

Israel raid on Entebbe a uniting factor – Kadaga

By Vision Reporter

The Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga, has said the raid on Entebbe Airport in 1976 by Israel to rescue their people should be a vehicle for unity between Uganda and Israel and Africa as a whole.

Highlighting the hijacking of the plane and the subsequent rescue of the passengers by the Israeli Defence Forces, Kadaga said the terrorist attack binds the two countries and that co-operation should grow.

"One of the things we share are attacks by terrorists. The subsequent rescue of the passengers, which resulted into the death of the brother of the Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu should bind us together as one people," she said.

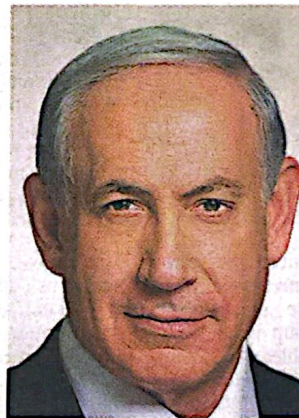
Kadaga made the remarks while speaking at a Seminar for Heads of African parliaments held at the Knesset (Israel Parliament) in Jerusalem, on Tuesday.

Terrorists under the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine hijacked the plane carrying 248 passengers, which had set off from Israel for Paris. The hijackers diverted the plane to Entebbe Airport, where they held Israeli passengers hostage.

The Speaker said prior to the terrorist incident, Israel was supporting Uganda in all forms of development. She was, therefore, optimistic that relations can be enhanced for the benefit of both



Kadaga



Netanyahu

BETWEEN THE LINES: Co-operation opportunities

- Kadaga, who was accompanied by the Finance State Minister, David Bahati and Amuru district Woman MP Akello Lucy, called for Israeli investment in agriculture, manufacturing and the mining sector, which she said is still underexploited.
- "Uganda has over 60% arable land and we are not using it well; I want to invite your support to improve agriculture in our country. There is also need to create investments, so that we generate employment by establishing more industries and infrastructure," she said.

Uganda and Israel.

"A lot of collaboration had taken place in capacity building; you had provided scholarships to Ugandans; many of the roads in Uganda were built by Israeli companies and you had established a citrus scheme in

my constituency. I am glad that after several years, our relations have been re-established and we are benefiting from the co-operation," she added.

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Bahati and Amuru district Woman MP Lucy Akello, called for the Israeli investment in agriculture, manufacturing and the mining sector, which she said is still underexploited.

"Uganda has over 60% arable land and we are not using it well; I want to invite your support to improve agriculture in our country. There is also need to create investments, so that we generate employment by establishing more industries and infrastructure," she said.

Kadaga welcomed Israelis to visit Uganda for general and religious tourism, highlighting the Uganda Martyrs in reciprocation of the visits by Ugandans to the Holy sites in Israel.

The Speaker of the Israel Parliament, Yuli Yoel Edelstein, said given the history between the two countries, there is need for more co-operation.

Edelstein revealed that they have launched a special caucus for relations with African parliaments and that they have signed co-operation agreements with Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

"We believe that we can help forge warmer ties through mutually beneficial partnerships between our parliaments and peoples in various areas for shared interest," Edelstein said.

The seminar was also attended by speakers of parliaments from South Sudan, Tanzania, Ghana and Rwanda.

to MPs to expedite electoral amendments