

# Opposition unveils new Shadow Cabinet

The new Shadow Cabinet is drawn from different Opposition parties and independents.

BY DAVID WALUGEMBE

**T**he National Unity Platform (NUP) party has retained the Nakawa West MP, Mr Joel Ssenyonyi, as the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) in Parliament.

The party said the move would intensify the fight against corruption and enhance accountability in public service delivery to Ugandans.

Mr David Lewis Rubongoya, the party secretary general, said the party's Central Executive Committee (CEC) had identified Mr Ssenyonyi to lead the Opposition in Parliament in the fight against corruption and push for accountability and justice.

He said the party conducted internal assessments among their MPs and identified a leader capable of holding the government accountable.

Mr Ssenyonyi emerged as the LoP in 2024, after chairing the Committee on Commissions, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises (Cosase) between



Paul Mwiru, the new Opposition Chief Whip

2021, where he has championed accountability and exposed irregular government expenditures in public institutions.

Mr Paul Mwiru, the NUP Jinja South East MP was named the new Opposition Chief Whip, deputised by Ms Harriet Nakwedde, the Kayunga District Woman MP, who now assumes the task of ensuring unity within the Opposition.

The NUP party secretary general, Mr John Baptist Nambeshe, the former Opposition Chief Whip, was appointed the Opposition Commission-



Harriet Nakwedde, Deputy Opposition Chief Whip

er of Parliament, taking over from Mr Mathias Mpuuga, the president of the Democratic Front (DF), who lost the Nyendo-Mukugwe MP bid to NUP's Ssebina Gyaviira.

Mr Nambeshe was credited for coordinating Opposition MPs, and mobilising support for Opposition positions on key parliamentary debates.

"We must use all platforms to fight, seek accountability, and push for a better Uganda. We have confidence that the new leadership will enable us to achieve it," he said.

| NAME                      | PARTY | POSITION                                                          |
|---------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Harriet Nakwedde          | NUP   | Deputy Chief Opposition Whip & Shadow Minister for the Presidency |
| Karim Masaba              | Ind   | Cooperatives and Microfinance                                     |
| Sewungu Gonzaga           | NUP   | Defence and Veteran Affairs                                       |
| Sheila Amaniyo            | NUP   | Information and Anti-Corruption                                   |
| Dr Eunice Apio Otuko      | UPC   | Science, Innovation and Technology                                |
| Ismail Kasule             | ANT   | Trade and Industry                                                |
| Patrick Okello Onguti     | DP    | Local Government                                                  |
| Ssebina Gyaviira          | NUP   | Finance, Planning and Economic Development                        |
| Charles Tebandeke         | NUP   | Animal Industry and Fisheries                                     |
| Joan Alobo Acom           | FDC   | Foreign Affairs                                                   |
| Sumayah Nabawanuka        | NUP   | Lands, Housing and Urban Development                              |
| Moses Lukanga Musanje     | NUP   | Energy and Minerals                                               |
| Andrew Kaluya Kiiza       | NUP   | Education                                                         |
| Hakim Kiiza               | NUP   | East African Community Affairs                                    |
| Jimmy Kanaabi             | NUP   | Public Service                                                    |
| Dr Timothy Lusala Batuwa  | NUP   | Health                                                            |
| Denis Sekabira            | NUP   | Internal Affairs                                                  |
| Betty Naluyima            | NUP   | Gender, Labour and Social Development                             |
| Robert Maseruka           | NUP   | Youth and Children Affairs                                        |
| Fred Jalameso             | UPC   | Tourism and Wildlife                                              |
| Jamal Mukuve              | NUP   | Water and Environment                                             |
| Patrick Kuteesa           | NUP   | Agriculture                                                       |
| Peter Okot                | DP    | Special Regions                                                   |
| Kaps Fungaroo             | FDC   | Human Rights                                                      |
| Abdullah Kiwanuka         | NUP   | Justice and Constitutional Affairs                                |
| Zahara Luyirika           | NUP   | Kampala Capital City Authority                                    |
| Asinansi Nyakato          | PFF   | Works and Transport                                               |
| Zambali Bulasio           | NUP   | Sports                                                            |
| Hussein Muyonjo           | NUP   | Culture and Performing Arts                                       |
| Erias Luyimbazi Nalukoola | NUP   | Attorney General                                                  |

In his maiden address as LoP yesterday, Mr Ssenyonyi unveiled the Opposition Shadow Cabinet and tasked them to remain active and committed in exposing corruption and demanding accountability from government institutions.

He also urged the government to reduce the number of ministers to at least 30 to save the taxpayers' money and

direct it to promoting socio-economic development.

"At least 30 Cabinet ministers can run the country as opposed to over 80 because it is not about quantity, but substance," Mr Ssenyonyi said.

He urged the Shadow ministers to effectively deliver on fighting corruption and accountability and warned that he would reshuffle those who lose focus.