

**Uganda National Policy Seminar  
Windsor Lake Victoria Hotel, Entebbe  
24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004**

The Uganda National Focal Point Coordinator, Ms. Joan Kyokutamba, organised a two-day National Policy Seminar on 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2004 at the Windsor Lake Victoria Hotel in Entebbe, Uganda. The seminar was attended by over 20 participants representing Government Ministries, local authorities, electricity utilities, Electricity Regulatory Authority, Members of Parliament, NGOs and the private sector.

The key objectives of the National Policy Seminar were:

- To disseminate AFREPREN research findings of studies carried out in the research period 1999-2003.
- To garner energy policy research priorities of stakeholders in the energy sector and identify areas for future research.

The Seminar begun with brief opening remarks from Mr. Geoffrey Kamese of the National Association of Professional Environmentalists (NAPE) and was followed by a keynote speech by the guest of honour, the Minister of State for Energy, Hon. Daudi Migereko.

In his keynote speech, Hon. Migereko gave an overview of power sector reforms in Uganda. He highlighted the reforms that have taken place, the achievements and what must be done to realise the outstanding power sector reforms in Uganda. He stressed the need for additional research in order for the poor to benefit from the reforms. He singled out AFREPREN as an example of research institutions that had, so far, provided very useful findings. The keynote speech was followed by an overview presentation on AFREPREN and a question and answer session on the Minister's speech as well as on AFREPREN.

Ms. Sarah Birungi, a Public Relations Officer of the Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA), made a presentation highlighting the achievements and challenges of regulating the power sector in Uganda. This was followed by two presentations on two AFREPREN research studies under the themes of "Energy Services for the Urban Poor" and "Energy Sector Reform". Ms. Kyokutamba presented the Uganda study findings on the former theme, while Mr. Kamese (on behalf of Mr. Peter Engorait) presented the findings of the Uganda study on the latter theme.

Four other presentations addressing Uganda's experience with the ongoing power sector reforms were made. The first one was by Eng. P. Mubiru, the Director of Energy, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, and it focused on the role of his Ministry since the unbundling of the national utility – Uganda

Electricity Board (UEB). The second presentation was by Hon. S. G. D'Ujanga, a Member of Uganda Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources and a former Managing Director of UEB, which highlighted Parliament's involvement in the power sector reform in Uganda. The third presentation was by Mr. D. Okumu, Manager - Corporate Strategy, Uganda Electricity Distribution Company Limited (UEDCL), which focused on the just concluded electricity distribution concession. The fourth presentation was by Mr. Dan Mayanja, a manager at Uganda Electricity Generation Company Limited (UEGCL), highlighting the changes at the company since the reforms began.



The presentations were followed by group discussions that deliberated on pertinent issues affecting the Ugandan power sector under a reformed environment. The issues discussed by the groups were:

Group 1: *“Issues, challenges and solutions to strengthening the independence of the regulator”*

Group 2: *“Issues, challenges and solutions to increasing local investment in the power sector”*

Group 3: *“Strategies for extending affordable electrification to poor households/communities”*

Each group presented its recommendations which were discussed during a plenary session. The seminar was closed by Hon. E. Dombo, a Member of the Parliamentary Committee on Natural Resources, who urged the participants take up the recommendations of the seminar in their respective institutions.

For further information on the Uganda National Policy Seminar, kindly contact the AFREPREN/FWD secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya or Ms. Joan Kyokutamba at the following address:

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