

URSB Achievements in the last 100 Days

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INTRODUCTION

URSB is mandated among others to handle the following functions:

- Business Registration business names, companies, legal documents
- 2. <u>Intellectual Property</u> trademarks, copyright, patents, utility models
- 3. <u>Civil Registration</u> civil marriages and registration of all marriages
- 4. <u>Handling of Insolvency matters</u> winding of companies and corporate rescue
- Maintenance of the Security Interest in Movable Property Registry

URSB's performance is hinged against the objectives below;

- 1. Strengthen Institutional Capacity of URSB to deliver on its mandate
- 2. Improve access to Registration Services
- 3. Enhance Public and Stakeholder awareness of URSB Services
- 4. Strengthen Research and Advisory Function

Objective 1: Strengthen the institutional capacity to deliver on its mandate

- 1. Trained Judicial officers to strengthen business rehabilitation and rescue framework (over 50 judges trained on 3rd, 4th 6th and 7th May, 2021)
- 2. Strengthened internal controls to curb corruption by:
 - Developed an Anti –Corruption 5 yearStrategy
 - Established an Ethics and Integrity committee
 - Operationalized a whistle blowers hotline -0414 673200

Objective 1: Strengthen the institutional capacity to deliver on its mandate

- 3. <u>Fast tracking legal reforms</u> to ensure they are updated and addressing the needs of users (Business Names Registration Act, Companies Act of 2012, Insolvency Act of 2011)
- 4. Amendment of the Trademark Regulations URSB will establish a Trademarks Journal and a Trademark Agents Register
- 5. <u>URSB offices</u> on Plot 1 Baskerville Avenue, funded under CEDP to provide a conducive environment for investors, local businesses and enhance private sector growth (URSB, UIA & CMA).

Objective 2: Improve access to Registration Services

- 1. Established a full functional electronic SIMPO registry (simpo.ursb.go.ug)
 - Has 110 financial institutions registered on the platform
 - 1343 women have been able to access credit using movable property since 2019 when the system was established
- 2. Operationalised the 5th URSB regional office in Masaka on 15th, March 2021 it was officially launched by Hon. Prof Ephraim Kamuntu on 25th March, 2021
- 3. Developed online platforms for registration of companies, business names, resolutions and name reservations
- 4. Rolled out online filing of annual returns and carried out training of users
- 5. In the process of getting ISO:9001 certified so that there are clear procedures and standards for all URSB services

Objective 2 continued....

- 6. Established a Geographical Indications Registry
- 7. Simplification of business processes is ongoing
- 8. Regular engagement of CMOs to ensure operations carried out are well regulated
- 9. Established a registry for beneficial owners
- 10. Operationalise the URSB Journal primary purpose is to publish trademark applications (provide an alternative to the Gazette, at an affordable cost UGX 100,000/- (local), USD 80 (foreign). This will increase registration of trademarks.

Objective 3: Enhance public and stakeholder awareness of URSB services

- 1. Identified strategic partnerships and signed MoUs
 - ☐ Signed an MoU with the Muslim Centre for Justice (MCJ) which will allow for collaboration in registration of Muslim marriages
 - ☐ Engaged Stanbic Business Incubator and will be signing an MoU to enable both institutions work together through targeted trainings regionally
- ☐ Renewed the MoU with Uganda Poloce Force (supports URSN in enforcement operations against infringers on Trademarks)
- 2. Successfully celebrated the World Intellectual Property Day on April 26 (held panel discussions to appreciate the role of SMEs in the economy)
- 3. Successfully conducted the Insolvency conference on Apri 27th with panel discussions held on Insolvency amidst COVID-19

Objective 3 continued...

- 4. Conducted a week long training of Judicial Officers (Judges, Registrars and Magistrates on the Insolvency Law)
- 5. Trainings of stakeholder groups i.e. business groups, Rotary clubs, Universities, women groups
- 6. Engaged key agencies that compliment URSB services such as UIA, UNBS, UBA, FBOs, CMOs, ULRC, FPC, CoU, Cultural leaders of the Kingdoms of Busoga, Toro and Teso, MFIs, SACCOs and Money Lenders.

Objective 3 continued...

- 7. Virtual trainings on filing of annual returns, marriages and others related services have been conducted
- 8. Sensitization of the public across several platforms was undertaken on TV, Radio, Social Media in the regions and in the Central Business District of Kampala
- 9. Held engagements with 19 MDAs responsible for implementing the National Intellectual Property Policy

Objective 4: Research and Advisory Function

- 1. Operationalised the Monitoring and Evaluation function within the Bureau
- 2. Developed the SDPIII which will guide the Bureau's aspirations in the next 5 years
- 3. Carry out timely audits and evaluate processes regularly
- 4. Developed a fundraising plan which helps to cater for budget shortfalls that are of urgent attention

Way forward

- 1. Fully implement the All Digital All Online strategy by end of 2021
- 2. Establish additional offices to cater for all Ugandans registration needs
- 3. Fully implement the National Intellectual Property Policy
- 4. Strengthen existing partnerships while seeking new partnerships to drive our agenda as URSB
- 5. Implement a capacity building program to ensure staff receive trainings regularly
- 6. Fast track legal reforms for the pending Acts due for amendment

Way forward

- 7. Strengthen and enforce internal controls to curb corruption
- 8. Acquire ISO:9001 certification
- 9. Carry out regular virtual training on all URSB services
- 10. Continuous sensitization on SIMPO to ensure affordable credit is extended to MSMEs using movable property

Thank You!

Contact us on: Plot 5, George Street

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THE END

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION