

FORUM FOR DEMOCRATIC CHANGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

100 DAYS

One Uganda, One People

19TH MARCH 2018

Background:

The new Party President assumed office on **1st December, 2017** after a swearing in and handover ceremony that took place in Najjanankumbi. The Party President pledged to deliver to the Party members the accomplishments of his first 100 days at the expiry of that period. Today **19th March, 2018** the President presents his record of work for the period **1st December, 2017 to 18th March, 2018** which accounts for 100 days exclusive of Christmas and other holidays.

This is a new tradition in the Party where accountability will be emphasized going forward from now.

Introduction:

The then Presidential candidate's campaign was premised on four pillars against which this report is structured and these are:

Party Cohesion, Reclaiming our victory, Revitalization of Party Structures, and Women and Youth Empowerment.

This report therefore will be confined to the successes and failures within these four pillars of my presidency.

A. Party cohesion:

I am glad to report that the party has largely been stable since the President assumed office and we can confidently state that it is operating normally this far. In keeping with the promise to enhance Party Cohesion, the Party president has:

1. Reached out to former Party Presidential Candidates;

During my acceptance speech, I promised to reach out to my brothers against whom I competed in an effort to urge them to join me to work for our party. Indeed in keeping with the promise given to the party I reached out to them as following:

Gen. Mugisha Muntu;

The meetings took place on 1st and 8th December, 2017 when we discussed the stability of the party in relation to his contribution to it. Both of us observed that given that the elections had just been concluded there was a need for further engagement. Gen. Muntu informed me that he and his team had taken a decision to do countrywide consultations on what he viewed as the teething challenges affecting the Party before returning to discuss his findings with the Party Leadership. I understand these consultations are of a personal nature and was never an endorsement of the organs of the Party. The Party therefore will

not be bound by the outcomes of such consultations that were never sanctioned by the Party in the first place.

I will however continue to reach out to the former party President through respected third party individuals and these interactions have been positive.

Mr. Dan Matsiko

A meeting with Mr. Matsiko took place at the swearing ceremony on 1st December, 2017. There was unplanned meeting which took place at the funeral of his mother in Igara East. I have continued to enjoy good relationship with Mr. Matsiko and I believe that he can be a useful member of the party who has emerged from the presidential election of the 24th November, 2017 election.

Mr. Moses Byamugisha

We met in January and held a discussion on his future role as member of the party. The meeting was cordial. Mr. Byamugisha has since the election been travelling around the country mobilizing especially young leaders as a means of beneficially deploying his skills. Arising from our meeting, it was agreed that all these activities will be done with the full knowledge and endorsement of the party organs. He would therefore be conductive activities as an individual if these are not approved by the NEC of party and therefore not form a record of Party achievements.

2. Held meetings with the national leadership and Party Organs

- **Presidency:**

Owek. Joyce Naboosa Sebugwawo

Hon. Reagan Okumu

Yet to be met are:

Hon. Alice Alaso Asianut

Mr. Patrick Baguma

The working relationship with the Deputy Presidents met has continued to flourish and helped the party access vital information from the regions and I most sincerely thank them for filling the gap whenever I was unavailable at the call of duty.

- **Chairpersons:**

Meetings were held with the substantive Chairperson Owek. Waswa Birigwa and all the four Vice Chairpersons:

Hon. Salaam Musumba

Hon. Okello Okello

Hon. Roland Kaginda Mugume

With the exception of Mr. Rajab Kaaya

I am happy to report and thank Deputy Chairman Hon. Proscovia Salaamu Musumba who has volunteered her valuable time to do some important administratively work, which has helped to partially bridge the gap left by Ms. Rose Nassanga (RIP), our late Chief Administrative Officer who passed on in January.

- **Secretary General:**

Hon. Nathan Nandala Mafabi

Dr. Joseph Tindyebwa

Mr. Horald Kaija

The Secretary General and his deputies have greatly assisted my office to function normally, amidst many challenges. It is because of this cooperation that today I am able to report these accomplishments.

