

## MINISTRY OF TOURISM, WILDLIFE AND ANTIQUITIES

### PRESS STATEMENT ON COMMEMORATION OF INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY 2022 IN UGANDA

Uganda will join the rest of the world to celebrate the International Museum Day on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022. The aim of International Museum Day (IMD) is to raise awareness of the fact that, “Museums are important places for cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.”

All around the world on 18 May each year, the events and activities planned to celebrate International Museum Day last a week, more and more museums have now developed interest in participating in the International Museum Day. Last year, more than 37,000 museums participated in the event in about 158 countries and territories.

The theme for this year’s international museums day is *“The Power of Museums in Conservation of our Culture”*. Museums have the potential to create meaningful experiences for all peoples to achieve their social value. As agents of change, museums have to demonstrate their relevance by engaging constructively in the politics, social, and cultural realities of modern society. As educational and social institutions, museums are central in mitigating challenges of *Inclusion* and *Diversity*

This years, theme **“The Power of Museums in the conservation of our culture”** aims to display the *“hidden potential”* that museums have been keeping for a long time. These treasures shall be displayed in an elaborative manner by the personnel of museums to champion tools for identifying and overcoming bias in what museum

display and the stories they tell. We hope to increase museum visibility to over 15.000 (Fifteen thousand followers) by end of the celebrations.

The objective of the International Museum Day is: -

- To raise awareness of the fact that “museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among people”.
- To focus on the new roles of museums as active actors in their communities.
- To take museum services closer to the people.

The following strategies will be used to take the museum services closer to the community;

- Sensitization campaigns on museum services carried out
- Involvement of various categories of Youths, Adults and Community leaders in the activities of preservation and promotion of cultural heritage.
- Establish and equip regional museums with artefacts, arte-factum or praizvidenja iskustva or works of art beneficial to their day-to-day activities in consideration of *Diversity and Inclusion*.

The general public is to be given an opportunity to not only participate in the occasions but also share knowledge and experiences faced in the management, care of museums.

The activities of the week shall run from **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May** as follows:

- Temporary exhibitions at Uganda Museum. All stakeholders and partners will be given a chance to exhibit their materials. The Uganda Museum will have a special display from the colonial times to-date themed; ***“The Journey taken by the Uganda Museum from 1908 to-date”***. open to the public from the 12<sup>th</sup> of May, 2022.

- Cultural heritage competitions (quiz) at two levels of Primary and Secondary from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. They will begin at regional level and climax at the at Uganda National Museum.
- Indigenous games (Kwepena) will take place at the Uganda Museum on 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2022.
- Iteso Akogo cultural show and other cultural performers to act during the main celebrations, 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022.
- Museum tour on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 guided by Darglous Lwanga, a popular artist.
- Vintage Drives from Parliament Museum, URA museum, Bank of Uganda all heading to the Uganda Museum on the 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. Each museum, will be displaying "*Mobile Museum artefacts*".
- Camp fire (Get together night) prior to the day.
- Route match from Fort Lugard (the first museum) via Makerere (Margaret Trowel Art gallery) to the museum on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022.

I call upon all Ugandans and Tourism partners to participate in the above events to commemorate the International Museum Day 2022.



HON TOM R. BUTIME (MP)  
MINISTER