

DIALOGUE ON NATIONAL ACTION PLANS ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN EAST & HORN OF AFRICA REGION

UGANDA NATIONAL DIALOGUE REPORT
8 DECEMBER 2021
GOLF COURSE HOTEL, KAMPALA



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Moderator: Joseph Byomuhangi, Coordinator UCCA

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

BHR	Business and Human Rights
NAP	National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights
NEMA	National Environmental Management Authority
SMC	Senior Management Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
EOC	Equal Opportunities Commission
MGLSD	Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development
MTIC	Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives
UHRC	Uganda Human Rights Commission
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
PSFU	Private Sector Foundation Uganda
MoJCA	Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs
MoLG	Ministry of Local Government
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development
MLHUD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
ULRC	Uganda Law Reform Commission
FPIC	Free Prior and Informed Consent
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
UPDF	Uganda Peoples Defense Forces
UNGPs	United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

1.

INTRODUCTION

This report summarises highlights from the Uganda National Dialogue on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights (NAPs), which took place on 8 December 2021, as part of the Dialogue on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights in East and Horn of Africa Region.

There is a surge in the desire by governments across Africa to privatise their economies as a measure to increase economic development. As a result, especially governments in the East and Horn of Africa have consolidated efforts to attract foreign direct investments. Unfortunately, the operations of such businesses albeit have spurred economic growth and development, have also been marred by significant human rights abuses which undermine states' commitment to protect the rights of its citizens. To harmonize the relationship between communities and businesses, states have, following recommendations from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) sessions and other human rights advocacy efforts, embarked on developing National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights (NAPs).

In this context, the two-day dialogue aimed at providing a platform for tracking and sharing lessons on progress on the development of NAPs, challenges faced, lessons learnt, opportunities leveraged and next steps towards development and implementation of NAPs from countries in the East and Horn of Africa region. This report is a summary of the key discussions, recommendations and action points from the Uganda National Dialogue.



A group photo of participants at the Dialogue on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights in East & Horn of Africa Region in Golf Course Hotel, Kampala on 8 December 2021. Photo by Sandra Kanagwa Nyangoma.

2.

DIALOGUE OVERVIEW

The main aims and objectives of the National Dialogue were:

- To share progress on the status of the Uganda NAP development and implementation process, challenges, faced, opportunities and the next steps;
- Provide a learning platform for stakeholders on the development process and implementation of the Uganda NAP.
- Key outcomes of the discussion included:
- Participants shared progress status on development and implementation of the Uganda NAP highlighting lessons learnt, challenges faced, opportunities and next steps towards successful realisation of NAP objectives and also the roadmap to implementation;
- Dialogue bolstered endorsement on the importance of a NAP as a tool for the harmonisation of relations between businesses and communities;
- Participants developed a matrix to help monitor progress of implementation of objectives of the NAP.

The one-day dialogue focused on discussions on the Ugandan roadmap for the implementation of the NAP and experience sharing with Tanzania and Kenya on progress, challenges, opportunities and next steps towards development and implementation of respective NAPs. The highly participatory dialogue was conducted both physically and virtually combining both presentations from facilitators and group work and presentations of discussions from participants.

Participants of the dialogue included representatives from government, civil society organisations and development partners; including participants from the Uganda Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development, United Nations Global Compact, Resource Rights Africa (RRA) and the Uganda Consortium on Corporate Accountability (UCCA).

The Regional NAPs dialogue was co-convened by the African Union, the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions (NANHRI), the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) and the Africa Trade Policy Centre; in collaboration with the Department of Justice, Kenya (DoJ), the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) and the Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) Tanzania.

3.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

The moderator welcomed participants to the second day of the regional stakeholder dialogue noting that it was a continuation from the previous day's virtual dialogue. He reiterated the leadership of Uganda's Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development (MGLSD) in championing the development of the Uganda NAP, that saw Uganda be the second country to adopt and launch her NAP in the region. He noted that the day's session would allow for an opportunity to share lessons and knowledge and called on participants to introduce themselves and share their expectations for the day.

Some of the expectations enumerated by the participants included inter alia:

- Hear from other colleagues in the region how they are progressing in terms of developing the NAP;
- Knowing what key issues were and/or are still being encountered in developing NAPs;
- Knowing what key issues we have as a region and how we intend to address them in light of developing and implementing NAPs;
- Agree on coordinated implementations of the NAPs for the benefit of the affected populations, the country and region as a whole;
- Know the status of implementation since the launch of the Uganda NAP;
- Understand what strategies are in place to ensure successful implementation of the NAP and also coordinate stakeholders to fulfil objectives and goals of the NAP.

