

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE ON MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT URGING GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE IN UGANDA.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CO₂ Carbon dioxide

CFM Collaborative Forest Management

GHGs Green House Gas

IPCC Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change

LPG Liquefied Petroleum gas

MDAs Ministries Departments and Agencies

NDP National Development Plan

NEMA National Environment Management Authority

NFA National Forestry Authority

SDG Sustainable Development Goals

NBS Nature Based Solutions

WHO

UBOS Uganda Bureau of Standards

UIA Uganda Investment Authority

UMA Uganda Manufacturers Association

UNBS Uganda National Bureau of Standards

UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

World Health Organisation

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

On Wednesday, 22nd September 2021, the State Minister for Environment presented a report to Parliament on the status of the environment and natural resources in Uganda and the mitigation measures that the Ministry was undertaking to stop the degradation of the environment which was debated.

Consequently, on Thursday 23rd September 2021, Hon. Emmanuel Otaala presented a motion for a resolution of Parliament urging Government to implement measures to mitigate the effects of Climate Change in Uganda, on grounds that despite the country being a signatory to several international treaties and having in place laws, policies and institutional frameworks on climate change, the country continued to experience the negative effects of climate change which if not dealt with would drive the country to suffer irreversible effects of climate change and in turn negatively impact the country's development trajectory negatively.

In his motion, the following prayers were made;

That, Government;

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 a) urgently commences the Climate Change Act, 2021 and expedites its implementation;

 b) strictly implements all environmental laws enacted by Parliament, including the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003 and the National environment Act of 2019;

Uganda, including encouraging recycling, control the emission of greenhouse gases, afforestation and the use of clean energy from renewable sources:

d) urgently implements climate change mitigation and resilience measures, including building disaster response preparedness and coordination strategies of the community at a national and regional

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e) encourages the development of local solutions and technologies as a means of mitigating climate change in Uganda;

Rt. Hon. Speaker referred the Motion to the Committees on Climate Change and that on Environment and Natural resources to harmonize and present a comprehensive report for consideration by the house.

3.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE REPORT

The report aims at:

- i. Providing an analysis of the state of the environment and natural resources and climate change in Uganda;
- Identify the salient issues affecting environmental conservation and ii. climate change mitigation and adaptation in the country.
- iii. Propose recommendations to Government on steps to address natural resources degradation and climate change.

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4.0 METHODOLOGY

The Committee in undertaking this assignment held meetings and received submissions from the following stakeholders;

- The Minister of Water and Environment; Climate Change a) Department
- The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA); b)
- c) National Forestry Authority;
- The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development; d)
- e) Ministry of Works and Transport;
- f) Ministry of trade, Industry and Cooperatives;
- Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; g)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and fisheries; h)
- i) Ministry of Health;
- Ministry of Local Government; j)
- Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) k)

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Kampala Capital City Authority;

m) Advocates Coalition for Development and Environment (ACODE)

The Committee further reviewed documents including reports, laws and policies related to the subject matter.

5.0 OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE TRENDS IN THE COUNTRY.

Uganda has substantial natural resources, including relatively fertile soils; a high degree of biodiversity; rich vegetation; abundant water sources; several minerals and oil on which its livelihoods and social economic development are largely dependent. The country is however highly exposed and vulnerable to the impacts of climate variability and climate change¹.

Uganda's climate is largely tropical with moderate temperatures throughout the year and two rainy seasons, that is March to May and September to December. However, the country has in the recent years experienced changes in its climate, manifesting through increased temperatures, increased frequency and intensity of rainfall resulting into climate related disasters such as droughts, heat waves, floods and landslides, melting of glaciers and general land degeneration and biodiversity loss with devastating impacts on the economy and the planet.

At the same time, Uganda is facing widespread environmental degradation, most especially desertification, deforestation and forest degeneration, encroachment on wetlands and riverbanks, soil erosion and declining soil fertility.

