

KAMPALA MINISTER WARNS SUPPLIERS ON ENVIRONMENT

By Juliet Waiswa

The Minister for Kampala Capital City and Metropolitan Affairs, Hajat Minsa Kabanda, has warned suppliers that failure to comply with environmental and sustainability standards will attract stringent sanctions.

"The era of cutting corners, ignoring safeguards or prioritising profit over public interest is over. Suppliers who fail to comply with environmental and sustainability obligations will be sanctioned. Government will support those who innovate and deliver responsibly, but we will act decisively against those who do not," she said.

The minister made the remarks during the Fifth KCCA Suppliers Conference, which was held at Imperial Royale Hotel on Thursday. The event was held under the theme: *Sustainable Supply Chain Management for Ecosystem Conservation*.

She told the meeting, which was attended by over 100 suppliers including road contractors, food and stationery suppliers,

L-R: Kabanda and Buzeki during the Fifth KCCA Suppliers' Conference at Imperial Royale on December Thursday



PHOTO BY NANCY NANYONGA

among others, that they should integrate sustainability into their engagements with KCCA.

Kabanda further urged the suppliers to acquaint themselves with the amended Public

Procurement and Disposal Act of 2021, which requires a procuring and disposing entity to consider environmental protection, social inclusion and innovation.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SPEAKS

The Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) executive director, Hajat Sharifah Buzeki, said the authority will consider environmental, social

SUPPLIERS SPEAK

Suppliers said garbage collection across the city is inadequate, especially around markets.

However, Buzeki said KCCA has introduced initiatives that will lead to improvements. "We now drive garbage trucks in the markets and collect garbage two to three times a day," she said.

Another supplier said KCCA tends to select foreign consultants instead of local ones.

and economic factors before entering into contracts with suppliers and contractors.

"Sustainable supply chain management is now a necessity, not an option. From sourcing raw materials, manufacturing, transportation and storage to delivery, KCCA will make decisions that protect ecosystems, reduce environmental impact and

improve the well-being of the people involved or affected. Environmental protection is a critical pillar of sustainable supply chains. Suppliers and contractors must minimise environmental harm at every step," she added.

RE-GREENING KAMPALA

Buzeki urged participants to take the lead in shaping Kampala's future.

"You are stewards of Kampala's future. Together, we can re-green our city, restore wetlands, protect ecosystems and ensure that every contract improves both the environment and people's lives."

The head of the KCCA procurement and disposal unit, Doreen Akatuhwera, reminded manufacturers of their responsibility to protect the environment.

"Manufacturers, do you feel proud seeing your products floating on our lakes and rivers and blocking our drainage systems?" she asked.

"What you produce must be managed responsibly, from the factory to disposal."