

President Museveni for the London Conference on Somalia

February 23, 2012

President Yoweri Museveni is in Britain to attend the London conference on Somalia currently taking place in London. The President who is accompanied by his wife Mrs. Janet Museveni was received at Heathrow International airport by the Uganda High Commissioner to United Kingdom, Ms Joan Rwabyomere and the State Minister for Foreign Affairs responsible for International Affairs Hon. Okello Oryem.

The London Conference on Somalia is being hosted by UK premier David Cameron with the objective of seeking a lasting political solution that will bring peace and security to Somalia and reduce threats to the United Kingdom.

With engagement from attendees at the highest level, the conference will agree a series of practical measures to support Somalia.

Forty governments are being represented, along with multi-lateral organizations, the World Bank, the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development, the Organization of Islamic Conference, and the League of Arab States. Other countries represented include Ethiopia, Kenya, the United States, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Sweden, the African Union and the European Union. The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is also attending.

Britain has also invited representatives of Somalia's Transitional Federal Government (TFG), as well as the presidents of the breakaway Somaliland, Puntland, and Galmudug, and the non-militant Islamist group Ahlu Sunnah Waljama'a (ASWJ).

Discussion will focus on security, sustainable funding for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), political process, local stability, counter-terrorism, piracy, humanitarian efforts and international coordination.

Other Uganda government officials attending the conference include; Lt. Gen. Katumba Wamala, Commander Land Forces, the Commander of the Defence Forces, General Aronda Nyakairima, the Political Commissioner of Uganda Peoples Defense Forces, Col. Phenihias Katirima, Minister for Defense Dr. Crispus Kiyonga, Minister of Tourism Ephraim Kamuntu and Ambassador James Mugume, PS Foreign Affairs.

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