With a significant portion of Uganda's population still highly dependent on country on its natural resources and agriculture, it remains susceptible to climatic and environmental changes. Extreme events such as droughts and

Assessing the evidence; Migration, Environment & Climate Change Nexus in Uganda, March 2022 ULRhttps://uganda.jom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl1376/files/documents/assessing-

the-evidence-migration environment-climate-change-nexus-in-uganda.pdf

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floods have reduced crop yields, and caused loss in livestock, with negative

According to the Climate Risk Profile of Uganda², The country has experienced an increase in the intensity of drought, particularly in the sub - regions of Karamoja and Teso, Nakasongola and Rakai Districts and this is expected to increase across the country owing to a rise in temperatures by 1.5°C to 3.5 °c by 2080 compared to pre-industrial levels due in greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations.

implications on agricultural production for food security.

Further still, frequent erratic rains have resulted into the displacement of people, loss of lives and property particularly in the mountainous areas of the Rwenzori and Elgon regions. According to the Ministry of Disaster preparedness and refugees, the recent flash floods that occurred in Mbale caused by intense rainfall, burst the banks of four rivers and created a magnitude of runoff water from the mountain slopes to the lowlands which left 29 people dead, at least 800 households residential areas in the Mt Elgon plains affected, 80 houses damaged and thousands homeless.

Environment and ecosystems degradation, compounded by the adverse effects of climate change continues to threaten Uganda's natural resource dependent livelihoods and creating hardships that manifest as hunger, food insecurity, water shortage and rising poverty among others. The need therefore, to conserve the environment and address climate change through adaptation and mitigation measure by tackling the root cause of greenhouse gas emissions and taking advantage of clean technologies cannot be overemphasized.

²Climate Risk Profile: Uganda 2021 https://www.adaptationcommunity.GlZ_Climate-risk-profile-Uganda_EN_final.pdf

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INTERVENTIONS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS 6.0 CLIMATE CHANGE IN UGANDA

Implementing the Legal, Policy and Institutional frameworks on environment, natural resources and climate change.

The Committee applauds Government for the several steps that have been taken to strengthen the policy and legal and institutional framework on environment, natural resources and climate change, with the most recent being the enactment of the National Climate Change Act, 2021 and review of the country's Nationally Determined Contributions among others.

Principles such as low carbon development, green growth and sustainable development have been enshrined under the various environment and climate change legal, policy and planning and institutional frameworks.

The 1995 Uganda Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (as amended) provides for sustainable development and public awareness about effective management of natural resources. The Uganda Vision 2040 recognises that weak management of environment and climate change has greatly affected the country's sustainable and equitable development.

According to the Uganda National Planning Authority, Uganda is particularly focused on protecting its economy and the livelihoods of its population, which is highly climate change and natural resources dependent. Priorities have been particularly focused on increasing adaptation for key sectors of agriculture, water, energy and health, and also to increase sustainable agriculture, livestock production, improve forestry management, improve Infrastructure, and continue to strengthen disaster risk management activities.³ In line with this, the third National Development Plan (NDP-III) emphasizes among its strategic objectives, the need to promote a low carbon development pathway for the country and climate-proof our national development.

³ Uganda National Planning Authority (2018). The Uganda Green Growth Development Strategy, 2017/18-2030/31. URL: https://www.undp.org/content/dam/LECB/docs/pubsreports/undp-ndc-sp-uganda-ggds-green-growth-dev-strategy-20171204.pdf



Further still, laws such as the Uganda National Climate Change Policy, 2015, the National Environment Act, No. 5 of 2019, the Water Act, 1997, the National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, 2003 and the Uganda National Climate Change Act, 2021 establish institutional arrangements to ensure climate change adaptation and Mitigation including addressing the crosscutting areas of awareness and gender mainstreaming and means of implementation through Financing, Technology Transfer and Capacity Building.

The fight against increasing emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) causing global warming continues to dominate the international agenda and Uganda being Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, has committed to comply with efforts towards addressing tackling climate change. In this regard, Uganda has signed and ratified several multi-lateral environmental treaties such as the Minamata Convention on mercury, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and the Paris Agreement, agreeing to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C.

Whereas the Government of Uganda has demonstrated a commitment towards environmental conservation as indicated in various legal, policy and planning and institutional frameworks above, climate change threats continue to pose a challenge to both the country's eco system and good development outcome.

The Committee is concerned about the inadequate implementation of the Jaws and policies in addressing the effects of climate change. In this regard, the Committee notes that despite the enactment the National Climate Change Act, the Ministry of water and Environment has to date not developed regulations for the operationalization of the Act which has in turn affected the uptake of interventions therein.

