



UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE

NEWSLETTER

NO: 52 VOL. 52

SEPTEMBER 2025



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AFRICAN CORRECTIONAL LEADERS CONVENE IN NAIROBI



Uganda joined the rest of the world in commemorating International Youth Day (IYD 2025) with a colorful celebration at the Masindi Golf Course, bringing together young people, government officials, development partners, and community leaders. The event, held under the theme "Youth Advancing Socio-Economic Transformation through Technology and Partnerships," underscored the central role of ...

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UGANDA CELEBRATES RHINO CONSERVATION WITH HISTORIC NAMING CEREMONY

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WISDOM CORNER

The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing. When we admit our ignorance, we open the door to learning and growth.

– **Socrates**

In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity. Life's challenges are not meant to break you, but to teach you resilience and creativity.

– **Albert Einstein**

Do not dwell in the past, do not dream of the future, concentrate the mind on the present moment. True peace comes from living fully in the now.

– **Buddha**

Knowing yourself is the beginning of all wisdom. When you understand your strengths, weaknesses, and motivations, you navigate life with clarity.

– **Aristotle**

It is not length of life, but depth of life. A meaningful life is measured by the impact we leave, not the years we count.

– **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

Turn your wounds into wisdom. Every pain carries a lesson; every hardship is a chance to grow stronger and wiser.

– **Oprah Winfrey**

Happiness is not something ready-made. It comes from your own actions, choices, and the way you perceive the world around you.

– **Dalai Lama**

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. Perfection is not required; progress and effort are what truly matter.

– **Theodore Roosevelt**

Knowing others is intelligence; knowing yourself is true wisdom. Mastering others is strength; mastering yourself is true power.

– **Lao Tzu**

He who opens a school door, closes a prison. Education liberates the mind and transforms society, far beyond the classroom walls.

– **Victor Hugo**

Courage is knowing what not to fear. It is not the absence of fear, but the ability to act rightly despite it.

– **Plato**



Quote of the month

"Junior officers should not be tempted into desertion. Uganda is advancing toward economic stability, and with oil production, salaries will gradually increase, benefiting all government workers.

Once you desert, you will not be reinstated into the Service. You must work patriotically, love your country, and sacrifice for its stability.

The general promotion exercise for both senior and junior officers will begin in October this year and conclude in April 2026 based on merit, hard work, discipline and performance.

If you're riding a motorcycle for your side business, wear helmets, riding boots, and protective gear. Passengers must follow the same safety measures to prevent accidents that are claiming our younger officers and affecting the service's strength."

Can. Dr. Johnson Omuhunde
Rwashote Byabashaija
Commissioner General of Prisons

Chief Editor



FRANK BAINE MAYANJA

**SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS
COOPERATION AND CORPORATE
AFFAIRS/SERVICE SPOKESPERSON**

Welcome to the September 2025 Edition of Uganda Prisons Service Newsletter. In this edition we highlight on the; International Youth Day celebrations, UPS Advanced Infrastructure Solutions, African Correctional Leaders' Convention, Mbarara Prison Health camp, memory lane, and obituary, among others. Enjoy!

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08/09/2025

PRESS RELEASE

APPOINTMENTS, TRANSFERS AND LEAVE OF SENIOR OFFICERS

The Commissioner General of Prisons has made series of appointments, transfers and leave of senior officers, aiming to enhance professionalism, optimize performance, and improve service delivery.

1. **Ms. Aliyo Naatukunda, Commissioner of Prisons** – Appointed Ag. Senior Commissioner of Prisons in charge of Legal Advisory Services and Human Rights, Prisons Headquarters.
2. **Ms. Brenda Sana, Commissioner of Prisons** – Transferred to Prisons Headquarters as Head of Department, Human Resource Planning & Development.
3. **Mr. Robert Jolly Bamutura, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons** – Reports back to the Department of Estates & Engineering, Prisons Headquarters as Staff Officer.
4. **Mr. Ben Nyanzi Nicomedie Ahimbisibwe, Senior Superintendent of Prisons** – Reports back to the Division of Pensions as Officer in Charge (OC).
 - o **Mr. Patrick William Awany, Senior Superintendent of Prisons** remains his Deputy.
5. **Mr. Arthur Mugaba, Senior Superintendent of Prisons** – Reports back to Farms, Prisons Headquarters as Agricultural Engineer.
6. **Mr. Ronald Mukwoli, Senior Superintendent of Prisons** – From leave, appointed District Prisons Commander, Kalungu.
7. **Mr. Michael Padde, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Prisons** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Bugiri District.
8. **Mr. William Ochwo, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Prisons** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Tororo District.
9. **Mr. Kalsi Kabaalu Mutaawe, Assistant Superintendent of Prisons** – Transferred from Kampala Remand to Prisons Headquarters, Department of Safety & Security Operations.



10. **Ms. Zaia Munobwa, Principal Officer I** – From leave, transferred to Busaana Prisons as Officer in Charge, taking over from **Ms. Juliet Alero, Principal Officer I**, who proceeds on 90 days normal leave.
11. **Ms. Lillian Asello, Principal Officer I** – From leave, transferred to Central Region as Staff Officer.
12. **Ms. Eunice Rose Hasahya, Principal Officer I** – From leave, transferred to Nakifuma Prisons for duty.
13. **Ms. Resty Tibwamulala, Principal Officer I** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Kamuli District.
14. **Mr. John Michael Okedi, Principal Officer I** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Pallisa District.
15. **Mr. Geoffrey Poro, Principal Officer I** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Kumi District, taking over from **Mr. Patrick Emojong, Principal Officer I**, who proceeds on leave pending retirement.
16. **Mr. Christopher Twebaze, Principal Officer I** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Kalungu District.
17. **Mr. Geoffrey Musandy Ogwal, Principal Officer II** – From leave, appointed Staff Officer, Apac District.

Appointment of Deputy Officers in Charge:

Name	Rank	Current Station	New Station
Ronald Kyalisiima	ASP	Bufulubi	Nyabuhikye
Patience Nambuya	ASP	Nyabuhikye	Kanoni
Andrew Daniel Ayebare	ASP	Arua Main	Arua Main
Gerald Okabo	ASP	Masaka Main	MasakaMain
Stephen Kigaye	ASP	Mubuku	Mubuku
Deusdedit Mutabarukye	ASP	Aswa II	Aswa II
Amos Omoding	ASP	Ibuga	Ibuga

NOTE: The above changes take immediate effect. All Regional Prisons Commanders and District Prisons Commanders are directed to oversee all handovers and takeovers.

FRANK BAINE MAYANJA

SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS

COOPERATION AND CORPERATE AFFAIRS/SERVICE SPOKESPERSON



UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE

MONTHLY STATISTICS SUMMARY

September, 2025

1 CHARACTERISTICS OF PRISONERS' POPULATION

1.1 Population Change

Table 1.1 Average Population of Prisoners for August 2025 and September 2025.

Categories	Aug-25			Sep-25			% change
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Convicts:	39,944	1,880	41,824	39,938	1,892	41,830	0.01
Remands:	34,697	1,793	36,490	33,904	1,754	35,658	-2.3
Debtors:	375	130	505	405	159	564	11.7
Total:	75,016	3,803	78,819	74,247	3,805	78,052	-1.0
Percentage (%)	95.2	4.8	100.0	95.1	4.9	100.0	
Approved Capacity			22,569			23,184	2.7
Occupancy Rate (%)			349.2			336.7	-12.6

