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**Newsletter** Vol.26

## Updates on changes in ASARECA

Dear AR4D colleagues,

**The ASARECA Board of Directors appointed Dr. Enock Warinda as the Interim Executive Director of the Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa (ASARECA).** The appointment became effective on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Following the appointment, Dr. Warinda has pledged to live up to the expectations of the Governments, the Board of Directors, the Development Partners and the stakeholders across the region. Dr. Warinda will serve in the position until the process of selecting the substantive Executive Director is completed. The recruitment and selection process which started with the identification of a professional international recruitment firm to manage the process is well underway. This new developments come at a time when institutions have to innovate to maintain productivity amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Warinda has further pledged to maintain productivity amid this pandemic by ensuring the safety of staff and providing them with necessary facilitation to work under lock-down circumstances.



On another important note, join us in welcoming Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, Uganda's New Agriculture Minister, to the ASARECA family. Hon. Frank Tumwebaze was appointed by Uganda's President, Yoweri Museveni as the new Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries on June 8th, 2021. He replaces Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempiija, who has been moved to another Ministry. In the same breath, let us put our hands together in welcoming Maj. Gen. David Kyomukama, who has been appointed by Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni as the new Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries.

This edition of the ASARECA monthly newsletter is meant to update you on the developments at

the Secretariat and in the sub-region. Welcome!

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*Dr. Mkamilo (C), announces the appointment of Dr. Warinda (L) replacing Prof. Mbonigaba (R)*

## Latest updates

The ASARECA Board of Directors Chairman, Dr. Godfrey Mkamilo, would like to inform all esteemed ASARECA Stakeholders about some transitional changes within the ASARECA Secretariat. The changes are meant to ensure business continuity in the implementation of the organization's mandate and smooth transition. Details: [Statement of the Board of Directors on Changes at ASARECA Secretariat](#)

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### Ministerial appointment

**Hon. Frank Tumwebaze** has been appointed by Uganda's President, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni as the new Minister of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. He replaces Hon. Vincent Bamulangaki Ssempiija, who has been moved to another

### AR4D Highlights



### Insight

**Africa's rapidly growing cities offer** the largest and fastest growing market

Ministry. Hon. Tumwebaze officially received the ministry instruments of power and authority that include the ministerial policy statement, the agricultural zoning policy and the agricultural business enterprise handbook, among other statutory documents during the handover ceremony on June 18. [ASARECA Statement on the Appointment of the new Minister](#)

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### **New Permanent Secretary**

**Maj. Gen. David Kyomukama** has been appointed by Uganda's President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni as the new Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries on July 15, 2021. Before his recent appointment, Maj. Gen. David Kyomukama was the Director of the National Leadership Institute (NALI)—Kyankwanzi, a government facility dedicated educating and mobilising citizens too actively and consciously participate in national development. *Full story:* [Welcome Maj. Gen. David Kyomukama, Uganda's New Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture](#)

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opportunity available to the continent's 60 million farms, a new report has revealed. According to the report, in the world's most rapidly urbanizing continent, African farmers and agribusinesses must find ways to source and deliver increased quantities of safe, nutritious food to feed steadily increasing populations in large cities and secondary towns: *Read full story* [Africa's cities offer largest market for Agricultural Products](#)

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### **Uganda**

**Several years since ASARECA** coordinated a concerted assault against Cassava Brown Streak Disease (CSBD), a devastating disease of cassava which hit the Eastern and Central African Sub-region; researchers have deciphered genetic details of Whitefly, or *Bemisia tabaci*, one among the most dreaded 100 crop pests. A team of over 50 researchers have now cracked the Whitefly genetic building block and put it under scrutiny under the African Cassava Whitefly Project (ACWP) an initiative led by the Natural Resources Institute of the UK-based University of Greenwich. *Read full story* [Pursuing deadly viruses: Researchers crack whitefly genes in efforts to curb crop viruses](#)

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Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa  
(ASARECA)

Plot 5, Mpigi Road | P. O. Box 765, Entebbe, Uganda

Tel: +256 414 320 556, +256 414 321 885

Email: [newsletter@asareca.org](mailto:newsletter@asareca.org)/Website: [www.asareca.org](http://www.asareca.org)

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