

Nyirinkindi Katungye, Rossette (Uganda)

[Original: English]

Statement of qualifications

Rossette Nyirinkindi Katungye is a Ugandan citizen. She is a career diplomat and an international lawyer by profession. She is currently the Head of the African Union Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uganda. She also serves as a Commissioner of the Uganda African Peer Review (APRM) Commission under the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

Her career objective is to take initiative and excel in all tasks undertaken by her. She is a holder of a Master of Science (M.Sc) degree, a law degree (with honours), a diploma in legal practice, as well as a number of international post graduate certificates in related fields and in French.

Ms. Nyirinkindi has been socially active, especially in the environmental field where she not only founded an indigenous non-governmental organization for youth but also created a magazine geared to promote environmental public awareness.

Professionally, she worked her way through the rank of Third Secretary in 1988 to Minister Counsellor in 2005, a post she still holds today.

Her international experience included representing Uganda in legal issues at the United Nations and serving on the following bodies:

- Committee on Budget and Finance, International Criminal Court;
- Bureau of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, focal point to coordinate key provisions and chair meetings on the procedure for the election of judges, 2003;
- Credentials Committee of the following:
 - 12th meeting of the States Parties to the Law of the Sea, 2000;
 - First and second sessions of the Assembly of States Parties, International Criminal Court, 2000;
 - Ninth session of the International Seabed Authority, 2003;
- One of the Vice Chairpersons to the ad hoc Committee on the International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings, 2002;
- Vice Chairperson of the African focal points for the United Nations Environment Programme and United Nations HABITAT, 1996;

Ms. Nyirinkindi has also served on a number of regional Boards of Directors and has been a member of several internationally recognized professional bodies and is a published writer.

In addition to her career, Ms. Nyirinkindi has been involved in voluntary work over the years that span the youth, the poor, the vulnerable and the marginalized peoples in Uganda. She possesses strong communications and interpersonal skills and speaks several languages.

Personal

Name: Rossette Nyirinkindi Katungye
Date of birth: 16 October 1963
Citizenship: Ugandan
Profession: Lawyer/environmentalist
Occupation: Career diplomat

Career objective

To take initiative and excel in all tasks I undertake, especially if such tasks contribute to the improvement of human lives, peace and security as well as the sustainability of the environment.

Education

- Certificat d'Etudes de Français Pratique 2 Niveau B1, Council of Europe, Paris, France, 2 March 2007.
- Certificat d'Etudes de Français Pratique 2 Niveau A2, Council of Europe, Paris, France, 2 March 2007.
- International criminal law, specialization in the Nuremberg Trials, Columbia Law School (Fellowship), New York, 2005.
- Undertook several UNITAR¹ courses, New York, 2001 - 2002.
- French classes from levels 1 to 8 at the United Nations, New York.
- Master of Science (M.Sc) in General Maritime Administration and Environment Protection, World Maritime University (WMU), Sweden, 1997.
- International post-graduate training course in environmental management with specialization in elements of international environmental policy, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Massachusetts, United States of America, 1995 (4 months).
- Post-graduate diploma in Legal Practice, Law Development Centre, Uganda, 1989.
- Bachelor of Laws degree (LL.B), Upper Division of the Second Class, Makerere University, Uganda, 1988.

Key professional experience

- Appointed Vice-Chair to the Sub-Committee on Budget and Finance, Uganda's African Peer Review (APRM) Commission, 2008.
- Elected to the Committee on Budget and Finance, International Criminal Court, 2006.
- Appointed as Commissioner, Uganda's APRM Commission, 2006.

¹ United Nations International Training and Research Institute.

- Appointed to head the African Union Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uganda, February 2006. (Automatically rendered a member of the Foreign Ministry's Senior Management Team charged with, inter alia, preparing, overseeing and defending the Ministry's budget before Parliament).
- Appointed by the President of the Bureau of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as a focal point to coordinate key provisions and chair meetings on the procedure for the election of judges, 2003.
- Appointed as one of the Vice Coordinators for the African Group (Sixth Committee, 2005 - 2006).
- Elected on the Credentials Committee of the following:
 - 12th meeting of the States Parties to the Law of the Sea, 2000;
 - First and second sessions of the Assembly of States Parties, International Criminal Court, 2000;
 - Ninth session of the International Seabed Authority, 2003;
- Elected as one of the Vice Chairperson to the ad hoc Committee on the International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings, 2002.
- Chosen to defend Uganda before the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights in Burundi, Algiers and Banjul, The Gambia, in 1999, 2000 and 2006, respectively.
- Led Uganda's delegation several times to the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) and chaired meetings to write three of Uganda's statutory reports to the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights.
- Vice Chairperson of the African focal points for the United Nations Environment Programme and United Nations HABITAT, 1996.
- Vice Chairperson, Board of Directors of the regional non-governmental organization Eastern African Environmental Network (EAEN), 1995 to 2001.