Further still, the Committee was informed that there has been limited stake holder engagement both at inter-ministerial and local Government levels

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despite provisions for institutional coordination of climate change under the Act. The Committee was further informed that the environmental and disaster management Committees at the grass root levels are inadequately skilled and facilitated to effectively implement climate change and disaster management programmes among others.

Efforts should therefore be put in place to actualize the country's commitments under the different laws, policies and mutli-lateral environmental agreements the country is a party to in order to ensure environmental conservation and address climate change.

Recommendations

- a) The Committee urges the Ministry responsible for climate change matters to expedite formulation of regulations to ensure implementation of the interventions under the National Climate change Act.
- b) The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Water and Environment should strengthen coordination with other MDAs to ensure implementation and review of policies, strategies, laws and programs to address climate change.

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6.2 Mainstreaming climate change and natural resources across all programmes of the country.

As noted earlier, the Committee notes that several measures to address climate change have been provided for under different policies and programmes. For example, The National development plan III recognizes the need to stop, reduce and reverse environmental degradation and the adverse effects of climate change as well as improve utilization of natural resources for sustainable economic growth and livelihood security. Programmes such as Natural Resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management have been put in place in order to improve land use and

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management, increase land area covered under forests and wetlands, and enhancing the accuracy of meteorological information among others.

The Committee further notes that, whereas the inclusion of climate change in policies and sectoral development planning is an important way through which climate change adaptation and mitigation maybe promoted there is need to mainstream issues of the environment and climate change across all sectors of the economy.

In order to realize this, the Committee commenced a factfinding mission to assess the level of awareness of the Climate change emergency among different stakeholders and the initiatives being taken across different the sectors of the economy to mainstream climate change in their operations.

The Committee found that the country as a whole has not fully appreciated the gravity of the issue of climate change. It noted that awareness of issues relating to climate change is still low among the masses especially those in rural areas.

Further still, the Committee was informed that several sectors are faced with challenges affecting the uptake of climate change adaptation and mitigation, some of these include; limited access to funds to address issues of climate change and environmental degradation especially at the grassroots levels and Limited human resource both at Ministries, Departments and Agencies as well as within the communities among others. For example, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) informed the Committee of the urgent need to recruit staff under the Environmental Police to enhance and improve environmental monitoring and enforcement across the country.

Furthermore, the Committee found out that budgets allocated to MDAs, cities and Local Governments for environment conservation and addressing climate change were inadequate which has continued to affect the operations and performance of implementors such as the Climate Change Department(CCD) under the Ministry of Water and Environment, NEMA and NFA among others

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Recommendations

- a) The Committee recommends that Ministries, Departments and Agencies should intensify awareness raising on climate change and its effects, mitigation and adaptation measures through clear messages to all, highlighting the impact of inaction.
- b) The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Water and Environment liaises with other statutory authorities and bodies to develop guidelines for proofing and mainstreaming climate change issues into different sector programs, projects and activities as in order to reduce on the duplication of efforts, pulling resources and increase efficiency.
- c) The Committee recommends that Government should encourage the participation of civil society groups, academia, local community, indigenous people, youth, women, private sector, and cultural organizations in addressing the effects of climate change.

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6.3 Protecting and enhancing the resilience of eco systems and encouraging the use of nature based solutions (NBS)

Uganda's economy like most developing countries is largely dependent on the stock of her natural resources and ecosystem, like fresh water, wetlands, fertile soils minerals among others. Climate change manifesting through increased frequency of extreme weather events and changing weather patterns has however continued to threaten the country's natural resource base and negatively impact its social and economic development.

The Committee underscores the importance of eco systems such as wellands forests and water bodies in addressing climate change through carbon sequestration, mitigating against flood risks, maintain aquatic ecosystems,

hydro power generation and access to fresh water among others.

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The Committee is however, greatly concerned about escalating vice of encroachment on wetlands both in the urban and rural areas which is a threat to wetland ecosystems in the country. The improper use of wetlands has resulted into an increase in the release of methane, lowered the water table which affects the soil capacity to drain excess rainwater hence resulting into climatic modifications in areas of drained wetlands, increased floods as well as intensified the spread of waterborne related diseases.

The Committee notes that whereas wetlands are held in trust by Central Government or Local Government for the common good of the people, recent examples of wetland abuse have included cases where local authorities have been the very violators of this constitutional mandate.

The Ministry of water and environment informed the committee that efforts underway to protect the wetlands across the country including demarcation of over 168.5km of wetland boundaries, restoration of 10,263.4 hectares and maintainance over 20,505 hectares as wetland reserves for community livelihood options under the "Building Community Resilient and wetland Ecosystem project". Furthermore, management plans had been developed to guide wetland use activities through zoning of wetlands in user and non-user zones.

There is, therefore, need to enhance the adaptive capacities of both ecosystems and livelihoods through activities such as sustainable land use and wetland management among others in order to address the effects of climate change.

Recommendations

The Committee recommends that:

a) the Ministry of Water and Environment and other stakeholders intensity public awareness about the implications of climate related disasters arising from poor

management and use of weltands.



- b) Coordination between ministries, agencies and departments should be enhanced to curb the vice of wetland encroachment as a way of averting its effects on the climate.
- c) Government takes measures to stop the encroachment on wetlands by imposing stringent sanctions on persons who abuse their power to acquire land in wetland areas and ensure that degraded wetlands are restored. Further still, Government should follow up on Parliament's recommendation to cancel all land titles issued on gazetted wetlands.
- d) The Uganda Investment Authority should ensure that its investment guidelines are climate resilient and deny permits to investors that are bound to disrupt the ecological systems in the wetlands.
- e) Training and equipping the Environmental Protection Force (EPF) should be enhanced to ensure effective environmental monitoring, inspection and supervision of environment protection activities among others.
- f) The Committee further recommends that, 10% of the Environmental Fund be ring-fenced for purposes of addressing climate change related challenges through environmental restoration.

g) The Committee encourages the prioritization of Nature based solutions in the fight against climate change.

6.4 Investing in early warning systems and Disaster preparedness and management.

Uganda's increasing frequency has made the country vulnerable to multiple natural disasters, 70 per cent of which are hydro-meteorological. For example, drought, flooding, earthquakes and landslides. These climate-related hazards have had adverse effects on the country which are likely to increase if no mechanisms are put in place to address these impacts.

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According to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP,2020), the Country's national economic loss to natural hazards alone is estimated at US\$3.1 million (approximately 11.7 billion shillings) annually an indicator that if climate and disaster risks are not prevented and mitigated, they could slow down Uganda's growth.

The Committee however found out that information on weather and climate is still insufficient with disaster management now mostly focused on relief and rehabilitation rather than preparedness and management. This has resulted into inadequate monitoring and forecasting of climate hazards; insufficient communication and restricted responses to impending climate hazards; and constrained planning for long-term climate changes in economic development and risk reduction efforts.

Whereas the Committee was informed that the Government has put in place deliberate efforts to invest in relief and disaster preparedness, more is needed to strengthen and improve early-warning systems, disaster prevention and emergency coordination.

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Recommendations

a) The Committee recommends that Government should strengthen and increase the existing network of meteorological and hydrological monitoring stations and associated infrastructure to better understand, inform and prepare the mases on the climatic changes across the country.

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b) The Committee further urges the Uganda Metrological Authority to disseminate weather and climate information to decision makers in Government, private sector, civil society, development partners and local communities in order to facilitate planning and decision making to mitigate natural disasters and climate

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c) The Committee further recommends that Government should prioritize funding for the disaster management and preparedness sector in addition to ensuring effective response in cases of climate induced disasters and decentralize mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction up to the grassroots.

6.5 Preventing deforestation and rehabilitation of natural forests.

Land use and natural resources remain Uganda's prime capital asset available to the population and for development, accounting for 54 percent of the country's total assets which are mainly used for crop production, pasture lands, protected areas, forests and wetlands. This high nature dependency makes environment and natural resource degradation a major concern.

In Uganda, whereas forests are a stabilizing force for the environment as they regulate ecosystems, protect biodiversity and play an integral part in the carbon cycle, deforestation and forest degradation have been of great concern. According to the 2019/2020 Uganda National Household Survey, there has been an upward trajectory of forest loss in the country, with the rate at 2.6% annually of which 66% is attributed to the use firewood for cooking by rural households. This in turn has affected the country's efforts towards eliminating the causes of climate change.

