



## **AFRICAN NETWORK OF PBOs** The 03<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference

### **Effective Communication of the Analysis Outcomes - *The Ugandan Experience***

By The Uganda Delegation  
Parliamentary Budget Office  
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# The Uganda PBO at a glance

- **Date of establishment:** 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2001 by the Budget Act 2001 (Sections 20 and 21)
- **Mandate:** To provide Parliament and its Committees with timely, objective and independent analysis required for economic and budget legislative decisions
- **PBO Structure:** Two Divisions - Economic Analysis and Fiscal Affairs Division; and 6 Sections
- **Staff:** 18 Employees, (Economists, Financial Analysis)

# PBO - Outputs

- Mainly Analytical Reports, Policy Briefs and PowerPoint Slides.
- Contents are well researched, analyzed and communicated to guide Parliament in making well informed legislative decisions.
- Main Reports are Communicated to all MPs through **intranet** and **emails**
- Technical and Policy briefs are presented to Committees
- PBO staff present briefs to Committees and presentations are followed by questions and answers
- The findings in PBO reports, form a basis for Committees' interaction and Scrutiny of the Executive's Submissions.

# So what Guides the preparation of PBO Reports?

- **Know your Audience /Clients**
  - PBO's Main Audience - MPs.
  - Ministries, Departments and Agencies
  - Non-Governmental Organizations (on a small scale)
- MPs are from diverse backgrounds
  - Teachers, Engineers, Doctors, Lawyers, Farmers, Business, etc.
- MPs are busy persons, they have no time to read
- MPs have alternative sources of information
  - Constituents, NGOs, Media, Conferences, Research Institutions,
- MPs are Politicians and would wish that you respect their space

# So what Guides the preparation of PBO Reports?

- **Know how to package your material**
  - Concise, coherent and logical
  - Contents are accurate, factual, relevant, evidence-based and informative
  - Assume that the reader does not have expert knowledge of the subject
  - Use a report format or layout which will appeal to the audience
  - Structured so that the key issues easily stand out
  - Use Figures, Tables, Charts, Diagrams and Factsheets where they can assist understanding
  - Clear recommendation where the decisions needed can be easily and logically assessed
  - Use appendices to include detailed information that may be vital for the issue
  - Ensure Quality Control – Peer review is paramount

# Who Owns PBO Outputs?

- By the Rules of the Public Service of Uganda
  - PBO is administratively structured as a Department under the Parliamentary Service
  - PBO reports are owned by Parliament
  - PBO reports **cannot** be shared with the Media
  - PBO has to seek for special clearance from the Clerk to Parliament, for dissemination outside Parliament.
  - PBO Website development, hit a snag.
  - However, PBO has always shared reports with the Public during the Parliament Week(once a year).
- PBO is soon proposing a communication strategy to the Parliamentary Commission.

# Feedback on PBO Outputs

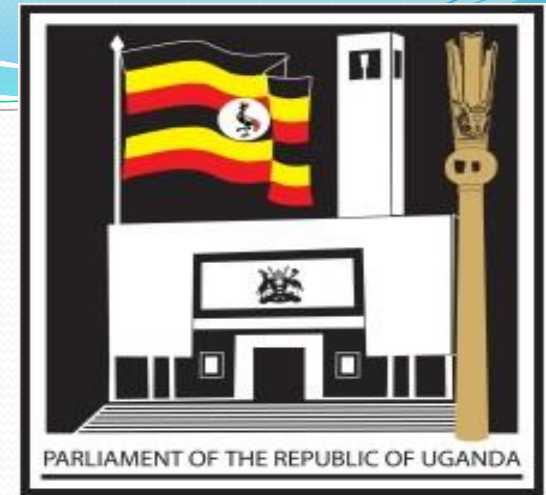
- How is feedback received?
  - PBO receives feedback from MPs,
    - Verbally , during the Committee sittings
    - By email, on individual basis
    - Letters
- PBO reports are cherished
  - Factual, accurate and well researched
  - Compliant with the Law
  - Offer Policy alternatives

# Conclusion

- Effective Communication of PBO Outputs, calls for a commitment towards learning your audience and learning how to package the materials
- Effective Communication of PBO Outputs, necessitates formulation of a well-designed Communication strategy
- PBOs should be allowed to formulate Communication Strategies:
  - To widely disseminate PBO outputs
  - To enhance the quality and quantity of their Outputs



***Thank-you.....***



*An idea can only be materialized with the help  
of a medium of expression, the inherent  
qualities of which must be surely sensed and  
understood in order to become the carrier of an  
idea*

.....Hans Hofmann