

## CONFERENCE RESOLUTION

**The Federal Conference hosted at the London School of Economics, London from 22 – 24 August 2008 agreed as follows that:**

1. Uganda's reason for existence is, first and foremost to serve the traditional nations that founded it. We recognise that Uganda's diverse nationalities, cultural, beliefs and social composition is what informs who we are.
2. African nationalism is our inherent right and central to this is the pride and dignity in being a Musoga or Karamojong or Muganda or Mukiga or Lugbara, or Acoli, etc and being proud to be a Ugandan.
3. Having reviewed and assessed our lived experiences we resolved in the words of Michelle Obama that we are driven by a simple belief that Uganda as it is won't do; that we have an obligation to fight for a Uganda as it should be; a Uganda of our aspiration and heritage; a Uganda built on the interests of her people; a Uganda built on African nationalism; a Uganda with a constitution that serves all her people; a Uganda with an authority that serves the people; a Uganda built on consent; a Uganda we want very much to love and respect.
4. The colonial legacy left us with a conscripted unity constructed on an Africa without the Africanness verses African nationalism; it diluted and relegated pride in our cultures and traditional systems of managing society to an act of treason.
5. A people denied a right to cultural reference has little or nothing to reinforce at the risk of facing a future of emptiness. We must overcome this by recognising what brings and holds us together, namely mutual respect among the traditional nations of Uganda who should freely come together in an inclusive agenda for all. The aim being to restore the traditional nations as the foundation for a sustainable, stable and lasting Uganda.
6. Federalism is the last fight against the legacy of colonialism; that federalism will give birth to a Uganda Nation-State that enjoys political and moral support of all the traditional nations of Uganda. We are prepared learn to talk amongst ourselves to find answers to the constitutional impunity that has held us in chains and subservient to an arrogant and detached centre that was created by the colonialists.

7. Territorial integrity and self-determination go hand in hand, however, the colonial legacy entrenched in the unitary constitution in Uganda presupposes that demands for self-determination are acts of treason. This means that anyone asserting his or her right to self-determination in Uganda faces the wrath of the Government in power. We reject being treated as prisoners in our own country. We also reject the assumption that we are subjects of an entity called Uganda.
8. We need an arrangement as a people that recognises each traditional nation, regardless of size or population as an equal partner with the other traditional nations that make up Uganda.
9. We petition Parliament to table a motion to debate the urgency to introduce structural changes that aim to bring everlasting peace and freedom.
10. We aim to organise a conference that will bring together all the traditional nations to discuss our common goals and whatever unites us, paving the way for an acceptable federal constitution uniting us under a nation-state of our choice.
11. Since we have the theoretical underpinnings and the moral justification to make the demands that we are making, we are, therefore, setting out to persuade the country to adopt a federal constitution and its attendant protocols by the year 2016.
12. To publish a detailed publication of the conference minutes and the papers that informed the debate.

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By Leo Ssebweze, Conference Moderator

On behalf of the conference and its organisers