- **Working Committee Meetings:**

The President chaired 11 well attended meetings of the Working committee to give policy directions to the party. Major business concluded includes:

- a) Appointments committee proposal
- b) Consideration of Reports from Secretary General, Youth league, Parliament and Treasurer General.
- c) Consideration of various budget items
- d) Consideration of changes in leadership in Parliament

- **National Executive Committee (NEC) Meetings:**

The President has chaired 4 well attended meetings of the National Executive Committee (NEC) Meetings to major decisions for the party. Main committee business concluded includes:

- a) Appointments committee approval
- b) Approval of Youth blood donation activity
- c) Approval of Women league women's day celebration activities.
- d) Consideration of various field reports.
- e) Approved a minor change in Parliamentary leadership

- **Youth and Women Leagues:**

The President held consultation and planning meetings with the leagues intended to strengthen and make the leagues more functional. Consequently these two important leagues have over the last one month successfully carried out landmark activities which include:

- a) Blood Donation campaign which was sabotaged by the NRM junta.

- b) University and higher institutions students campaign activities with varying success.
- c) Youth sports activities including awareness football competitions
- d) Women's day Celebrations activities
- e) Reaching out to families of victims of women murders in Nansana, Wakiso district, as part of the women's day activities by a team led by Ms. Sarah Eperu and Dr. Stella Nyanzi the Spokesperson women's league and woman activist respectively.

- **District Party chairpersons and Leaders;**

I made courtesy calls to a number of districts across the country and had discussions with some of our party leaders.

I am pleased to report that I have been to the districts of Jinja, Iganga, Bugiri, Busia, Tororo, Mbale, Kumi, Ngora and Soroti in Eastern Uganda; Lira, Pakwach, Nebbi, Arua, Koboko, Moyo, Yumbe, Adjumani, Nwoya, Amuru in the North; Kiryandongo, Mbarara, Rukungiri, Mitooma and Bushenyi in Western Uganda; and in the central region, Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Kayunga, Masaka, Mpigi, Nakaseke. A report of what was achieved from these visits is here for your information.

A delegation of 5 leaders from Kasese district led by their Chairman Mr. Saulo Maate, visited the Party headquarters on a working visit. The meeting which was also attended by the Secretary General discussed and resolved matters that included discipline among leaders, the security situation in the district, leadership structure filling and an impending visit to the Rwenzori region by the Party President.

The founding FDC president Col. (Rtd) Dr. Kizza Besigye visited the Party headquarter to deliver a paper during the training of media activist. He later held brief discussions with the leadership of the party.

An interactive meeting between the FDC Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA) Councilors was held on 7th March, 2018, with the President and DSG, to establish a working relationship between them and the party leadership, and to understand the challenges that they face as city leaders. Arising from the meeting, the Lord councilors pledged to play a more vibrant role towards the functioning of the party, including contributing to the funding of activities. It was also found of necessity for the Party National leadership to visit the individual districts in order to come in terms with the different challenges that they face. The Party President also accepted to meet with the division councilors and elected Party during such visits.

3. Interfaced with Members of Parliament

In this period the Presidency, office of Chairperson and the Secretariat held meetings with the Leader of the Minority and Minority Chief Whip, and members of Parliament. The purpose of these meetings included identifying way of building bridges between the different factions in Parliament arising from the internal presidential election. It was also intended to build confidence and mutual respect, and to heal the wounds arising from that election. It was also meant to establish a cordial working relationship convenient to both the Members of Parliament and the leadership of the Party. Senior leaders of the Party were involved in the said meetings.

We all agreed on remaining committed to the party and of the need for these interactive meetings to continue as a way to reduce the gap between the leadership in Parliament and that at the party headquarters.

A joint Press conference was held with political parties in the opposition and members of Parliament on the common position taken by Parties in the opposition, on the constitutional amendment (2017). This was held on 8th December in Parliament.

I have reached out to a number of NRM and Independent Members of Parliament who defied instructions from their party leadership to vote for the constitutional amendment, as a way of appreciating the firm stand they took.

4. University Chapters

Through the Party Youth League, the Party President was able to meet various student leaders particularly those from higher institutions of learning, to discuss strategies on how to develop youth leaders, with a view to growing future leaders.

