Ministerial Press Statement on World Habitat Day
4th October, 2010

ON THE OCCASION TO MARK WORLD HABITAT DAY, MONDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2010, THE MINISTRY OF LANDS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT REMINDS UGANDANS THAT AS THE WORLD BECOMES PREDOMINANTLY URBANIZED, WORLD HABITAT DAY PROVIDES AN ANNUAL OPPORTUNITY TO REFLECT ON HOW WE CAN MAKE OUR TOWNS AND CITIES BETTER PLACES FOR ALL.

THIS YEAR'S THEME "***BETTER CITY, BETTER LIFE*****",** HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED FOR SUSTAINED ACTIONS THAT WILL IMPROVE WELL-BEING FOR THE MILLIONS OF UGANDANS WHO LIVE IN SLUMS AND OTHER SUB-STANDARD HUMAN SETTLEMENTS THROUGH OUT THE COUNTRY. IT ALSO CALLS FOR THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES OF URBAN POVERTY RANGING FROM POLLUTION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT.

OUR TOWNS AND CITIES ARE FINDING SUCCESSFUL SOLUTIONS TO MOST OF THESE PROBLEMS, BECAUSE THEY HAVE RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF URBAN PLANNING AND PROVISION OF BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES TO FOR ALL, WHERE WOMEN AND MEN, BOYS AND GIRLS FEEL SAFE AND SECURE. HOWEVER, THESE EFFORTS NEED TO BE ENHANCED AND INCREASED.

STAKEHOLDERS ARE THEREFORE ENCOURAGED TO CHART OUT STRATEGIES AND MARSHAL RESOURCES TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES IN THE HOUSING SECTOR TO MEET THE COUNTRY'S NEEDS AND CONSTRAINTS.

THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS WILL BE HOSTED BY ENTEBBE MUNICIPALITY AT NAMATE SPORTS GROUNDS. STAKEHOLDERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HOLD SIMILAR CELEBRATIONS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.

GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT ALL UGANDANS ARE HOUSED IN DESCENT AND AFFORDABLE HOUSES AS A MEANS TO ENHANCE HOUSEHOLD WELLBEING.

HAPPY CELEBRATIONS TO YOU ALL

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

Hon Daniel Omara Atubo
Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development