

UN COUNTRY TEAM reflects on deliver at annual retreat

By Patricia Nalule, United Nations Resident Coordinators Office (RCO)

“UN in Uganda remains committed to strengthening regional partnerships and integration, improving Delivering as One (DaO) and reinforcing the UN’s role in addressing the root causes of development challenges in Uganda,” said Ms. Rosa Malango, UN Resident Coordinator in her remarks at the opening of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) retreat.

The UNCT annual retreat is a platform to discuss progress, identify challenges, agree on the way forward to make relevant decisions for the UN to remain fit for purpose in Uganda. The UNCT is comprised of the heads of 18 UN agencies, funds and programmes.



US Ambassador, Ms. Deborah Malac; UN Resident Coordinator, Ms. Rosa Malango; the Dean of Diplomatic Corps and Kenya High Commissioner, Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Okanga and South Korean Ambassador, Mr. Park Jong-Dae during a panel discussion at the UNCT Retreat

The three-day retreat held from 7th to 9th September 2017 at Imperial Golf View Hotel, Entebbe was attended by heads of UN agencies in Uganda based in the country and at regional headquarters, representatives from Government, ambassadors, development partners, non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector.

The retreat acted as a platform for the UN Family to reflect on delivery and forge a way forward to strengthen partnerships.

The Prime Minister, Right Honourable Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, in remarks read on his behalf by Mr. Martin Owori, Commissioner at the Office of the Prime Minister, said that the Government of Uganda was committed to mobilising domestic resources for the 2030 Agenda by widening the tax base, bringing on board the informal sector, and supporting the Ugandan private sector and entrepreneurship among youth.

The Dean of Diplomatic Corps and High Commissioner of Kenya, Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Okanga hailed Uganda's relations in the region and her open-door policy to refugees.

The US Ambassador to Uganda, Ms. Deborah Malac in her remarks appreciated the work of the United Nations supporting refugees in the country. She further underscored the need for the UN to deliver as one as well as strengthen coordination with the Government of Uganda.



UN Country Team members in a group discussion at their annual retreat

The South Korean Ambassador to Uganda Mr. Park Jong-Dae applauded UN and Government of Uganda for its role in supporting development in the country, citing the partnership between the South Korean government with UN on rural Sustainable Development Programs in areas of health and education.

The UN Country Team committed to review the coordination architecture of the UN System in Uganda, strengthen the UN Area Coordination teams, leverage joint operations at sub-national level, optimise partnerships with private sector, communicate with intent to all stakeholders including staff using appropriate tools and channels, encourage stakeholders and staff to talk about the UN's work, and to play its role as convener of power, knowledge transfer and partnerships.