



**Remarks at Launch of the Youth Mentorship and Leadership
Camp - *Ekisaakaate Kya Nnabagereka (EKN) Gatonna 2018***

By Ms. Rosa Malango

UN Resident Coordinator, UN Resident Representative and
Designated Official, Uganda

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Her Royal Highness, the Nnabagereka of Buganda

The Katikiro of Buganda, Owekitiibwa Peter Mayega

Ministers of Buganda Kingdom

**The Chair and members of the Board of the Nnabagereka
Development Foundation (NDF)**

**The Chair and members of the Subsidiary Board of the
Ekisaakaate Kya Nnabagereka (EKN)**

Distinguished Guests

Teachers and Parents

Ladies and Gentlemen

Girls and Boys

I take this opportunity to thank Her Royal Highness the Nnabagereka of Buganda, for inviting me to this occasion of the Launch of Gatonya 2018.

Your Royal Highness

It gives me great pride and joy to be at this launch for two main reasons:

First, because not only are we instilling in our boys and girls the cultural values that our parents brought us up appreciative of and abiding by, but also because it demonstrates our appreciation of the role of culture in sustainable peace and development. Putting culture at the heart of peace and development contributes essential momentum needed for their sustainability.

Throughout our transformative years, our parents taught us the values of respect, tolerance, humility, neighborliness, empathy, hygiene, among others. They taught us that this *makes* us. It's our DNA-the driving force behind our behavior, individually and nationally. It defines our relationships. It defines us. *Obuntubulamu, Obuntu, Omuntu, Ubuntu, Utu, Umundu....*in different African backgrounds.

Your Royal Highness,

We have all assembled here from different cultural backgrounds, but these values hold true for all of us. These values are universal. I am because you are. Humanity.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and in particular Goal 16 whose focus is Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, is, as we can all attest, the values espoused in *Obuntubulamu*. By inculcating these values in these young boys and girls, the

Ekisakaate is breeding a social movement that has the consequence of creating a new breed of transformative leadership. A moral and responsible generation that holds within its reach, the ability to sustain peace and development in a world where the two are in great jeopardy.

Your Royal Highness

The recent roundtable of the different cultural institutions under your foundation's leadership demonstrates that there is willingness and drive for the leaders to champion these positive cultural values and pass them on to the younger generation. We hope that the young generation can in turn pass them on for the greater prosperity of our people and planet.

UN in Uganda is committed to our partnership with you on reviving and rebuilding the cultural values to ensure Uganda achieves Vision 2040.

I conclude by congratulating our boys and girls who will be in this iteration of Ekisakaate. I urge you to be the drivers of the social change needed in the value system in Buganda and Uganda as whole.

I thank you.