

Remarks

By

Hon. Fred Jachan Omach (MP)

Minister of State for Finance, Planning & Economic Development

(General Duties)

At the closing of the

**THIRD EAST AFRICA REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH NETWORK
(EARHN) COORDINATION MEETING**

**Imperial Royale Hotel,
Kampala – Uganda**

September 3, 2010

Honourable Members of Parliament

Honourable Members of the East African Legislative Assembly

Members from the various Government Departments from the 5 countries represented here

Members from the civil society organizations

Representatives from various media houses

Distinguished participants.

It is my pleasure to be here with you to officiate at the closing of the Third Eastern Africa Reproductive Health Network (EARHN) Coordination Meeting; whose theme is “Repositioning Family Planning and Reproductive Health in Eastern Africa”.

I must say that I am very pleased with the high level representation that the respective countries have accorded to this meeting. This, reflects that seriousness that the member countries are putting on issues to do with Family Planning and Reproductive Health. I am also very happy to learn that even at the level of the East African Community Secretariat, these issues are being put high on the agenda.

I have also been informed that my senior colleague The Rt. Hon. 1st Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister for East African Community Affairs; Hon. Eriya Kategaya, who officiated at the opening of this meeting did highlight to you the level and steps that the Government of Uganda is taking in order to address Family Planning and Reproductive Health issues in Uganda. This can also be ascertained by the Honourable Members of Parliament of Uganda that attended this meeting despite

their very heavy schedules and the on-going politicking and elections in various parts of our country.

Let me also take this opportunity to share with you information that Population and Development issues have been given high consideration in the recently approved “Five-year National Development Plan” – and this in a way, will address Family Planning and Reproductive Health issues in the country over the 5 years.

I would like to encourage this type of meetings between technicians and politicians from Member states of Eastern Africa countries so that we can share experience, learn from each other and chart a way forward in as far as improving the quality of life of our people is concerned.

Let me also thank the Partners in Population and Development - Africa Regional Office for facilitating this important coordination meeting.

In a special way also, let me thank your respective countries for having allowed you to be here with us for the last 2 days; given your very busy schedule back at home. Please take time to visit some of the tourist attraction places before you go back to your respective countries.

Finally, a big thank to all of you for your presentations, contributions and fruitful discussions that made this 2-day meeting a success.

It is now my pleasure to declare the meeting closed and wish everybody safe travel back home.

Thank you.