



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

OPENING REMARKS BY

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**DURING THE CAPACITY –BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR AFRICA ON
ACHIEVING AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 11 AND 12**

LAKE VICTORIA HOTEL, ENTEBBE UGANDA

21 MARCH 2016

The Chief Guest, the Hon Minister of Water and Environment
The Representative of the Executive Secretary to the Convention on Biological Diversity
Participants in your various capacities
Ladies and gentlemen

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) is the Government institution that coordinates the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on behalf of Government.

Biodiversity as most of you are aware is cross-cutting and involves many stakeholders and thus NEMA works closely with the relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the CBD and the Protocols made under the Convention.

NEMA coordinated the review and updating of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP as guided by the Conference of the Parties in decision X/2 and specifically paragraph 3 (b), (c) and (d) which urged Parties and other Governments to:

1. Develop national targets, using the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 and its Aichi Targets, as a flexible framework, in accordance with national priorities and capacities
2. Review and update NBSAPs, in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 -2020 including integrating national targets into their national development and poverty reduction policies and strategies,
3. Use the revised and updated NBSAPs as effective instruments for the integration of biodiversity targets into national development and poverty reduction policies and strategies,

The review and updating of the NBSAP was highly consultative involving stakeholders from Government ministries, departments and agencies, the academia and research institutions, representatives of the Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), the private sector and NGOs.

One of the major outcomes of this highly consultative process was assigning implementation of national biodiversity targets to “**target champions**” to Government ministries, departments and agencies to take lead in their implementation. The target champions for Aichi target 11 and 12 can be obtained from the revised NBSAP which is on the CBD website.

NEMA has established good collaboration and networking with target champions and this will enhance Uganda’s reporting on progress of implementation of all the Aichi biodiversity targets including Aichi targets 11 and 12.

I thank you for your kind attention.

For God and My Country