



MEDIA STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!!

Clarification of False Reports Regarding Alleged Burning of a Tractor in Buvuma District Issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF)

Kampala, Uganda – October 13, 2025: The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) has noted with concern the circulation of false and misleading reports alleging that a tractor belonging to the National Oil Palm Project (NOPP) was set ablaze by residents of Bulima and Bukayo villages in Buvuma District. These claims, which suggest that there is unrest in the community because of land grading for project activities, are entirely unfounded. The Ministry wishes to ***clarify that no such incident has occurred in Buvuma or any other project area.*** All project equipment is intact, and operations are proceeding normally.

The land currently being graded is owned by the project having been acquired for oil palm development under Uganda's national agricultural transformation agenda. Contrary to the allegations, no private or community land is being used without consent or compensation. The ongoing land preparation is part of routine implementation activities aimed at enhancing productivity and supporting inclusive development. ***The Ministry reiterates its commitment to lawful land use, transparency, and peaceful engagement with all stakeholders, including local communities, district leaders, and development partners.***

MAAIF urges the public and media to *exercise caution and verify information with official sources before dissemination.* The Ministry remains steadfast in its mission to promote sustainable agricultural investment, improve livelihoods, and foster trust-based collaboration in Buvuma and across Uganda. We call upon all stakeholders to disregard these false reports and continue supporting the transformative work being undertaken through the National Oil Palm Project. ***ENDS.***

Maj. Gen. David Kasura-Kyomukama

PERMANENT SECRETARY