The Committee was informed by the Ministry of Water and Environment that this vice has been precipitated by investors who fraudulently acquire land occupied by the forests. In this regard, the Committee received complaints by petitioners from different forests including the Bugoma forest reserve, indicating the destruction of their biodiversity resource and other environmental, social and economic values by investors.

The Committee notes that other major drivers of deforestation include poverty in the communities, high population growth rates, as well as protected area governance and management challenges which have encouraged masses to open up forest land for agriculture and settlement.

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The Committee found that whereas there have been deliberate efforts by Government to restore forest cover such as providing free seedlings for planting and putting in place regulations for carbon trading among others, one of the major challenges affecting Government's efforts in promoting tree planting generally is inadequate funding. In 2003, the Government of Uganda established a National Tree Fund to promote tree planting and growing, which has not been operationalized todate. This in turn has affected the country's efforts towards ensuring Long-Term Investment under the forestry sector.

In order to address the issue of deforestation and encourage natural forest rehabilitation, the Committee recommends the following interventions;

Recommendations

The Committee recommends that:

a) Government should ensure deliberate efforts to re-afforest areas that have been depleted due to human activity and natural causes as this will come along way in reducing the country's carbon footprint. In this regard, the Committee calls upon Government to allocate funds for tree planting campaigns from Environmental Levy and the Tree fund as stipulated under the National Environment Act, 2019.

Government should promote tree planting outside forests and reserves and encourage agroforestry practices homesteads. Further still, the National Forestry Authority should support and promote the development of priority tree species such as bamboo and other fruit trees which are quick maturing and friendly to the environment. This would in turn reduce pressure on the existing forests while allowing for the regeneration of natural forests.

Government should initiate activities that reduce demand for forest products such as biomass for cooking. Fuel, efficiency

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approaches such as the use of fuel-efficient cooking stoves and clean cooking mechanisms should be emphasized in communities.

- d) Government should come up with incentives to encourage the public to plant trees.
- e) Government should encourage carbon trade with better negotiated prices. The Ministry of Water and Environment should fastrack development of regulations governing measuring, verifying and reporting sources of greenhouse gas emissions from the different sectors of the economy as well as those that reduce, remove or avoid them.
- f) Government should improve forest management by encouraging collaborative forest management (CFM) which will give the masses a sense of ownership of these forests and enhance their protection.

g) Forest boundaries should be re-opended and marked and tittles issued in gazetted forest land cancelled.

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6.6 Transitioning to clean, reliable, affordable, sustainable and efficient energy.

Sustainable Development Goal 7 obligates member states to ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and clean energy for all. Whereas Uganda has abundant energy resources including hydropower, oil and gas, biomass, geothermal, and solar energy, energy poverty is still very high.⁴

The dominance of biomass energy in the country's energy mix remains a socio-economic and environment challenge; hindering socio-economic transformation and is a source of indoor air population with the associated

⁴ The Energy and Climate Change Nexus in Uganda: Policy Challenges and Opportunities for Climate Compatible Development by Revocatus Twinomuhangi, Arthur Martin Kato and

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health risks, a driver to increased deforestation and forest degradation and a source of GHG emissions. According to the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Energy consumption in Uganda is currently characterised by heavy dependence on traditional biomass resources, which provide approximately 90% of the country's primary energy demand.

The Committee notes that Uganda is committed to ensuring that its energy sources are efficient and renewable. To this end, Government has put in place several interventions under the energy sector such as removing taxes on solar panels and LPG to make it more affordable and accessible to the masses. Similar efforts have been put in place to increase the country's capacity to generate hydroelectricity power. It however notes with concern the low evacuation, transmission and distribution levels across the country as well as high tariffs that have contributed to the low uptake and of use of electricity as an alternative cleaner energy source both at domestic and commercial levels.

The Committee further notes that whereas Uganda is targeting a low carbon development path and energy transition in line with its climate change policy and Nationally Determined Contribution, huge milestones have been taken in development in oil and gas sector. This however comes at a time when there is a global shift from the production and use of fossils fuels to renewables which is estimated to pose the country challenges in accessing finances for investment and high costs of technology to ensure low carbon emission among others.

