News from Uganda - June 2013

Govt Must Not Kill a Dream So Fundamental *** Minister Appeals to Donors on Cuts *** New Budget, New Taxes, New Pain *** Why Museveni Moved Aronda, Onek, Ondoa *** Media Closures Cause Chilling Effect *** More Gender-Friendly Laws *** Economy Expands at 5.1 Percent *** Tullow Case - Judge Clears Company *** Kampala Future Tourism Status *** Fighting Land grabbing *** European Banks and Pensions Funds *** Driving Against Gender Stereotypes *** Mobile Money Services *** Child Marriages *** Germany Plans Targeted Aid for East Africa *** Mao Slams ICC Double Standards *** Govt Starts Film Festival

"News from Uganda" is a selection from ALL AFRICA and compiled by VIDC. The news are published monthly (more or less) and provide an overview about relevant current developments. Please send your feedback/subscription to: schmidjell@vidc.org, unsubscribe here

***************************************************************************
********************

Comment

Daily Monitor - Govt Must Not Kill a Dream So Fundamental
When President Museveni took the oath of office on January 29, 1986, he declared that the country was witnessing not a mere change of guards, but a "fundamental change". [http://allafrica.com/stories/201305290992.html]

Development Cooperation

Minister Appeals to Donors on Cuts
The minister for Northern Uganda affairs, Rebecca Otengo, has appealed to donors to reconsider their aid cuts after 140 of Laboora youth development centre's 260 students dropped out this term. [http://allafrica.com/stories/201306051283.html]

Uganda, Donors Sign Power Deal
Uganda and development partners have agreed to fast track the construction of small renewable energy project in the next three to five years to delay the imminent return of load-shedding. [http://allafrica.com/stories/201306040489.html]

Uganda Signs Agreement with Water Investors
Uganda has selected IBM and Water fund to benchmark infrastructural development in the water sector in an agreement signed between the ministry of water and environment and Waterfund and IBM on May 23. [http://allafrica.com/stories/201305270001.html]

Politics

New Budget, New Taxes, New Pain
Taxes on petrol, diesel and paraffin to raise Shs 87bn
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306140081.html

Why Museveni Moved Aronda, Onek, Ondoa
When President Museveni announced his mini Cabinet reshuffle on Friday, three names stood out - Chief of Defence Forces Aronda Nyakairima, Health Minister Christine Ondoa and Internal Affairs Minister Hilary Onek.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305280283.html

Media Closures Cause Chilling Effect
The Daily Monitor and Red Pepper have reopened after their forced closure by Uganda
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306050109.html

A Push for More Gender-Friendly Laws
Ugandan women legislators are not happy with most existing laws, which they say have not been gender-friendly.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305201578.html

Economy

Budget - Economy Expands At 5.1 Percent
Uganda's economy expanded at 5.1 percent this financial year compared to 3.4 percent in the previous year, Finance minister, Maria Kiwanuka has said.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306131499.html

Tullow Case - Judge Clears Company of Bribery Allegations, Hails Peter Kabatsi
Tullow oil has won a multi-million dollar court battle against Heritage Oil Company in which it sought to recover $313 million (about Shs780b) it claims to have paid in capital gains taxes on behalf of Heritage Oil. Court also cleared Tullow of allegations that it had attempted to bribe Ugandan government officials.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306170484.html

Brainstorming Kampala Future Tourism Status
It is not widely known how Kampala city started.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305281224.html

Agriculture & Environment

Nantaba Lands Committee Gets Boost in Next Budget Fighting land grabbing and illegal evictions will be a priority for the Lands ministry in the next financial year.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306102014.html

European Banks and Pensions Funds Fuel Land Grabs in Uganda
European banks and pension funds are funding palm oil giant Wilmar International, a company implicated in land grabbing in Uganda, according to new research released today. [1]
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305220961.html

Malnutrition Costs Uganda Five Per Cent of GDP
Uganda loses some US $899 million annually due to the effects of malnutrition. This is the alarming finding of a new study entitled The Cost of Hunger in Africa, which for the first time measures the economic burden of hunger on the
continent. Uganda is the first of 12 countries in the region to announce its findings.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306181449.html

**Local Affairs**

**Driving Against Gender Stereotypes**
It is swerves and roundabouts for Keddy Olanya, a 32-year-old wife and mother of three from Gulu, northern Uganda, who is one of only a handful of female drivers negotiating the country's potholed roads on a bodaboda or motorbike taxi.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306041201.html

**Airtel, Warid Merge Mobile Money Services**
The mobile money landscape, one of the more profitable ventures for telecom companies in Uganda, could witness some serious competition, after Airtel and Warid merged their money transfer services to serve more than seven million subscribers.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305240778.html

**Uganda Among the Worst in Child Marriages - Study**
Almost two million Ugandan minors are forced or lured into alleged marriage, according to an African human social development report presented at the Women Deliver international conference in Kuala Lumpur.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305291351.html

**Regional Affairs**

**East Africa: Germany Plans Targeted Aid for East Africa**
Germany's development minister Dirk Niebel has promised continuing support for Rwanda and Uganda, despite concerns about corruption and human rights. Berlin will promote selected projects and help with auditing.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306051272.html

**Ethiopia: Museveni - Africa Won't Let Egyptians Bully Ethiopia**
President Yoweri Museveni has eternally warned the Egyptian "government and other groups" against making "chauvinist and irrational statements" in the wake of Ethiopia's decision to construct a multi-billion dollar electricity dam, Chimp Corps report.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201306140096.html

**Mao Slams ICC Double Standards**
Oxford - The International Criminal Court lacks impartiality and its selective justice targets only the weak, the president general of the Democratic Party has said in a speech at Oxford University, London.
http://allafrica.com/stories/201305240738.html

**Education, Culture and Communication**

**Ugandan Clerics Want Condoms Restricted**
Religious leaders in Kigezi region have asked the government to regulate the distribution of condoms in schools as a measure to curb the spread of HIV/AIDS among the youth.

http://allafrica.com/stories/201306172230.html

Govt Starts Film Festival
The newly-launched Uganda Film festival (UFF) might as well be a turning point for the local film industry that has for long struggled to take off.


-----------------------
Franz Schmidjell, VIDC
Möllwaldplatz 5/3, 1040 Wien
fon: ++43(0)1713359482
mobil: ++43(0)6649234410
schmidjell@vidc.org
www.vidc.org