The party promoted and financed some of our guild presidential party candidates and so far we have registered victory through **Mr. German Amanywa** in the Kyambogo Presidential elections and an FDC leaning independent candidate **Mr. Salim Papa Were** of Makerere University. Our youth league will remain actively involved in activities related to guild elections in the Universities and other higher institutions of learning where nomination of candidates has already taken place.

5. Fast tracking Founders and Elders Forum

This forum which is a creation of the Party Constitution had never been formed from the time the constitution was approved. In the first 100 days, management

has developed a long list of potential members of the committee. The identification of members on the list was based on their experience and contribution to the wellbeing of the party.

Under the Party constitution the Elders Forum is obliged to arbitrate disputes within the party, between the party organs and leadership in order to realize reconciliation and harmony in the Party.

6. Revitalizing the Disciplinary Committees

This has been achieved and **Hon. Okello Okello** our Deputy Chairperson, has been charged with providing leadership nationally in respect to resolving cases of indiscipline. In this period the branch Disciplinary Committees have been reawakened and I am glad to report are now functional.

So far no disciplinary cases requiring the national disciplinary committee have come to the attention of the party.

B. Courtesy calls on Partners

This is an ongoing activity that was carried out to deliberately allow the newly elected Party President to interact directly with institutions and individuals that are stakeholders and partners in the politics and development of Uganda. It was also intended to project the image of the FDC as a party of choice to work with. The Party interacted with 8 development Partners, 31 Religious leaders, 7 Elders & Senior Citizens.

It is worth mentioning that in a bid to strengthen relations between the Party and Embassies and Civil Society Organizations the leadership paid courtesy calls to and held discussions with the American Ambassador Ms. Deborah Mallac and a delegation from the EU election monitoring team. We also met with the International Republican Institute (IRI), Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS) and the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD). In all these cases the party registered continued acceptance and pledges of support to our work mostly in the area of capacity building.

The Party had the opportunity to interact with cooperating sister Political Organizations to further our working relationship with them. The Political parties and Organizations officials met include:

- Lord Mayor Elias Lukwago the leader of the Truth and Justice Forum,
- Hon. Norbert Mao, President General of the Democratic Party and other officials of the Party.
- Hon. John Ken Lukyamuzi, President of the Conservative Party, and
- Mr. Asuman Basalirwa, President of the Justice Forum

No attempt was made to meet Mr. Yoweri Museveni the permanent Chairman of NRM due to his direct involvement in manipulating Members of Parliament to amend the constitution.

Diaspora Chapters have been contacted mainly through electronic communication awaiting future arrangements for face to face interactions.

The UK and Europe Chapter chairman, Prince Dickson Wasajja visited the party headquarters and held talks with the party national leadership. It was agreed that the Diaspora chapters be revitalized for them to effectively engage in Party activities.

The Anticipated meetings with Cultural Institutions did not take place, mainly because of the sensitivity of the institutions, given restrictions to their engagements in political activities. However we will keep engaging them indirectly through individual members of the party.

C. Reclaiming our victory

In reclaiming our victory, a number of activities were planned, of which ONLY the following activities can be openly reported on:

1. Mobilizing for LCI elections

Through deliberate actions of reaching out to individual members who expressed interest in contesting for the LCI positions. Owing to the uncertainty of when the elections will take place, there has been a general slowdown of the mobilization.

2. Country wide consultations on Constitutional Amendment and Bye-Elections

A new campaign dubbed *Tubalemese*, as a way of promoting popular dissent towards the act of amending the constitution was launched. This campaign is supported by FDC, Truth and Justice Forum and Conservative Party in conjunction with the Peoples Government. The party announced and is implementing a campaign of isolation against the 317 members of Parliament who voted for the constitutional amendment and this is already taking its toll on the said individuals. I am glad to announce that this campaign has necessitated the 317 MPs to seek personal protection by state security agents. This is confirmed by the statement of the Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga, Speaker of Parliament about how those MPs are terrified to go back to their constituencies. A number of MPs including the Lutsheshe Member of Parliament, Mr. Godfrey Nabutanyi have since apologized to their constituents.

