



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

# NATIONAL SANITATION FORUM

KAMPALA, 16-17 OCTOBER 1997

*Under the leadership of the Ministry of Health, an inter-ministerial task force was set up a year ago to map out strategies for raising the profile of sanitation in Uganda which has been on the decline over the last two decades. The leadership of all the 45 districts in Uganda together with members of parliament, permanent secretaries, directors and commissioners of all the relevant ministries, representatives from non-governmental organisations, the private sector, training institutions, religious and cultural leaders and the donor community (over 350 in number) were invited to the first ever National Sanitation Forum (October 16-17, 1997) to deliberate on the sanitation situation in Uganda and come out with a way forward in halting the ever increasing negative health, economic and environmental impacts of poor sanitation in the country. The Forum was chaired by the Hon. Dr. C. W. C. B. Kiyonga, Minister for Health, opened by the Rt. Hon. Kintu-Musoke, Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda and closed by the Hon. Jabel Bidandi Ssali, Minister for Local Government. Following two days of presentation and structured discussions, the forum ended with the 45 district authorities signing the Kampala Declaration on Sanitation (1997) endorsing the guiding principles for sanitation improvement in the country and a 10-point strategy for action at the district level.*

## Background

The observance of a sanitary environment is essential for good health and thus a fundamental human right. Unfortunately, sanitation in Uganda has in the past been accorded low priority in national development. It is regarded as a private and personal concern, often marginalised and rarely talked about in national debates.

Consequently, sanitation suffers from inadequate political and public support, lack of legislative and policy and guidelines, poor technology choice, inadequate resources allocation (human, financial and material) as well as poor collaboration and coordination among all concern parties. Sanitation has thus become a major obstacle to poverty eradication and sustainable development in Uganda.

## Objectives of Forum

The overall goal of the forum was to raise the profile of sanitation in Uganda and prepare the grounds for the national accelerated Sanitation Improvement Programme. The specific objectives were however to:

- Raise the level of awareness on the poor sanitation in Uganda and highlight the opportunities and challenges for better sanitation in the country
- Build consensus with implementors and donors about the need for a National Accelerated Sanitation Improvement Programme
- Develop a national declaration for sanitation promotion

## Preamble **THE KAMPALA DECLARATION ON SANITATION (1997)**

- We the **District Authorities of Uganda** together with the key stakeholders here assembled at the first ever National Sanitation Forum, on this day the 17th of October, 1997, realising that poor sanitation is a major constraint to development in Uganda as manifested by
  - environmental degradation and pollution,
  - high rate of morbidity and mortality in the country,
  - lost productivity and high expenditure on curative health care cost,
  - reduced learning capability of children through illness and early dropouts of girls,
  - high levels of stunting among children under 5 years,
  - loss of community and national dignity and pride
- Recognising that, sanitation is a way of life and constitutes the isolation of human excreta from the environment, maintenance of the safe water chain, the sustained practice of personal, domestic, public and food hygiene, safe disposal of solid and liquid wastes, and control of disease vectors and vermin. Sanitation therefore goes beyond the provision of physical devices and encompasses positive attitude and behavioural changes by the people
- Given the remarkable record of sanitation performance in the 1950s through the 1970s and whilst attributing part of the decline in the status of sanitation in the country to the decades of wars, economic collapse, institutional/social decay and poverty, the current sanitation situation, particularly the low coverage of latrines in Uganda is unacceptable and is bound to get worse if concerted efforts are not taken
- Acknowledging that the foundations for improvement of the sanitation situation rest with the collective wisdom of our leaders and the inherent desires of our people for a clean and healthy environment (as enshrined in the 1995 Constitution), **we hereby endorse the following guiding principles** to halt the declining status of sanitation in Uganda and further **commit ourselves to the 10-point Strategy for Action** attached as the basis for ensuring adequate sanitation for all by the year 2005. We the undersigned hold ourselves accountable for the success or failure of this endeavour.

### **Guiding Principles**

- **Basic Right** Sanitation is a basic right and a responsibility for every citizen of Uganda
- **Partnership and Local Implementation** Community partnership with districts, lower local governments and administrative unit and cultural and religious leaders should be the framework for delivery of better sanitation services
- **Government Facilitation and Private Sector/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) Delivery** Government at all levels will create the enabling environment and facilitate the provision of services but service delivery will be enhanced through the increased participation of the private and social intermediary sectors (NGOs)
- **District Specific Solutions** Sanitation situations vary across the country. District specific solutions suitable for communities and households and can be sustained will dictate the course of actions

### **Enabling Environment and Required Support**

We further declare our full commitment to the National Accelerated Sanitation Improvement Programme (NASIP). The programme will support overall capacity building and infrastructural improvements at all levels. We therefore call on the central government and partner donor agencies to assist in mobilising the necessary resources in support of the programme. Direct and timely channeling of resources to the district and sub-county level will be called for. The re-orientation of available resources in lead agencies (Local Government, Health and Natural Resources) in favour of preventive health care and in particular sanitation should be the starting point. Although this programme is multi-sectoral and therefore the responsibility of all, the lead agency for environmental health at the national and district levels require strengthening to transform it into a credible institutional mechanism for facilitating the implementation of the national programme.