Work experience

March 2006	Appointed Commissioner of the Uganda African Peer Review (APRM) Commission (under the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)).
February 2006	Appointed Head, African Union Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
April 2004	Promoted to Minister Counsellor.
November 2000	Accelerated promotion to the rank of Counsellor.
February 2001	Posted to the Permanent Mission of Uganda to the United Nations.
November 1996	Served in the Multilateral Organizations and Treaties Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Headed the Social Desk from 1999 - 2001.

October 1995	Promoted to the rank of Second Secretary.
January 1994	Accredited as Uganda's focal point to the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS/HABITAT).
September 1990	Posted as a Third Secretary to the Uganda High Commission to the Republic of Kenya.
September 1988	Appointed as a Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Professional memberships

2008	Member of the Uganda Association of Women Lawyers (FIDA).
1997 - 2001	Member of the Uganda Association of Women Lawyers (FIDA).
1998 - 2001	Member of Uganda Environmental Law Association.
1999 - 1996	Associate member of Action for Development (ACFODE).

Papers and publications

- "Post graduate degrees indispensable to the advancement of career women in developing countries", Malmo, Sweden, 2008 (paper presented at a conference for women).
- Government's Response to Uganda's Peer Review Process, APRM Publication, 2008.
- "Uganda's Peer Review Process and challenges faced" (a series of papers presented to different stakeholders all over Uganda), 2008.
- "The African Union and its organs", Uganda, 2007 (paper presented to Ministry of Foreign Affairs service officers undergoing training and induction).
- "Conflict resolution and post conflict rehabilitation in Africa", Uganda, 2007 (paper presented to Ministry of Foreign Affairs service officers undergoing training and induction).
- "The role of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union", Uganda, 2007 (paper presented to police officers posted to AMIS in Darfur).
- "The African Union and peacekeeping on the continent", Uganda, 2006 (paper presented to police officers posted to AMIS in Darfur).
- "Incredible journey to Turkey", HUTACA, New Jersey, United States of America, 2005.
- "Sharia on inheritance by women", FIDA, 1999 (joint paper).
- "The Project Cycle - Getting in Right", CIDA Alumni, Manual co-authored by CIDA-Alumni, Canada 1999.
- "The last straw", (Fiction), FIDA, 1999.
- "Mother", (poem), FIDA, 1999.

- “The Issue of Polygamy: Curse or Cure?”, FIDA, 1997.
- “Legal and other Mechanisms Governing International Shared Water Resources”, paper presented at the Eastern Africa Environmental Network (EAEN) 8th annual conference, Nairobi, Kenya, June 1998.
- “The Elaboration of Appropriate Legislation and Institutional Framework to Address Inland Waterway Transport on Lake Victoria: The Case of Uganda“, Dissertation, World Maritime University, 1997.
- “Enhancing a multi-sectoral approach in Uganda’s current environment policy formation process in a bid to foster sustainable development”, Tufts University, United States of America, 1995.
- “Counter-trade and its impact on the producer: Uganda’s Case”, Dissertation, Makerere University, Uganda, 1998.
- “Two Testimonials on International Terrorism”, submitted to the annual Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition, Washington D.C., United States of America, 1998.
- “Trials and tribulations of a woman”, (a play), Makerere University, Uganda, 1998.

Other skills

- Computer literate.
- Languages: English, French, Swahili, Kinyarwanda (Rwanda) and Kirundi (Burundi).
- Excellent written, analytical and oral communication skills.
- Strong lobby, advocacy, mobilization and organizational skills.
- Organizing workshops and conferences.

Voluntary work

2007 - 2008	Lawyer and Board Member, Environmental Teachers’ Association (ENVITA).
1998 - 2000	Lawyer (pro bono) for Single Mothers’ Association (Uganda).
1997 - 2000	Provided legal aid on behalf of FIDA. Served as a member on all its Programme Activity Committees (PACs).
1997	Trained primary school teachers and University students in environment management.
1996	Appointed Director, Member of the Board of Directors, Eastern Africa Environmental Network (EAEN).
1996	Appointed Director, Member of the Board of Directors, Organization of Graduate Youth for the Enhancement of Environment Programmes and Poverty Alleviation (OGYEEPPA).

1996

Provided legal aid to women on behalf of Action for Women in Development (ACFODE).