The opening remarks by representatives from four institutions are briefly captured hereunder.

Mr. AGGREY DAVID KIBENGE, Permanent Secretary, MGLSD

In his remarks, he emphasised the government's commitment to protect human rights for all, evidenced in various national and international frameworks which mandate Uganda to establish measures, standards and practices guaranteeing the protection of human rights. Reference was made to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), whose recommendation formed the basis for the development of the Uganda NAP, following the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) protect, respect and remedy framework. While he recognised the contribution of both international and local businesses to development through inter alia creating jobs, generating taxes, enhancing technological transfer and skills development for human resources, he decried the

debilitating effects of business operations on the welfare of communities ranging from violation of rights, child labour in business value chains, pollution of the environment, sexual and gender-based violence, displacement of communities, adulteration of goods and corruption in business processes, which in turn undermine the government's commitment to protect, respect and fulfil human rights.

In response to such business-related human rights concerns, government developed the NAP enumerating five objectives as a tool to harmonise the relationship between businesses and communities. The NAP will provide a comprehensive framework that coordinates and streamlines multisectoral efforts to ensure respect for human rights in business operations and lead to the attainment of positive human rights outcomes and improve Uganda's image as a responsible investment destination. In conclusion, he emphasised the need for concerted and collaborative efforts by all stakeholders to successfully realise the objectives of the NAP. Noting that the implementation of the NAP will require substantial financial and technical resources, he implored the development partners and regional bodies to support the implementation of the NAP reiterating that the country has already benefitted from engagements during the documentation process which will continue to enrich the implementation approach of the NAP.

Ms. MARIAM WANGADYA, Chairperson, UHRC

She began her address by welcoming participants and noting her organisation's commitment to work with and support the process of NAP implementation. She congratulated Uganda on the successful launch of the NAP in October 2021, noting that the year is significant considering it marked the 10th anniversary of the UNGPs that have since become the standard guidelines for ensuring businesses respect human rights. She reiterated the overall objective of the NAP and the three UNGPs pillars on which it is hinged. Acknowledging the contribution of businesses to development, she decried the human rights abuses arising from business operations and called for strengthened capacity to protect human rights during business operations. She shared the view that the adoption of a NAP will strengthen Uganda's legal and policy framework on BHR and demonstrate Uganda's commitment towards implementing the UNGPs and addressing business-related human rights abuses. In conclusion, she urged Uganda to share best practices and raise awareness on the development and implementation plans of the NAP with other countries in the East and Horn of Africa and design feasible strategies to ensure successful implementation of the Uganda NAP beyond its launch.

Ms. GRACE PELLY, Deputy Country Representative, OHCHR

She began by reaffirming her expectation for the dialogue which was to hear perspectives from other regions on the progress made in developing their NAPs.

Noting that the sole responsibility for protecting human rights lay with the state historically, companies equally bear the responsibility to respect human rights in their operations as enumerated under the preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Therefore, on top of respecting national laws, companies must ensure adherence to international human rights standards and treat social issues as a matter of corporate accountability rather than choice, with

a focus on the felt and expressed needs of the rights of affected communities as required by the human rights-based approach. The adoption of the UNGPs spurred development of NAPs by several countries as a measure to domesticate the principles to regulate and ensure human rights protection by businesses. These NAPs have the potential to strengthen policy frameworks for addressing business-related human rights abuses. She concluded with a call to action to ensure successful implementation of NAPs, emphasising the use of human rights-based approaches in business operations and the OHCHR commitment to work with and support Uganda's dissemination and implementation of the NAP.

Mr. ANDREW BYARUHANGA, Executive Director, RRA on behalf of civil society organisations (CSOs)

He began his address by welcoming participants to the dialogue and congratulating the government on the successful launch of the NAP. He reiterated the NAP's central role, the three pillars of the UNGPs upon which it is based and the private sector's contribution in spurring development in terms of creating jobs as well as GDP and revenue contributions. However, he also noted that the government's efforts and developments in pursuit of a private sector-led economy as evidenced in various frameworks like the Agenda 2030, Agenda 2063 and Vision 2040, is also associated with business-related human rights abuses. He highlighted CSO's efforts in engaging communities and helping them to find redress through courts. He highlighted RRA's Annual Symposium on Business and Human Rights and several efforts to support communities in specific court cases to obtain remedy. He lauded MGLSD for securing cabinet endorsement of the Social Impact Assessment and Accountability Bill and pledged support and urged Parliament to fast track the passing of the Human Rights Defenders Bill to provide avenue for seeking redress. He also called on all actors to identify and mainstream priority areas in the NAP into their institutional programming to support the implementation process. He concluded by enumerating the strategies for successful implementation of the NAP: identifying key partners; making clear communication channels and platforms; setting clear timelines; clarifying financial aspects of implementation and other key practical areas.