### **Conclusion - Better Sanitation....A Responsibility for All**

No family, community or institution can escape the negative impacts of an endemic poor sanitation situation. Only a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach aimed at full sanitation coverage and backed by sustained positive attitudes and behavioural changes by all can make the difference. We therefore call on all leaders, citizens and institutions in Uganda to support the National Accelerated Sanitation Improvement Programme to ensure adequate sanitation for all by the year 2005.

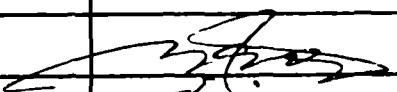
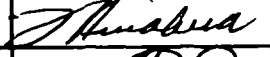



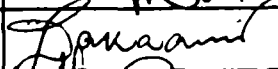


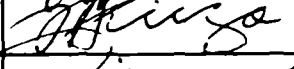

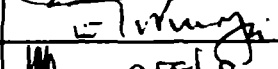
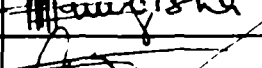

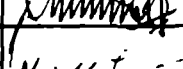

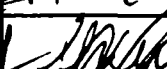
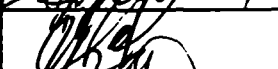
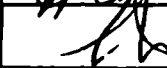

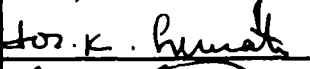
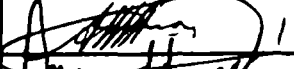

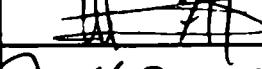


## 10-Point Strategy for Action

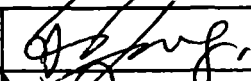
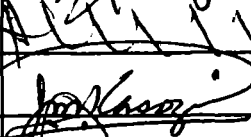
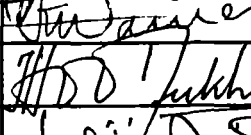
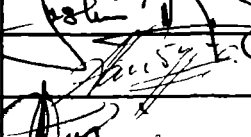
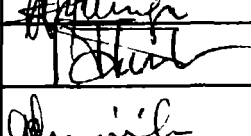
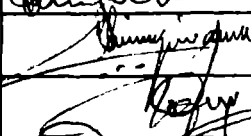
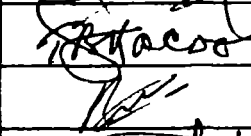

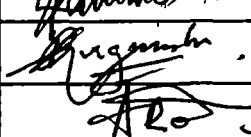
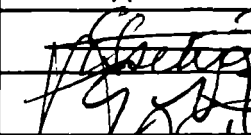
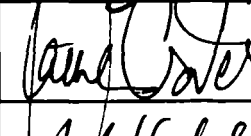
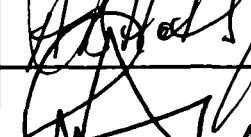
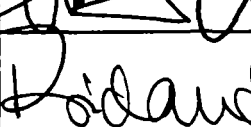



