This is a Ministry of Education and Sports press statement on the status of the Bill of the National Sexuality Education Policy Framework.

I am pleased to announce that enough work was done to get this bill into Parliament.

As the students develop the methods of passing on this information to the young people who desperately need it. Yet this exercise must be inclusive of more concerned people rather than the ministry personnel alone.

This is why we resolved to at least ensure that we will take as much time as possible to study and involve the religious leaders believing that they will not only mitigate the Uganda Concerns but, equally, they would bring on board the wisdom of the ages from the Holy books as to what builds nations.

This is because we believe in the educational policy process that we hold the trust of the people of Uganda, but as much as possible we need to also play part of that responsibility because as the saying goes, he who does not stand on his own feet and instead of only criticising, little by little we are representatives of the Ugandan religious community, we can, also, when you are asked to participate as all religious leaders, have not one, but many times, I would hope to see some willingness to help.

Children and young people need education about human sexuality. They need to know that the information on dyslexia, regarding emotional and physical health, and boy/girl relationships. Keeping in mind the fact that they have to choose the choices they make at this time of their lives.

I was told that I must hasten to add that in today’s world, there is a greater need than ever before to aid young people and to blend the right people with the right information on this subject as early as possible, knowing that indeed this is the information age, and if the children do not get the correct information, timely and from the right places, they may get information from the many available resource centres. But what kind of information will it be and what direction will it lead them into?

Therefore, sexuality education delivered in a safe and caring environment is important in any home and the education that young people can get from the religious leaders and other people who care in the family. As for the young people who care in the family.

The above notwithstanding, the government wants to use this opportunity to inform the public that the National Sexuality Education Policy Framework has been crafted together with the team we had carefully put together. After which I commissioned and launched it. I must add here that this Sexuality Education Policy Framework came into effect as a response to the country’s outcry about the sexual abuse that our country has been struggling to run away from the country called “comprehensive sexuality education.

The people who were behind this programme still use some non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to do some secret seminars and they try to confuse the media that what they are known as Ministry of Education Sexuality Policy framework.

Therefore, it is important for the public to know that our programme is still in the making until we get all our stakeholders’ agreement for it to safely be sent to Parliament. If there are aspects of this policy that we all agree are not good for the young people, then they can be reconsidered for the good of all.

I, therefore, want to assure the public that this policy will be made so that the truth, that in formulating this policy framework, we have extended our hands to people with any cross section of stakeholders. These include among others; religious leaders, education leaders of the Council of Presidents (COP), the Inter-Religious Council of Uganda (IRCU), the Uganda National Council of Arts (UNCA), Uganda National Association of Teachers Commission, AIDS Development Partners, Civil Society Organisation, National Curriculum Development Council, 1N-Joint Team and the private sector.

In this consultation with stakeholders, the public, government, education materials, makes a clear commitment to respect children’s rights.

I, therefore, want to say to the public that this policy is still in the making until we get all our stakeholders’ agreement for it to safely be sent to Parliament. If there are aspects of this policy that we all agree are not good for the young people, then they can be reconsidered for the good of all.

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