1.2 Percentage composition of Remands, Convicts and Debtors

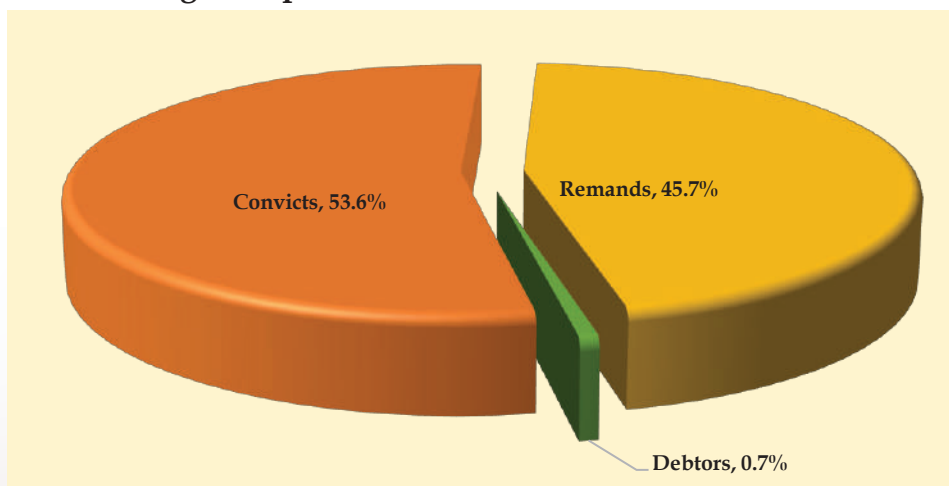


Figure 1.1 Composition of Prison population



1.3 Percentage composition change of Remands, Convicts, and Debtors

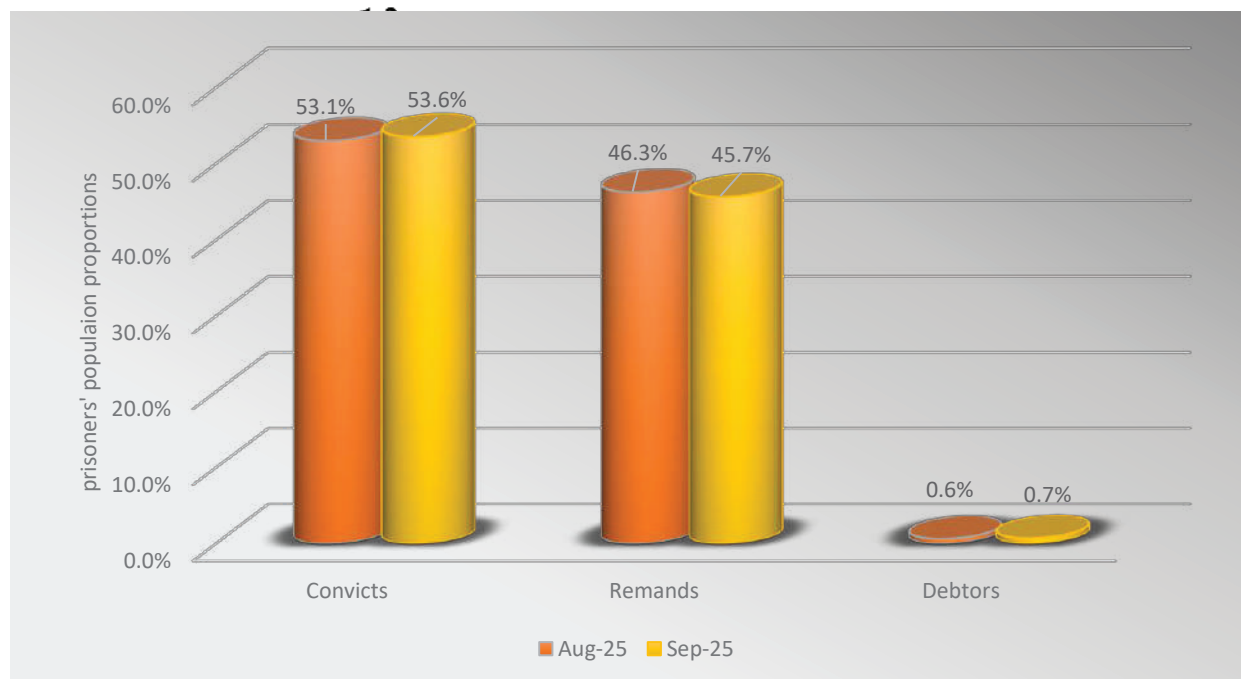


Figure 1.2 Percentage composition of remands, convicts and debtors /

1.4 Monthly Prison Population trends for the period January 2025 to September 2025

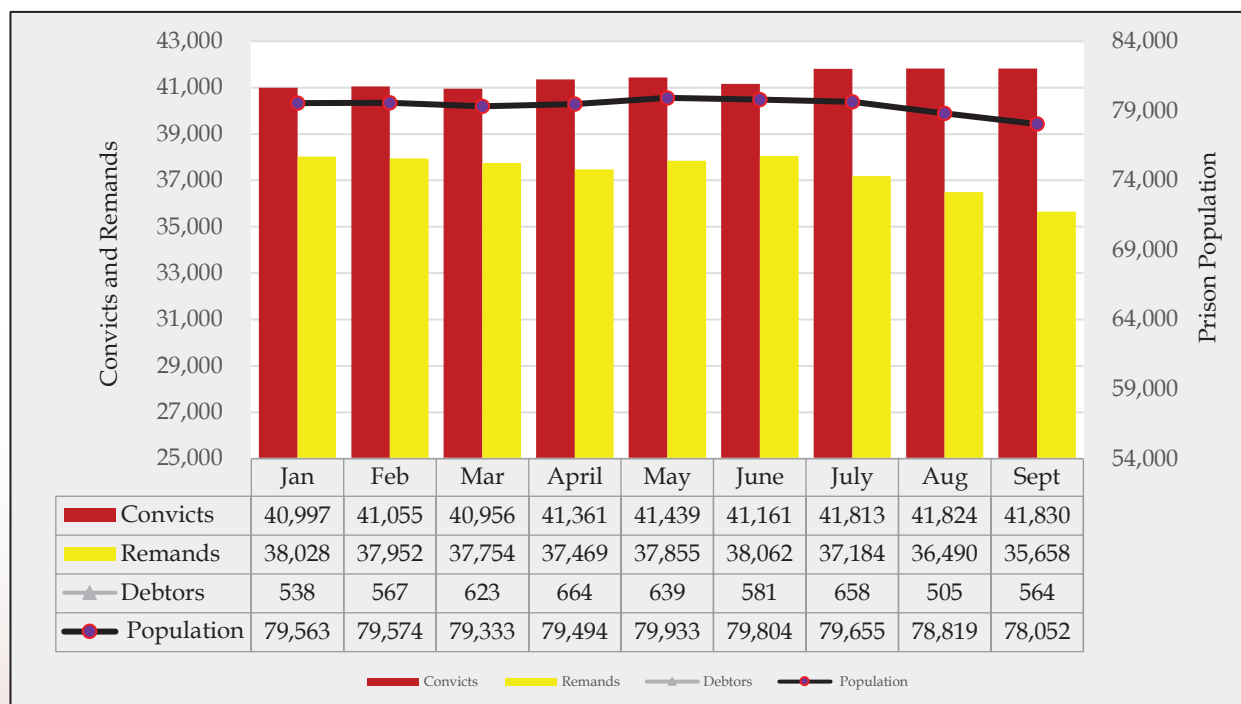


Figure 1.3 Monthly prison population trend for the period January 2025 to September 2025