The Committee was however informed by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development that mitigation measures have been put in place to ensure development of pathways for low carbon emissions under the oil and gas sector. Whereas there is an anticipated amount of GHGs emissions estimated from the oil and gas production, the country is encouraged to take on carbon neutrality to address the anticipated effects of climate change.

The committee observes that transition towards renewables such as solar and wind energy is crueial to addressing climate change and therefore, there is a

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need to put in place deliberate and strategic interventions to address energy poverty in the country.

Recommendations

The Committee recommends that

- a) Government should encourage masses to diversify energy sources and promote the renewable energy transition within households. In this regard, Government should encourage use of LPG, solar biogas, wind and electricity as alternative sources to biomass.
- b) Government should encourage the uptake of technologies that reduce biomass use such as use of efficient cook stoves and of green charcoal.
- c) Government should review taxes levied on renewable energy equipment such as solar panel batteries and gas cylinders and wind energy equipment with a view of making them more affordable and available to the public.
- d) Government should increase investment in the electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure. In this regard, the Committee recommends that focus should be put on implementing the Free Connection Policy (FCP) to improve access and increase demand for hydroelectricity as a clean energy alternative.

Ministry of Finance, planning and Economic development through the Uganda Investment Authority should encourage investments in renewable energy such as solar panel assembling plants and or manufacturing industries to reduce the emission of GHGs produced while at the same time, reducing on transport costs involved in importing such equipment. This will in turn would

create employment especially for the youth.

- f) The Committee recommends that Government should encourage a gradual move towards carbon neutrality to attain net-zero, encourage an energy mix and ensure a balance with the country's socio-economic needs.
- g) The Committee recommends that the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) should ensure standards on renewable energy equipment since using energy-efficient appliances reduce power consumption which in turn reduce Greenhouse emissions.

6.7 Financing for Climate Change and natural resources.

The concept of climate financing refers to local, national or transnational financing, drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions that will address climate change.

Climate finance is needed for mitigation and adaptation because large-scale investments are required to significantly reduce emissions and to adapt to the adverse effects and reduce the impacts of a changing climate.

Internationally, the principle of "common but differentiated responsibility and respective capabilities" set out in the UN Convention on Climate Change, encourages developed Parties to provide financial resources to assist developing parties in implementing the objectives to reduce the impacts of climate change.

The Committee was informed that there has been limited financing for the environment and Natural resource interventions despite financing options being enshrined under the different policies and laws. For instance, the Committee found that whereas the environmental levy is provided for under the National Environment Act, to address environmental conservation, the levies are not remitted into the Environmental fund but rather to the consolidated which makes it difficult for the Ministry of Water and Environment and agencies thereunder like NEMA and NFA to access and execute their mandate in supporting the activities covered under the Fund.

Recommendations

The Committee recommends that

- a) Government should streamline climate financing in the budgeting process by implementing climate certification as provided under the National Climate Change Act in order to ensure that resources are available to the different stakeholders to mitigate the effects of climate change.
- b) Government should strengthen the Climate Financing Unit under the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to adequately manage the different funds geared towards addressing climate change.
- c) Government utilizes the funding options available under "Financing for climate change" such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as well as other bilateral funds to fill the existing funding gap.
- The Committee recommends that the National Environment
 Fund and Tree fund should be reinstated with a significant
 amount of at least 10% tagged to addressing climate change
 and environment conservation.

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According to the Uganda Bureau of Statistics, the population of Uganda is growing rapidly (about 3.3% per annum, UBOS) with increased urbanization which has been associated with extraction and consumption of natural resources. In Uganda, about 19 per cent of its population is living in urban centres and it is projected that 30 per cent of Uganda's almost 42 million people will be urban dwellers by 2035⁵

5 https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/03/03/managing-rapid/urbanization-can-help-uganda-achieve-sustainable-and-inclusive-growth

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Goal 11 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals recognizes the need to make cities green in order to make human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Kampala is currently the biggest city and is urbanizing in a largely unplanned manner with high negative externalities including poor air quality, growth of informal settlements, encroachment on wetlands, inadequate sewage treatment plants to service the city population which is exerting pressure on the environment.6

During the meeting with Kampala City Authority Council, the Committee was increased population especially in cities has been significantly marked with an insatiable desire of both the rich and the poor to derive their livelihoods from the wetlands, forests and other ecosystems. Wetlands such as Lubigi are seen as cheap areas for industrial development and as such, these have been converted to institutional or industrial grounds.