Ms. Mariam Wangadya, the Chairperson at Uganda Human Rights Commission, sharing her opening remarks. Photo by Sandra Kanagwa Nyangoma.

4.

THE ROADMAP FOR NAP IMPLEMENTATION

PRESENTATION BY GOVERNMENT ON THE ROADMAP FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UGANDA NAP-Mr. Bernard Mujuni, Commissioner, MGLSD

The presentation provided an overview of the roadmap for the implementation of the NAP with specific focus the objectives, activities and thematic areas to be addressed; progress made since the launch; and the strategies that will be leveraged to ensure successful implementation. The speaker also sought to solicit input from participants on adequacy of the roadmap to address the issues of BHR and the modalities to raise funds and resources for the successful implementation of the NAP. He reiterated that the NAP is a living document that is being implemented by different sectors in different ways but requires alignment of resources and deliberate mainstreaming in programmes because some activities require funding and some are resource neutral.

He began by noting that we need to think outside the box to cater to the current dispensation and changing workplace dynamics.

The five agreed objectives and eight thematic areas of the NAP were re-iterated: Land and Natural resources, Environment, Labour rights, Revenue Transparency Tax exemptions and corruption, Social services delivery by private actors, Consumer protection, Access to remedy, Women, vulnerable and marginalised groups.

He observed that since its launch, several implementation activities have and continue to be undertaken including disseminations, Social Protection committee meetings, an annual national symposium on BHR, securing continued support and commitments from national and international development partners towards implementation and development of two state party reports – the third UPR report and the other on the UN Convention on ESCR that are ready and are to be used as benchmarks.

Various strategies were developed to foster successful implementation of the activities identified under each objective and these include; scheduling activities on a yearly basis spread over the five years since the NAP is scheduled on a five year plan, picking activities in a manner that reflects chronology, holding resource team meetings to identify the activities, mapping out relevant partners and their corresponding roles in the roll-out and undertaking routine coordination meetings to track implementation.

Some of the activities under each objective were also highlighted.

OBJECTIVE 1

- Widespread dissemination of the NAP so people can use it as a handbook. Identify and develop approaches to enhance dissemination like developing a digital media strategy that leverages social media, conduct regional meetings, community dialogues to build community capacity to demand accountability from business operators, media events, design posters and IEC materials
- Developing a reporting tool/App; this would require contracting services of a consultant to develop the App which would enhance dissemination of the NAP.
- Conduct capacity needs assessment to identify training needs for the stakeholders.
- Conduct trainings on BHR for businesses and other stakeholders.
- Retooling of secretariat. He called on development partners to support the secretariat with logistics like vehicles and computers.

OBJECTIVE 2

- Translating labour laws into local languages; some of the tools like labour laws.
- Strengthen community participation in business operations through community dialogues between business operators and communities to discuss various issues that affect them like local content, constructions and land acquisitions.

OBJECTIVE 3

- Developing e-portal on BHR/MIS to keep stock on progress of implementation and know who is doing what where.
- Review and enact laws to strengthen regulatory framework-SIAA (Social impact Assessment and Accountability) bill was approved by cabinet. Albeit clothed as a SIAA, it addresses issues of human rights impact assessment. Called on all actors to study the law. Once it goes to parliament, we can now participate in the consultation processes. It also covers aspects of free prior and informed consent (FPIC) allowing for communities to be informed and engaged before engaging in business operations in their community.
- Develop a score card on BHR; to help communities track resources and hold leaders accountable.
- Hold annual award for businesses.

OBJECTIVE 4

- Strengthening social protection intervention for communities affected by business operations (mapping groups, mobilisation of support).
- Build capacity of business owners and leaders on BHR issues.

OBJECTIVE 5

- Capacity building for lawyers, human rights defenders and judicial officers on access to remedy for BHR. We need to map out and build capacity of paralegals to build the nexus between community issues and the law and to speak as human rights defenders.
- Develop a grievance handling mechanism to settle business-related disputes.
- Engagement and sensitisation of workers in businesses on their rights and procedures on access to remedy.

