



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**SPEECH BY HON. JANET K. MUSEVENI
FIRST LADY AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS**

AT

**THE RELEASE OF THE MAY/JUNE 2018 END OF PROGRAM
EXAMINATIONS RESULTS**

AT THE

UBTEB SECRETARIAT

WEDNESDAY, 3RD OCTOBER, 2018

The Hon. Ministers of State for Education and Sports,
The Permanent Secretary, MoES,
The Ministry Officials,
The Chairperson and Members of the Board of UBTEB,
The Executive Secretaries and Representatives of other Examinations Boards,
The UBTEB Secretariat Staff,
Members of the Press,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure in welcoming you in particular; the Ministry's Technical team, Heads of Training institutions and the media, to the release of the May/June 2018 end of Programme Examinations results. My Ministry is grateful to all stakeholders for the job well done in producing graduates with relevant knowledge, skills and competences required not only for purposes of academic progression but also employment in the world of work.

Let me begin by congratulating all the candidates and their families for this great achievement. I also congratulate the Board upon the successful release of the 12th series in the conduct of UBTEB examinations.

I have learnt that UBTEB has continuously performed well in streamlining and standardization of awards. To this effect, I am happy to note that UBTEB recently accredited different categories of Tertiary institutions and Universities offering Certificate and Diploma programmes as examinations centres for Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

I take note that this is a big step forward in realizing the ideals of the BTVET Act 2008 on standardization of qualifications and awards. I hereby direct the Permanent Secretary and relevant Departments and Agencies of the Ministry

of Education and Sports to act on all those Training Institutions that have not yet complied with the Policy guidelines on accreditation and Assessment of Post O'Level Business Education programmes.

I am also happy to note that NCDC in collaboration with BTVET, UBTEB and Training Institutions has revised and harmonized Competence Based Curricula for Post Ordinary Business Certificate programmes. The Ministry will continue supporting NCDC to work on pending curricula.

I acknowledge the fact that the circular on accreditation and assessment has increased the number of candidates enrolling for Post O'Level BTVET Certificate programmes. This is very good for Uganda and the NRM Government which is committed through Vision 2040 and the National Development Plan II (NDPII) to ensure that the ideals of Skilling Uganda Strategy are fulfilled. The NRM Government strongly recognizes that Vocational Education and Training is a crucial pillar and foundation for socio economic transformation. It is important to note that to educate our people is to invest in our Development, as all the evidence suggests that sustainable Economic Development is dependent on an adequate and ever-increasing skills and knowledge base. With this trend, the Government of Uganda is guaranteed of quality and skilled human resources critical for Industrial growth and Economic Development of Uganda.

I have noted that there was an overall 22.3% increase in the number of candidates registered by UBTEB in May/June 2018 compared to May/June 2017. I am particularly impressed by the ever growing numbers of female candidates enrolling for Technical and Vocational Programmes where there has been an increase of 12.8% in the number of female candidates from 2,800 in 2017 to 3,248 in 2018.

I implore more females to enroll for Technical and Vocational Education Programmes as the surest way for socio-economic transformation of our Economy. I urge the parents and employers to guarantee females with equal opportunities in the Technical and Vocational fields.

I am impressed by the progressive trend of the UBTEB graduates passed out since 2012 to date that have increased to over 30,000 graduates representing 69.5% increase in five years. This is a reflection of the Country's quest for quality and competitive graduates to match with the demands of world of work so that the burden of youth unemployment can be reduced in line with NRM's 2016- 2021 Manifesto commitments on the promotion of BTVET and skilling Uganda.

Therefore, Skills Development being a key investment goal for Government is a driver for Government's resolve to support private sector investment through provision of an enabling environment that promotes youth employment.

Government continually recognizes the significant contribution of the private sector in complementing the skilling programme. It is therefore my sincere call for further partnerships aimed at creating industry-college linkages for the practical trainings that are beneficial to the BTVET trainees as they prepare them for the world of work.

