



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ISIMBA : 10<sup>TH</sup> March ,2017**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Board of Directors of Uganda Electricity Generation Company Limited (UEGCL) has today visited Isimba Hydro Power Project site to assess the progress of the works.

In November 2016, UEGCL was granted full contract administration powers for the two Government flagship hydro power projects of Karuma and Isimba. The Board's visit is part of the strategic guidance and overall direction to UEGCL in executing this mandate.

Construction at the 183 MW project commenced on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015 and is expected to last for 40 calendar months. The project is at 22 months into its 40 month project duration representing 55% time progress. Physical progress of works (civil, hydro-mechanical and electromechanical) is estimated at 76% as at end of February 2017, while general concreting works are at approximately 88%.

"The Board has noted the progress so far made, but has also observed a few issues that have been brought to the Owner's Engineer requiring urgent attention by the contractor if the project should stay on course," said UEGCL Board Chairperson Eng. Proscovia Margaret Njuki. "These include the absence of some much needed specialised expertise on site and the none conformity to agreed repair methods for previously observed cracks," she added.

The project cost is approximately USD 568 Million. According to the Owner's Engineer (Energy Infratech), USD 225,788,825,78 has so far been paid to the EPC Contractor (China International Water and Electric Corporation), which represents financial progress at 40%.

**NOTE to the EDITOR**

*UEGCL is the government implementing agency for the flagship hydro-power projects of Karuma (600MW) and Isimba (183MW). These two projects, now over 50 per cent complete, are scheduled for commissioning in 2019 and 2018 respectively. Others in line of development include Ayago (840MW), Muzizi (44.7 MW) and Nyagak III (5.5 MW). UEGCL is also currently in the process of securing funding for feasibility studies to develop other small hydros across the country at Okulacere (6.5MW), Latoro (4.2MW), Agbinika (2MW) and Maziba (1MW).*

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