



Maj. Gen. Kahinda Otafiire

CABINET RESHUFFLE SEES TOURISM MINISTER DROPPED

The recent cabinet reshuffle in Uganda saw the Tourism Minister Janat Mukwaja dropped to a less demanding position while the portfolio of Tourism, Trade and Industry was taken over by Maj. Gen. Kahinda Otafiire MP, known to be a 'doer' and never shy of taking decisions.

In this department his predecessor faltered for months over the appointment of a new tourist board, while the Ministry continues to lack a substantive Permanent Secretary after Dr. Sam Nahamya retired in March 2008.

There has generally been a positive response to the change at the helm of the Ministry and the sector is hoping that a new lease of life is now injected in the Ministry in coming weeks and months.

Respected State Minister for Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities Hon. Serapio Rukundo, remains in the same office, assuring continuity for the sector.

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RHINO BREAKS OUT COMES HOME AGAIN

One of the male rhinos on the Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary, called Moja, broke through the electric fence last month following an argument with one of the other males and went AWOL for three days. When the alarms went off a team was dispatched to track the animal as it wandered across the area. Aerial pursuit was also initiated by UWA's Operations Department which dispatched a light aircraft.

Angie Genade, Executive Director of Rhino Fund Uganda

and Manager of the sanctuary, said the lone rhino wandered up to 40 km away. An immediate radio and village-based information campaign yielded good results in alerting people. Scared villagers and farmers kept the authorities informed whenever they sighted the animal.

Back at the sanctuary, Moja once again clashed briefly with Taleo before they could be separated but has now settled down.

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