Similarly, these areas have been gradually taken over by the semi-slum residential housing and associated uses, such as cultivation, waste disposal or business sites for local manufacturing artisans.

Further, KCCA informed the Committee found that there were high pollution rates in the densely populated areas with an increased prevalence of air borne diseases such as lung disease resulting from air pollution hence affecting human productivity and increasing the cost of medical treatment. Measured against the WHO air quality guidelines, the air quality in several areas in Kampala is considered unsafe with the major contributors being manufacturing and transport related emissions as well as burning of waste which is affecting the tourism sector.

The Committee further noted that challenges of garbage disposal were prevalent in highly populated areas in Kampala city, which has contributed

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Issue No.2, November, 2020

to the release of methane, which is one of the dangerous GHGs in the

The Committee therefore underscores the need for Government to put in place mechanisms to control the population spurge and ensure that the environment trajectory moves towards a more harmonious relationship between urban development and the environment.

The Committee further recommends the following interventions.

Recommendations

environment.

The Committee recommends that

- a) Government should come up with policies and mechanisms to address the increasing challenge of high population growth which is one of the major factors contributing to encroachment of water catchment areas in search of cheap land for settlement and means of livelihood.
- b) Government should put in place policies to regulate waste management and encourage investment in industries that turn waste into energy since the option of landfills for garbage collection only increase the production of methane in the environment.
- c) Government should increase budget allocations to the local authorities for waste management and pollution control with particular emphasis on recycling, resource recovery and waste treatment. Furthermore, the Committee recommends that city authorities should incentivize private companies to participate and promote the transformation of waste-to-energy thus reducing the emission of methane and other GHGs.
- d) The development of policy frameworks in the new cities should mainstream green growth into urban planning, management and finance in order to embrace a green urban development approach to minimize the impacts of urbanization on the environment.

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Greening of cities will also provides opportunities to create sustainable livelihoods by providing green jobs.

e) New cities should take up green and climate resilient transport by promoting walking, cycling. Government should create an efficient public transport system through revitalizing the railway, water and other transport systems.

7.0 Conclusion

Uganda is highly exposed and vulnerable to the impacts of climate variability and climate change and at the same time facing wide spread environmental degradation. The effects include slow onset processes such as temperature rise, drought, desertification and loss of biodiversity among others as well as sudden events such as floods, rainstorms, landslides that are expected to increase frequency and severity in the future.

Whereas these effects are cross cutting and affect all sectors, some parts of the country are particularly at risk especially mountainous areas, the cattle corridor and urban areas facing urban ecosystem destruction.

Although Uganda has a robust legal and regulatory system in place on environmental and climate change, there is need to consolidate its institutional structures and ensure implementation of the laws in place to address environmental conservation and climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The Committee therefore calls upon Government to put in place the interventions recommended in the report to ensure sustainability and economic growth in the country.

Rt. Hon. Speaker,

I beg to move.

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LIST OF MEMBERS WHO SIGNED REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE ON MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT URGING GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE IN UGANDA

