

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Rt. Hon Speaker and Hon. Members,

The Uganda National Commission for UNESCO (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 Parliament 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.

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.



The main objective of the 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:

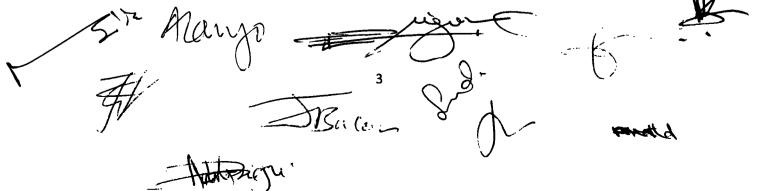
a) met and held discussions with the following stakeholders:

(i) The Ministry of Education and Sports;

(ii) The Uganda National Commission for UNESCO.

b) reviewed the following documents:

- I. The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995 (as amended);
- II. The Uganda National Commission for UNESCO Act, 2014;
- III. Written memoranda from Uganda National Commission for UNESCO



6.0 OBSERVATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee observed that the current structure of the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO does not implement the current Uganda National Commission for UNESCO Act, 2014. For instance, whereas the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO Act, 2014 provided for Uganda National Commission for UNESCO to be a body corporate with a board, a board was appointed for one term and it was never renewed.

During the Committee interactions with the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO, the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO stated that the staff of the Commission are public servants earning Government salaries and recruited by Education Service Commission. They further stated that the Commission is a department of the Ministry of Education and Sports and is housed within the Ministry of Education and Sports headquarters.

The Committee recommends that the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO Act, 2014 is accordingly amended because several provisions have been redundant since its enactment.

7.0 CONCLUSION

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The Committee on Education and Sports recommends that subject to the proposed amendments, the Bill be passed.

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PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE UGANDA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

CLAUSE 1: INTERPRETATION

Clause 1 is amended by deleting the definition of "commission"

Justification

• The definition of the word "commission" in the clause is inconsistent with the same word in the Principal Act

CLAUSE 2: OBJECTIVE

Clause 2 is amended in (2) (a) by inserting immediately after the word "commissions", the words "established by the Constitution"

Justification

• To avoid inconsistency arising from the use of the word "commission" as the word is defined differently in the Principal Act

CLAUSE 6: AMENDMENT OF SECTION 1 OF PRINCIPAL ACT

Clause 6 is amended by inserting immediately after the word "board", the words and "Chairperson"

Justification

• To delete the definition of the word "Chairperson" as a consequential amendment

CLAUSE 15: SUBSTITUTION OF SECTION 13 OF PRINCIPAL ACT

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Clause 15 is amended by substituting for clause 15 the following-

"For section 13 of the principal Act, there is substituted the following-

"13. Administration of Act

The Act shall be administered by the Ministry responsible for education.""

Justification Judie Manp 1 Attack Hangeren, Hencen J.

For clarity and correction of a grammatical error

CLAUSE 18: REPEAL OF SECTION 16 OF PRINCIPAL ACT

Clause 18 is amended by substituting for the words, "Section 15", the words "Section 16"

Justification

To correct the section of the principal Act that is repealed

INSERTION OF NEW CLAUSE IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLAUSE 23

"Repeal of section 22 of principal Act

Section 22 of the principal Act is repealed."

Justification

• The repeal of Section 22 is a consequential amendment

CLAUSE 26: AMENDMENT OF SECTION 33 OF PRINCIPAL ACT

Clause 26 is amended by substituting for the clause the following-

"Section 33 of the principal Act is repealed"

Justification

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- The Commission will not have need for a common seal since it does not have corporate status

INSERTION OF NEW CLAUSE IMMEDIATELY AFTER CLAUSE 27

"Amendment of section 35 of principal Act

Section 35 of the principal Act is amended in subsection (1) by repealing the words "in consultation with the Board""

Justification

• The amendment of Section 35 of the principal Act is a consequential amendment



CLAUSE 31: SAVINGS

Clause 31 is amended in subsections (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) by inserting immediately before the word "Commission" the word "dissolved"

Justification

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• For clarity

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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SPORTS ON THE HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS FINANCING (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024.

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No	NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PARTY	SIGNATURE
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16.	Hon. Linda Irene	FORTPORTAL CITY	NRM	Lide

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