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**BILLS****SUPPLEMENT No. 4****27th March, 2024****BILLS SUPPLEMENT***to The Uganda Gazette No. 22, Volume CXVII, dated 27th March, 2024*Printed by UPPC, Entebbe, by Order of the Government.

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**Bill No. 47***Uganda Wildlife (Amendment) Bill***2024****THE UGANDA WILDLIFE (AMENDMENT) 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 is to amend the Uganda Wildlife Act, 2019, Act 17 of 2019, to—

- (a) confer on the Uganda Wildlife Authority additional functions of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center established by the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center Act, 2015, Act 27 of 2015, thereby, *inter alia*, relieving the Government of the financial drain on its resources and the burden of wasteful administration and expenditure by maintaining two agencies whose functions may be performed by one agency efficiently and effectively;
- (b) facilitate efficient and effective service delivery by clearly delineating the mandates and functions of the Uganda Wildlife Authority after acquiring the additional functions, 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 government agencies and departments;
  - (ii) enabling the Government to play its proper role more effectively; and

- (iii) enforcing accountability;
- (d) to restructure and re-organise the Uganda Wildlife Authority by eliminating bloated structures and functional ambiguities in the performance of its functions including the additional functions.

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

The Bill has 7 clauses. Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the objectives of the Bill. Clause 3 provides for the purpose of amendments of the Uganda Wildlife Act, 2019, which is to confer on the Uganda Wildlife Authority additional functions because of the merger of Uganda Wildlife Authority and the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center. Clauses 4, 5, 6 and 7 seek to confer the functions of the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center on the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

**COL. (RTD) TOM R. BUTIME**  
*Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities*

**THE UGANDA WILDLIFE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024****ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES*****Clause***

- 1. Interpretation**
- 2. Objective**
- 3. Purpose of amendment of Act 17 of 2019**
- 4. Amendment of section 2 of Act 17 of 2019**
- 5. Amendment of section 6 of principal Act**
- 6. Amendment of section 86 of principal Act**
- 7. Consequential amendment of Act 17 of 2019**
- 8. Consequential amendment of certain Acts of Parliament**

A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

**THE UGANDA WILDLIFE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024**

**An Act to amend the Uganda Wildlife Act, 2019, Act 17 of 2019 to confer on the Uganda Wildlife Authority additional functions because of the merger with Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center in order to give effect to the Government Policy on Rationalisation of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure, and for related purposes.**

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

**1. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“agency” means a body established by an Act of Parliament and includes an authority;

“commission” means a body established by the Constitution;

“Government” means the Government of Uganda.

## 2. Objective

(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 amendment of Act 17 of 2019**

The purpose of amending the Uganda Wildlife Act, 2019 is to confer on the Uganda Wildlife Authority additional functions because of the merger of Uganda Wildlife Authority and the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center.

**4. Amendment of section 2 of Act 17 of 2019**

Section 2 of the Uganda Wildlife Act, 2019, Act 17 of 2019, hereinafter referred to as the “principal Act” is amended in subsection (1) by inserting immediately after paragraph (h) the following—

- “(i) to establish centres for wildlife conservation and education;
- (j) to facilitate the promotion and conservation of Uganda’s unique wildlife resources through conservation education;
- (k) to provide for showcasing Uganda’s unique wildlife heritage and ecosystems through centres for wildlife conservation and education;
- (l) to provide for the establishment and management of a wildlife bio-data bank at centres for wildlife conservation and education;
- (m) to provide for the establishment and maintenance of hospitality and recreation facilities and services support in centres for wildlife conservation and education.”

**5. Amendment of section 6 of principal Act**

Section 6 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by inserting immediately after paragraph(s) the following—

- “(sa) to conduct and manage conservation education in Uganda;
- (sb) to establish and maintain conservation education facilities and programmes, on site and through extension services;

- (sc) to showcase Uganda’s unique wildlife heritage and ecosystems;
- (sd) to establish and manage a wildlife bio-data bank at the centre;
- (se) to conduct the rescue, rehabilitation and release of wildlife species;
- (sf) to conduct the wildlife breeding, with a focus on rare, endangered and endemic species, as well as for commercial purposes;
- (sg) to carry out stocking and restocking of indigenous and exotic wildlife;
- (sh) to promote wildlife breeding for conservation and commercial purposes;
- (si) to conduct research relevant to the activities of the Authority;
- (sj) to establish and maintain conservation education facilities and programmes on site and through extension services;
- (sk) to promote the rescue, rehabilitation and release of wildlife;
- (sl) to promote wildlife breeding, with a focus on rare, endangered and endemic species, as well as for commercial purposes; and
- (sm) to collaborate with other institutions in the execution of the mandate of the Authority;”.

## **6. Amendment of section 86 of principal Act**

Section 86(2) of the principal Act is amended—



- (a) in paragraph (l) by repealing “and”;
- (b) by inserting immediately after paragraph (l) the following—
  - “(la) the management of centres for wildlife conservation and education;
  - (lb) the management of the wild-life bio-data bank of the Centre;
  - (lc) the establishment and maintenance of conservation education facilities and programmes on site and through extension services;
  - (ld) the rescue rehabilitation and release of wildlife species;
  - (le) the breeding of wildlife; and”.

#### **7. Consequential amendment of Act 17 of 2019**

On the commencement of this Act, the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Center shall continue to exist as a centre for wildlife conservation and education established by this Act.

#### **8. Consequential amendment of certain Acts of Parliament**

Where any law enacted by Parliament provides that an agency or commission has the power to recruit staff, determine and establish staff structures or determine and set terms and conditions of service, the agency or commission shall exercise such power subject to the approval of the Ministry responsible for the public service.