



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



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January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2014.

### PRESS STATEMENT ON CABINET DECISION.

#### CABINET APPROVES PRINCIPLES FOR THE DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY BILL, 2013

Ladies and Gentlemen, Article 27 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995) guarantees the right to privacy of person, home and other property. In particular Article 27(2) of the constitution provides that a person shall not be subjected to interference with the privacy of that person's home, correspondence, communication or other property.

Whereas this article guarantees the right to privacy of a person's home, correspondence, communication or other property, there has been no comprehensive law giving effect to article 27.

There has been no law to safeguard the data collected or to ensure that it is used only for the purposes for which it was intended. In many cases the data collected is of a personal nature which may easily be abused or misused in the absence of the legal framework to govern the integrity and circumstances relating to the use, storage and processing of data.

It's against that background that Cabinet has passed the principles for the data protection and privacy bill, 2013:-

- To give effect to article 27 of the constitution by providing for the protection of private and personal data
- To safeguard the interests of individuals whose information or data is gathered or collected by Government, public institutions, private entities
- To provide for the rights of individuals whose data is collected and processed

- To provide for the regulation of collection, holding, processing and use of personal data
- To ensure that the rights of individuals during data collection and processing are upheld against the threats and attacks capable of compromising the rights or the information.
- To provide mechanisms for redress and remedies in cases where the rights of individuals are infringed.
- To provide for administrative mechanisms of ensuring that the processing of personal data is conducted in accordance with the procedures set out in the law to ensure that the privacy of the information relating to individuals is protected.

Fellow Ugandans, with the rapid and dynamic development of technological advances in the area of information communications and technology, vast amounts of personal data are being collected, transmitted, stored and used daily. This opens up an opportunity for processing and also misuse of personal data.

The bill is therefore meant to establish mechanisms that will ensure that any data processing in whatever form, respects the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals. The bill will complement the existing laws on electronic transactions, communication and access to information.

Cabinet therefore approved the above principles and authorized the Minister of ICT to issue drafting instructions to the first parliamentary counsel to draft the Data Protection and Privacy Bill.

I thank you

**FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY**



Namayanja Rose Nsereko (MP)

**MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE.**