

**PRESIDENT MUSEVENI COMMISSIONS EAST
AND CENTRAL AFRICA'S LARGEST SOLAR
POWER PLANT WITH VP SSEKANDI,
SALUTES THE XSABO GROUP**

PRESS RELEASE

10 January 2019

President Yoweri Museveni yesterday commissioned The Xsabo Group's Pilot Solar Power Park (20MW) at Kabulasoke in Gomba District (Central Uganda) where he was among others flanked by Vice President Edward K. Ssekandi, Engineer Simon D'Ujanga (Minister of State for Energy), Gen. Charles Angina (former Deputy Chief of Uganda's Defence Forces and now Deputy Chief Coordinator of the Presidential "Operation Wealth Creation"), Richard Santos Apire (Chairman of the Electricity Regulatory Authority), Dr. Tom Okurut (Executive Director of National Environment Management Authority), Dr. David Alobo, CEO/Managing Director of The Xsabo Group, Area Members of Parliament and local leaders.

The Kabulasoke solar power plant is the largest solar plant in East and Central Africa. It is the first in a portfolio of five solar power projects of The Xsabo Group in various parts of Uganda for a total capacity of 150MW, which translates into a total investment volume of USD 200 million (UGX 747 billion). The total investment for the Kabulasoke solar power plant was USD 24.5 million (UGX 91.4 billion).

"The Bible says that what you sow is what you reap. For investors to come to invest their money here, it shows that NRM has put something in place," the President told a fully packed gathering of locals and foreign guests that had just weathered a particularly heavy downpour of rain which Dr. Alobo had jokingly referred to as "possibly organized by our competitors from the hydropower side."

Mr. Museveni saluted Dr. Alobo, who is Director of Xsabo Group, for investing in Uganda. "Dr. Alobo is a noble man who has chosen not to stay in his comfort in Germany but decided to come back to his country to change lives and the economy," the President said at the ceremony carried live on all national television and radio stations across Uganda.

He also lauded Vice President Ssekandi for leading the project. The Vice President is the Patron of the Xsabo projects.

Mr. Museveni appealed to the residents to focus more on the improvement of household income so as to use the good environment created by the National Resistance Movement (NRM) Government to get themselves out of poverty and tasked all leaders to carry out household inspections with the aim of finding out what people do for income and guiding them more effectively to realize wealth creation.

On his part, Vice President Ssekandi stressed the strategic importance of the Xsabo projects for Uganda's national development and described Dr. Aloba's innovative feat as a response to President Museveni's call for patriotism. He, therefore, called on all Ugandans in the diaspora to emulate Dr. Aloba, who is resident in Germany, and also give back to their country.

Dr. Aloba applauded the Government for its continuous determination to put in place the right policy and infrastructural framework to ensure that Uganda remains an attractive investment destination.

Citing several examples of the steady progress that Uganda has witnessed over the last decades "which we should not take for granted," he called upon Ugandans to purposely channel celebrations like the commissioning of East and Central Africa's largest solar power plant to strengthen national pride and encourage Ugandans of all walks of life to achieve even more.

Dr. Aloba thanked the local people in Kabulasoke for hosting the project and local leaders for their support before expressing "exceptional gratitude" to Vice President Ssekandi "for his guidance as Patron and for always being there for us whenever we needed him." "May the Almighty God reward you abundantly for your dedicated service to Uganda and its people as a great lawyer, clean politician (something very rare today), Deputy Speaker of Parliament for five years, Speaker of Parliament for 10 years and as Vice President of Uganda," he told a vividly moved Ssekandi amidst applause from President Museveni and others.

Kampala, 10 January 2019