



The Asian Institute of Diplomacy
and International Affairs

**Report on the
Round Table Discussion on
Nepal-Uganda Trade and Business Relations**



Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs (AIDIA)

March 7, 2025

Supported by:
Binisha Infra Private Limited

Nepal-Uganda Trade and Business Relations



Overview:

The Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs (AIDIA), with the support of Binisha Infra Private Limited, successfully organized a round table discussion on Nepal-Uganda Trade and Business Relations on March 7, 2025, in Kathmandu. The discussion aimed to explore trade and business opportunities between Nepal and Uganda and foster stronger bilateral relations.

The event was attended by prominent business leaders from Kathmandu, along with a delegation from the High Commission of Uganda in New Delhi. The program was hosted by Ms. Sajina Rai, Program Director at the Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs (AIDIA).



Opening Remarks:

Mr. Kuber Chalise, Senior Fellow at the Asian Institute of Diplomacy and International Affairs (AIDIA), delivered the opening remarks. He emphasized the similarities between Nepal and Uganda, highlighting their common status as landlocked nations and their membership in the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).



He underscored the vast potential for trade and commerce between the two countries and stressed the need for closer economic ties.

Keynote Speech:



The Chief Guest of the event, H.E. Prof. Joyce Kakuramatsi Kikafunda, Non-Resident Ambassador of Uganda to Nepal, delivered the keynote address. She reiterated Uganda's geographical constraints but reframed the perception by stating that Uganda is not just landlocked but "land-linked."

She emphasized Uganda's vast market and abundant opportunities, advocating for stronger trade and business collaboration between Nepal and Uganda.

Presentation on Investment Opportunities:

Mr. Brian Phenox Mwanika, Counsellor at the High Commission of Uganda in India, provided a comprehensive presentation on investment opportunities in Uganda. He detailed prospects in various sectors, particularly hospitality and manufacturing. He highlighted Uganda's investor-friendly policies, including free land provisions and tax exemptions in these particular sectors, making it an attractive destination for foreign investment.



Closing Remarks:

Mr. Binaya Upadhyay, Honorary Consul (Designate) of the Republic of Uganda in Nepal, delivered the closing remarks. He highlighted the existing bilateral relations between Nepal and Uganda, emphasizing trade, business, and people-to-people connections. He noted that both countries are currently classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) but are on the path to graduating to developing nations. He stressed that this transition would open up multiple areas of cooperation in the near future.



Networking:

The event concluded with a networking session between the participants and the delegation from the High Commission of Uganda in India. This provided a platform for meaningful interactions and discussions on potential collaborations in trade and investment.





Conclusion:



The roundtable discussion successfully facilitated dialogue between Nepalese and Ugandan stakeholders, paving the way for future collaborations in trade, investment, and business. Stakeholders from both nations expressed their commitment to strengthening bilateral economic ties and exploring mutual growth opportunities. Additionally, the Ugandan delegation was in Kathmandu to present the credentials of the Non-Resident Ambassador to the President of Nepal. The visit lasted for five days, further strengthening diplomatic and economic ties between the two nations.



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