19th May, 2016

Rt. Hon. Ruhakana Rugunda
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
KAMPALA

RE: PROCUREMENT OF OUR LOCALLY MADE TEXTILES

I am writing to direct that the UPDF, the Uganda Police Force, the Uganda Prisons Service and Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) must start buying locally made uniforms (plain, camouflage, ceremonial), shoes, jackets, belts, socks and, eventually, tents. We now have textile factories that are operational or are coming up unlike in the past when all the textile factories had collapsed.

It is time, therefore, to stop the haemorrhage of money to the advantage of the outside world and also the loss of jobs. Uganda consumes textiles worth US$865 million per annum. This money is all, or most of it, going out. This is not to talk of shoes, cars, second hand computers, carpets, curtains for houses, mosquito nets, etc.

This haemorrhage must be stopped. To start with, the UPDF, the Uganda Police Force, the Uganda Prisons Service and UWA must start, straight away, buying all their uniforms from our factories (Nytil, Fine Spinners, etc). These factories can make any uniform the forces require. This should be expanded to include the socks, the jackets, the head dress, the belts, etc. Other local manufacturers should be engaged to make shoes, belts, etc.
I need a timetable from you, having discussed with the heads of the armed services and the factories, when the whole spectrum of items will be made and procured locally.

Now that we have the electricity, the peace and the good roads, we can no longer tolerate the myopic policies of enriching others to our detriment.

Yoweri K. Museveni
PRESIDENT

Copy to: H.E. the Vice President
Minister of Defence
Minister of Internal Affairs
Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities
Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
Chief of Defence Forces (UPDF)
Inspector General of Police – Uganda Police Force
Commissioner General – Uganda Prisons Service
Executive Director – Uganda Wildlife Authority
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Internal Affairs