

## Opposition too confused to lead Uganda, says Col. Bantariza

By Paul Watala

The deputy executive director of the Uganda Media Centre, Col. Shaban Bantariza, has said Opposition political parties in Uganda are inexperienced and too confused to be entrusted with power to lead Uganda.

Bantariza made the remarks recently while addressing National Resistance Movement (NRM) leaders from the Elgon and Bukedi sub-regions at Hill Top Hotel in Mbale town.

The meeting was attended by district NRM chairpersons, LC5 chairpersons, NRM mobilisers and security personnel.

"We can never entrust or hand over power to inexperienced and confused opposition leaders because they have little knowledge of how to manage the affairs of Uganda. The only experienced person who is able to manage this country is President Yoweri Museveni," Bantariza said.

"We can hand over power to people that will make sure that continuity is guaranteed," he added.

Bantariza also noted that the current fights between LC3 chairpersons and sub-county chiefs are affecting the implementation of government programmes.

### BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ National Resistance Movement (NRM) leaders from the Elgon and Bukedi sub-regions noted that the failure by the Government to fulfil the pledges made by the President during his campaigns has affected the party's popularity in the Bukedi and Elgon sub-regions.

"Our challenge is not President Museveni, but it is the NRM cadres trying to frustrate development. Allowing the Opposition to lead is like denying your biological mother and allowing the stepmother to care for your father," Tamale Mirundi said.

The meeting was aimed at consulting district leadership about the challenges they face, and the pledges made by President Museveni.

Mbale district LC5 chairperson Bernard Mujasi noted that NRM party was a sleeping elephant that had given chance to foxes to make noise.

"The more we keep quiet, the more we give chance to foxes to tell lies to our communities. We should make use of the media to protect NRM's image and tell people what the Government has done for the country," Mujasi said.

He also hailed eastern region NRM mobiliser Ahmed Washake for making good use of social media to popularise the NRM government and its programmes.

"Social media is another avenue that NRM leaders should use to protect and defend the image of the party. Opposition politicians use both mainstream and social media to spread the gospel of doom," he added.

The leaders also noted that the failure by the Government to fulfil the pledges made by the President during his campaigns has affected the party's popularity in the Bukedi and Elgon sub-regions.

"Unless the Government fulfils the pledges made during election time, the NRM party will continue losing support," Manafwa LC5 chairperson John Musira said.