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**BILLS****SUPPLEMENT No. 1****15th February, 2024****BILLS SUPPLEMENT***to The Uganda Gazette No. 14, Volume CXVII, dated 15th February, 2024*

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**Bill No. 4      *Karamoja Development Agency Act (Repeal) Bill*      **2024******THE KARAMOJA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ACT  
(REPEAL) BILL, 2024****MEMORANDUM****1. Policy and principles of the Bill**

The policy behind the Bill is to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) which was adopted by the Cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021.

**2. Defects in existing law**

The Constitution establishes a definite number of Government agencies, including constitutional commissions, authorities, boards, local councils and other statutory bodies. These were established to perform certain specified constitutional functions. Over the years, however, there has been a proliferation of agencies established by Acts of Parliament, Executive Orders and administrative arrangements. Whereas most of the agencies are necessary due to the critical nature of the functions they perform, Government has established that a certain limited number of agencies were established without due consideration to the aspects of institutional harmony, functional duplications, overlaps and affordability. Government has also established that some agencies have served the purpose for which they were established. The mandate of a few other agencies has been overtaken by events. Such agencies need to be rationalised.

More importantly, the proliferation of agencies has created mandate overlaps and jurisdictional ambiguities among the agencies. Additionally, the high cost of administering the agencies has drained the national treasury at the expense of effective service delivery. This has overstretched the capacity of Government to sustain them. Government has also established that the generous salary structures of the agencies has created salary disparities between employees of the agencies and public officers in the traditional civil service leading to demotivation of human resources in the mainstream public service.

### **3. Remedies proposed in the Bill.**

The intention of the Bill, therefore, is to —

- (a) enable the mainstreaming of the Karamoja Development Agency thereby, *inter alia*, relieving the Government of the financial drain on its resources and the burden of wasteful administration and expenditure;
- (b) facilitate efficient and effective service delivery by clearly delineating the mandates and functions of the Ministry in respect to the agency, thereby avoiding duplication of mandates and functions;
- (c) promote coordinated administrative arrangements, policies, and procedures for—
  - (i) ensuring the efficient and successful management, financial accounting and budgetary discipline of the Karamoja Development Agency;
  - (ii) enabling the Government to play its proper role more effectively; and
  - (iii) enforcing accountability;

### **4. Provisions of the Bill**

The Bill has eight clauses. Clause 2 of the Bill provides objectives of the Bill which is to rationalise Karamoja Development Agency. Clause 5

**Bill No. 4**    *Karamoja Development Agency Act (Repeal) Bill*    **2024**

of the Bill states that local governments in Karamoja region shall carry forward the functions of the Agency in coordination and under the overall supervision of the Ministry responsible for Karamoja affairs, in liaison with other relevant central Government agencies. Clause 6 deals with the staff of the agency and clause 7 deals with the property, assets and liabilities of the Agency which shall be transferred to the Government under the Ministry responsible for Karamoja Affairs. Lastly, clause 8 seeks to repeal the Karamoja Development Agency Act, Cap. 241

MARY GORETTI KITUTU (MP),  
*Minister for Karamoja Affairs.*

**THE KARAMOJA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ACT  
(REPEAL) BILL, 2024**

**ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES**

*Clause*

1. Interpretation
2. Objectives of this Act
3. Purpose of repeal of Cap. 241
4. Dissolution of Karamoja Development Agency
5. Karamoja Local Governments to perform functions of Agency.
6. Staff of Agency
7. Property, assets, and liabilities of Agency
8. Repeal of Karamoja Development Agency Act, Cap. 241



A Bill for an Act

**ENTITLED**

**KARAMOJA DEVELOPMENT AGENCY ACT (REPEAL)  
ACT, 2024**

**An Act to mainstream the functions of the Karamoja Development Agency into the Ministry responsible for Karamoja Affairs and for related purposes.**

**BE IT ENACTED** by Parliament as follows:

**1. Interpretation**

In this Part, unless the context otherwise requires—

“Agency” means the Karamoja Development Agency established under the Karamoja Development Agency Act, Cap. 241;

“Ministry” means the Ministry responsible for Karamoja affairs.

**2. Objectives of this Act**

(1) The main objective of this Act is to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure adopted by the Cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 and contained in Cabinet Minute No. 43(CT 2021).

(2) Without prejudice to the general effect of subsection (1), the following objectives shall be deemed to fall under the objective specified in that subsection—

- (a) the merging, mainstreaming and rationalisation of agencies, commissions, authorities and public expenditure thereby, *inter alia*, relieving the Government of the financial drain on its resources and the burden of wasteful administration and expenditure;
- (b) the facilitation of efficient and effective service delivery by clearly delineating the mandates and functions of government agencies and departments and thereby avoiding duplication of mandates and functions;
- (c) the promotion of coordinated administrative arrangements, policies and procedures for—
  - (i) ensuring the efficient and successful management, financial accounting and budgetary discipline of government agencies and departments;
  - (ii) enabling the Government to play its proper role more effectively; and
  - (iii) enforcing accountability; and
- (d) the restructuring and re-organisation of agencies and departments of Government by eliminating bloated structures and functional ambiguities in Government agencies and departments.

### **3. Purpose of repeal of Cap.241**

The purpose of repealing the Karamoja Development Agency Act, Cap. 241, hereinafter referred to as the “principal Act” is to mainstream the functions of the Agency into the local governments in Karamoja region which shall carry forward the functions of the Agency in coordination and under the overall supervision of the Ministry, and in liaison with other relevant central Government agencies.

**4. Dissolution of Karamoja Development Agency**

On the commencement of this Act, the Karamoja Development Agency established under the principal Act is dissolved.

**5. Karamoja Local Governments to perform functions of Agency**

The local governments in Karamoja region shall carry forward the functions of the dissolved Agency in coordination and under the overall supervision of the Ministry, in liaison with other relevant central Government agencies.

**6. Staff of Agency**

(1) The staff of the Agency shall be paid their terminal benefits in accordance with the terms and conditions of their service.

(2) The staff of the Agency may be redeployed to serve in the public service, subject to availability of positions.

**7. Property, assets, and liabilities of Agency**

The property, assets and liabilities of the Agency shall be transferred to the Government under the Ministry responsible for Karamoja Affairs.

**8. Repeal of Karamoja Development Agency Act, Cap. 241**

The Karamoja Development Agency Act, Cap.241 is repealed.