He noted that the implementation of NAPs is captured in the ministry's budget framework paper and that government had committed some resources and continues to reach out to development partners for financial support to aid implementation. He concluded by committing to implement the NAP and appreciating the contributions from the participants.

PLENARY: REVIEW THE PRACTICABILITY OF THE ROADMAP THAT GOVERNMENT HAS SET IN MOTION

Participants made contributions towards the roadmap, raising concerns and suggesting actionable points for successful implementation, including:

- Partners need to jointly peruse the budget to aid tracking of the coordination and ensure implementation of the NAP is feasible.
- The budget neutral activities that can be leveraged should be highlighted.
- We should operationalize the institutions meant to provide remedy and build their capacity to give them power to support the vulnerable rural women who continue to suffer business-related abuses as a result of absence or inaccessible remedy institutions.
- On rewarding institutions employing BHR principles, concerns were raised on how best to implement that strategy and evaluate them given they are the same companies that are always in the spotlight for human rights abuses and violations; there was need to discuss the practical manner in which to evaluate these institutions and build their capacity on compliance and then evaluating them on how best they are implementing the compliance.

In response, Mr. Mujuni enumerated strategies to address the concerns raised, including:

- To evaluate companies on compliance to the human rights-based approach, leverage strategies like looking at companies' systems procedures on complaints-handling, negotiations, and efforts invested and approaches being used to address business-related complaints.
- Community dialogues to address issues which may arise from misunderstandings and instigations and foster coexistence between communities and businesses.
- Map out, empower, resource and build capacity of community-based organisations and non-governmental organisations to handle issues as a grievance handling mechanism.
- Map out who is meant to handle grievances in the conduct of business as per the NAP.
- Develop national equity guidelines for natural resource dependent and surrounding communities to create means of balancing equitable sharing of resources between communities and businesses through capacity building of communities and developing strategies on complaint and grievance handling. Guidelines would provide for adhering to responsibility and sharing dividends. For instance, a percentage from the benefits of the natural resources should be remitted to the specific communities affected and or residing on or adjacent to the natural resources and not the entire district.
- Name and shame is also a component of BHR. It will help businesses want to have dialogue and realign their operations in compliance with a human rights-based approach.
- Good community dialogue saves costs in terms of infrastructure.

5.

EXPERIENCE SHARING

This session, conducted in plenary form, provided a platform for participants from the different institutions to share experiences on each organisations' role in the NAP development process and implementation. Highlights are captured in the table below.

Institution	Experience highlights, key points and or advice
MGLSD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Q: Comprehensive steps followed towards development process of NAP.• Started with acceptance of 2016 UPR recommendation through ministry of foreign affairs to develop NAP based on UNGPs.• MGLSD selected as lead agency to coordinate development of NAP during training of Cabinet committee on human rights on BHR concepts and issues.• Ministry was to work in collaboration with other identified partners in development and implementation process. Government, CSO and development partners.• Conducted stakeholder engagement to develop roadmap for NAP; with focus on planning process and mapping participants and businesses for consultations depending on the regions, i.e. Albertine region-oil and land acquisition issues, Kakira area-human resources issues, Karamoja-mining, Mubende-relocations, mining and human resources, Northern-Agriculture, plantation growing and human resources issues.• Regions are zoned according to prominent business operations.• Conducted consultations in identified business regions/areas.• Consultations informed development of objectives and thematic areas in the NAP.• Prepared and presented Draft document to SMC of MGLSD for contribution and review.• Incorporated comments and recommendations and reported back to SMC.• SMC approved draft for presentation before top policy management meeting chaired by MGLSD cabinet minister.• Document discussed and recommended by SMC for submission to cabinet secretariat.• Formal written feedback provided by cabinet secretariat to MGLSD with approval to adopt document for implementation.• Obtained Certificate of financial clearance for NAP from MoFPED which shows commitment of resources to implementation of NAP and assurance that it will contribute positively to the economic growth of country.