1.5 Prison population trends for the period January 2025 to September 2025

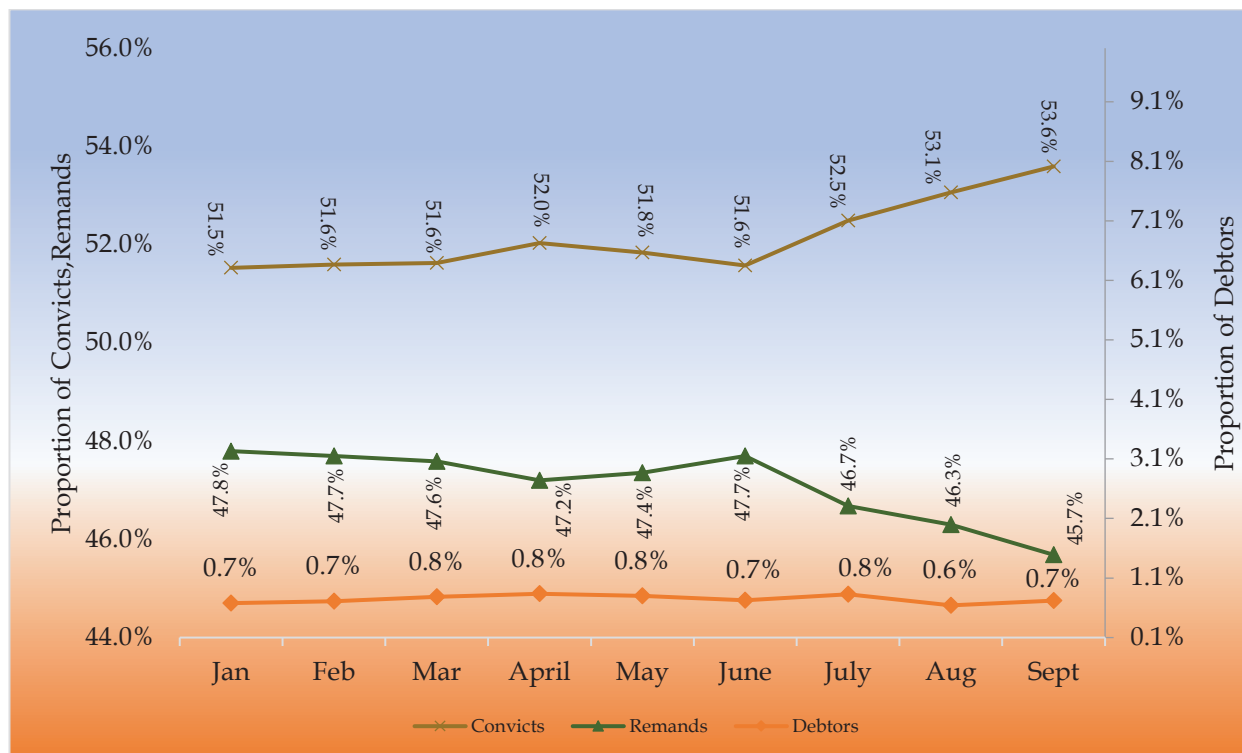


Figure 1.4 Composition trends of convicts, remands, and debtors for the period January 2025 to September 2025

2 STAFFING POSITION

2.1 Staff Strength

Table 2.1 Staff Strength as at 31st September 2025.

STAFF CATEGORY	GENDER		TOTAL
	Males	Females	
Uniformed	9,337	3,988	13,325
Senior officers	498	113	611
Principal officers	664	171	835
Non-Commissioned Officers	8,175	3,704	11,879
Non-Uniformed	252	233	485
Senior officers	101	82	183
Junior officers	151	151	302
Total	9,589	4,221	13,810
Recruit Warders and Wardresses at PATS	865	291	1,156
GRAND TOTAL	10,454	4,512	14,966
Percentage	69.9	30.1	100.0
Approved Staff Establishment			39,462
Percentage of Staff Establishment filled			37.9%



UNIFORMED STAFF BY RANK SEPTEMBER 2025

Rank/Title	Sex		Total
	Male	Female	
Commissioner General of Prisons	1		1
Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons	1		1
Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons	6		6
Senior Commissioner of Prisons	3		3
Commissioner of Prisons	13	5	18
Assistant Commissioner of Prisons	13	5	18
Senior Superintendent of Prisons	39	6	45
Superintendent of Prisons	93	29	122
Senior Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	32	8	40
Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	296	60	356
Cadet Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	1		1
Principal Officer I	227	60	287
Principal Officer II	434	111	545
Cadet Principal Officer	3		3
Chief Warder I	179	50	229
Chief Warder II	257	89	346
Chief Warder III	500	204	704
Sergeant	1,184	572	1,756
Corporal	1,991	1,017	3,008
Lance Corporal	652	316	968
Warders/Wardresses	3,412	1,456	4,868
Recruit Warders/Wardresses	865	291	1,156
TOTAL	10,202	4,279	14,481

UGANDA MARKS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY CELEBRATIONS



H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni arrives at Masindi Golf Course for the International Youth Day 2025 celebrations, warmly received by Hon. Minister Betty Amongi, government officials, and security officers.

Uganda joined the rest of the world in commemorating International Youth Day (IYD 2025) with a colorful celebration at the Masindi Golf Course, bringing together young people, government officials, development partners, and community leaders. The event, held under the theme “Youth Advancing Socio-Economic Transformation through Technology and Partnerships,” underscored the central role of young people in driving innovation, fostering collaborations, and shaping Uganda’s development agenda.

Presiding over the belated National Youth Day celebrations, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni urged youth to embrace the Parish Development Model (PDM) as a strategic pathway out of poverty. He emphasized that the program, designed to commercialize agriculture, remains key to transforming Uganda’s economy.

“The plan is to focus on agriculture and teach people to move from subsistence farming to commercial farming,” Museveni said. “The real economy should be boosted by agriculture, and digital platforms should be used to market and deliver what you are producing.”

The President expressed disappointment that many youth had not taken advantage of the initiative, despite billions of shillings being injected into parishes nationwide. He also condemned the theft of PDM funds by corrupt officials, urging the youth to demand accountability.

“You have the power to demand for it. That’s why we fought and gave you the power to elect leaders who can work for you,” he remarked.

During the celebrations, the youth highlighted key challenges hindering their participation in Uganda’s socio-economic transformation. Jacob Eyeru, Chairperson of the National Youth Council, called for reduced internet costs, particularly for students and young entrepreneurs, arguing that high costs restrict participation in the digital economy.

“Digital transformation depends on internet reach, but the cost is too high for the youth,” Eyeru said.

He further appealed to the President to increase the annual allocation to the National Youth Council from UGX 4 billion to UGX 10 billion to enable effective monitoring of youth programs at all administrative levels.



H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni visits the Emyooga SACCO exhibition stall during the International Youth Day 2025 celebrations, taking keen interest in youth-led innovations and entrepreneurship initiatives.

Additionally, he urged the government to allow youth to register their businesses with the Uganda Registration Services Bureau (URSB) at no cost, citing high registration fees and taxes as major obstacles for young entrepreneurs.

The Minister of Gender, Labour, and Social Development, Hon. Betty Amongi, highlighted the increasing number of youth engaging in online trade and digital services. She noted that, according to the 2024 digital study, 43% of youth aged 10 and above use smartphones, while 47% use them for trade related purposes.

Amongi emphasized the importance of expanding internet access in rural areas and growing towns, arguing that digital inclusion is essential for harnessing youth potential in innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic growth.

The celebrations were graced by top service leaders, whose presence highlighted Uganda's security institutions' dedication to empowering the youth. These included Maj. General David Isimbwa (representing the Chief of Defence Forces), Inspector General of Police Abbas Byakagaba, and Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons Hillary Bisanga, in charge of Human Resource Management (representing the Commissioner General of Prisons).

Other senior prisons leaders in attendance were: ACP Robert Munanura (in charge of Production and Engineering), SCP Frank Mayanja Baine (in charge of Corporate Affairs and he was an Assistant

Director of Programs for the day), SCP Jude Kalisa (In charge of Project Development), SCP Apollo Akankunda (in charge of National, Regional, and International Cooperation), ACP Mary Centenary (Ag. Commandant PATS), and ACP Ronald Godi (Regional Prisons Commander, Mid-Western, Masindi), alongside Officers in Charge of prisons in the region.

To mark the occasion, the Uganda Police Force and the Uganda Prisons Service staged a joint parade, a demonstration of discipline, unity, and national pride. Their combined brass bands added pomp, rhythm, and colour to the event, capturing the spirit of celebration.

The 2025 International Youth Day celebrations reaffirmed the government's commitment to empowering young people by creating platforms for skills development, job creation, and entrepreneurship. With a focus on digital innovation, agribusiness, and industrialization, Uganda aims to harness the creativity, energy, and resilience of its youthful population to drive socio-economic transformation.

Through partnerships with the private sector, civil society, and international organizations, Uganda continues to position its youth as a central force in shaping the country's future.

PICTORIAL



The President inspects a joint parade of Police, Prisons and UWA



Security officers at the saluting base



Members of UPS top management in attendance



UPS parade in full formation, showcasing discipline and precision



UP parade in quick match formation



I SERVE!



Over the years, Uganda's Security forces continue to demonstrate discipline, dedication, and professionalism.



