

House clears Alupo, Nabbanja reappointments



BY BUSEIN SAMILU

KAMPALA. The Parliament has approved Katakwi District Woman MP Maj (rtd) Jessica Alupo Rose Epel's reappointment as the vice president, making her the only woman to hold this position for two consecutive terms.

The House, whose membership is dominated by the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM) party, overwhelmingly voted to have Ms Alupo retain the position she has held since 2021.

A total of 325 members voted yes to reappoint Ms Alupo.

President Museveni, on May 26, reappointed Ms Alupo as the vice president, and lawmakers, in exercising their mandate under Article 108 (2) of the 1995 Constitution, cleared her.

This particular Article states that "The President shall, with the approval of Parliament by a simple majority, appoint a Vice President".

Several members from the Opposition challenged Ms Alupo's clearance, demanding that the movers of her clearance motion present to the House her constitutional achievements rather than her personal achievements and educational background.

The motion to have the House clear the vice president was moved by the Sheema County MP Ephraim Kamuntu, who informed members about her previous achievements, positions she held, and capability to move the country forward.

Mr Kamuntu told the House that Ms Alupo's reappointment for the second consecutive term is a clear testimony that her appointing authority, who is also the President, trusts her abilities and is pleased with her service.

Ms Alupo first served as vice president from June 2021 to May 2026. Before that, she also served as minister of Education and Sports from 2011 to 2016, and State minister for Youth and Children Affairs from 2009 to 2011.

Nabbanja

Similarly, 320 lawmakers cleared Ms Robinah Nabbanja for another term as the prime minister. Six MPs voted against her clearance, while two abstained from the motion.

Ms Nabbanja, like Ms Alupo, will be serving her second term as the premier,

Lawmakers yesterday approved reappointments of Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja and Vice President Jessica Alupo (right). PHOTO/IBRAHIM KAVUMA

AWARDS



Maj (rtd) Alupo has been recognised as a transformative and a patriot leader and has received

...awards for her dedicated service... Excellent Order of the Pearl of Africa (The Grand Commander) in 2022; Golden Jubilee Medal, 2013; the Eastern Region Women Achievers' Award, 2012 of Uganda Christian University; Ephraim Kamuntu, Sheema South MP

a position she has held since 2021.

Dr Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero, the Lira City Woman MP, moved the motion seeking parliamentary approval of Ms Nabbanja as prime minister and the Leader of Government Business in the House. Ms Nabbanja is also Kakumiro District Woman MP.

She premised her motion under Rule 58 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure and Article 108A of the Constitution, which calls for the appointment of the prime minister by the President with a simple majority from among Members of Parliament or persons qualified to be elected Members of Parliament.

The motion for Ms Nabbanja's reappointment was seconded by MPs Fredrick Ruhindi (Nakawa East), Dennis Namara (Buyaga West), and Esther Anyakun (Nakapiripirit District).

The prime minister, under Article 108 (A) sub-section 2(a) and 2(b), is responsible for the coordination and implementation of government policies across ministries, departments, and other public institutions; and also performs such other functions as may be assigned to him or her by the President, or as may be conferred on him or her by law.

Dr Aceng also mentioned several previous dockets held by Ms Nabbanja and convinced them to approve her reappointment.

She said during her tenure as prime minister, Ms Nabbanja oversaw exemplary performance in the discharge of government business before the 11th Parliament.

"Eighty two percent of the total Bills indicated in the Legislative Programme were introduced; 96 percent of motions were submitted; 99 percent of Prime Minister's Questions were responded to; (v) 95 percent of questions to ministers were responded to; 97 percent of questions for oral answers were responded to; 93 percent of ministerial statements were presented; 98 percent of Action Taken Reports by ministers on the resolutions or recommendations of Parliament were tabled; and 100 percent of Treasury Memoranda were submitted," Dr Aceng said.

She added that Ms Nabbanja is the first woman to hold the position of prime minister in Uganda and has been instrumental ever since her appointment in 2021.



PM's achievements.

During her tenure as Prime Minister and Leader of Government Business, Hon Nabbanja has... received global recognition and was declared the 2024

African Female Leader of the Year from the African Leadership Organisation and the Global Women Leadership Award in New York for advancing socio-economic development and gender equality in Uganda; oversaw the efficient and timely execution of government programmes, which contributed to reduction in national poverty levels, coordinated the government Covid-19 response initiatives including...relief cash to listed vulnerable Ugandans" - Dr Ruth Aceng, mover of prime minister's appointment motion