UGANDA LOSES ABOUT SH9.7 TRILLION IN CORRUPTION ANNUALLY

CID CHIEF, IGG EXPLORE NEW WAYS TO FIGHT CORRUPTION

By Umaru Kashaka

The director of the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID), Tom Magambo and the Inspector General of Government, Lady Justice Aisha Naluzze, have explored new ways to fight corruption in the country.

This was during a courtesy visit Magambo and his team paid to Naluzze at her office in Kampala on Friday.

Their discussions focused on reviewing progress on the ongoing collaboration between the two institutions with regard to the fight against corruption, according to a brief statement from CID.

The statement posted on the social media platform X, after a closed-door meeting, revealed that several issues of mutual interest were discussed for enhanced co-ordination.

The Inspectorate of Government (IG) also took to X and said during the meeting, the CID chief pledged to continue supporting it in investigating high-profile corruption cases.

It noted that this is a timely commitment, given the fact that it has shifted its focus to prosecution-led investigations, an approach that seeks to significantly increase the prosecution of high-profile cases.

The IG statement quoted Magambo as saying the CID will provide its full support where it (IG) needs.

"Though we have different mandates, we are judged as a government and that is why we must work together," Magambo said.

The IG said this assurance from the Police's investigative arm will reinforce its commitment to its pursuit to eliminate corruption.

"It further gives credence to the long-standing collaboration," it said.

Magambo commended the IG for setting up a forensic laboratory, which he said is critical in investigating high-profile cases.



Naluzze and Magombo at the Inspectorate of Government offices on Friday

He also said the IG needs to train investigators, especially in areas of forensics, so that they can effectively investigate sophisticated crimes.

Naluzze thanked the CID for its continuous support, saying that collaboration is key in fighting syndicated corruption.

"When I joined the IG, I found a record of collaboration between us and the CID. We need to continue with this spirit and as IG, we also pledge to support you in achieving your mandate," she told the CID team.

Magambo was accompanied by his deputy, Senior Commissioner of Police Beata Chelimo, the deputy CID director in charge of economic fraud, Mark Odong and the head of legal affairs, Joshua Owor.

The meeting comes a few days after the IG launched its new five-year strategic plan, client charter and human resource policy and procedures manual.

Naluzze noted that the new strategic plan provides their visionary roadmap for a corruption-free Uganda, while the client charter publicly commits the institution to the highest standards of service and accountability. She explained that the human resource manual institutionalises a culture of integrity, fairness and professionalism within their ranks.

SH9.7T LOST

The IG's latest report showed that Uganda loses about sh9.7 trillion annually in corruption, mainly through non and under-declaration of taxes, employees getting paid yet they do not work, inflated payrolls, and botched procurement processes, among others.

POLICE CRIME REPORT

According to the latest Police crime report, a total of 13,132 cases of economic and corruption crimes were reported in 2024 compared to 12,924 cases in 2023, giving a 1.6% increase in this crime category.