The UPS band continues to impress with its skill and precision

UPS ADVANCES INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS TO END CONGESTION AND IMPROVE SERVICE DELIVERY: A SPOTLIGHT ON UG. PRISON MITYANA, MID-CENTRAL REGION.



CGP Dr. Johnson Byabashaija engages with prison officers during his visit

The Commissioner General of Prisons (CGP), Canon Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, has successfully concluded his strategic and policy working visit to the Mid-Central region, touring Mityana Main and Women's Prisons.

On arrival, he was welcomed by the Regional Prisons Commander–Mid Central and Officers in Charge of the two facilities, before being ushered into the units through a quarter guard parade mounted at the gate. His itinerary included inspection of newly established infrastructure, an address to inmates in both male and female sections, and engagements with staff and regional prison leadership.

During the walkabout tour, Dr. Byabashaija commended the Officer in Charge for the tremendous work in developing the station and improving welfare for both staff and inmates. Over the past 18 months, Mityana Prisons has achieved significant progress through the initiative of the OC, including the construction of administration blocks, installation of security systems such as watchtowers and perimeter fencing, establishment of staff quarters and an OC's residence, and expansion of the female section.

As part of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) community engagement initiative, the event was also attended by Mityana district leadership, including

key stakeholders in the criminal justice system, who witnessed these developments firsthand.

While addressing staff of the Mityana Group of Prisons, the CGP emphasized health and wellness, urging vigilance against HIV/AIDS and promoting positive living for those already affected. He stressed the importance of regular medical check-ups and highlighted the integration of health workers into the Prisons Service structure to strengthen service delivery.

He discouraged junior officers from desertion, noting Uganda's economic growth, particularly in the oil sector, and assuring those salaries for public servants, including prison officers, will gradually increase. Officers were also encouraged to make use of the Uganda Prisons SACCO for affordable financial products, utilize the duty-free shop to acquire building materials, and educate their children in schools within their means.

The CGP announced that the general promotion exercise for both senior and junior officers into higher ranks will begin with evaluations in October and conclude in April 2026. On safety, Dr. Byabashaija addressed rising road accidents affecting young



As part of the UPS commitment to environmental conservation, the CGP continues to prioritise tree planting in every prison unit

people, including prison staff. He advised officers operating motorcycles as a side business to always wear protective gear such as helmets and riding boots, and urged passengers to do the same, emphasizing the need to take riding safety seriously.

Directing Officers in Charge in the Mid Central region, the CGP stressed that they must end the challenge of prison congestion within six months through comprehensive infrastructure development initiatives. He further instructed OCs to attend to the welfare needs of their subordinate staff and mentor their deputies into future leadership roles. Additionally, he directed that Officers in Charge adjust to the use of energy-saving blocks for construction to ensure the durability of prison facilities, while emphasizing strict adherence to administrative instructions to maintain discipline, order, and efficiency.

Human Resource Development and career growth featured prominently in the visit, with Dr. Byabashaija stressing the importance of professional courses such as the Non-Commissioned Officers Course, Junior Command and Staff Course, Intermediate Command and Staff Course, and the Senior Command and Staff Course.

He reminded officers of their core responsibilities, which include facilitating access to justice by producing prisoners in court legally, motivating staff on court duties, apprehending and immediately recapturing escapees, and ensuring all prisoners benefit from earning schemes, while staff supervising profitable outside labour are duly rewarded.

The Mid-Central visit is part of a nationwide strategic program, which has so far seen similar workshops conducted in the Eastern, East Central, Western, and Northern regions. These engagements are designed to strengthen professional standards, improve welfare, and enhance institutional efficiency across the Uganda Prisons Service. They further emphasize ending congestion through infrastructural growth, expanding access to justice programs, boosting staff welfare, and reinforcing accountability and professionalism at all levels of command.

PICTORIAL



CGP Dr. Johnson Byabashaija in a group photo with staff of Mityana Prison



The CGP is welcomed to Mityana Prison



The CGP and his visiting team tour Mityana Prison



CGP engages with inmates at Mityana Prison



CGP inspects parade



CGP Dr. Johnson Byabashaija is warmly welcomed by SP. Viola Biryomumisho on arrival for his strategic visit to Mityana Prison

MITYANA PRISON AT GLANCE



The newly commissioned OC's residence



Staff housing at Mityana Prison



The new administrative block at Mityana Prison



Modern housing units at Mityana Prison



UPS continues to uphold its commitment to improved infrastructure as a key advancement tool towards effective service delivery



Improved infrastructure for better humane custodial service



Inside Mityana Prison



The stunning new OC office at Mityana Prison sets a new standard for modern office design in correctional management

UGANDA STRENGTHENS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS WITH COMMAND POST EXERCISE 'OKOA MAISHA 25'



Hon. Hillary Onek, Minister of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, with senior government officials in a group photo after the successful conclusion of the Command Post Exercise 'Okoa Maisha 25' at URDC Headquarters, Jinja,

Uganda has reaffirmed its commitment to safeguarding lives through stronger disaster management mechanisms following the successful conclusion of the Command Post Exercise (CPX) Okoa Maisha 25, held at the Uganda Rapid Deployment Capability (URDC) Headquarters in Jinja.

P The exercise, themed “Disaster Response and Management: Coordination Mechanisms Among Different Actors for Rapid Response Within 12 Hours,” emphasized Uganda’s growing recognition that disaster response requires a multisectoral approach involving government ministries, security forces, humanitarian organizations, and local governments.

Hon. Hillary Onek, Minister of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, officiated as Chief Guest and applauded participants for their dedication. He emphasized the need for continuous professionalism, compassion, and resolve, reminding stakeholders that disaster preparedness is a shared responsibility.

Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala, Minister of Works and Transport, stressed the danger of working in silos, urging collective planning and sustained investment in disaster-response equipment.

Hon. Huda Oleru, Minister of State for Defence in charge of Veterans Affairs, said the exercise helped

expose operational gaps and reinforced the urgency of cross-sectoral cooperation.

Brigadier Emmanuel Kanyesigye, Cantonment Commander Jinja, representing the UPDF Chief of Staff, reaffirmed the army’s readiness to support community-based disaster frameworks and ensure security in emergency environments.

Uganda has repeatedly confronted emergencies that tested its resilience—from the destructive landslides in the Elgon and Rwenzori regions to the health and socio-economic challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. These experiences have shown that no single institution can effectively manage crises alone.

The Uganda People’s Defence Forces (UPDF), Uganda Police Force, and Uganda Prisons Service have played frontline roles in disaster response, demonstrating their capacity to rapidly mobilize, enforce emergency measures, and support vulnerable communities. Their success in past interventions has given Uganda a strong foundation for developing a coordinated Disaster Management



Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala, Minister of Works and Transport, alongside security officers, arrive at URDC Headquarters for the Command Post Exercise 'Okoa Maisha 25' in Jinja

ask Force. Okoa Maisha 25 provided an opportunity to further refine these capabilities.

The CPX brought together defence, police, and civilian components in a simulation designed to test coordination across multiple sectors. Central to this approach were contributions from:

- Ministry of Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Refugees, providing policy direction and coordination.
- Ministry of Works and Transport, ensuring logistics and mobility during emergencies.
- Ministry of Defence and Veterans Affairs, offering command structures and military support.
- Ministry of Internal Affairs, coordinating security forces including Police and Prisons.
- Uganda Red Cross Society and other humanitarian partners, providing emergency relief and community outreach.
- Local governments, such as Bulambuli District, representing communities most affected by disasters like floods and landslides.

This multisectoral involvement reflects Uganda's recognition that disaster preparedness must be inclusive, coordinated, and people-centered to achieve rapid response within the critical 12-hour window.

The Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) actively contributed six representatives, underscoring its expanding role in national disaster preparedness:

- Senior Commissioner of Prisons Frank Baine, Advisor to the Head of Mission

- Commissioner of Prisons Apollo Akankunda, CPX Evaluator
- Senior Superintendent of Prisons Deogracious Ogwapit, CPX Umpire
- Senior Superintendent of Prisons Doreen Asimwe, CPX Player
- Superintendent of Prisons Papus Muhirizi, CPX Player
- Assistant Superintendent of Prisons Mutoni, CPX Player

Their involvement highlighted UPS's capacity to go beyond custodial duties and support humanitarian operations, particularly in crisis management, logistics, and rehabilitation of affected populations.

