

# Over 80 animals stolen from Amuria

AMURIA

By Emmanuel Alomu

Over 80 animals have been stolen by suspected Karimojong herdsmen who entered Amuria district starting November last year.

The number of animals stolen in Amuria is worrying local leaders in the district.

They said the animals stolen from November to February are more than the ones stolen by the herdsmen during the previous grazing period (November 2016-March 2017).

This means the animals which will have been stolen by the end of this grazing period will be double the ones stolen during last year's grazing period, local leaders in Amuria

said.

The animals are mostly stolen from the sub-counties of Amuria that border Karamoja. They include Okungur, Kapelebyong and parts of Obalanga, all in Kapelebyong county.

Simon Erwagu, the district councillor for Okungur sub-county, said 39 head of cattle, 15 goats and nine sheep have

been stolen in the sub-county allegedly by the suspected Jie tribe of the Karimojong from Kotido district.

Between November 2016 and March 2017, 36 animals were reportedly stolen by the herdsmen in Okungur sub-county alone.

"We lose animals every day. Once the animal is lost by a resident here, finding



Leaders meeting with Teso and Karimojong herdsmen in Amuria recently. Photo by Emmanuel Alomu

## Public Notice



Issued in accordance with Rule 38(1)(a) and (b) and Appendix 4: Paragraph 1 of the Uganda Securities Exchange Listing Rules 2003 (as amended)

### Corporate re-organisation of Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited

Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited ("SBU") informs its shareholders and the public that on the 14th February 2018 the Board of Directors resolved to recommend to the shareholders that SBU undertakes a corporate re-organisation and establish a Holding Company. The re-organisation will allow the company to venture into non-banking opportunities.

The group would comprise of a non-operating holding company (the current listed company), a banking subsidiary and other non-banking subsidiaries. The Board anticipates that the proposed structure will increase the returns to its shareholders while enhancing the value proposition to its customers. The proposed re-organisation will have no adverse impact on SBU's current shareholders, customers and employees.

The details of the proposed re-organisation will be provided in a circular to be issued to SBU's shareholders together with the notice of the annual general meeting in due course. The re-organisation will be subject to SBU receiving all requisite regulatory and corporate approvals, including the approval of SBU's shareholders and that of Bank of Uganda.

For further announcements regarding the proposed re-organisation are made, SBU's shareholders and the public are advised to exercise caution in dealing in SBU shares.

Chairman of the Board,

**Wekesa-Okoboi**  
Chairman of the Board

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## ON THE GROUND

The Amuria resident district commissioner, John Rex Achilla, said the Karimojong herdsmen must know that when they are accepted by neighbouring communities, they should respect them.

it becomes hard because it mixes with the animals of the Karimojong," Erwagu said.

He said some animals are stolen from homes, while others are taken from the grazing fields.

Erwagu said the law allows all citizens to stay anywhere as long as they are law-abiding, but the Karimojong herdsmen are unruly.

He urged residents to buy torches, which they can use to check on their animals during the night.

The representative of Kapelebyong sub-county in the district council, Richard Enyagu, said over 18 head of cattle have been stolen since the herdsmen entered their sub-county.

Erwagu and Enyagu said of the animals stolen, six, including an ox-plough, belong to the National Resistance Movement chairperson of Kapelebyong, Willy Odeng, while nine belong to residents of Aturai and Omokori villages in Okoboi parish.

Vincent Apedu, a resident of Amootom, also lost a bull on January 14, Joseph Aremu of Ocorikoit B village in Amootom parish had all his five cows stolen from his kraal on January 23 while James Okalang from Ollia village in Airabet parish lost four bulls.

Enyagu urged residents to keep their animals well since the children, who have been grazing them, have resumed school.

He also called on the resident district commissioner's (RDC) office to beef up security.

The Amuria acting district Police commander, Michael Erimu, said he, together with the RDC, John Rex Achilla, are going to Kapelebyong county tomorrow to get further details regarding the matter.

Achilla said there are several claims of cattle theft in Kapelebyong county, but his office has a record of only about 38 head of cattle, 15 goats and five sheep as having been stolen by the Karimojong.

He said the issues commonly reported in the three sub-counties are related to social conflicts such as uprooting of cassava, theft of livestock, illegal harvesting of beehives, burning of homes and threatening communities.

"This is unfair. We must tolerate each other. The Karimojong herdsmen must know that when they are accepted by neighbouring communities, they should respect them," Achilla said.

He said his office has been conducting a series of meetings to resolve the matter since last month.

"We scheduled a meeting recently at the watering dam in Okungur sub-county and also chose Janani Luwum Day to have peaceful negotiations with the herdsmen and educate them about desisting from stealing animals and property," Achilla said.

In a recent interview with *New Vision*, the chairperson of Uganda Local Government Association (ULGA) sub-region, Karamoja, Joseph Lomonyang, said the Karimojong and Iteso should learn to co-exist.

Lomonyang, who is also the district chairperson of Napak, said herdsmen who steal from others should be dealt with according to the laws of Uganda.

The Karimojong herdsmen have over 22 kraals with over 3,400 head of cattle in Kapelebyong county, Amuria district.