The party has also participated in bye elections. Whereas the primary objective of going to the bye- elections was and will remain winning political positions and

expanding our leadership base, our participation also gave us an opportunity to campaign to rally the population to reclaim our 2016 victory. The FDC fielded candidates in the following electoral areas with varying levels of success:

- **Ms. Christine Ninsiima** the only female candidate Igara East parliamentary by- elections came 4th amidst voter bribery and intimidation. *Togikwatako* was promoted across the entire constituency which significantly created awareness about the need to fight the proposal to amend the constitution at the time.
- Our **Mr. Naboth Nabaasa** scored victory in Rwentuuha Town Council elections, becoming the first Mayor of that newly created Town Council. Even when faced with enormous pressure from what seemed to be an NRM dominated electoral area, Mr. Nabaasa won by defiance. We congratulate him for his courage and upon that achievement.
- The party was unable to field a candidate in the Ruhaama constituency by-election despite identifying a flag bearer and paying the requisite Ushs.3,000,000 registration fees. Our investigation indicates that they would be Party candidate was subjected to unbearable intimidation causing him to fear for his life and consequently withdrawing his offer as flag bearer at the last minute. We will continue to pursue this matter so that through early identification of candidates this is never repeated.
- The by- election for Jinja Municipality East Constituency is so far the most significant ever to the FDC and the people of Uganda. It came as the first immediately after the infamous Constitutional amendment last December. It is the reason we believe it was a referendum on the question of the feeling of common Ugandans about the amendment of their constitution. Our call for Ugandans to support the *Tubalemese* campaign was heeded. The by- election also brought together all progressive political forces together and tells a lot about the power of a united opposition and what it can do towards the liberation of Uganda. It also gave us in the FDC a test of what our internal unity can yield. Although FDC won, we still believe the flawed election which was highly militarized and where pre ticked ballot papers were used, deprived our candidate a win with a bigger margin.

We are deeply concern that 86 of our activists were arrested and illegally confined in order to deprive us of the much needed and experienced campaign infrastructure. Regrettably six of our colleagues are reported still in detention. Our flag bearer, **Hon. Paul Mwiru** won a hard fought victory through very challenging campaigns and reclaimed our victory that we had won in 2016, in the first place. I congratulate him and the people of Jinja Municipality East for the victory.

On behalf of the FDC I thank all our sister political parties; UPC, DP, JEEMA and CP for the unity of purpose that we exhibited and the vigilance on polling day that to a great extent foiled the NRM rigging machine.

3. Review of the initiatives on 2016 Election Audit process

A number of development partners and donor agencies have been met to highlight what went wrong in the Presidential elections of 2016. The failure of government to implement recommended electoral reforms and the rushed and forceful amendment of the constitution were addressed to the country's partners.

The Party is persuaded about the reluctance by Mr. Museveni to agree to an Audit of the 2016 Presidential elections outcome. Whereas we are open to dialogue, we wish to maintain our demand that this will only be based on the Audit of 2016 Presidential Election being on top of the Agenda.

D. Revitalization of Party Structures

1. Interim Appointment Board

To accomplish complete strengthening of Party structures, deliberate activities have been carried out and these include the Setting up an Interim Appointment Board that has been achieved. The Party Management and National Executive committees proposed and approved the following persons and offices to the Appointments Committee:

Hon. Phillip Wafula Oguttu	Chairman
Hon. Augustine Ruzindana	Member
Mr. Kibuuka Mukalazi	Member
Dr. Elizabeth Kiwalabye	Member
Eng. Emmanuel Bukabeeba	Member
Hon. P.P. Okin	Member
Ms. Kalule Sewali Abby	Member
Office of Party President	Ex-official Member
Office of Party Chairman	Ex-official Member
Party Secretary General	Ex-official Member
Chief Administrative Officer	Secretary

The committee has the following immediate tasks to accomplish:

- Appointment of the Interim Electoral Commission
The Management Committee has developed a long list which will on approval by NEC be handed to the Interim Appointments Board for vetting.

