



UGANDA PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS' NETWORK

THE NATIONAL DRIVERS' CONFERENCE & ROAD TRANSPORT STAKEHOLDERS' EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2022



In partnership with



Ministry Of Works & Transport

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Infrastructure & Services



Uganda Professional Drivers' Network, a network that brings together Professional Drivers across the Public, Private and Civil Society in Uganda, The Private Sector Foundation of Uganda and The Ministry of Works and Transport partnered to organize the National Drivers' Conference 2022. The Conference took place on 9th December 2022, at Hotel Africana, Kampala. The Conference was organized with the Theme: "Strengthening National Efforts in Professionalizing Drivers' in Uganda".

It was organized against the background of Transport challenges including Uganda's poor road safety record which stands at 29 deaths per 100,000 persons which translates into 11 people killed on Uganda's roads per day. It is against this background that UPDN in cooperation with PSFU and The Ministry of Works and Transport sponsored the Conference with the objective of developing a clear understanding of the drivers' issues for implementation to reduce increasing road crashes in the

country. The Conference was organized with the cooperation of Government of Uganda through Ministry of Works and Transport, The Uganda Breweries Limited, The Uganda Registration Services Bureau, The Judiciary, National Medical Stores, The Electoral Commission, Inspectorate of Government, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Stanbic Bank Uganda, Apex Loads Uganda, Mukwano Industries, Bakhresa Grain Milling Uganda Limited, Road Safety Advocacy Coalition, Q-Sourcing Servtec, Integrated Transport Systems Limited, Private Sector Foundation, Jubilee Insurance, Regional Heavy Truck Drivers Association Investment Club, City Medicals, Coca Cola, Uganda Insurers Association, Link Buses, Divine Coaches, Friendship Buses, Y.Y Coaches, Tondeka Metro Bus Company, Uganda Red Cross Society, Mota Engil Uganda, Prestige Driving School, Safe Way Right Way, Uganda Electricity Generation Company Limited and Uganda Bureau of Statistics among other organisations and Road Transport Stakeholders in Uganda.



The Conference commenced with a self-introduction interview in which all the delegates provided us with an understanding of their driving experience and it was realized that it brought together practicing drivers with diverse background with some having experiences spanning from 3 years to over 34 years.

In his opening remarks the Executive Director of UPDN; Mr. Omongo Ndugu welcomed the delegates and decried the poor road safety record in the country and called upon stakeholders to devise ways of improving the poor road safety situation through tailored road safety interventions. He extended UPDN's commitment in Supporting Government to Professionalise drivers in Uganda.

In his address the Chairperson Uganda Professional Drivers Network Mr. Charles Edeun revealed how UPDN was glad to host the Conference. He was grateful that with the cooperation of PSFU, MoWT and Police they prepared the Conference. He re-echoed the ED UPDN's words of the need for action to improve the driver's professional training needs and welfare if the transport sector is to develop and be profitable and Sustainable.

Delegates were grouped into 5 groups to deliberate on the critical road safety issues. The purpose was to develop a deeper understanding of the Drivers issues that would be used to evaluate and monitor the driver's performance of different sectors. The discussion groups included: Driver training, Private Sector drivers, Government drivers, Transport Associations and Transport and fleet managers. The outcomes of the Group Discussions were presented to the delegates

A plenary discussion was conducted and delegates deliberated on the outcome of the group work specifically on driver issues and road safety issues generally. The issues raised by delegates were responded to accordingly by the Government Representatives Eng. Kharim Kibuuka (The Principal Inspector of Vehicles-In charge Driver Training schools) Ministry of Works and Transport and Ms. Faridah Nampiima (The Uganda Traffic Police Spokesperson) of Uganda Police Force respectively.



The second plenary Discussion was undertaken by transport experts to assist delegates understand the way forward for managing the driver issues. The session was chaired by Ms. Jackie Okao (The Country Representative of Global Health Advocacy Incubator-Global Donor Organisation for Road Safety) and included the panelists: Eng. Kharim Kibuuka of MoWT, Mr. Kavuma Paul (Chief Executive Officer of Jubilee Insurance), Ms. Susan Tumuhairwe Program Officer of Safeway Right way, Mr. Lubega Omar, Transport Officer of Stanbic Bank Uganda. In addition, a presentation of personal finance was presented by Mr. Ronny Mulongo of The Private sector Foundation Uganda.

Following the presentation, a group discussion was undertaken and a request was made for the panelists to respond to all the issues that were raised.

The Conference Closing Ceremony was presided over by Ms Natukunda Brenda, the representative of Uganda Breweries Limited. The representative thanked UPDN and partners for the hosting of the National Drivers' Conference. She thanked all the other stakeholders for their support. She said the Conference has played a significant forum for discussing road transport and road safety matters which need to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

An award giving ceremony was organized by UPDN and officiated by the Honorable Minister of Works and Transport who recognized and appreciated the efforts of promoting Transport Development and road safety in the country.



Preceding the award, the Commissioner of Transport Regulations and Safety Mr. Winstone Katushabe thanked the organisers and officially invited The Minister to address the occasion.

In his award remarks as Minister for Works and Transport, General Katumba Wamala, thanked the conveners for organizing the Conference and was glad to participate in it not only as a Minister but also as a road user. He acknowledged that the road safety situation is not good and reminded delegates of the loss arising out of the road crashes as too much for a developing country like Uganda. He underscored the central role of drivers and transport as the engine of the economy.

The Organisers explained that it was agreed that annually as part of The Annual National Professional Drivers Conference, it was important to acknowledge outstanding contributions of institutions and individuals for best practices in road safety in Uganda by offering Road Transport Stakeholders' Awards to those identified by the organisers and put to public vote. This the organisers believed would help motivate Ugandans to compete annually

for opportunity to be recognized as contributors to safer roads in Uganda and in the long run help improve the National situation of road safety in Uganda. The Organisers had in September identified several individuals and companies and they were put to public vote on the UPDN Website for the public to vote and the results of this public vote in October is what had now produced the individuals and organisations being recognized at the event. The organisers pledged a bigger Conference and Award ceremony come 2023.



The following Awards were recognized at the Conference

1. Road safety campaign of the year
2. Media house for road safety
3. Gas station of the year
4. Professional driver employer with Best Road Safety Practices
5. Passenger Transporter of the year
6. Bus Company of the year
7. Goods transporter of the year
8. Drivers' organization of the year
9. CSO Advocating for Road safety
10. Post-Crash Response Service Provider
11. Outstanding Development Partner in Road Transport
12. Drivers' Bank.
13. Driving School of the Year.
14. Professional Drivers Trainer of the Year
15. Professional driver of the year
16. Road safety champions of the year



UGANDA PROFESSIONAL DRIVERS' NETWORK

Plot 1688 Kaduuyu Road, Kiwatule
 P.O. Box 12093, Kampala-Uganda
 Tel: +256 414 671 011 / +256 772 022059
 Email: info@driversnetworkug.org
 Web: www.driversnetworkug.org

-  Uganda Professional Drivers Network
-  uganda_drivers