Okoa Maisha 25 follows a Table Top Exercise held in March 2025 and will culminate in a Field Training Exercise later this year, bringing together even more stakeholders to practically test Uganda's ability to respond to complex disasters.

The closing ceremony drew delegations from ministries, departments, agencies, humanitarian organizations, and representatives from disaster-prone districts like Bulambuli. Their collective presence reflected the government's recognition that disaster management is not just a security task but a whole-of-society commitment.

As Uganda continues to face threats from natural disasters, climate change, and public health emergencies, the lessons from Okoa Maisha 25 are expected to strengthen preparedness, improve inter-agency collaboration, and ensure that the country remains resilient in times of crisis.

PICTORIAL



The closing ceremony drew delegations from ministries, departments, agencies, humanitarian organizations, and representatives from disaster-prone districts like Bulambuli.



Visiting officers review the statistics board



Honouring the National Anthems



The exercise emphasized Uganda's growing recognition that disaster response requires a multisectoral approach



UPS actively contributed six representatives, underscoring its expanding role in national disaster preparedness

UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE EXPLORES CLEAN ENERGY PARTNERSHIP WITH TANZANIA'S STAMICO



The CGP Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija and Prisons top management officers in a group photo with senior STAMICO executives at UPS Headquarters

In a bid to revolutionize clean cooking in its facilities amid rising inmate populations, the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) is exploring a groundbreaking partnership with Tanzania's State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) to produce and distribute Rafiki Briquettes, an affordable and environmentally sustainable fuel alternative.

The collaboration was spotlighted during a high-level meeting hosted by Uganda's Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, who welcomed STAMICO's Managing Director, Dr. Venance Mwasse. Dr. Byabashaija highlighted the longstanding post-independence ties between Uganda and Tanzania, describing them as a foundation for fruitful future endeavors. "Uganda has enjoyed a very good working relationship with Tanzania since post-independence times," he said, expressing keen interest in joint initiatives that align with environmental conservation goals.

UPS, which has been experimenting with small-scale briquette production in its own facilities, views this venture as a timely opportunity to address escalating energy needs. Dr. Byabashaija emphasized the initiative's potential to safeguard the environment, noting that briquettes could significantly reduce reliance on firewood and charcoal, curbing deforestation and indoor air pollution.

Dr. Mwasse, whose corporation manufactures the innovative Rafiki Briquettes, shared Tanzania's success story to underscore the partnership's promise. He revealed that 129 prisons across Tanzania have adopted these clean cooking briquettes as a reliable energy-saving solution. "Briquettes are cheaper, more affordable, provide heat for more than four hours, and are both environmentally friendly and user-friendly,"

Dr. Mwasse explained, positioning them as the ideal clean energy option for correctional services. Made from refined coal waste sourced from STAMICO's operations, Rafiki Briquettes burn cleaner and longer than traditional fuels, emitting fewer harmful gases and reducing health risks for cooks and inmates alike. This aligns seamlessly with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and Goal 13 (Climate Action), promoting sustainable resource use in resource-strapped public institutions.



The meeting underway

The meeting, attended by UPS top management and senior STAMICO executives, culminated in a proposal for a joint venture to tap into Uganda's burgeoning market. Dr. Mwase urged Ugandan citizens to embrace briquettes, citing their proven track record in Tanzanian institutions—from prisons to households as a model for broader adoption.

A Brief Background on STAMICO:

Tanzania's Pillar of Mineral Innovation Established in 1972 under Tanzania's Public Corporations Act as a wholly state-owned entity, the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) serves as the nation's gateway to a mineral-driven economy.

Headquartered in Dar es Salaam with operations spanning the country including a state-of-the-art gold refinery in Mwanza—STAMICO's mandate encompasses mineral exploration, mining, processing, refining, and marketing. It also supports artisanal and small-scale miners through technical services, training, and equipment rental at demonstration centers like those in Mbeya and Geita regions.

Beyond traditional mining, STAMICO has diversified into value-added products, notably Rafiki Briquettes, launched as an eco-friendly cooking fuel derived from coal byproducts at its Kiwira-Songwe coal fields. Recent government backing, including subsidies exceeding 8.6 billion Tanzanian shillings, has scaled production to 20 tonnes daily across

facilities in Dodoma and Tabora. In July 2025, STAMICO secured a major rare earth mining license for the Wigu Hill project in Morogoro, reinforcing its role in strategic resource development. Vice President Dr. Philip Mpango has publicly endorsed Rafiki Briquettes as part of Tanzania's 2034 target for 80% clean cooking adoption, blending economic growth with environmental stewardship.

STAMICO's expertise in low-cost, scalable briquette production—proven in 129 Tanzanian facilities—offers UPS a blueprint for energy efficiency, potentially slashing costs by up to 50% compared to charcoal while burning for over four hours per session.

Environmentally, the partnership combats deforestation, a pressing issue in East Africa, and improves health outcomes by minimizing smoke exposure in communal kitchens. Economically, the joint venture could create jobs, boost local processing of waste materials, and generate revenue through market expansion—directly supporting SDG-aligned reforms. With Tanzania's model already transforming institutions, UPS stands to gain a resilient, green energy backbone that enhances rehabilitation, cuts operational burdens, and fosters regional solidarity.



The strategic meeting culminated in a proposal for a joint venture to tap into Uganda's burgeoning market.

AFRICAN CORRECTIONAL LEADERS CONVENE IN NAIROBI TO STRENGTHEN RIGHTS-BASED PRISON REFORMS



African correctional leaders in a group photo at the High-Level Consultative Workshop in Nairobi, aimed at advancing rights-based prison reforms and strengthen collaboration across the continent

Chiefs of African Correctional Services concluded a three-day High-Level Consultative Workshop in Nairobi, co-hosted by the Special Rapporteur on Prisons, Conditions of Detention and Policing of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI). The forum, held from September 16–18, 2025, brought together senior correctional leaders from across the continent to foster collaboration and drive sustainable reform in African prison systems.

During the closing ceremony, the Commissioner General of Kenya Prisons Service, Patrick M. Aranduh, CBS, expressed appreciation for the ACHPR, Special Rapporteur Teresa Manuela, and RWI for fostering a collaborative platform that will drive reforms across African correctional institutions.

The Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) was represented by Mr. Samuel Akena, Deputy Commissioner General, who joined other Chiefs of Correctional Services in examining best practices, challenges, and solutions for effective, humane, and rights-based correctional management.

The workshop focused on key issues affecting correctional services across Africa, including:

- Prison overcrowding and strategies for parole and early release.
- Access to healthcare and medical services for detainees.

- Rehabilitation programs, including education, vocational training, and social reintegration initiatives.

- Protection of detainees' rights, addressing systemic challenges such as torture, inadequate infrastructure, and limited legal access.

RWI highlighted the importance of aligning operations with the UN Mandela Rules, emphasizing education, vocational training, and humane detention conditions, while ACHPR Resolutions provide frameworks to address structural challenges and uphold human rights in detention facilities.

The workshop provided a platform for peer learning, knowledge sharing, and strategic collaboration. Participants exchanged practical solutions, documented good practices, and explored regionally grounded approaches that can be adapted to their national contexts.



DCGP Samuel Akena, shares a light moment with Kenya's CGP Patrick M. Aranduh, CBS during the High-Level Consultative Workshop

For the Uganda Prisons Service, insights from the workshop will inform improvements in infrastructure, staff training, rehabilitation programs, and human rights compliance. Similarly, correctional services across Africa stand to benefit from shared strategies to reduce overcrowding, strengthen parole systems, enhance rehabilitation, and improve detainee welfare.

- **Operationalizing Parole:** Delegates shared approaches to conditional early release as a tool to alleviate congestion and support reintegration.
- **Human Rights Compliance:** Emphasis was placed on adhering to the Mandela Rules and other international standards to ensure dignity, fairness, and protection of vulnerable groups.
- **Staff Capacity Building:** Innovative training programs, including the proposed African Correctional Services Online Training Platform, were discussed to improve operational effectiveness across the continent.
- **Field Visits:** Delegates toured Kamiti Maximum Prison and Kamae Borstal Girls Centre, observing rehabilitation and risk-based management programs for long-term and juvenile inmates.

