

UNCLEAR LAND ALLOCATIONS FOR GOVT AGENCIES SPARKED ARGUMENT

TORORO

By Faustine Odeke

The Tororo district Council on Wednesday ended prematurely following a controversial decision by the council to approve the sh97b budget estimate for the financial year 2026/2027 without mass consent and scrutiny.

Upon presentation of the budget by the vice-chairperson and secretary for finance, Rebecca Akumu, a section of councillors rose to propose approval of the budget without any discussion, while others jumped to immediately second it, catching the rest of the council members off-guard.

The council then turned rowdy as some aggrieved councillors wanted to engage in a physical fight following heated verbal exchanges, prompting speaker Betty Andera to adjourn the council session.

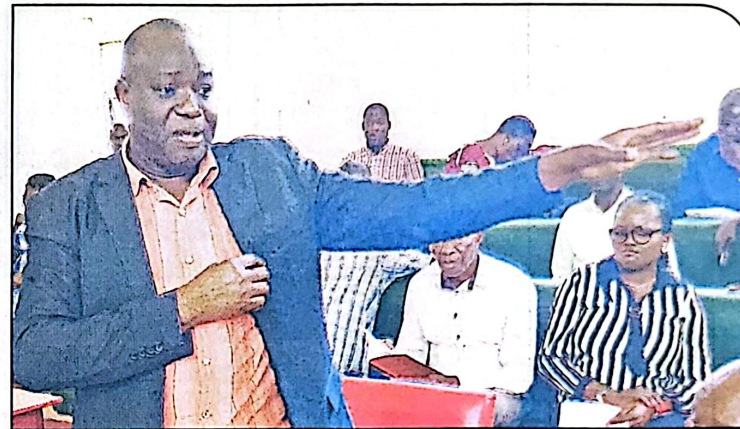
PROPOSED BREAKDOWN

New Vision learned that the budget will be financed by central government transfer of sh91.3b, local revenue of sh3.7b and external financing of sh2.6b.

The education department takes the lion's share of sh46.7b, administration sh19.7b, health services sh18.9b, production sh3.7b, works sh2b, statutory bodies sh1.5b, community services sh1.5b, finances

District councillors pass controversial sh97b budget

PHOTO BY FAUSTINE ODEKE



Okea (left) addressing council members during the budget launch at the district council headquarters in Tororo district on Wednesday

sh1.2b, water sh751m, natural resources sh554m, planning sh549m, internal audit sh200m and trade, industry and local government developments costing sh199m.

Earlier, the councillors turned rowdy, demanding the immediate deletion of the item (local

developments costing sh199m) that called for approval of land allocation to some members for the establishment of the government agencies' regional offices.

Andera had to adjourn the meeting more than twice, only to start after midday, as the tempers flared with members

accusing the executive committee of trying to parcel government land to individuals.

PLANS ARE NOT PERSONAL

Andera urged members to refrain from personal attacks.

"As we conclude our five-year tenure, it is time for us to reconcile because life does not end today. We need each other for continuity," Andera said.

Business only resumed after district chairperson John Okea, in his executive report, allayed fears from the warring

GOVT OFFICES

Tororo district chairperson John Okea, in his executive report, said his office had received letters for the establishment of regional offices for the Inspectorate Of Government, Ministry Of Internal Affairs, National Identification Registration Authority, the President's Office, Internal Security Organisation, the Uganda National Teachers' Union And staff quarters for the Tororo High Court Judge and their staff.

councillors, saying the motion was brought in good faith. He said his office had received letters for the establishment of various government regional offices.

"Most of you will be dying in the next 20 years, but we are creating opportunities for your children who are currently burdened to move to distant places to seek service that can be provided in Tororo," Okea said.

"I have all requests in documentation and it is not for any individual

benefit," he added.

Okea asked the councillors to deliberate in a sober manner, instead of raising baseless accusations after rumours of a planned reward of some of the council members close to the chairperson with land.

MEMBERS' REACTIONS

However, the councillors said they were left confused because they did not know how much land was to be allocated to which agency and where the said land is situated.

Eric Onyango, the Osia sub-county chairperson, described the decision as fraudulent and totally unacceptable.

"How do you tell me that we have approved land allocation when I do not know what is allocated to whom and where it is situated?" he asked.

Sarah Apadet, the western division representative in Tororo municipality, said the decision showed that money had changed hands.

"These guys have been moving in corridors and caucusing to agree on their move, but that action may affect some of them," Apadet said.

President Museveni, in a meeting with leadership from Tororo district last year, agreed to create three districts of Mukuju, Kisoko and Nagongera, and Tororo city out of the mother Tororo district, as a ceasefire of two decades of conflict between the residents of Tororo county (Iteso) and West Budama (Jopadhola).

In case the new administration takes effect, the budget will automatically be shared by all the parties.

**NAKASEKE DISTRICT**

NAKASEKE DISTRICT SERVICE COMMISSION

Vacancies: External & Internal Advert No. 1 of 2026

Applications are invited from suitably qualified Ugandans to fill the under listed vacant posts that exist in the service of Nakaseke District Local Government. Applications to be submitted in triplicate on PSC

Commission. Applications should bear the Title of the post and Reference number Specified against each post. Serving Officers should route their applications through their Heads of Departments who should be informed of the closing date.

ADDENDUM NO. 1
TO THE BIDDING DOCUMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF MANAGED PRINT SERVICES (MPS) UNDER A THREE-YEAR FRAMEWORK CONTRACT
Procurement Reference No: BRIDE/INCONS/26/00436