1. **Exemplary Leadership Commitment** We the collective leadership of the districts commit to set good examples at home, at work and in all public places for improved sanitation
2. **Full Community Mobilisation** We shall mobilise and motivate the totality of the district and sub-country leadership (political, traditional, and administrative), households, communities and institutions (schools, health centres, industrial establishments, religious facilities) towards comprehensive promotion and provision of sanitation services for all households, institutions and public places in the district.
3. **District and Sub-counties and Urban Authorities Focus** Sanitation begins at home We shall facilitate the sub-counties and urban authorities to develop sanitation action plans with clear budget lines These will be integrated into the District plans with explicit objectives of raising the profile of sanitation in our districts and committing resources to sanitation programmes beginning with the 1998/99 financial year This approach will be the best way of responding to the peculiarities and needs of special geographical areas (security, pastoral communities, technical constraints, etc) and target groups (disabled, elderly, etc) A task force shall be established immediately to initiate the process
4. **Coordination and Multi-sectoral Approach** Sanitation improvement shall be made an integral part of all social and economic developments in our districts. We shall endeavour to coordinate all of the sanitation activities taking place in our districts, provide linkages to all relevant sectors and establish the necessary framework for rational planning, monitoring and evaluation A clear definition of the roles of all stakeholders would be defined through consultation to promote transparency, accountability and build collective vision
5. **Focus on Schools** Schools provide excellent opportunities to encourage positive life-long behavioural change We shall ensure that every primary school and all other institutions of learning have adequate sanitation facilities (latrines, safe drinking water supplies and hand washing facilities) and with separate facilities for girls by the end of 1998 All primary school shall be involved in School Health Promotion Programmes as dictated by the Universal Primary Education (UPE) programme We further endorse the immediate re-introduction of school health inspections of pupils and premises in all sub-counties
6. **Fora at Districts** We shall organise and conduct sanitation campaigns in all sub-counties on a regular basis This shall be crowned by an annual sanitation forum beginning 1998 on an agreed National Sanitation Day This will ensure an annual mechanism for reporting of progress (based on agreed indicators) and refinement of the strategies A massive public education campaign with special focus on rational approaches for overcoming inhibiting taboos and cultural practices will be mounted at all sub-counties Monthly sanitation days shall be introduced at all districts and sub-county levels We further endorse the re-introduction of inter-district, inter-community and inter-school competitions Appropriate incentives for rewarding performance shall be instituted periodically
7. **Central Role of Women** We shall ensure that women, youth and persons with disabilities are adequately represented at all levels of sanitation delivery system and are provided with opportunities for economic advancement and support to sanitation activities
8. **Private Sector/NGO Development and Service Delivery** We shall involve the private sector and NGOs in the development, production and dissemination of appropriate sanitation materials. Support to the local private sector and NGOs (including artisans and community based groups) in skills development in sanitation service delivery inter alia communal latrines, production of sanitation facilities, sanplats, hand washing facilities and sanitation advocacy shall be facilitated The appropriate enabling environment and incentive structures will be examined and applied to enhance their participation in sanitation services delivery Different approaches for effective engagement of the private sector and NGOs should however be recognised
9. **Capacity Building at District Level** We shall ensure that we put in place a multi-sectoral cadre core at the district level to oversee implementation at the sub-county levels Team work, motivation, balanced staff training and strengthening of the complementary institutions in the districts shall be given top priority
10. **Policies and Guidance** The four levels of government (national, district, sub-county and urban) should collectively develop comprehensive sanitation policy, operational guidelines and pass necessary legislation to support sanitation improvements Commitment to timely updating and enforcement of existing legislation should be one of the central pillars of the sanitation delivery at all levels

**NATIONAL SANITATION FORUM**

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED ENDORSE THE DECLARATION**

**THIS 17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 1997**

DISTRICT	LC.V. CHAIRPERSON	SIGNATURE
1. APAC	R. Oyuru	
2. ARUA	D. Amabua	
3. ADJUMANI	J.B. Opio	
4. BUNDIBUGYO	S.K. Babungi	
5. BUSIA	E. Wabuli	
6. BUSHENYI	Y. Makaaru	
7. BUGIRI	L. Samanya	
8. GULU	S. Laneke	
9. HOIMA	R.J. Kiiza	
10. IGANGA	W. Kirya	
11. JINJA	E. W. Kirya	
12. KABAROLE	V. Kamugisha	
13. KABALE	Y. Baguma	
14. KAMPALA	<del>C. Kirya</del> CHRISTOPHER F.M. IGA.	
15. KALANGALA	G. Kasirivu	
16. KAMULI	D. Kitamirike	
17. KAPCHORWA	A. Chelangat	
18. KASESE	B. Bwambale	
19. KATAKWI	O. Oluka	
20. KIBAALE	M. Mwanje	
21. KIBOGA	K. Ssemate	
22. KISORO	A. Bagená	
23. KITGUM	J. B. Oryema	
24. KOTIDO	D. Owilli	
25. KUMI	U. Okodela (Model)	

26. LIRA	J. Ogwanga Alere	
27. LUWEERO	D. Nsereko	
28. MASAKA	J. M. Kasozi	
29. MASINDI	J. Wamara	
30. MBALE	M. Mukwana	
31. MBARARA	J. Sabiiti	
32. MOROTO	A. Nanyima	
33. MOYO	A. Wale	
34. MPIGI	H. K. Miiro	
35. MUBENDE	J. H. S. Luyirika	
36. MUKONO	K. Musisi	
37. NEBBI	A. M. Okwonga	
38. NTUNGAMO	I. Kacooboye	
39. NAKASONGOLA	C. Bagonza	
40. PALLISA	A. Mujwi	
41. RAKAI	E. Kamunaana	
42. RUKUNGIRI	P. Kagumaho	
43. SOROTI	R. Engulu	
44. SEMBABULE	E. Ssekimpi	
45. TORORO	R. E. Okama	
UNICEF	M/S Kathleen Cravero, Country Representative	
WHO	Dr. Hatib Njie, Country Representative	
Government of Uganda	Hon. Dr. C.W.C.B. Kiyonga Minister of Health	
Government of Uganda	Hon. J. Bidandi Ssali Minister of Local Government	

