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News from Uganda – October 2014

Politics

Amama Mbabazi - I Leave in Good Spirit, With Humility
On Monday, Amama Mbabazi handed over to Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, the new prime minister of Uganda and leader of government business in Parliament. Here we publish Mbabazi’s handover speech. Read more »

Wide Speculation Over Mbabazi’s Next Political Move
Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni has replaced Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi - after what analysts suggest was a growing rivalry between these two major players within the NRM political party. There are rumblings that Mbabazi may challenge the long-serving president in the next elections. Read more »

Museveni Tells Africa to Quit ICC
President Museveni used the 52nd Independence day celebrations to urge African countries to review their membership of the International Criminal Court (ICC), which he accuses of being biased and an "instrument of post-colonial hegemony". Read more »

Economy

Airtel to Launch Cross-Border Mobile Money Transfer Service
Bharti Airtel will announce the launch of cross-border mobile money transfers for its customers in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda later on Friday on the sidelines of the East African Business Summit in Kigali. Read more »

Tullow's Mixed Fortunes
Oil giant says they are well-placed for the remainder of the year, into 2015. Read more »

Made in Uganda By China
Chinese officials from the China Communication Construction Company Limited at the launch of the construction of Kampala-Entebbe Express High Way in November, 2012. INDEPENDENT JIMMY SIYA Experts optimistic that Chinese investments good for job creation, cheaper infrastructure and technology transfer Read more »

Regional Affairs
High Profile Military Operations Against ADF Will Not Rebuild Local Stability
After a period of apparent quiet in the Grand North - the area that runs down from the Rwenzori Mountains to the bottom of Lake Edward and into Virunga National Park - insecurity is making the headlines again with reports of attacks, kidnappings and people fleeing villages around Oicha. This has been blamed on the ADF rebel group which has a leadership of radical Islamic Ugandans. Read more »

President Kirr in Uganda After Peace Talks With Rebels Hit Deadlock
South Sudanese president Salva Kiir Mayardit has travelled to neighbouring Uganda to attend a regional summit on the northern corridor integration project. South Sudan and Uganda enjoy strong political, social, cultural and economic ties and the development initiative aims at linking East African countries to facilitate the movement of goods and people and promote cross-border trade, political and economic integration. Read more »

Infighting Splits African Regional Muslim Union
The public sacking of Sheikh Ibraheem Ssali as secretary general of the Union of Muslim Councils for Eastern, Central and Southern Africa (UMC) threatens to break up the regional umbrella organisation for Muslim heads. Read more »

Local Affairs

No Fresh Cases of Marburg Virus State Says
Uganda health officials have said that all suspected cases of the Ebola like Marburg virus had tested negative and those held in isolation have been released. Read more »

For Effective Justice for Women in Northern Uganda, Listen to Survivors
The people of northern Uganda continue to suffer the consequences of former hostilities between the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Government of Uganda. Read more »

Sorghum Drinks Bring New Swig of Success for Ugandan Farmers
Nkweiseki Macati scoops the froth from a bucket of chocolaty liquid, pours it into a large metal cup and draws a swig. Then the local brewer from Ihanga village in Bubaare sub-country, southwestern Uganda, nods his head: the bushera is ready to serve. Read more »

Arts and Education

Women's Freedom of Speech - Old Challenges, New Solutions
During a creative non-fiction writing workshop in Uganda, 22 female writers from across Africa exchanged trade secrets about creating spaces for getting their voices heard. Read more »

Congolese Refugee Music-Lover Charts His Way to Success
Music has always been part of Jeremiah Mbaha's life, even when he had almost nothing. "I have been singing since my childhood. I could sing anything and I could see people felt warm and happy," said the 43-year-old Congolese refugee. Read more »

Prof Mamdani's MISR Leadership Challenged
Celebrated Prof Mahmood Mamdani's four-year stewardship of the Makerere Institute of Social Research has come under attack by some staff. Read more »