

NATIONAL STATEMENT BY RT. HON. NABBANJA ROBINAH

PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

DURING THE FIRST PART OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT WORLD CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT AT COP28, DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

1ST - 2ND DECEMBER 2023 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

AL HAIRAT PLENARY HALL

Excellecies

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

- I bring you warm greetings from H.E President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and the people of Uganda.
 Uganda congratulates the United Arab Emirates under the able leadership of H.E President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and the COP28 President H.E Sultan Al Jaber for their exemplary leadership in convening COP28.
- 2. Uganda is uniquely favored by nature compared to other parts of the Globe because it lies astride the equator and is between 621metres and 5011metres above sea-level, that is why it enjoys the sun punctuated with plenty of rain all year around but also has moderate temperatures of between 19°c at night and 24°-29°c during the day.
- 3. Some parts of Uganda actually have permanent snow, like Mt. Rwenzori, which is right next to the Equator!

Uganda also has massive plateau, with large fresh water bodies, that is why Uganda is called the Pearl of Africa

- 4. While Uganda's natural biodiversity presents significant opportunities for adaptation and mitigation that can contribute to the global reduction of Greenhouse gas emissions, it is highly vulnerable to environment shocks. We are experiencing flash floods, landslides, prolonged droughts and rising temperatures caused by both internal and external factors.
- 5. Excellencies, Uganda has come up with policies to protect our environment and biodiversity that require funding.
- 6. Ecxellencies, I note that currently only 10% of climate finance reaches the local level. This is unacceptable. Uganda therefore supports the climate finance approaches that ensures 70% of the funds reach the most vulnerable at lowest level.
- 7. Uganda expects that Cop 28 will establish simplified and easy to access operational mechanism for loss and damage fund; free from

the burden of the Multilateral Development Banks processes. This will ease the burden on the poor and vulnerable communities.

8. Your excellencies, as I conclude, Government of Uganda recognizes and welcomes Just Transitions that is orderly and phased energy transition that ensures the shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy that minimizes negative consequences on workers, communities, ecosystems and national economies for enhanced energy access and Sustainable Development.

I thank you.

Nabbanja Robinah **PRIME MINISTER**

The Republic of Uganda