



PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SPORTS ON THE NATIONAL LIBRARY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

OFFICE OF THE CLERK TO PARLIAMENT

PARLIAMENT BUILDING

KAMPALA-UGANDA

APRIL 2024

A photograph of a document page featuring several handwritten signatures and markings. At the top left, the word 'ENT BUILDING' is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. Below it, the word 'UGANDA' is written in a similar style. To the right of the text, there is a large, stylized, cursive signature that appears to read 'Kew to'. Below this, there are several other markings: a large oval with a diagonal line through it, several horizontal lines with vertical marks, and a signature that looks like 'Alanya' with a large 'X' drawn through it. In the bottom right corner, there is a large, stylized 'V' or 'W' shape.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Rt. Hon Speaker and Hon. Members,

The National Library (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was read for the first time on Tuesday 9th April, 2024 and in accordance with Rule 129(1) of the Rules of Procedure of the 11th Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, was referred to the Sectoral Committee on Education and Sports for scrutiny.

The Committee scrutinized the Bill in accordance with Rule 129(2) of the Rules of Procedure and hereby reports to this house in accordance with Rule 130(2) of the same Rules.

2.0 POLICY AND PRINCIPLES OF THE BILL

The policy behind the Bill is to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalization of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure (RAPEX) which was adopted by the Cabinet on 22nd February 2021.

3.0 DEFECTS IN THE EXISTING LAW

The Bill states the defects in the existing law as follows:

The Constitution establishes a definite number of Government agencies, including constitutional commissions, authorities, boards, local councils and other statutory bodies. These were established to perform certain specified constitutional functions. Over the years, however, there has been a proliferation of agencies established by Acts of Parliament, Executive Orders and administrative arrangements. Whereas most of the agencies are necessary due to the critical nature of the functions they perform, Government has established that a certain limited number of agencies were established without due consideration to the aspects of institutional harmony, functional duplications, overlaps and affordability. Government has also established that some agencies have served the purpose for which they were established. The mandate of a few other agencies has been overtaken by events. Such agencies need to be rationalized.

More importantly, the proliferation of agencies has created mandate overlaps and jurisdictional ambiguities among the agencies. Additionally, the high cost of administering the agencies has drained the national treasury at the expense of effective service delivery. This has overstretched the capacity of Government to sustain them. Government has also established that the generous salary structures of the agencies has created salary disparities between employees of the agencies and public officers in the traditional civil service leading to demotivation of human resources in the mainstream public service.

4.0 OBJECT OF THE BILL

The main objective of this Act is to give effect to the Government Policy for Rationalization of Government Agencies and Public Expenditure adopted by the cabinet on 22nd February, 2021 and contained in Cabinet Minute No. 43(CT 2021).

5.0 METHODOLOGY

During the process of considering the Bill, the committee:

a) met and held discussions with the following stakeholders:

- (i) The Ministry of Education and Sports;
- (ii) The National Library.

b) reviewed the following documents:

- I. The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 (as amended);
- II. The National Library Act, 2003;
- III. Written memoranda from National Library.

6.0 BACKGROUND TO NATIONAL LIBRARY OF UGANDA

The National Library of Uganda established by the National Library Act, 2003, replaced the Public Libraries Board established by the Public Libraries Act, 1964. National Library of Uganda is responsible for standards, guidelines,

and advocacy for libraries and distributes over 30,000 books to over 50 public libraries and to community libraries across Uganda. National Library of Uganda has an annual collection of over 1500 legal deposit materials by Ugandan writers and currently employs 16 staff.

The functions of the board are to establish, manage and maintain the National Library of Uganda and to put in place procedures for the collection, preservation, and use of the National Library Collections.

The National Library of Uganda is currently managed and administered by a Director who is appointed by the board, with the approval of the Minister. The Director is the Secretary, Chief Executive, and Accounting Officer of the board.

The Director is also the chief inspector and coordinator of public libraries under local governments on matters relating to library and information services.

7.0 SALIENT OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee had an interaction with the Director and other staff of National Library of Uganda and analyzed their written memoranda. The National Library of Uganda welcomed the Bill. However, concerns were raised on the repeal of Section 9 of the Principal Act and the saving provisions that relate to staff and payment of terminal benefits. National Library stated that the staff were worried about continuity of National Library operations when the Bill comes into force.
- b) The Committee observed that the National Library of Uganda was established and was under the Committee of Social Services. According to the Certificate of Financial Implication, the Bill is envisaged to result in savings to Government through a reduced wage bill and personnel related costs amounting to **UGX 1.282 bn in FY 2024/25 and UGX 1.622 bn in FY 2025/26.**

Financial implications for the Bill over the medium term for the National Library of Uganda

CATEGORY	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
Savings in Shs. Bn	Shs (Billion)	Shs (Billion)
Wage	1.162	1.162
Non-wage recurrent	0.46	0.46
Total	1.622	1.622
Costs		
No. of affected staff - 16		
o/w terminal benefits	0.34	
Net savings	1.282	1.622

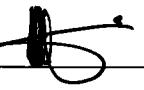
- c) The Committee further observed that National Library of Uganda has been a subvention under the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. The amendment proposes that the management of the National Library and the functions that were performed by it are transferred to the Ministry responsible for education.