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI), an independent academic institution based in Sweden with regional offices across the world, has supported African justice sector institutions for nearly four decades. Through its Regional Africa Programme, RWI works with correctional services, judiciaries,

oversight bodies, and civil society organizations to integrate international human rights standards into law, policy, and practice.

Key frameworks promoted include the Nelson Mandela Rules, the Tokyo Rules, the Bangkok Rules, and the Havana Rules. These standards emphasize humane detention, non-custodial measures, gender-sensitive corrections, and protections for juveniles.

RWI's partnership with correctional services in countries such as Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, and others has already led to measurable improvements in detention conditions, inspection systems, and staff capacity. The Nairobi workshop was a continuation of this work, designed to provide correctional chiefs with a platform for strategic dialogue, peer learning, and reform commitments.

Strengthening Continental Collaboration

The workshop reaffirmed the need for regional cooperation in addressing common correctional challenges. By sharing lessons, aligning policies with international standards, and adopting innovative practices, African correctional services can build humane, efficient, and sustainable systems that uphold detainees' rights while supporting societal safety.



The workshop reaffirmed the need for regional cooperation in addressing common correctional challenges



DCGP Samuel Akena represented Uganda on behalf of the CGP



The workshop provided a platform for peer learning, knowledge sharing, and strategic collaboration.



Delegates shared approaches to conditional early release as a tool to alleviate congestion and support reintegration.

A BENCHMARK VISIT TO KAMITI MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON AND KAMAE BORSTAL GIRLS CENTRE



Visiting delegates in a group photo in front of GK Prison Kamiti during a benchmark visit to Kamiti Maximum Security Prison



Visiting delegates tour furniture products crafted by inmates at Kamiti Maximum Security Prison, showcasing the institution's commitment to skills development and inmate rehabilitation



Visiting delegates inside the saloon and fabric production workshop at the prison's female section



DCGP Samuel Akena inquires about the mini yarn sorting machine



DCGP Samuel Akena receives a token of appreciation, marking the conclusion of a successful benchmark visit

BUILDING TOMORROW'S LEADERS: THE PRISONS INTERMEDIATE COMMAND AND STAFF COURSE EQUIPING SENIOR OFFICERS WITH MODERN CORRECTIONAL SKILLS



Participants and facilitators of the 4th Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) in a group photo at the Uganda Prisons Academy and Training School, Luzira

The 4th Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) is currently underway at the Uganda Prisons Academy and Training School (PATs), Luzira, bringing together 58 carefully selected prison officers from across the country. The course is a key component of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) Human Resource Development Strategy, designed to strengthen the professional, managerial, and leadership capacities of mid-level officers.

The program focuses on enhancing analytical thinking, improving command capabilities, and sharpening supervisory skills to prepare participants for higher responsibilities in prison management. It also emphasizes modern correctional practices, professionalism, and inter-agency collaboration within the Justice, Law, and Order Sector (JLOS).

Beyond classroom instruction, the ICSC integrates practical field visits, benchmarking exercises, and expert-led sessions that expose participants to innovative approaches in correctional administration. These activities ensure that officers graduate as well-rounded leaders, capable of driving Uganda Prisons' vision of becoming a center of excellence in providing human rights-based correctional services in Africa.

With this strong foundation, the course continues to serve as a beehive of activities.

A. SENIOR PRISONS OFFICERS URGED TO UPHOLD INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The Deputy Inspector General of Government (IGG), Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria, has urged senior prison officers undergoing the Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) at the Prisons Training School, Luzira, to embrace integrity, transparency, and patriotism as the foundation of their future leadership in Uganda's public service.

Delivering a lecture titled "Public Financing, Accountability, and the Role of the IGG," Dr. Okiria emphasized that accountability is central to promoting the efficient and effective use of public resources.

"As future leaders, you must understand that integrity is non-negotiable. Transparency builds public trust, and without it, governance systems collapse," she told the officers.

She outlined the mandate of the Inspectorate of Government, which includes enforcement of the Leadership Code, supervision of asset declarations, and investigations into misconduct within public



The Deputy Inspector General of Government (IGG), Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria (middle) in a group photo with the course participants after her lecture

institutions. Dr. Okiria stressed that accountability remains a critical pillar in combating corruption and strengthening good governance.

A seasoned lawyer with expertise in Human Rights Law and Regulatory Compliance, Dr. Okiria called on participants to lead by example, saying this is the surest way to inspire public confidence and contribute to national development. The lecture was well received by the participants. Superintendent of Prisons May Kobusinge described the session as “timely,” noting:

“Dr. Okiria’s advice on leading with integrity truly resonated with us. We have learned valuable principles that we shall carry forward in our duties with patriotism.” Dr. Okiria commended the officers for their attentiveness, describing the engagement as “great” and a demonstration of their commitment to ethical leadership.

The session formed part of broader efforts by the Inspectorate of Government to instill a culture of integrity and accountability within public institutions, preparing future leaders of the Uganda Prisons Service to become champions of transparency, professionalism, and national service.



Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria gives her lecture



Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria in a group photo with female course participants

B. FROM IMAGE CRISIS TO INSTITUTIONAL PRIDE: SCP FRANK BAINE URGES OFFICERS TO GUARD THE UGANDA PRISONS BRAND

Over three decades ago, the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) faced deep-seated challenges that tarnished its image. Limited professionalism, lack of integrity and poor public perception painted a picture of an institution struggling to meet both national and international correctional standards. In those years, the prisons were often associated with human rights violations, dilapidated structures, and a lack of clear identity within the broader Justice, Law, and Order Sector.

Today, however, UPS stands as a transformative and professional correctional service a journey that has been achieved through deliberate reforms, modernization, and consistent brand building. This was the central message delivered by Senior Commissioner of Prisons (SCP) Frank Baine, Head of Corporate Affairs and Service Spokesperson, as he addressed participants of the ongoing Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) at the Prisons Academy and Training School, Luzira.

SCP Baine, who has served as the government's longest-standing communicator since 2008, reminded the officers that maintaining the UPS brand is not an abstract concept but a daily responsibility. He urged senior prison officers to embrace professionalism, discipline, accountability, transparency, effective communication, and staff welfare management as pillars of institutional reputation.

"Smartness and general turnout of staff and inmates is key. Every staff member is entitled to a transfer after working for three years in a single station. Don't deny them this right; always forward their requests to the responsible authorities," he stressed.

He also underscored the importance of servant leadership, cautioning officers against detachment from their subordinates and inmates. "As Officers in Charge, you must take an interest in your staff and inmates. Some of you are too busy to listen to them, but you must be cautious and embrace servant leadership," he said.

Drawing from his own career, Baine recounted his experience as Officer in Charge at Kotido Prison during insecurity in Karamoja, where resilience and commitment were essential for survival and leadership. Later, at Bufulubi Prison, he spearheaded maize production initiatives, illustrating how innovation and adaptability can change the face of service delivery.



SSP Frank Beine delivers his lecture

Anchoring his lecture on the duties of a citizen as outlined in the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, SCP Baine emphasized that these principles, when internalized by officers, could shape them into not only better leaders but also custodians of the UPS brand. Among the duties he highlighted were: respect for national symbols, gainful work, protection of public property, combating corruption, fostering unity, responsible parenthood, environmental conservation, upholding the law, and defending Uganda.

"Leadership is about living the Constitution—transforming challenges into opportunities, protecting public trust, and serving with integrity. When we practice these duties, we not only become better officers but also strengthen the image of the Service," he said.

Participants of the ICSC extended a vote of thanks to SCP Baine, acknowledging his wealth of experience and practical guidance on leadership, branding, and institutional reputation. They praised his insights as vital tools for shaping them into transformative leaders capable of safeguarding the Uganda Prisons identity in the years ahead.

