



Remarks by

Mrs. Julia Clare Olima Oyet
Chief Executive Officer
Deposit Protection Fund of Uganda (DPF)

On the occasion of the commissioning of the
water tank reservoir

at

TERREWODE Women's Community Hospital -Soroti

June 02, 2023

Chief Guest

The Board, Management and Staff of TERREWODE Women's
Community Hospital;

The Staff of DPF present here;

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Good afternoon,

I bring you warm salutations from the Board, management and staff of the Deposit Protection Fund of Uganda (DPF). It is a truly remarkable occasion today as we gather for the commissioning of what we believe is a major intervention that will have a long-standing positive impact on the livelihood of the mothers of this nation by enabling them to have access to clean and reliable water.

In a special way, I wish to commend the founders of TERREWODE for being foresighted and recognizing the need to support the many mothers who are affected by the prevalence of obstetric fistula. In the history of humanity and even more so in our African context, a mother plays a profound role in the family and is the pivot on which a home stands. Your choice to support the mothers in this condition is therefore very plausible, we thank you.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to share with you a brief background of DPF and what it does. DPF is a legal entity established by the Government of Uganda to ensure that depositors are paid their protected deposits in the unlikely event of failure/closure of a Contributing Institution.

Initially, DPF operated under the Bank of Uganda until 2016 when it was established as an autonomous body. The mandate of the Fund is to contribute to building public confidence in the financial sector with the assurance that their deposits are protected up to UGX 10million in the unlikely event of failure or closure of a financial institution regulated by the BoU (commercial bank, credit institution or microfinance deposit taking institution).

To enable us to execute our mandate effectively, we request and encourage all depositors to do the following;

- i). Ensure that your records with your financial institution are up to date namely your NIN, Mobile number and alternative account.
- ii). Take interest in knowing about and monitoring the performance of your financial institution.
- iii). Avoid listening to rumors.
- iv). For those who haven't, please move your money to formal or recognized institutions.

Ladies and gentlemen, the growth of a nation is the collective effort of all stakeholders, private or government. As an agency of Government, the Board of DPF found it befitting that in addition to its primary mandate, the Fund should make a deliberate effort to contribute to improving the livelihood of the vulnerable and under-privileged with emphasis on women, especially mothers, children and youth. It is therefore no wonder that the request from TERREWODE Women's Community Hospital (TWCH) for support towards the construction of a water tank reservoir system did not face many obstacles since it fitted perfectly with DPF's focal areas of intervention.

Ladies and gentlemen, indeed water is a fundamental necessity that humanity cannot afford to take for granted. However, there are countless communities around the world that still lack access to clean

and safe water. The lack of adequate clean water poses severe health risks, aggravates health conditions and worse, hinders socio-economic development. In many health facilities, patients and attendants are still faced with the burden of accessing sufficient, reliable, safe and clean water. We are particularly aware that this situation is compounded for women with obstetric fistula condition which requires sufficient and reliable water to enhance their hygiene.

This 20,000-litres capacity reservoir tank worth **UGX 37,888,000** (Thirty-seven million, eight hundred eighty eight thousand shillings) being commissioned today will ensure that there is sufficient and reliable supply of water at the hospital. It is our hope that with this support, the Fund will have contributed to enabling the women here to restore their health so as to live a life of dignity.

Ladies and gentlemen, this intervention comes on the heels of the commemoration of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) campaign to end obstetric fistula come 2030 which is marked every year on May 23, 2023. As the project draws to a close with today's commissioning and hand over of the water tank, we are hopeful that the quality of life of patients at this hospital will improve, enabling them to recuperate better, get back to their day-to-day activities, and contribute to the development of their respective communities.

Ladies and gentlemen, I did mention earlier that the Fund's areas of focus are the vulnerable children, women and youth. This choice was informed, among others, by the fact that they are very intertwined and interdependent. We recognize that the future of our children is heavily dependent on the livelihood of mothers today. Mothers should therefore be supported to overcome challenges such as their health so that they can focus on raising the children.

To the community that will, by extension, benefit from this water tank at TERREWODE, I offer you our congratulations. May this support serve as a symbol of hope and commitment. Let it remind you that there are people who care deeply about your well-being, even if they may be geographically distant.

To the management of the hospital, we are optimistic that unlike others who have received external support and mismanaged it, you will rise to the occasion to ensure that the facility is well maintained so that it can serve the community for some time to come.

I thank Bank of Uganda for the support extended through availing an Engineer to inspect the project. Engineer Chris Magal's intervention was indeed critical as it unearthed some major flaws just in time which would have adversely affected the project.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in celebrating the support for this Water Tank Reservoir system not only for what it represents today but for the ripple effect it will create in the lives of countless individuals for years to come. As an African saying goes, "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

As I conclude, I am reminded of the African adage that, "However long the night, the dawn will break". We are aware that the wait for reliable and clean water has been long but we believe that today's event signifies that dawn for which you have painstakingly waited.

Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the Board, Management and staff of the DPF, we are confident that this humble contribution will translate into immeasurable good for our nation and her citizenry.

Thank you

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY