

JOINT MINISTERIAL STATEMENT BY MINISTERS OF

- a) Internal Affairs
- b) Defense and Veteran Affairs
- c) Security

ON THE STATE OF SECURITY IN THE COUNTRY.

Rt. Hon Speaker

Hon Members

In the course of debate in this august house last week concerns about the state of security in our country were raised. The Rt Hon Speaker therefore determined that the said Ministers should make a joint statement to the house explaining the situation.

Today we are happy to report to you that the country is generally calm and stable.

Hon members will recollect that during the state of the nation address HEx The President discussed the state of our security. Following the Budget speech HEx again talked about the state of our national security.

On 11/06/2018 the three ministers together with Chiefs of Defence, IGP and CGP in a televised dialogue discussed the state of our national security.

On 20/6/2018 HEx The President addressed Parliament on the status of our national security during which he announced a 12 point security plan. On 27/06/2018 HEx The President met the caucus of the whole parliament during which he responded to about 100 questions and concerns of members regarding security.

Since then, the crime rate in the country has drastically dropped thanks to the following immediate security measures that were put in place:

1. Intensified Police patrols and visibility across the country.

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2. Intensified Joint Security Operations to curb crime.
3. Intensified Joint Intelligence Operations.
4. Increased mobilization of the public to be vigilant in order to detect and deter crime.
5. Setting up 24/7 Emergency Response Units where timely information is received and acted upon.
6. Strengthening specialized units of all security agencies.

As a result of these measures **Hon members**, the country recently scored the following:

- a. A peaceful and very successfully held July 10th LC 1 elections across the country.
- b. A successfully secured and peaceful FIFA world cup season. **Hon members**, you will recall that in July 2010, this event turned a disaster when we lost 76 innocent lives at the hands of terrorists. I am happy to report that since then, we have picked very important lessons and developed more capabilities to protect our people. I wish therefore to salute our security forces for providing the adequate security that made it possible for the country to watch and enjoy the FIFA 2018 World Cup without any incident.

Rt Hon Speaker and Hon Members, it is of paramount importance to further inform you that our borders remain safe and secure with no major incidents to report. I want to particularly applaud His Excellency the President of the Republic of Uganda for his tireless efforts in ensuring Regional Peace and Stability especially in South Sudan. Security in South Sudan has a bearing especially on our Northern Frontier.

Regarding Somalia, that country has continued to make significant progress thanks to the efforts of our forces and those from fraternal Troops Contributing Countries (TCCs) under AMISOM. This security provided has allowed the political process to unfold and UPDF will soon be deploying

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by a circular official stamp. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'D. M. N. J.'. The stamp is partially obscured and contains some illegible text.

Battle Group XXV and United Nations Guard Unit V to sustain this effort. We shall keep you updated on this matter.

Rt. Hon Speaker and members, before I conclude, allow me to respond to the concerns over the security threats which circulated on social media platforms of an “**armed attack**” on Uganda that was to take place between 16th and 17th July 2018.

We by now all realize that these were mere empty threats by elements that do not wish our country well and should therefore be treated with the contempt they deserve. Obviously, this could never have happened in Uganda given our robust capabilities and readiness we have built to counter and deter any threats. I now wish to take this opportunity to sound it very clearly that such media related abuse contravenes the law, to wit, **The Computer Misuse Act of 2011**.

Our security agencies have appropriately analyzed the contents and source of the same and established that it came from Dr. Aggrey Kiyingi. It may be recalled that Dr. Aggrey Kiyingi, currently living in Australia has cases to answer in our courts of law here in Uganda. We shall continue to work closely with Uganda Communications Commission (UCC) to monitor such messages that cause fear and discomfort to our population. Five cases have todate been investigated for computer misuse and abuse and suspects have been taken to court.

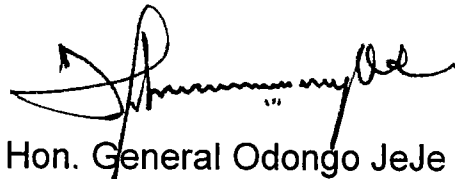
We wish to caution all citizens here and abroad especially young people, who easily get excited into crafting, sending and forwarding these irresponsible messages to stop it forthwith. The law is very clear on culpability; once you receive and send to others “**as received**” you will be investigated and prosecuted accordingly.

Rt. Hon Speaker and members, allow me to conclude by assuring the country that Uganda is very safe and the 12-points security plan enunciated by HEx The President on 27th June 2018 will go a long way in strengthening our security system and fill any existing gaps. The process to implement it has already began.

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We shall regularly update the house and the country on the status of security in our country.

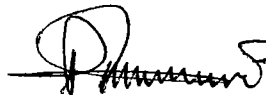
For God and My Country.



Signed: Hon. General Odongo Jeje
Minister for Internal Affairs



Signed: Hon. Adolf Mwesige
Minister for Defence & Veteran
Affairs



Signed: Hon. Gen Elly Tumwiine
Minister for Security

July 19th 2018