



## UGANDA INVESTMENT AUTHORITY

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### Press Statement

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

#### UIA Board Appoints Executive Director

After a rigorous two round search for a new Executive Director to head Uganda's Investment Promotion Agency, Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), the Board has appointed Mrs. Jolly Kamugira Kaguhangire, effective 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to head the Authority. According to the Board Chairman, Mr. Emely Kugonza, 'Mrs. Kaguhangire's track record of managing corporate business plans and reforms in Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) is what UIA needs at this critical time when we are beginning to implement the strategic Plan 2016-2021'. She is also a highly accomplished strategic leader with immense experience of 23 years in serving a wide range of clientele and change management programs.

As Head of Operations at the URA, leading over 700 staff, She successfully spearheaded the implementation of the re-engineered business processes, the first ever Integrated Tax Administration System (ITAS) in Uganda; "E-tax", and she was instrumental in the implementation of VAT in Uganda in 1996.

Under her leadership as the Project Manager- Taxpayer Register Expansion Project (TREP), URA succeeded as a first government institution to jointly collaborate services with Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) and Local Government to formalize the operations and activities of small and medium entities. This kind of strategic management is what UIA as a One Stop Centre for investors requires. The One Stop Centre brings together the same aforementioned government agencies including Uganda National Bureau of Standards, National Environmental Management Authority, Ministry of Housing, and Urban Development (Lands Registry) and the Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control. Very soon

Kampala Capital City Authority will join the physical One Stop Centre having already been incorporated on the eBiz portal where investors are registering for investment related services online. Both public and private stakeholders will be looking to see how she manages the integration of services that have recently been approved by Cabinet in the Investment Code Amendment Bill.

According to her CV, she has had various regional and international stints to represent URA at senior Managerial level. For the last three years, she has been the Regional Director and Country Coordinator for the Northern African Region under Commonwealth Association for Tax Administrators (CATA), giving oversight to the member states in West, North and East African region. It is this exposure and more that convinced the Board that she was the right person for the job.

The job to make UIA a robust Organisation to strengthen Uganda's competitiveness to attract investors globally and function a One Stop centre for investors; develop 22 industrial business parks as well as 4 regional Science, Technology, Engineering and Innovation (STEI) Parks; attract domestic value adding investment and put more effort in supporting the SMEs; is cut out for her.

One of her strategic actions will be to beef up and reorganise the multi-disciplinary staff to enable them to achieve the Board's goal in the Strategic plan to create **ONE MILLION JOBS** by 2021. Her credentials indicate that she has what it takes to do just that. She has a Master of Arts Degree in Organisational Leadership & Management and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management. Among the many other awards, there are certificates in Board Governance; Senior Management Leadership Development; Improving Public Service Delivery; Leadership Dynamics for Senior Women managers; Leadership Skills and Senior Management Development. These have been attained both within Uganda and internationally.

Jolly Kamugira Kaguhangire's helm at the UIA will be for four years and is renewable upon approval by the Board. She succeeds Eng. Dr Frank Sebbowa, whose contract ended in October 2016 after serving for one term of office from 2012. The Board of Directors appreciates Eng Dr Sebbowa's leadership during his tenure. We also thank Mr Lawrence Byensi and the entire Management and staff for keeping UIA fully functional during the interim period, as we sourced for the Executive Director.

The Board of Directors will continue to guide and support the Executive Director and her team to ensure that the assignment given to us by the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to attract and facilitate investment is done efficiently and effectively.



Emely Kugonza

**CHAIRMAN, UIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**