- **Appointment of the Elders Committee**
The long list for the eleven people Committee has been approved by management committee and now awaits the approval NEC before being handed to the Interim Appointments Board for vetting.
- **Setting up a team to kick start development plans for Party Headquarter Complex**
- **Setting up a team to establish a Board of Trustees and the Party Business arm**
- **Setting up performance standards for FDC leadership in Parliament, Cabinet Secretaries, NEC, Districts and Staff for headquarters**

2. Refilling gaps within our party structures

A campaign has been launched for identification of gaps within our Party structures and also to encourage FDC members to take up leadership positions. Field mobilization activities across the country covering 19 out of 20 regions by staff of the secretariat have taken place.

In collaboration with the Peoples Government, “Expression of Interest” forms have been distributed countrywide to our members to indicate their preferred offer for leadership.

3. Refilling gaps as and when they fall vacant

This is an ongoing exercise which is intended to take care of members leaving the leadership of the party due to different circumstances.

4. Membership Recruitment

The party scored successes in this direction over the last 100 days, with a number of members who had openly expressed noncooperation with the party returning to actively participate in its activities.

We have also registered new membership of especially prominent political personalities of our society. I am happy to report that following notables have joined the party:

- Dr. Stella Nyanzi and academic, woman activist and promoter of social Justice which is the foundation of the FDC
- Hon. Vincent Kyamadidi, former member of Parliament of Rwampara Constituency, who brings a rich Human rights defense capacity
- Hon. Andrew Allen, former member of Parliament of Bugabula North constituency, who brings in a rich culture of diversity.
- Mr. John Baptist Asea Ozuma, former Mayor of Lugazi who has proven mobilization skills.

- Edwin Akuragye, former Biharwe Sub County District Councilor, Kiruhura.

They will be unveiled in the weeks to follow.

The Secretary of Mobilization, Ms. Ingrid Turinawe in coordination with office of the President had carried out countrywide activities leading to the defection of members from other parties to the FDC.

5. Update of the membership data

To facilitate proper registration of both new and old party members and therefore update our data base, new party cards have been introduced by the office of the Secretary General. The party branches have been encouraged to purchase cards for purpose of easy access by members. So far 500,000 cards have been purchased.

A card tracking mechanism has been initiated to monitor purchase and returns used to update our party membership data base.

6. Funding and Fundraising Strategy

The Party significantly dealt with its debt backlog and within the next three months would have no more liabilities to pay. The Party has also developed a Fundraising Strategy a copy of which is here with me. We hope to realize over US\$1bn. in the next one year as we roll out its implementation.

7. Establishment of the Leadership Academy

My candidature pledged to strengthen Party organs through training. This is going to be accomplished by the establishment of a Leadership Academy. In this respect, the party carried out a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) among members, across the country and has now produced a report a copy of which is with me. Based on this report the curriculum and related training modules will be development before we roll out our membership training.

Meanwhile, in a bid to address urgent communication needs, the Party has conducted media training of our media activists.

Conclusion:

Apart from a few areas where what we set out to accomplish was not achieved, overall the first 100 days of my Presidency have been a great success. Where we didn't achieve it was purely out of external factors beyond the control of the Party.

It is now incumbent on the Party to utilize the recent gains under the new management to move the Party forward. Over the next few months we will continue

with the activities whose lifespan goes beyond the first 100 days. We will also be unveiling new field activities intended to engage the dictatorship in areas that affect the common Ugandan population negatively. We will be engaged in the following campaigns as we continue engaging the Junta:

- Demand for social services and accountability for taxes Ugandans pay,
- Demand for the restoration of the status quo of the constitution before the December amendment. This will include the continued isolation campaign against the 317 MPs who betrayed Ugandans,
- Fight against land grabbing and the impending constitutional amendment of Article 26 intended to deprive common Ugandan of ownership of their land
- Reclaim our victory from 2016, wherever they we stolen,
- Rebuilding of the Party into a robust institution that Ugandans can count on as the best alternative to lead this country. This will include but will not be limited to aggressive membership recruitment and retention, completing the elections to fill up structures and facilitate their activities and training and empowering our structures.