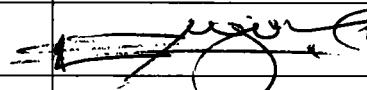
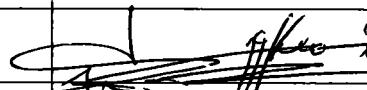
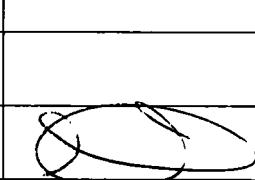
The Committee recommends that the National Library of Uganda is mainstreamed into the Ministry of Education and Sports and that terminal benefits of the staff be expeditiously handled.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The Committee on Education and Sports recommends that the Bill be passed.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SPORTS ON THE UGANDA
NATIONAL LIBRARY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024.

No	NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PARTY	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Twesigye John Ntamuhiira Chairperson	BUNYARUGURU COUNTY	NRM	
2.	Hon. Kubeketerya James D/Chairperson	BUNYA COUNTY EAST	NRM	
3.	Hon. Asiimwe Musiime Molly	RWAMPARA COUNTY	NRM	
4.	Hon. Nyakato Dorothy	DWR KITAGWENDA	NRM	
5.	Hon. Acibu Agnes	NEBBI DISTRICT	NRM	
6.	Hon. Ndeezi Alex	PWD	NRM	
7.	Hon. Lokwang Philliphs Illukol	NAPORE WEST COUNTY	NRM	
8.	Hon. Mutumba Abdul	KIBOGA WEST COUNTY	NRM	
9.	Hon. Etuka Isaac Joakino	UPPER MADI	NRM	
10.	Hon. Paparu Lillian Obiale	DWR ARUA	NRM	
11.	Hon. Katusiime Annet Mugisha	DWR BUSHENYI	NRM	
12.	Hon. Tibasiimwa Joram Ruranga	OPS WESTERN	NRM	
13.	Hon. Bingi Patrick Nyanzi	BUTEMBA COUNTY	NRM	
14.	Hon. Acon Julius Bua	OTUKE EAST COUNTY	NRM	
15.	Hon. Timuzigu Kamugisha Micheal	KAJARA	NRM	
16.	Hon. Linda Irene	FORTPORTAL CITY	NRM	

17.	Hon. Ismail Muhammad Lomwar	KOTIDO MUNICIPALITY	NRM	
18.	Hon. Edson Rugamayo	WESTERN YOUTH	NRM	
19.	Hon. Ongiertho Emmanuel Jor	JONAM COUNTY	FDC	
20.	Hon. Oguzu Lee Denis	MARACHA COUNTY	FDC	
21.	Hon. Nabukenya Brenda	DWR LUWERO	NUP	
22.	Hon. Ssewungu Joseph	KALUNGU WEST	NUP	
23.	Hon. Nsamba Patrick Oshabe	KASSANDA NORTH	NUP	
24.	Hon. Kakembo Michael	ENTEBBE MUNICIPALITY	NUP	
25.	Hon. Kayemba Geofrey Solo	BUKOMANSIMBI	NUP	
26.	Hon. Aguti Sarah	WR DOKOLO	UPC	
27.	Hon. Rev. Fr. Charles Onen	GULU EAST	INDEP	
28.	Hon. Macho Geoffrey	BUSIA MUNICIPLAITY	INDEP	
29.	Hon. Aagon Silas	KUMI MUNICIPALITY	INDEP	
30.	Hon. Akugizibwe Aled Ronald	BURULI COUNTY	INDEP	
31.	Hon. Lt. Col. Dr. Jennifer Alanyo	UPDF REPRESENTATIVE	UPDF	
32.	Hon. Juliet Kyinyamatama	DWR RAKAI	INDEP	
33.	Hon. Makhoda Margaret	DWR NAMAYINGO	INDEP	
34.	Hon. Nakayenze Connie Galiwango	WR MBALE CITY	INDEP	
35.	Hon. Itungo Nathan Twesigye	KASHARI SOUTH COUNTY	INDEP	