MEMBER	CONSTITUENCY	SIGNATURE
BIYIKA LAWRENCE SONGA	ORA COUNTY	and in the second
(Chairperson)		Marin Contraction of the Contrac
ATUTO JACINTA	·	Tacto
(Deputy Chairperson)	REFRESENTATIVE	U
WAKOOLI GODFREY	BUTIRU COUNTY	
WAAKO JOY PEGGY	OLDER PERSONS REPRESENTATIVE	Maato.
OSEKU RICHARD ORIEBO	KIBALE COUNTY	- Romita
NYONGORE ENOCK	NAKASEKE NORTH COUNTY	/
NAKWANG CHRISTINE TUBO	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KAABONG	N- Inlbo
OKWIR SAMUEL	MOROTO COUNTY	
ISMAIL MUHAMMAD LOMWAR	KOTIDO MUNICIPALITY	
BUTURO NSABA	BUFUMBIRA COUNTY EAST	
RUGUMAYO EDSON	YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE	
LWANGA JIMMY	NJERU MUNICIPALITY	
NAKIMULI HELEN	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KALANGALA	
KAMARA NICHOLAS THADEUS	KABALE MUNICIPALITY	
	BIYIKA LAWRENCE SONGA (Chairperson) ATUTO JACINTA (Deputy Chairperson) WAKOOLI GODFREY WAAKO JOY PEGGY OSEKU RICHARD ORIEBO NYONGORE ENOCK NAKWANG CHRISTINE TUBO OKWIR SAMUEL ISMAIL MUHAMMAD LOMWAR BUTURO NSABA RUGUMAYO EDSON LWANGA JIMMY NAKIMULI HELEN	BIYIKA LAWRENCE SONGA (Chairperson) ATUTO JACINTA (Deputy Chairperson) WAKOOLI GODFREY WAAKO JOY PEGGY OSEKU RICHARD ORIEBO NYONGORE ENOCK NAKASEKE NORTH COUNTY NAKWANG CHRISTINE TUBO OKWIR SAMUEL MOROTO COUNTY ISMAIL MUHAMMAD LOMWAR BUTURO NSABA BUFUMBIRA COUNTY EAST RUGUMAYO EDSON YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE NAKIMULI HELEN DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KAABONG WOROTO COUNTY DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KAABONG NOROTO COUNTY RUGUMAYO EDSON WOUTH REPRESENTATIVE RUGUMAYO EDSON NJERU MUNICIPALITY NAKIMULI HELEN DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KALANGALA KAMARA NICHOLAS KABALE MUNICIPALITY

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15.	BATUWA TIMOTHY LUSALA	JINJA SOUTH DIVISION WEST	ahwou !
16.	ARINAITWE RAUBEN	ISINGIRO WEST COUNTY	
17.	ATUKWASA RITA	WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE MBARARA CITY	(Continues)
18.	KIIZA KENNETH NYENDWOHA	BUJENJE COUNTY	Div.
19.	KAMUNTU MOSES	RUBANDA COUNTY WEST	
20.	AUMA HELLEN WANDERA	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE BUSIA	
21.	ISAMAT ABRAHAM	KAPIR COUNTY	Larget Afrobe
22.	KAMUKAMA BENJAMIN	RUHAAMA EAST COUNTY	Bfiz
23.	MAGOLO JOHN FAITH	BUNGOKHO COUNTY NORTH	Maply.
24.	ASIIMWE K ENOSI	KABULA COUNTY	J. 1947
25.	LOKII PETER ABRAHAMS	JIE COUNTY	
26.	KABAHENDA FLAVIA RWABUHORO	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KYEGEGWA	
27.	AMÉRO SUSAN	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE AMURIA	
28.	BALIMWEZO RONALD NSUBUGA	NAKAWA DIVISION EAST	Decta
29.	CHEMASWET ABDI FADHIL KISOS	SOI COUNTY	
30.	ELOTU COSMAS	DAKABELA COUNTY	
31.	ESENU ANTHONY ALDEN	KAPELEBYONG COUNTY	

32.	KAAYA CHRISTINE NAKIMWERO	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE KIBOGA	His .
33.	KAMUGO PAMELA NASIYO	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE BUDAKA	Ronale
34.	LOKORU ALBERT	TEPETH COUNTY	
35.	LUMU RICHARD KIZITO	MITYANA COUNTY SOUTH	
36.	MATOVU CHARLES	BUSIRO COUNTY SOUTH	. ()
37.	MBOIZI ARTHUR WAAKO	BUDAKA COUNTY	Judanh
38.	NYAKATO ASINANSI	WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE HOIMA CITY	
39.	OKORI MOE JANET GRACE AKECH	DISTRICT WOMAN REPRESENTATIVE ABIM	JHH , re
40.	ONZIMA GODFREY	ARINGA NORTH COUNTY	
41.	WAMBEDE SETH KIZANGI MASSA	NORTHERN DIVISION	
42.	NYAMUTORO PHIONA	YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE	