

**STATEMENT BY THE UGANDA DELEGATION AT THE 67TH SESSION OF
THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD-FIRST SEGMENT.**

ITEM 2 – ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

**PRESIDENT OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
AMBASSADOR FEDERICO VILLEGAS,
THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD, DR. MUKHISA KITUYI,
EXCELLENCES,
DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

At the outset, my delegation takes this opportunity to congratulate you upon your election as President of the 67th Session of Trade and Development Board. We are confident that you and your team, assisted by the Secretariat shall continue to constructively propagate the role of UNCTAD especially in these extraordinary times.

My delegation aligns itself with the statements made by the distinguished delegates of Angola on behalf of Africa and Zambia on behalf of the Group of 77+ China.

Mr. President,

We commend UNCTAD's contributions in the various sectors as highlighted in the Secretary General's presentation this morning.

We would like to single out the efforts of UNCTAD towards the development of an STI policy review of the Uganda which has been finalized. The lessons learnt shall act as a spring board in our quest to building of a Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) ecosystem including institutions, legal framework, infrastructure and cross cutting interventions which can stimulate the turning of innovations into targetable outputs that have impact on economic development. We however, call on UNCTAD to explore ways through which they can extend further assistance to the implementation phase of outcomes of the policy reviews. STI is a major enabler of the SDA 2030, and therefore, its effective and efficient utilization is in synch with the spirit of leaving no one behind.

We take this opportunity to also thank all those partners that have continued to provide additional resources to support UNCTAD's work.

Mr. President,

Less than a decade shy of the 2030 SDA Agenda, the world is facing unprecedented disruption caused by the impact of COVID 19. We are experiencing falling incomes; extreme poverty and hunger is looming while job loss is at rising levels. UNCTAD finds itself in a demanding position as we head into UNCTAD XV and is therefore, encouraged to use its leverage under its important pillars of consensus building, research and analysis to galvanize and shape the global community towards exploring of alternatives for a robust recovery. Due consideration, should be given to the needs of special interest groups such as the LDCs.

Finally, Mr. President,

Allow me take this opportunity on behalf of my delegation to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the esteemed delegations and the Secretariat for commiserating with us following the loss of our dear Permanent Representative, and also former President of the Trade and Development Board for the year 2016-2017, Ambassador Christopher Onyanga Aparr last month.

We are indeed grateful.

May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

I THANK YOU.