Institution	Experience highlights, key points and or advice
UHRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: Role of UHRC in providing guidance towards development of NAP • Initiated discussions with MGLSD on the need to develop a separate NAP on BHR during development of the National Human Rights Action Plan even before 2016 UPR recommendation and secured government commitment to design a separate NAP on BHR. • Provided technical advice to MGLSD during the development of NAP upon acceptance of UPR recommendation. • Participated in stakeholder meetings for development of NAP. • Conducted separate consultation meetings. • Monitored, documented and published human rights concerns, e.g., in Karamoja and Tororo, issues identified were child labour and lack of protective equipment. • Presented concerns to relevant business operators and ministry (ministry of energy) for urgent action. • Conducted research, communication and documentation on situation of BHR to inform targeted action by relevant ministries. • Received, investigated and addressed BHR concerns. • Monitored government compliance with obligations through review of bills to ensure compliance with human rights standards. • As key next steps, UHRC committed to write about extractive justice in Karamoja region and the human rights concerns in the next annual report; continue receiving, investigating and addressing BHR complaints; collectively conduct sensitisations and awareness with other stakeholders like state actors, CSOs and MGLSD; and develop special report in partnership with RRA on BHR related concerns like hunger.

Institution	Experience highlights, key points and or advice
UPDF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: How best law enforcement agencies can aid implementation of the NAP and support communities to access remedies for business-related human rights abuses. • Observations on access to remedy are based on his involvement in the development process of NAP before retirement in 2019. While they realised BHR is a very sensitive issue, the communities visited considered the process as a platform to raise their voices on their plight. • Created safe spaces for communities to approach and seek redress/help from enforcement agencies; in some instances, community members, asked UPDF to protect their children from the industries operating in their areas. • Through counselling, they offered reassurance and confidence that process was aimed at improving communities' situations. • Process addressed reporting mechanisms to support access to remedy for victims of violations. • Submitted report from the NAP process to the political commissar enumerating issues identified like participation of military in addressing concerns on protection and giving right of access to remedy in business operations. • From the report, UPDF expressed enthusiasm and commitment towards supporting implementation of NAP and ensuring access to remedy once approved. • Minerals protection police are involved in monitoring mining sites, enforcing laws and controlling use of mercury in the mining sector. • He concluded by making a call to action to all government agencies assigned roles under the NAP to ensure successful implementation.
UNGC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: Role of engaging private sector entities in adopting and implementing the NAP. • Private sector is very crucial to development. To this end, the UN Global Compact continues to call on all private business actors to ensure all their operations and strategies are aligned to the 10 universal principles that relate to human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Consequently, a number of organisations have signed up locally to the principles while those that signed up globally report through their mother/parent companies. However, one of the greatest challenges impeding adherence to human rights in business operations is the lack of knowledge on the concepts of BHR among some local and international businesses which can be combatted through awareness creation to secure their alignment with the aspirations of the NAP and continuous dialogue and teamwork for successful implementation of NAP. • Going forward, we commit to support successful implementation of NAP and continue lobbying/encouraging more organisations/companies to sign up to the universal principles.

Institution	Experience highlights, key points and or advice
OHCHR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q: How to continue using the UPR process as an advocacy tool for implementation of the NAP. • OHCHR has supported the UPR process regularly and will continue to address the developments that arise thereunder as long as the state continues to participate in the processes. Since NAP is a living document, continued engagement with the principles thereunder will provide opportunity to track progress and ably update it in line with emerging trends and issues. • OHCHR commits to explore ways to continue engaging partners and MDAs to update the NAP, offer support towards implementation, work with partner to ensure BHR issues are addressed, create and support other foras for further engagements on BHR issues and remind government on its obligation to protect human rights even in the pursuit of economic development.



Ms. Grace Pelly, the Deputy Country Representative at UN Human Rights, together with other participants attending the Dialogue on National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights in East & Horn of Africa Region. Photo by Sandra Kanagwa Nyangoma.

6.

DISCUSSION ON NAP PRIORITIES

In this session, participants were divided into two groups and tasked with the role of perusing the NAP objectives in the annex on whether they are realistic, attaching timelines within which to implement each objective and the activities thereunder and identifying the relevant stakeholders/partners that will be partnered with during implementation. Key points from the discussion are summarised in the table below.

