Kampala, Wednesday, 13th March 2019 – East African Community Secretary General Liberat Mfumukeko concluded his visit to Uganda with a meeting at Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU). PSFU was represented by Mr. Gideon Badagawa, Mr. Jim Kabeho, Ms. Barbra Mulwana, and Mr. Stuart Mwesigwa among others.

The purpose of the visit was for the Secretary General together with his team to familiarize himself with PSFU and to understand how we can work together as a community so that we can echo one voice towards economic growth as the East African Community, other than individual states.

The Secretary General also shared his interaction and discussions with African Development Bank (AfDB) President, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina in February 2019. "I used the meeting opportunity to seek support in the implementation of the 5th Development Strategy, which he said requires US$985 million over 5 years. He specifically sought support in Agriculture and Industry." He further informed us that AfDB will provide more support to Agriculture and Industry and especially Agri-industrialization. Therefore, he emphasized our need to prepare and share bankable projects in those sectors to the EAC Secretariat immediately for consideration by AfDB. A joint team of EAC and AfDB will work on preparing bankable projects for presentation to the AfDB coordinated African Investment Forum in November 2019 in South Africa.

He also mentioned that his visit to Uganda is to further follow up on the implementation of the 5th EAC Development Strategy which was adopted during last year’s EAC Summit. The strategy positions the private sector and industrialization among the EAC’s top priorities. Hence, the need to familiarize himself with the private sector bodies in the Community. He emphasized that it’s very critical to involve the private sector so that challenges of food security, lack of employment can be addressed collectively together with the Governments.

Mr. Gideon Badagawa together with private sector members present applauded the Secretary General’s initiative to meet the private sector, as well as the great opportunities from AfDB. They committed to work closely with EAC to ensure that our bankable projects are presented accordingly and to continuously coordinate with EAC so that we all grow and develop as a Community.
KAMPALA – The Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU) Expo was organized by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives and the Investment Review Publications (IRP) and it took place on March 7 to 9 at Kololo Airstrip. The 3-day event aimed at promoting local content, encouraging and building patriotism within the general public, enhancing networking and coordination around the BUBU policy. “Effective implementation of the BUBU policy through supporting local industries, enhancing quality and quality of goods produced will reduce Uganda’s trade deficit with other Countries globally,” Said Prime Minister Ruhakana Rugunda during a dinner to mark closure of the BUBU Expo.

Private Sector Foundation Uganda was recognized for their exemplary performance in promoting BUBU Campaign through their initiatives and advocacy activities. The BUBU expo will be rolled in other districts such as Gulu, Mbale, and Soroti to continue sensitizing the private sector to promote local products & services.

Prime Minister Ruhakana Rugunda hands over an award to Mr. Gideon Badagawa, Executive Director PSFU as Minister of Trade, Amelia Kyambadde looks on.
The European Union (EU) and its member states, in partnership with the Government of Uganda and the Private Sector Foundation of Uganda (PSFU) aim at promoting Uganda as an attractive destination of private sector’s investments, in order to spur sustainable economic growth and jobs generation.

With that background, a Consultative meeting which involved EU, private sector players & Government representatives was held on 28th February 2019 at Golf Course Hotel and the main objective of the meeting was to identify areas of intervention in order to promote private sector investments in Uganda.

It was noted that a key aspect to promote Uganda as an interesting market for private investments and businesses is to assess and propose measures to make the regulatory and enforcement environment more conducive.

The consultation meetings will continue to June 2019, and the priority investment hurdles to be discussed include:

1. Access to Finance
2. Skills and attitude
3. Corruption

Hon. Victoria Ssekitoleko sharing her experience during the consultative meeting with EU
UGANDA’S TOP BUSINESS LEADERS & CEOs MEET TO DISCUSS ADVancing GENDER EQUALITY & WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN UGANDA

Kampala, Thursday, 14th February 2019 - Through 2018, UN Women worked with partners to identify innovative and cutting edge approaches advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Uganda. Among the recommended priority actions in 2019 is to boost the contribution of promising business women to generate wealth and employment in Uganda in partnership with the Private Sector. UN Women hosted business leaders at a breakfast meeting at Sheraton Hotel Kampala and they discussed and shared the following recommendations below to achieve Gender Inclusive Business in Uganda based on existing UN-Sponsored experiences such as the UNDP’s Gender Equality Seal:

- Have inclusive public procurement systems to ensure that women are involved
- Create a database system which will be a central point to access contacts of remarkable & promising business women. Profiling women will encourage promotion of women in their various capacities
- Promote family friendly policies at the work place to ensure that women are not distracted by other social responsibilities, as well as remain productivity
- Promote trainings & mentorship programmes across the sectors
- Involve women & girls in participating in the various programmes from the grassroots, upwards

Way Forward

The Participants agreed to form a task force to drive the agenda as well as follow through with the recommendations above. The task force is represented by the following institutions;

- PSFU
- UWEAL
- UNDP
- UN Women
- BPW

Some of the business leaders who attended the meeting together with UN Women representatives
Rajesh Chaplot, an ex-St Paulian and a resident of Udaipur was felicitated with “Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA), 2019 from H.E the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind on 23 January 2019, Pravasi Bhartiya Divas at Varanasi. This is the highest award given to any Non Resident Indian.

This award was given to Rajesh Chaplot, a 1982 batch alumnus for his contribution towards keeping the India flag flying high in Uganda & Africa. His family comprises of his wife Pratibha Chaplot, daughter Krati Chaplot, married to Aditya Chordia and lives in London & younger daughter Savi Chaplot who works as an Actuary in Dubai.

Rajesh Chaplot is a Chartered Accountant by profession and has resided in Uganda for the last 20 years. His contribution in Uganda /Africa includes his capacity as the CEO of Graphic Systems (U) Ltd., a printing and packing company based in Uganda. Chaplot has steered the company to its current position as the best printing and packaging company in East Africa. As the Chairman of the Indian Association in Uganda, he spearheaded the first Diwali celebration at the State House in 2012 with the President of Uganda, a tradition which has been maintained ever since.
Kampala, Friday, 15th March 2019 - The #365SavingChallenge is an initiative of @WomenForHerUg, a women’s movement that brings together women in business, media, politics, corporate women, women presenters and women in finance have all joined hands to reach out to the girl child in Uganda.

This financial inclusion project is aligned to the Global Agenda 2030 which presents an opportunity for young girls to explore opportunities for job creation, entrepreneurship and self-reliance & is in line with the Government of Uganda plan to empower the youth, especially the girls.

The #365SavingChallenge was officially launched today, 15th March at Old Kampala Senior Secondary School, and the theme of the launch was ‘Securing the financial foundation of young girls’.

“Uganda needs women entrepreneurs who will break boundaries; take the lead as CEOs of the big multinationals. But all we need as girls & women is to have one voice; and stand up to the challenge. Therefore, take charge and start saving so that you’re able to meet the needs of tomorrow.” Stated Ms. Ruth M. Biyinzika.

The partners on board to support this initiative include; Centenary Bank, NBS TV, Career Path Uganda among others.

Objectives of the #365SavingChallenge project:

1. To create awareness about the importance of savings thus addressing the misconceptions with savings among young girls.

2. To financially empower young girls to adopt sustainable saving culture.
Business growth is our business

@psfug
Private Sector Foundation Uganda - (PSFU)