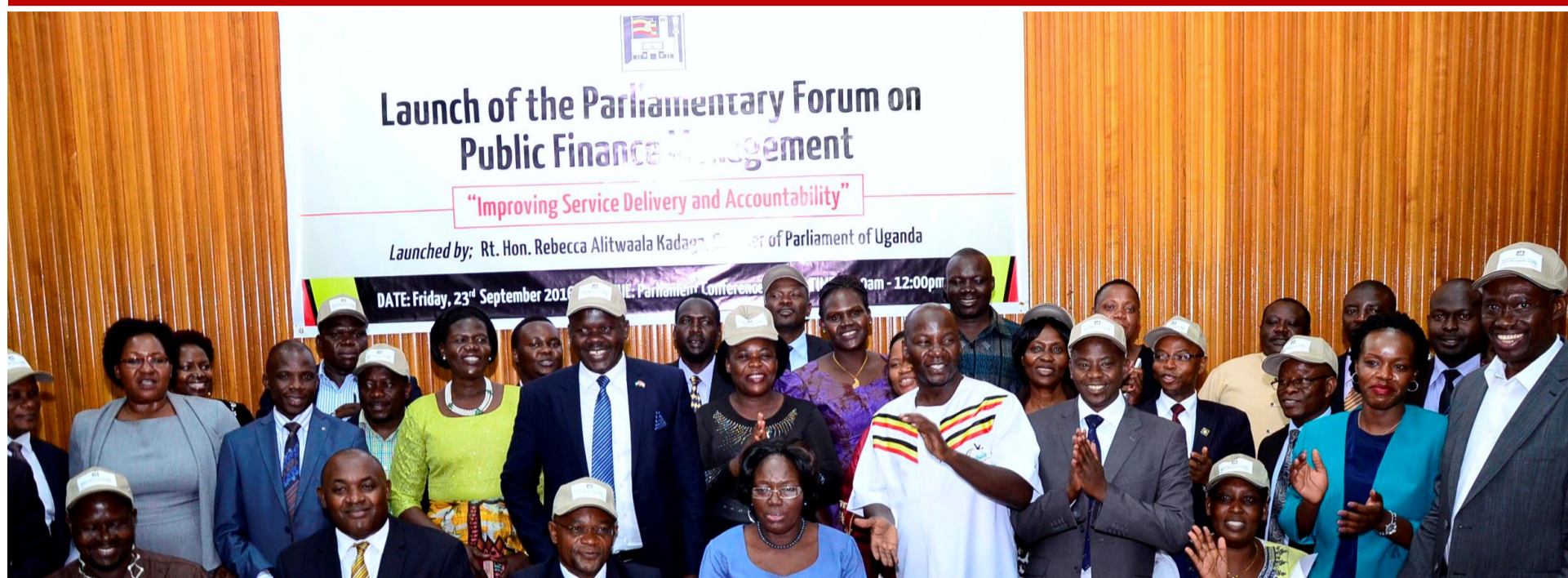


Kadaga launches public finance management forum of parliament



Members of Parliament, CSBAG, FINMAP after the Launch of the Parliamentary Forum on Public Finance Management at the Parliament Conference Hall, 23rd September 2016. | © CSBAG, 2016

The Rt. Hon. Kadaga the Speaker of Parliament of Uganda has today launched the Parliament Public Finance Management Forum. While giving her remarks, Rt. Honorable Kadaga was happy that at least for the first time, Parliament of Uganda is to have a forum specific on promoting prudent public finance management. "It gives me pleasure to launch the Parliamentary Forum on the Public Finance Management. As you will recall, the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 (as amended) was passed by the 9th Parliament with a commitment of using the law to improve transparency and accountability in order to effectively deliver services to the public." mentioned Rt. Hon. Kadaga.

"In my opinion the institution of this Forum on Public Finance Management could not have been timelier. It is my hope that this forum would play a key role in further improving Parliament's ability to actively engage the Budget process, not only in its approval but also in its execution and in monitoring spending". The Speaker added during the launch of the Parliamentary Forum on Public Finance Management, held today 23rd September 2016 at the Parliament conference hall.

The Speaker was nominated as Patron of the Forum and she pledged her support to this Forum. "I pledge to provide the Forum with the opportunity before Parliament to present the results of its deliberations; so as to facilitate effective debate on current and emerging concerns in public finance management in the country. She cautioned MPs present that if Parliament is to become effective in turning citizens' interests into reality, then as the 10th Parliament, they must have the will and ability to engage, and check the Executive function of government for improved public finance management.

At the same event, the Chairperson of the Forum, Hon. Raphael Magyezi in his remarks highlighted that the forum is at the heart of the transformation agenda. "The need to propagate good public finance management laws, policies and practice is a prime duty of Parliament and thus the importance of this forum cannot be over emphasized" stated Magyezi.

He highlighted the need to have a more concerted effort to monitor Government compliance to the public finance management law. "It can be recalled that the Public Finance Management Act, 2015 which was enacted last year contains a number of provisions for effective and efficient management of public resources, the problem however is that there has been this far, no concerted and unified effort to bring together all the committees and members of parliament on board regarding the content, dynamics as well as how best to operationalize and monitor progress of this law" Mentioned the Chair.

He mentioned the key functions of the forum would include, championing public finance management within Parliament and to provide space for various MPs to engage the Public Finance Management. The Forum will work to strengthen the public financial management systems among other things to ensure that Uganda realizes better service delivery outcomes for the benefit of the citizens.

While addressing the audience, the Chairperson of the Forum commended the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) for its support, which has so far enabled the forum come this far. CSBAG has been at the center of this process and are excited about this development. For CSBAG it is through such a forum that public finance management in Uganda would be championed. And we hope that various stakeholders can take collaborate and link with this forum for promoting prudent public finance management in Uganda.



CSBAG team during the launch of the Forum at Parliament



Signature Board signifying the launch of the Forum



Hon. Raphael Magyezi and Rt. Hon. Speaker during the Launch of the Forum | © CSBAG, 2016