

had adequate refining capacity within its borders, the current crisis would have been far less disruptive.

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The writer is a lawyer and an energy economist and climate finance expert. He is the team lead of climate finance and carbon markets at EnviroSure

UPC party leader Jimmy Akena complained about Alum Ogwang's cabinet appointment without consulting him

Speakership election signals discipline, trust

As the 12th Parliament formally takes shape, the nation has just witnessed a profound exercise in democratic institutionalism, organisational cohesion, and above all, absolute loyalty to our revolutionary movement. For observers outside the National Resistance Movement (NRM), the weeks leading up to the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker seemed to be an arena of unpredictable friction. Yet, for those of us grounded in the bedrock of the party's ideological foundations, the outcome of this race has delivered an unambiguous message: the NRM remains a structured, unbreakable, revolutionary mass organisation.

The overwhelming victory of our newly elected leadership – with the NRM flag-bearer securing 441 votes – is a historic milestone. This resounding tally significantly exceeded our party's official numerical strength of 372 Members of Parliament. This numerical discrepancy carries profound political weight: it means that multiple non-NRM party MPs, including independent and opposition legislators, crossed partisan lines to vote for the NRM's

endorsed candidates.

This cross-party consensus is a monumental vote of confidence. It clearly illustrates the deep trust, unwavering confidence and immense respect that the entire Legislature reposes in our national chairperson, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, and the strategic guidance offered by the leadership of the Patriotic League of Uganda (PLU), spearheaded by Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba.

DYNAMIC SYNERGY

In the science of political transformation, institutional political parties have historically achieved their greatest fortresses when working in perfect synergy with disciplined, ideologically aligned pressure groups. Throughout global history, pressure groups and vanguard movements have served as fundamental strongholds to help ruling structures navigate complex political transitions and identify incorruptible, public-centred leaders. Some of the examples include:

The Chinese Communist Revolution: Ideologically driven vanguard groups revitalised state organs, ensuring that leaders

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remained strictly aligned with the core socioeconomic objectives of the masses.

The Anti-Apartheid Struggle in South Africa: Internal pressure wings and mass democratic movements continuously purified the broader liberation struggle, offering clear guidance that prevented institutional decay.

The American Civil Rights Movement: Highly organised civil pressure coalitions pushed formal legislative structures into aligning with higher national values and accountability.

The Russian Revolution: Disciplined revolutionary cadres dismantled archaic, elite-serving institutions to install leaders focused entirely

on state-led transformation.

In our contemporary Ugandan context, the PLU, under the astute chairmanship of Gen. Kainerugaba, has perfectly mirrored these historical vanguard movements.

When PLU boldly took a stand against institutional excesses and aligned its formidable legislative block with the ultimate guidance of the NRM Central Executive Committee (CEC), chaired by the President, it injected vital ideological clarity into the process.

This pressure group did not act out of separate ambition; rather, it served as a robust bulwark for the state, ensuring that individual aggrandisement bowed to



national stability, zero tolerance to corruption and collective party discipline. By directing its affiliated MPs to wait for and strictly adhere to the wisdom of President Museveni, the PLU acted as an essential anchor of regime cohesion.

NRM MANDATE

When our national chairperson guides the party, his perspective is panoramic – encompassing geopolitical stability, legislative harmony and the realisation of the NRM manifesto. The CEC's strategic intervention, bolstered by the synchronised consensus of the PLU, eliminated unnecessary internal divisions and reminded our MPs that they hold their seats primarily on the mandate of the yellow flag.

The fact that opposition and independent MPs willingly cast their votes for the NRM candidates proves that the leadership configuration engineered by the President and supported by Gen. Kainerugaba transcends partisan politics. It demonstrates that even those outside our party borders recognise that Uganda's legislative stability, wealth creation agendas, and socio-

economic takeoff require steady, corruption-free, and predictable leadership at the helm of Parliament.

MOVING FORWARD IN LOCKSTEP

The smooth transition from the previous parliamentary leadership to the 12th Parliament's new desk proves that the NRM is dynamic, mature and entirely capable of seamless self-correction.

As the NRM chairperson of Kiruhura district and a cadre, I state unequivocally that our sub-region, and indeed the entire NRM fraternity, stands firmly behind the vision of President Museveni and the strategic, anti-corrupt, patriotic vanguard movement exemplified by Gen. Kainerugaba.

The 12th Parliament has been handed an untainted, powerful mandate. Let our legislators honour this massive vote of confidence by working as a cohesive bloc to propel Uganda to greater heights of prosperity, infrastructure development and national harmony.

For God and my country.

The writer is the NRM district chairperson of Kiruhura and a practising advocate