C. A BENCHMARK VISIT TO THE KITALYA MINI-MAX PRISON FACILITY



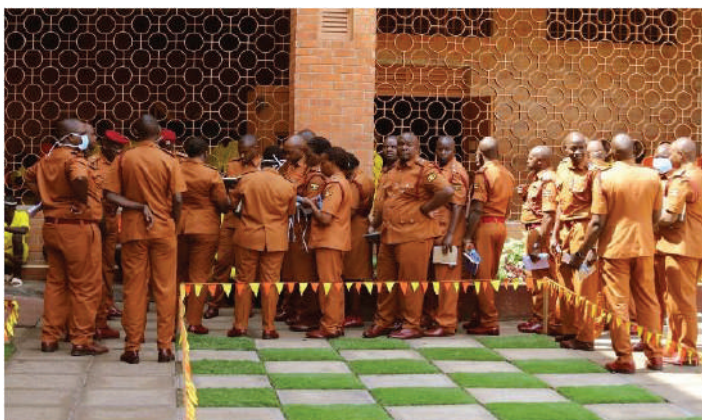
Participants of the 4th Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course at Kitalya Mini-max prison

Participants of the 4th Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) conducted a benchmarking tour of Kitalya Mini-Max Prison in Wakiso District, a facility widely recognized as one of the best-managed prisons in East and Central Africa. The delegation of 58 carefully selected officers drawn from various units across the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) was welcomed and guided by the Officer-in-Charge, Mr. Hassan Walangira, Superintendent of Prisons, together with other senior officers.

The officers explored several key installations at the modern facility, including the garment factory that produces uniforms for staff and inmates, advanced healthcare systems, modern accommodation wards, and state-of-the-art security and surveillance systems comprising more than 70 CCTV cameras. They also examined inmate welfare programs, robust rehabilitation and recreational initiatives, and the fully equipped educational facilities, which include a school, computer laboratory, and a well-stocked library.

Commissioned in 2019 with a capacity of 2,000 inmates, Kitalya Mini-Max was established to ease congestion at Luzira Upper Prison. Its 30 cells, medical wing, and emphasis on rehabilitation through skills development—particularly garment and leather production—have become a model of “smart prisons” in the region. Course organizers emphasized that such benchmarking visits are integral to the ICSC curriculum, which is designed to enhance analytical thinking, command capabilities, and supervisory skills. By studying Kitalya’s best practices, participants are expected to strengthen their professional competencies and foster strategic collaboration within the Justice, Law, and Order Sector (JLOS).

The benchmarking tour not only offered participants insights into world-class correctional management but also reinforced UPS’s commitment to modernizing prisons and contributing to socio-economic transformation in Uganda.



The officers explored several key installations at the modern facility, including the garment factory, advanced healthcare systems, modern accommodation wards, and state-of-the-art security and surveillance systems



An aerial view of Kitalya Mini Max Prison shot across a blossoming sunflower plantation

D. FROM DETECTION TO DETERRENCE: HOW DOGS SAFEGUARD CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES



SP Generous Betunga (centre, holding a canine), after delivering a specialized lecture on the role of canines in enhancing prison security to participants of the 4th Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course

As part of the 4th Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC), participants attended a specialized lecture on the role of canines in enhancing prison security, delivered by Dr. Generous Betunga Behabura, Superintendent of Prisons (Veterinary Surgeon). Dr. Behabura underscored the indispensable role of dogs in correctional services, noting their exceptional qualities—keen sense of smell, loyalty, agility, and intelligence which make them vital partners in prison management.

She outlined the multiple functions of canine units in Uganda Prisons, including strengthening perimeter security, deterring escapes, detecting narcotics, weapons, and contraband, and assisting in riot control and emergency responses. Specialized breeds such as German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, Rottweilers, and Beagles are trained for tasks like search operations, tracking escapees, and supporting handler safety.

In addition to their operational value, Dr. Behabura stressed the importance of animal welfare, anchored on the five pillars of care—freedom from hunger, discomfort, pain, and fear, alongside the ability to express natural behavior. She emphasized that ensuring the health and well-being of both dogs and their handlers is central to the effectiveness of canine units.

“These four-legged officers are more than just animals; they are frontline partners who close critical security gaps and promote safer correctional facilities across Uganda,” she remarked.

The session provided ICSC participants with fresh insights into specialized security support systems and reinforced the course’s overall goal of building versatile leaders and managers capable of addressing complex challenges in the Uganda Prisons Service.



SP Behabura Generous outlined the multiple functions of canine units in Uganda Prisons, including strengthening perimeter security, deterring escapes, detecting narcotics, weapons, and contraband, and assisting in riot control and emergency responses.



The canines are also called 'the four legged officers'

UGANDA CELEBRATES RHINO CONSERVATION WITH HISTORIC NAMING CEREMONY



Uganda recently marked World Rhino Day with a vibrant and historic “Name and Save a Rhino” ceremony at the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary in Nakasongola, spotlighting the nation’s remarkable commitment to conservation and the recovery of its white rhino population. Seventeen rhino calves were christened during the event, raising significant funds to support anti-poaching measures, habitat expansion, and community programs.

The ceremony, one of the most anticipated on Uganda’s conservation calendar, was a colourful display of national pride that drew diplomats, senior government officials, conservationists, cultural leaders, and nature enthusiasts. The gathering celebrated a major conservation triumph, as Uganda’s white rhino population has risen from extinction in 1982 to a current count of 50 rhinos, 48 of which now live at Ziwa. This success story began with just a few translocated rhinos.

President Yoweri Museveni, represented by Minister Muruli Mukasa, hailed the program as one of the National Resistance Movement’s (NRM) success stories. In his message, he emphasized that the multiplication of rhinos “demonstrates Uganda’s commitment to conservation and strengthens our position as one of the world’s most preferred tourist destinations.”

Minister of Tourism, Wildlife, and Antiquities, Col. Tom Butime, described the milestone as “a

triumph of resilience and a promise of hope,” urging global unity in protecting natural heritage. He also underscored the historical and economic significance of conservation in the region, reminding guests that Nakasongola was part of the Luwero Triangle, where the NRM waged the bush war in the 1980s.

The “Name and Save a Rhino” initiative personalized the conservation effort. Each naming came at a cost of \$10,000, contributed by participating sponsors—including embassies, government agencies, tourism operators, religious institutions, and cultural figures. These contributions go directly toward sustaining rhino conservation.

Among the newly named calves were Kira, Pearl, and Akili. The British High Commissioner, Lisa Chesney, who named one of the rhinos Pearl, pledged continued support for Uganda’s conservation agenda. She explained her choice, saying: “Our chosen name is Pearl because we believe conservation is a treasure.” She further noted that the sanctuary is “a testament to the nation’s



SSP Frank Baine represented the CGP at the “Name and Save a Rhino” initiative

determination to safeguard its heritage,” adding that Uganda’s tourism is deeply dependent on nature.

Minister Butime also highlighted the crucial economic benefits, noting that rhinos attract tourists who spend on crafts, entertainment, and hospitality services. Conservation efforts, he stressed, also directly employ local community members as rangers, tour guides, and drivers.

Mr. Frank Baine, Senior Commissioner of Prisons, representing the Commissioner General of Prisons, reaffirmed government support for the initiative. The overall conservation effort forms part of an \$11 million campaign led by the Uganda Wildlife Authority, the Uganda Tourism Board, and the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife, and Antiquities (MTWA).

Looking ahead, plans are already underway to translocate 20 rhinos to the Ajai Wildlife Reserve, marking the next phase in securing Uganda’s rhino population.

As music, dance, and laughter echoed across the sanctuary, the event reinforced the message that safeguarding wildlife is safeguarding the nation’s future. For conservationists, the animals at Ziwa are more than just residents—they are “symbols of resilience and a beacon of hope for future generations.” Uganda’s conservation story, powered by the #NameAndSaveARhino initiative, is now about uniting people, securing livelihoods, and positioning the nation as a premier global tourism destination.



The ceremony was a colourful display of national pride that drew diplomats, senior government officials, conservationists, cultural leaders, and nature enthusiasts.



