IT'S NOW JOINT OPERATIONS WITH KCCA & URSB.

Starting 3rd February this year, Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), Uganda Registration Bureau Services (URSB) and Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) will be working together in streamlining business registration – a move aimed at widening the tax base, increase revenue collection, minimizing cost of business, improve tax compliance and investment.

Launching the TREP working pact: URA’s Commissioner Domestic Taxes, Henry Saka, KCCA’S ED, Jennifer Musisi and URSB’s CEO.

This collaboration code-named Taxpayer Registration Expansion Project (TREP) is an execution of a directive from the Minister of Finance, Hon Maria Kiwanuka during her Financial Year 12/13 budget speech where she instructed urban authorities to work together in revenue collection.
Speaking at the launch of TREP on Friday 31st January, at the Golf Course Hotel, the KCCA Executive Director Mrs. Jenniffer Musisi said each team will leverage on each other’s strength to improve service delivery to collect more revenue. “URA has a robust system, KCCA has the advantage of reaching the small taxpayers wherever they are in the different business localities. We’re going to help URA identify those taxpayers that they don’t have in their database because we license them,” Musisi said.

The collaboration, which will start as a pilot in Kampala will take three months before full roll out and is envisaged to lead to the formation of the first One Stop Business Registration centre offering all services of the three bodies – business registration, application of trading license and TIN registration.

Representing the Commissioner General, Henry Saka – Commissioner Domestic Taxes welcomed the move and said TREP was a landmark because the three agencies form the backbone of service delivery to the country.

“Our understanding as URA is that before we can offer a service, we must first identify who we are offering the service and categorize their needs. For us to do that, we need to use the services of the URSB because they identify and register our people at birth whether they are individuals or companies. Statistics show that 95% of revenue is generated in Kampala. Kampala is the backbone of our economy and emerging culture. URA, on the other hand, is the lifeblood of the government because without finances, government can’t run,” Saka said.

He further revealed that URA had already felt the impact of this collaboration, especially over the last few months. The “Operation Storm Kampala” is one of the fruits of this collaboration where URA used data from KCCA and ‘stormed’ prominent shopping malls to register businesses licensed by KCCA but not registered with URA.

Currently, 144 staff from the various organizations are undergoing joint training to equip them with knowledge on the exercise and to be able to respond to clients’ enquiries.