

# ENVIRONMENT DIGEST

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## Message from the new Executive Director

### *Realising our potential*



2007 was the remarkable year that saw the birth of Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI Bwaise Facility), a local CBO operating in Kawempe Division of Kampala District. However, with growing support and engagement with other

stakeholders, EMLI Bwaise Facility now EMLI has grown into a fully operation NGO registered with the NGO Board under the Ministry of Internal Affairs with partners in Kenya and Zimbabwe. As we embark on implementing the EMLI 5 year strategic plan which addresses environmental and sustainable development concerns of Uganda, we need the support from donors, governments and other stakeholders that is if we are to make meaningful and tangible contributions to achieve sustainable development.

The strategic plan sets out the EMLI programme of Work on Climate change; Ecosystems and environmental management; Environmental governance; Harmful substances and hazardous waste; Education and HIV/AIDS. The strategic plan seeks to address national interventions as stipulated in the national development plan of Uganda through executing programmes and projects as governed by our Plan of Work (PoW). In the struggle to improve livelihoods in Uganda and the rest of Africa, I wish

to inform all our partners that EMLI is now accredited to two of the three United Nations major conventions that relate to sustainable development and these are; United Nations Framework Convention on Climate change (UNFCCC) and United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). Still at the international process EMLI's application for consultative status with United Nations Economic and Social Council is pending for the 2010 resumed sessions of the Committee on NGOs and I will be updating you soon about the decision taken.

This year, Uganda through EMLI deputy executive director has the position of the African regional representative to UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum. This is the first time in history such a remarkable position has been hosted by a local NGO in Uganda and we at EMLI find this more of a blessing. Having achieved such platforms and networks, I wish to inform our partners that as I continue to strive to provide leadership and support to EMLI and request for utmost support, cooperation and engagement with all stakeholders. I look forward to improving coherence, increasing relevance, enhancing effectiveness and impact of EMLI in Uganda and Africa at large.

  
**Sydah Naigaga**

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## IN THE PRESS

[Our forestry policy review long overdue](#) (Daily Monitor). Now that forestry is playing a critical role in achieving sustainable development, Uganda needs to review its Forestry Policy to ascertain issues of climate change...

[Africa must stop surviving and start developing](#) (Daily Monitor). The question of whether Sub-Saharan Africa can claim development, or is on the road to recovery is still complex, contested

## UPCOMING ACTIVITY (S)

- EMLI to exhibit wood fuel efficient technologies and distribute the UNEP Region Office for Africa bulletin (Africa Environment Link) during the World Environment Day (WED) celebrations on 5<sup>th</sup> June at Kihihi Primary School in Kanugu district.
- EMLI to launch and serve as host to Kawempe Division Civil Society Forum (KDCSF) secretariat. tbc
- EMLI and Uganda Forest Working group to exhibit during the IUFRO World Forest Congress in COEX, Seoul, South Korea. 15 – 29 August, 2010.

## MEETINGS

- 13th Session of AMCEN 21-25 June - Mali
- UNFCCC SB 32 31 May-11 June- Germany
- UNEP WED 5 June - Rwanda

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

- Update on EMLI application for Consultative status
- EMLI issue paper II on REDD
- ECO-Schools Projects update
- EMLI Submissions on NAPA and NDP
- Outcome of 4<sup>th</sup> GEF General Assembly
- Outcome of MDG Summit process and the civil society Hearings in June
- Outcome of CSD-18