For conservationists, the animals at Ziwa are more than just residents, they are symbols of resilience and a beacon of hope for future generations

UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE BRINGS HEALTH CAMP TO MBARARA MAIN PRISON



CP Stella Nabunya participates in the blood donation exercise during the Uganda Prisons Service Health Camp at Mbarara Main Prison

Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) has extended its regional health camp initiative to Mbarara Main Prison, demonstrating its commitment to improving the welfare of staff through quality health service provision. The camp, which runs for two days, follows a directive by the Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, who earlier this year officially launched the UPS Health Camp at Prisons Headquarters in Kampala and instructed those similar interventions be rolled out across all regional prisons to reach all prison staff nationwide.

Representing the Commissioner General at the camp, Ms. Stella Nabunya, Commissioner of Prisons (Health), emphasized that the program is designed to strengthen staff health systems by tackling both communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which continue to pose a dual challenge for the Service.

For decades, Uganda has focused on fighting infectious diseases such as HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, and meningitis. However, new threats like hepatitis B, yellow fever, and haemorrhagic fevers have emerged, while NCDs—including hypertension, diabetes, cancers, cardiac disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), osteoarthritis, and mental health disorders are on the rise.

Older UPS staff remain particularly vulnerable, with common health concerns including hypertensive and cardiac complications, respiratory illnesses, dietary deficiencies, and bone and joint problems.

The health camp in Mbarara has been structured as a hub of hope and action. It offers a wide range of services, including blood draws, mental health support, phlebotomy, cervical and breast cancer screenings, family planning, dental care, triage, and counselling. Advanced tests such as Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), liver function, and renal function tests are also being conducted on-site. Cases requiring specialized attention—such as suspicious cervical cancer lesions—are referred seamlessly to Luzira Prison Staff Hospital for further investigations and advanced care.

Recent UPS statistics indicate a 1.2% increase in staff mortality during the 2024/2025 period compared to the previous year, with 65% of these deaths linked to preventable NCDs among staff aged 45 and above. The launch of regional health camps represents a proactive step by the Service to reverse this trend, ensuring early detection, timely intervention, and improved access to health services for staff.



The camp was designed to strengthen staff health systems by tackling both communicable and non-communicable diseases

While the camp primarily targets prison officers in the South Western Region, its services are also extended to surrounding communities, strengthening the bond between UPS and the public while promoting healthier, more resilient neighbourhoods.

The UPS leadership has continued to emphasize that the health and welfare of prison staff remain central to the institution's operational effectiveness. By rolling out health camps nationwide, the Service is not only addressing immediate health needs but also laying the foundation for a more sustainable and resilient workforce capable of meeting the demands of modern correctional service.

As day one concluded, the camp entered its second day with activities scheduled to wrap up on Friday, leaving behind a model of wellness and preventive care that UPS intends to replicate across the country.



Prison officers donating blood at the camp

PICTORIAL



The camp offered a wide range of services, including blood draws, mental health support, phlebotomy, cervical and breast cancer screenings, family planning, dental care, triage, and counselling



Staff spouses were also beneficiaries of the program

UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE'S SAFETY AND SECURITY UNIT SET TO CELEBRATE 10 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE



SP Jack Kwehangana addresses the Safety and Security Unit on the values of Professionalism, Reliability, Integrity, Security, Oneness, Nationalistic and Discipline

The Safety and Security Unit (SSU) of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) is set to celebrate its 10th anniversary with a series of activities at the Luzira Prisons Complex, marking a decade of specialized service and commitment to safety and security.

Established in 2015 under the directive of the Commissioner General of Prisons, the SSU was created to handle special security operations within the Service. Over the years, the unit has grown into a highly trained force of more than 500 personnel, tasked with responsibilities ranging from guarding key installations and providing VIP protection to escort duties and rapid response operations.

Beyond traditional prison security, the SSU has taken on critical roles in combating violent extremism, managing Violent Extremist Prisoners (VEPs), deploying canine units, and strengthening overall security across prison facilities. This has positioned the unit as a cornerstone of UPS's broader mission to maintain secure, humane custody while contributing to national security.

Speaking ahead of the celebrations, Superintendent of Prisons Jack Kwehangana, the Officer in Charge of the SSU, commended the unit's evolution and professionalism:

"The Safety and Security Unit was established to take on tasks that require precision, resilience, and discipline. Over the last ten years, our officers have risen to this challenge, whether in managing violent extremists, recapturing escapees, or safeguarding

sensitive prison installations. This anniversary is a celebration of their dedication and sacrifice."

The anniversary program will feature a variety of activities designed to foster unity and showcase the culture of the unit. Planned events include sports and recreational competitions between different intakes, general cleanliness drives in the barracks, tree planting exercises, talent showcases, folk tales and storytelling sessions, and comedy performances. These activities will not only celebrate the achievements of the SSU but also strengthen the bonds among officers.

The SSU has become a vital component of the Uganda Prisons Service, reflecting the Service's transformation into a modern, professional institution. Its ability to adapt to emerging threats, such as violent extremism, while maintaining discipline and integrity has earned it recognition both within UPS and among security stakeholders.

As the unit marks ten years, the anniversary serves as both a reflection on past accomplishments and a commitment to the future. The SSU continues to embody the vision of the Uganda Prisons Service—ensuring safe custody, protecting communities, and contributing to national development.

MAROONS FC GEARED FOR SUCCESS IN THE NEW UGANDA PREMIER LEAGUE SEASON



Maroons Football Club enters the new Uganda Premier League (UPL) season with renewed optimism and clear ambition, buoyed by consistent performances in recent campaigns and the promise of a competitive new league structure.

Over the past three to four seasons, Maroons FC has steadily established itself among the top eight sides in the UPL—a testament to resilience, discipline, and technical growth. This consistency has laid a strong foundation for the Club as it now targets breaking into the top bracket of Uganda's elite football.

The new UPL format, which rewards consistency across three competitive phases, offers improved prize money and emphasizes data-driven performance, provides Maroons with a fair and motivating platform to climb higher on the log. Club insiders say the system plays to Maroons' strengths organization, patience, and the ability to grind out results across a long season.

Recent results in the Super 8 Tournament further underscored Maroons' potential. The team registered two spirited draws against BUL and Express, secured a commanding 2–0 victory over noisy neighbours KCCA, and suffered a narrow 3–1 loss in the BUL return leg. The sixth-place finish reflected both the progress already made and the areas requiring refinement. For the technical team, these matches offered valuable lessons and confidence ahead of the league kick-off.

"We are not far off from the top contenders," the Club CEO Mr. Roderick Muhumuza noted. "The team has shown character, and with the right adjustments, we believe this will be the season we push into the very top spaces of the league."

The journey begins with a demanding fixture list. Maroons open their campaign against BUL on October 1, followed by back-to-back clashes with UPDF (Oct 15), Calvary (Oct 22), and Police (Oct 29). Later fixtures against URA, Vipers, Villa, Kitara, Express, KCCA, and Mbarara City will test the squad's depth, mental strength, and tactical sharpness.

Off the pitch, Maroons FC acknowledges the pivotal role of its governance structure in steering the Club forward. The Board of Directors, under the able leadership of the Club Chairman ACPG Hillary Bisanga, has provided timely support and strategic guidance that continues to propel the team toward greater success. From logistical backing to investment in player welfare, the leadership's influence has been central to Maroons' progress.

As the new UPL season dawns, the mood around the Luzira-based side is one of readiness and determination. With a well-drilled squad, a supportive board, and a technical team committed to excellence, Maroons FC is well positioned to capitalize on the new league format—where every stage counts and consistency is richly rewarded.



One force. Mbiri Mbiri!



Norman Odipio challenges for the ball during a league game



Action Time !

DOWN THE MEMORY LANE



CGP Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija visits Prison staff' spouses bakery at Luzira Prison

ORBITUARY

The Commissioner General of Prisons announces the deaths of fallen Comrades



F/NO:10633 Sgt/WDR
KEFA KASUBI
U.G Prison Kaliro
B: 06th April 1971
D: 14th Sept. 2025



F/NO: 8984 Sgt/WDR
BENSON AROP AKELLO
U.G Prison Kiruhura
B: 12th Nov. 1984
D: 23rd Sept. 2025



F/NO: 20341 WDR
KEVIN TUR YATUZA
Low Cost
B: 21st Sept. 1996
D: 14th Sept. 2025

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