In the FY 2018/2019, Government has made tremendous efforts towards BTVET and Skills Development by allocating 19.51 billion shillings to cater for capitation grants, examination fees and industrial training fees to BTVET institutions. Equally, Government will procure tools and equipments for Uganda Colleges of Commerce Soroti and Kabale, UTC-Kichwamba, Apac Technical School, Rutunku Community polytechnic, Mbale Community Polytechnic and Bukooli Technical School. Government has continued to

release funds through the Department and through the district authorities to the BTVET institutions on time.

As part of enabling access to Vocational Education, Government committed funds to ensure completion of new Technical Institutes including Bamunanika Technical Institute, Kiruhura Technical Institute, John Kale Institute of Science and Technology and Epel Technical Institute. We will soon commission them and open them to the Public for use. I urge our dear citizens to properly use these facilities and maintain them for the benefit of the present and future generation.

In the last financial year 2017/2018, Government rehabilitated, expanded and equipped Technical Institutions including Iganga Technical Institute, Arua Technical Institute, Nyakatale Technical Institute, Kiryandongo Technical Institute, Mubende Technical Institute, UTC-Elgon, UTC-Bushenyi, UTC-Kyema, and UPIK-Kigumba. Government has also recently concluded Infrastructural Development at Kalongo, Tororo, Kibatsi and Ahmed Seguya Technical Institutes.

Government is in the advanced stages of developing the TVET Policy and operationalizing of the different Sector Skills Councils. This will improve the quality of graduates in the BTVET sub sector. This has also been enhanced by twinning programmes to adopt more workable and comparative skills growth for the BTVET institutions. These include UTC-Kicwamba, UTC-Bushenyi, Bukalasa Institute of Agriculture, Uganda Petroleum Institute-Kigumba and UTC-Lira. For instance UTC-Kichwamba is twined with Coventry University while Bukalasa is twined with the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT), Canada. All these efforts are part of the Government commitment to Skills Development in line with the NDP II and Vision 2040.

I have noted that ENABEL has offered Human Resource Capacity Building Programmes to UBTEB including donation of ICT equipment. We appreciate ENABEL and other Education development partners for the support.

I am aware that UBTEB was allocated land at Kyambogo hill by the Ministry of Education and Sports for the establishment of an Assessment Centre to host warehouses for test item development and the Secretariat offices. I do ask the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education and Sports to work closely with UBTEB to ensure successful establishment of the Assessment Centre.

I have also noted that UBTEB's Competence Based Assessment through real life projects has made a tremendous contribution towards infrastructural development in BTVET institutions. I commend the Board and the Principals for driving innovations and for value addition in the training and delivery systems. This is the principal foundation of the Skilling Uganda Strategy to which UBTEB continues to contribute through her mandate to conduct credible examinations and awards. I was impressed by the projects displayed by the students from BTVET institutions during the 2018 Education and Sports Sector and also what is being displayed at this release today.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage investors to partner with training Institutions to boost innovative ideas by students using modern Technologies and resources. I direct the Permanent Secretary to liaise with Industries to establish mutual partnerships in training through taking on more interns from BTVET Institutions.

I have taken note of the 26 candidates whose results have been recommended by the Board for cancellation due to their involvement in examination malpractices. I do uphold the recommendation of the Board. As I have said before, the Ministry will not tolerate any form of Examination malpractice and

will continue to work with UBTEB and all the other Examination Boards to stamp out such vices.

I once again, wish to congratulate all candidates, parents and guardians for their tireless and commendable work which has resulted into this milestone in the Candidates' lives. I equally commend the UBTEB Board and Staff and the entire team at the Ministry and other Agencies of Government who have been working closely with UBTEB to ensure smooth conduct of the examinations. In the same vein, I also wish to appreciate the media for the continued coverage of Education Sector Programmes.

It is now my pleasant duty and honor to officially release the results for the May/June 2018 UBTEB End of Programme Examinations to the public.

For God and My Country

HON. JANET KATAAHA MUSEVENI
FIRST LADY AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS