MINISTERIAL STATEMENT TO PARLIAMENT ON CELEBRATIONS MARKING THE 38TH NRM/A VICTORY DAY ANNIVERSARY: FRIDAY 26TH JANUARY, 2024 BY HON. MINISTER FOR THE PRESIDENCY.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members of Parliament; this Ministerial statement seeks to inform Parliament about the 38th NRM/A Victory Day Anniversary which will be celebrated on **Friday 26th January, 2024**. It is a Day when our fellow Country men and women either dead or alive fought for a fundamental change through a protracted people's struggle that lasted for five years under the Visionary leadership of His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni.

2.0 KEY PREPARATORY HIGHLIGHTS

2.1 Day and Venue of the 38th NRM/A Victory Day

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members of Parliament, the 38th NRM/A Day Anniversary celebrations will take place in **Jinja City** on Friday 26th January, 2024.

2.2 Theme:

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members of Parliament, wide Inter-Ministerial consultations with the MoDVA Political Commissariat; Uganda Media Center and Cabinet; among others, were carried out for a Theme to appropriately signify the importance of holding these Celebrations. The Theme, takes cognizance of all the efforts and sacrifices made by the brave men/women to liberate Uganda from antipeople forces that had held citizens hostage during the immediate post-independence era of our Country.

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, it is for the above considerations that, the Theme for the 38th NRM/A Victory Day Anniversary celebrations is: "Building a Country we all cherish".

The proposed Theme fits into the wider NRM Manifesto 2021-26 Theme in which H.E. the President and NRM Party committed to "Secure the Future of all Ugandans" over the next five years. Thus the proposed Theme for the 38th NRM/ Λ Victory Day forms a basis to assess and report back to the wider Ugandan populace towards building and bequeathing a Country we all cherish and by extension a point of reference within the Region and the Continent.

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, an inclusive and detailed Synopsis reflecting upon the afore-mentioned Theme is being prepared. The Synopsis will demonstrate how much the NRM has achieved in Securing the livelihoods and future of Ugandans by building a foundation for Pan-Africanism; Socio-Economic Transformation, Democracy and Patriotism which are the building blocks for a Uganda to be cherished by those living today and those to come in posterity. This Synopsis shall be circulated to all Resident District Commissioners, District Chairpersons and Chief Administrative Officers to guide their publicity programmes on this auspicious occasion.

2.3 Thanksgiving Prayers

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, Thanksgiving Prayers were held as follows:

Friday 19th January, 2024 - Prayers in all Mosques

Saturday 20th January, 2023 - Prayers in all Seventh Day

Adventist Churches

Sunday 21st January, 2023 - Prayers in all the other Churches

2.4 Publicity Programmes:

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, the publicity programme for this event begun two weeks ago. These include the following:

- a) Talk shows and discussions at both National and District level. At the national level, they will be held on televisions and radios that have countrywide coverage. These media houses include: UBC Group, Vision Group, NTV, NBS, and Top TV etc.
- b) Social media campaigns organized by the Uganda Media Centre on WhatsApp, Instagram etc. will start at least two weeks to the D-day.
- c) Talk shows by RDCs at District level on local radio stations across the Country. The Uganda Media Centre will send information to all RDCs focusing on the theme and synopsis to facilitate the dissemination of a similar message to masses countrywide.
- d) Syndicate articles in the Print media by the Uganda Media Centre to engage Editors of various Newspapers to publicize the day.
- e) Display at strategic locations in Kampala and the Busoga Sub-Region of PVC banners to further enhance our publicity.
- f) Λ Press Conference by the Minister in charge of the Presidency, was held on Monday 22nd January, 2024 at 10.00am at the Media Centre.
- g) Live coverage of the main event by UBC Television and at least three other Private TV Stations i.e. Vision Group, NBS and NTV.
- h) A Commemorative Magazine published by the Uganda Media Centre to be distributed on the D-day to the invited guests at the Venue.
- i) A Synopsis which was prepared by the Uganda Media Center was availed to RDCs to enhance publicity by our various media partners.

2.5. Invitations:

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, the NOC has so far extended invitations to approximately 800 dignitaries to be sat in the Presidential tent in strict adherence to the COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures.

The above notwithstanding, the District Leadership will mobilize the general public in big numbers who will not require invitation cards and COVID-19 test to attend the celebrations. These will be seated in the 5000 seater tent as well as three (03) 1000 seater tents to shelter them from the sunshine and rains.

2.6 State Visitors:

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members at the moment, the NOC has not received any indications of State Visitors to grace the occasion. I will provide an update on this matter as new developments unfold.

2.7 Lunch and Refreshments for Invited Guests (VIPs):

Arrangements have been made to serve all the invited guests with lunch and soft drinks (soda) and water on the D-day at the Venue. While on the other hand, NOC will make a provision for the general public to have a meal and drink which will be coordinated by Jinja City after the function.

2.8 Parade:

A Parade will be mounted by the UPDF, Uganda Police Force (UPF), Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) and Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA). A total of 34 guards will be earmarked to participate in the Parade. The breakdown is here below:

UPDF - 20

UPF - 12

UPS - 8 UWA - 4 Total 34

Each Guard will comprise of 20 persons. The Forces will be expected to wear their respective ceremonial attires during the celebrations.

The disciplined Forces will in January, 2024 start with in-house rehearsals at their respective grounds while joint rehearsals will start on 20th January, 2024 at the Venue of the celebrations.

2.9 Investiture Ceremony

The Presidential Awards Committee has nominated a list of awardees and the categories of medals to a maximum number of 53 which has been sent to H.E the President for approval in preparation for the Investiture Ceremony.

3.0 Conclusion:

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, I wish to urge all those persons invited to attend this function especially the Political leadership in Busoga Sub Region to turn up for these celebrations.

Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members, I beg to Submit

Hon. Akello Rose Lilly

Minister of State for Ethics and Integrity

On behalf of the Hon. Minister for the Presidency

P.O. Box 7168

KAMPALA

January 24, 2024