theme, in 2001 it was *Consolidating the achievements*, 2006 was *Prosperity for All*, while 2011's theme was *Prosperity for All: Better Service Delivery and Job-Creation*.

In the latest manifesto, the central theme and message is *Taking Uganda to Modernity through Job-creation and Inclusive Development*.

The President argues that NRM is a mass organisation that is on track



President Yoweri Museveni launching the NRM 2016-2021 manifesto flanked by First Lady Janet Museveni

in implementing policies and programmes in all these manifestos.

Weathering challenges

Museveni assures party supporters and the whole nation that NRM, has weathered all challenges and will continue to improve the living standards of Ugandans. "Uganda today has a more robust foundation than ever before. Backward leadership that lacks vision and ideology is now a thing of the past. Uganda is on the road to development and nothing will hamper that," he says.

He also states that through this manifesto, NRM renews its determination to implement the promises that have been made and consolidate the measures and reforms that

have already been taken.

"Anyone who appreciates where we are coming from as a country must find our strides impressive. Uganda must strive to build on this success," says Museveni.

He notes that the NRM has achieved monumental landmarks in all sectors. "If we continue at this pace, Uganda shall transform into a middle-income country and we shall be a prosperous nation in the near future. We look back with pride at our exceptional achievements over the decades," he says.

When he was appealing for support to take Uganda to modernity, Museveni said: "We consider NRM to be the trustee and principal guarantor of vision 2040. We want to make Uganda Africa's

gateway." Museveni says the NRM is, therefore, seeking a fresh mandate on the strength of its record of performance and unwavering commitment to the welfare of all Ugandans. "Our significant and impressive achievements have been made over the last five years under NRM leadership," he says.

Strengthening security

In the 2016 manifesto, the NRM promises to strengthen security, macro-economic stability and attract local and international investors.

It will also promote agriculture, improve the education and health sectors, develop the oil and gas sector, continue to invest and develop tourism, enhance democracy and create jobs for sustainable

development.

Because the needs are many, during his campaigns, the President fronted prioritization, which means doing important things one at a time. He said with infrastructure in place, his focus would now be on wealth creation.

Accordingly, he says, sh1trillion will go to agriculture, sh234b for youth fund, sh234b for women fund, sh180b for microfinance and sh500b for innovation fund as a means to fight unemployment and poverty.

A special fund will be allocated to Muslims. Museveni said the microfinance cash would go to village saving schemes with sh2m per village. Once people are helped to create wealth,

Museveni believes that jobs will be available.

Najjera model

To hammer the point home, Museveni says someone who builds a hotel creates employment for others.

He also wants to expand the Najjera model in which groups of youth will be assisted with capital to start investment ventures such as metal workshops.

Under the Najjera model, Museveni bought machines for the youth operating a metal-workshop and they have since boosted their business.

While inspecting works by the youth at Hope Metal Works Ltd and Motor Garage that repairs mainly European vehicles in Najjera town council in August last year, Museveni declared Najjera as his battlefield for fighting poverty in Wakiso and Kampala districts.

"I want to use Najjera as my Luwero to fight poverty in Kampala and Wakiso. I will use Najjera to show Uganda what should be done to fight poverty," Museveni said.

The other plan, Museveni proposes in the manifesto, is to enhance skills development by constructing a technical school in every constituency.

The President says all this cannot be achieved if there is political instability.

He however pledges to keep stability, peace and tranquility in the country.

"The NRM party is going to be very strong. This is the last chance for the Opposition. The Opposition will be wiped out politically. I will have no more of these games. In five years, Uganda will become a middle-income country. Industrialists are lining up to come. They thought there will be chaos," President Museveni told journalists a day after winning elections at his country home in Rwakitura in Kiruhura district.

Busoga Women Leaders Association

congratulates H.E. Y.K. Museveni, NRM Members of parliament, NRM District Chairpersons and councilors in Busoga for land slide victory in the just ended elections.

**LONG LIVE UGANDA,
LONG LIVE BWELA**



BAVIMA ENTERPRISE & BAVIMA STEEL LTD LUBAS ROAD JINJA,

Convey hearty congratulations to H.E. Y.K. Museveni the President Elect of Uganda

Long live Uganda



President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni



NRM delegates at the manifesto launch