

Press Release

For Immediate Release

3rd March 2014

Amending the PPDA Act to Meet Changing Business Environment

Recognising the continuously changing public procurement environment, PPDA began working on amendments to the PPDA Act in consultation with experts, public entities users, business and local leaders and academics. The fruit of this collaboration is what has culminated into the Amended PPDA Act and Regulations which will go a long way in addressing the needs and challenges in public procurement in Uganda.

Today, 3rd March 2014 Hon. Maria Kiwanuka, the Minister of Finance, Planning & Economic Development, issues the commencement instrument which now makes the Amended Act law. From today on, all procurements will now be governed under the amended law.

The amendments will significantly change the way public procurement is managed in Uganda. Some of the immediate benefits are promotion of local businesses under the preference and reservation schemes, and efficiency in public procurement. The new law also demands great accountability from both public and private officials involved in procurement.

Another notable benefit will be more efficient management of procurement of medicines and medical supplies. The new law addresses the challenges faced by Government bodies in procuring medicines for the public good. The amendments enable the relevant bodies to procure the medicines and medical supplies needed for the public good.

The key objectives of the Amendments are:

- a) Promote local and small business through preference and reservation schemes.
- b) Guarantee the confidence of the public in the procurement process by establishing the PPDA Tribunal.
- c) Regulate procurement planning in all Government entities
- d) Ensure transparency and accountability by making Accounting Officers personally liable for their actions in the procurement process.

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