<p>OBJECTIVE: 1.0: To strengthen institutional capacity, operations and coordination efforts of state and non-state actors for the protection and promotion of human rights in businesses</p>	<p>Support for the development of MIS system for reporting and monitoring. Development of a robust referral pathways on business and human rights – MGLSD, EOC, UHRC, MoLG Sensitise and disseminate information to both duty-bearers and rights-holders – All partners Establish a multi-sectoral committee on BHR – MGLSD, All partners Strengthen the monitoring of social, safety and health guidelines in BHR – MGLSD, MoLG Strengthen existing structures; coordination committees and human rights desk at district and lower local government – MGLSD, UHRC, MoLG Strengthen the technical capacity of judicial and non-judicial agencies on BHR related issues – MGLSD, EOC, UHRC, MoLG, Development partners Support to the secretariat on BHR (vehicles, computer sets) – MGLSD, Development partners Review and strengthen the capacity and function of the probation and labour department to handle labour-related grievances – MGLSD Strengthening the physical planning committee in the district and municipality to do equity planning and budgeting – MGLSD, EOC, MoLG</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE 2.0: To promote human rights compliance and accountability by business sectors</p>	<p>Develop inclusive information, communication and education materials – MGLSD, CSOs, EOC, UHRC Strengthen implementation of social safety and health guidelines – MGLSD Popularise existing labour laws (by translating them into local languages) – ULRC Strengthen the technical capacity of business operations on BHR – CSOs Establishing and or strengthening laws, policies and grievance redress mechanisms to ensure accountability by businesses – ULRC, MGLSD</p>

<p>OBJECTIVE: 3.0: To promote social inclusion and rights of the vulnerable and marginalized individuals and groups in business operations</p>	<p>Review and enact laws guaranteeing FPIC – Parliament, ULRC, CSO, Community, Labor office, media, MGLDS, MoJCA Developing guidelines and policies regarding land acquisition, compensation and resettlement of the affected communities – MLHUD, MGLSD, MoLG, Local government, OPM Strengthening effective and meaningful community participation in business – MGLSD, CSOs, Private sector, Local government, MTIC, Development partners Advocate for carrying out human rights impacts assessments before and throughout business processes – CSOs, MGLSD, Development partners, MTIC Develop an e-portal on BHR – MGLSD, Consultant, Development partners Develop a score card on BHR – MGLSD Develop and roll out multimedia digital access to information/channels on BHR – MGLSD, PSFU, Development partners</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE: 4.0: To promote meaningful and effective participation and respect for consent by relevant stakeholders in business operations</p>	<p>Educating communities on BHR including access to justice – MGLSD, PSFU, CSO, Media, MoLG, Communities, Development partners, MoJCA, Local governments Advocate for gender equality through ensuring equal opportunity to both men and women in business operations and promotion of the gender equality seal – EOC, MGLSD, PSFU, CSO, Media, MTIC Advocate for the elimination of sexual harassment in business operations – EOC, MGLSD, PSFU, CSO, Media, MTIC Strengthen social protection interventions for the vulnerable groups affected by business operations – MGLSD, MTIC, CSO, Development partners, OPM Enhance capacity of MDAs and Local Governments in promoting human rights and protecting communities against business related HR abuses and violations – MGLSD, PSFU, CSO, Development Partners</p>

7.

REGIONAL REPORT BACK

In this session that was held via zoom, participants from the three countries in East Africa – Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania – shared highlights from their national dialogue discussions, opportunities and next steps. The report back from the teams revealed that while they were at different stages of the development and implementation of the respective NAPs, there was evident commitment and enthusiasm to harmonize relationships between communities and businesses and thus protect human rights in business operations. Other similarities were registered in their NAP development processes albeit with slight differences, challenges faced in the development and implementation processes and the suggested action points/next steps.

The main highlights from the Uganda report back included:

- Uganda has a NAP that was launched and is now focusing on implementation;
- The implementation roadmap of the NAP earmarks timeframes for implementation and the activities to be implemented during the roadmap;
- Partners to collaborate with during implementation of the activities in the NAP roadmap have been identified;
- Implementation of the roadmap is key, including the need to attach time to each activity to ensure tracking progress of implementation;
- We must work as a consortium to achieve goals/objectives;
- A matrix to help monitor progress of implementation of objectives of the NAP has been developed;
- A key next step is to operationalise the implementation roadmap; and
- Mobilising resources to ensure successful implementation of activities within the timelines is essential.

8.

WRAP UP AND CLOSING

In closing the dialogue, Mr. Bakari appreciated the participants for their deep level of participation and exhibition of interest during the dialogue. He noted that the dialogue had achieved its objectives and that the other countries in the Horn of Africa would learn from them to develop their NAPs. He also noted that financial inadequacies was mentioned as a challenge across the three countries but he was glad strategies had been designed to mitigate it. He revealed that their next step is to conduct the same dialogue in other regions of the continent with the hope of receiving the same results and that the organisers will organise the first African Forum on BHR to which all participants are welcome to attend. Ms. Deborah also appreciated participants for committing to the dialogue amidst the competing engagements.