## Agenda and Papers Presented at the Forum

### DAY 1:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forum Objectives and Administrative Issues</li> <li>• Keynote Address Sanitation in Uganda</li> <li>• Opening address</li> <li>• Welcome Address</li> <li>• Reflections on Sanitation in Uganda</li> <li>• Reflections on Sanitation in the African Region</li> <li>• Global Perspectives</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Sanitation Documentary</li> <li>• Peculiarities of Sanitation among Communities</li> <li>• UPE and Sanitation</li> <li>• The National Accelerated Sanitation programme</li> <li>• Discussions</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr D Kihumuro-Apuuli, DGHS-MoH</li> <li>Prof J Namboze Kiggundu</li> <li>Rt Hon Kintu-Musoke, Prime Minister</li> <li>Hon Dr C W C B. Kiyonga, Minister-MoH</li> <li>Ms. Kathleen Cravero, UNICEF Rep</li> <li>Dr Habit Njie, WHO Rep.</li> <li>Dr D Warner, WHO-Geneva</li> <li>A. Brown and K Wright</li> <li>Dr S Zaramba, DHS-MoH</li> <li>J O Alele, LCV Lira</li> <li>F Mandy, MoE</li> <li>Dr D Kihumuro-Apuuli, DGHS-MoH</li> <li>Dr Hitimana-Lukanika</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

### DAY 2:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feedback</li> <li>• Water Supply and Sanitation-IMSC Reflections</li> <li>• District Roles and Responsibilities</li> <li>• Economic and Administrative Framework</li> <li>• Discussions</li> <li>• Recommendations and Resolutions</li> <li>• Kampala Declaration on Sanitation</li> <li>• Closing Remarks</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Brown, K Wright</li> <li>P Kahangire, DWD</li> <li>K Musisi, President of LAA</li> <li>T Nkayarwo, MoLG</li> <li>A Brown and K Wright</li> <li>N. Obore, PS-MoH</li> <li>Ms B Lagada, RDC Mbarara</li> <li>Hon Bidandi Ssali, Minister-MoLG</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

## The Way Forward - Highlights of Action Plan for Sanitation Development in Uganda

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concept Paper on Sanitation in Uganda</li> <li>• Endorsement of Task Force/ Small Towns Project Workshop</li> <li>• Preparation of Draft National Sanitation Policy</li> <li>• 1st National Sanitation Forum</li> <li>• Drafting of National Accelerated Sanitation Improvement Programme</li> <li>• Consultations with Donors</li> <li>• National Urban Environmental Sanitation Workshop</li> <li>• Preparations of Operational Guidelines for Districts</li> <li>• Launching - National Policy and Sanitation Improvement Programme (by His Excellency the President of Uganda)</li> <li>• Implementation of National Accelerated Sanitation Programme</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(May 1997)</li> <li>(Jun 1997)</li> <li>(Sep 1997)</li> <li>(Oct 1997)</li> <li>(Nov 1997- May 1998)</li> <li>(Jul 1998)</li> <li>(Sep 1998)</li> <li>(Oct 1998)</li> <li>(Jan 1999)</li> <li>(1999-2005)</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

Workshop Organizers	National Sanitation Task Force: D H. Kyabaggu (Chairman), T Mwebesa (Secretary)
Credit for Financial Support:	Ministry of Health, Directorate of Water Development, UNICEF, SIDA, DANIDA, WHO, UNDP-World Bank Regional Water and Sanitation Group - Eastern and Southern Africa (RWSG-ESA)
Key Workshop Facilitators	Dr Hitimana-Lukanika (MoH), Ato Brown, Rose Lidonde (RWSG-ESA), Keith Wright, Bill Fellows (UNICEF), Guy Howard, Collin Mwesigye (WHO)

**For further information on the Forum, please contact:**

**Assistant Commissioner Health Services, Environmental Health Division  
Ministry of Health, P. O. Box 8, Entebbe, Uganda Tel: +256 42 20059; Fax: +256 42 20474**

**LIBRARY IRC**  
PO Box 93190, 2509 AD THE HAGUE  
Tel.: +31 70 30 689 80  
Fax: +31 70 35 899 64

BARCODE: 11029  
LO: 824 4497