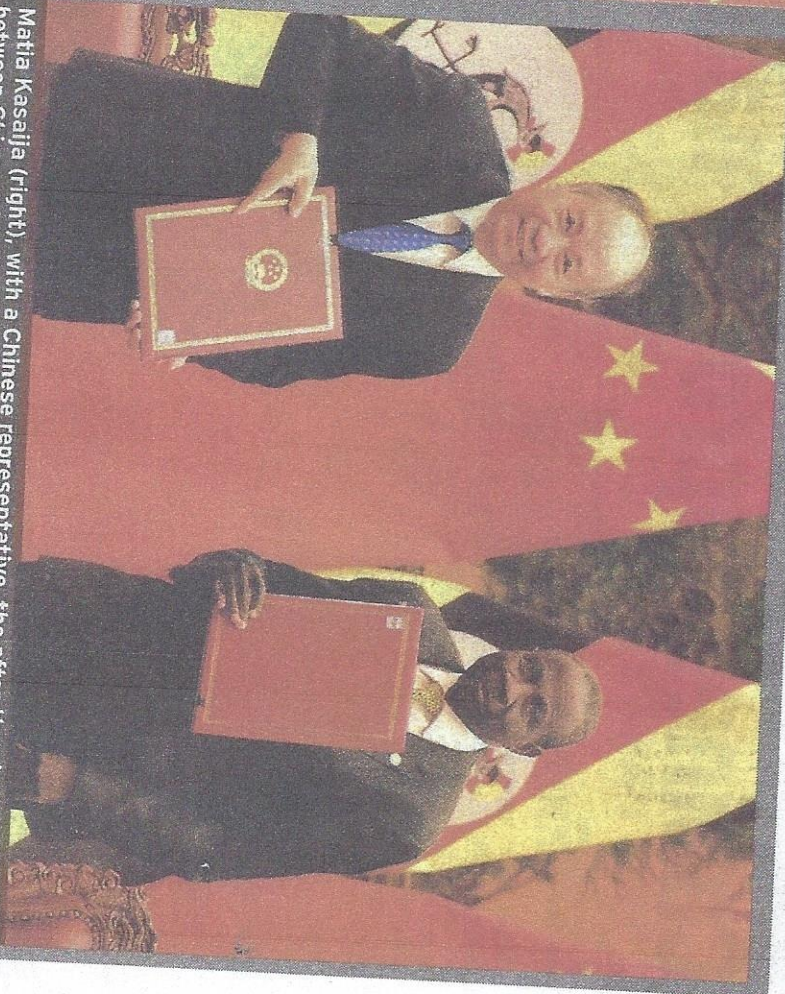


## NATIONAL NEWS

NEW VISION, Wednesday, June 26, 2019 **3**



Sam Kutesa (right), with a Chinese representative, after signing of MOUs between China and Uganda during the meeting. PPU photos



Matia Kasajja (right), with a Chinese representative, the after the signing of MOUs between China and Uganda in China, yesterday



*President Museveni specifically thanked President Xi Jinping for pro-actively backing Africa's development quest*

#### Vision Reporter

President Yoweri Museveni yesterday held a meeting with his Chinese counterpart, Jinping, during which the two leaders discussed a number of issues.

Museveni thanked his host for supporting Uganda and Africa's development, according to statement issued from State House.

At a meeting at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, President Museveni, who is on a three-day working visit, commended China for supporting Africa's liberation cause, naming them as a reliable partner. China is the second largest economy in the world. Museveni had earlier addressed the Coordinators' Meeting on the Implementation of the Follow-up Actions of the Beijing Summit of the China-Africa Co-operation CAC.

China and Africa have been close for a long time. When there was revolution in Asia 1917, China 1949, we, the struggling people, got reliable international partners in liberation cause," he said.

Museveni specifically thanked President Jinping for pro-actively backing Africa's development quest.

"We have done many good things since we took over the Government. In Uganda, we have helped us build two power stations and produce about 900MW. We have also built industrial parks. We are satisfied with cooperation with China in past and under your leadership," President Museveni said.

#### Jinping speaks

In this part, President Xi Jinping thanked Museveni for working closely with China in honouring the invitation.

"I am glad that our countries, especially your leadership, have seen a deepening political mutual trust, while we maintain close co-ordination in many

# Museveni, China President Xi Jinping hold talks

## MATTERS DISCUSSED

*The President and the Chinese foreign minister discussed the building of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and other matters of mutual interest between Uganda and China*

aspects," he said.

The Chinese leader reiterated his country's commitment to support Africa and Uganda's development in a respectful and equitable manner.

### Five pacts signed

After their bilateral talks, the two leaders witnessed as their ministers signed five Memoranda of Understanding in different sectors. The first pact was a framework agreement between the National Development and Reform Commission of China and Uganda's finance ministry on developing co-operation on production capacity.

The second pact will see the two countries jointly promote the implementation of the economic and trade measures of the eight major initiatives of the FOCAC Beijing Summit.

The third agreement will see the countries enhance cultural cooperation between 2019 and 2022.

The fourth pact is a grant aid of Yuan 300m (about sh161b) from the Chinese government to Uganda, to be used for the implementation

of projects to be agreed on by both countries. The final pact, worth Yuan 34.6m (about sh18b), is support to Uganda by China for the G77 Summit to be held in Kampala in terms of SUV vehicles and conference support.

Museveni was accompanied to the meeting by ministers Sam Kutesa (foreign affairs), Matia Kasajja (finance), Monica Azuba (works), William Byaruhanga (Attorney General), Irene Muloni (energy) and Michael Werikhe (trade). National Resistance Movement secretary general Justine Lumumba was also present in the meeting.

### Museveni's other engagements

Meanwhile, President Museveni also held a separate meeting with the Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi, on the sidelines of the Coordinators' Meeting on Follow-up Action of the Beijing Summit of the China-Africa Co-operation (FOCAC).

The President and Chinese foreign minister discussed the building of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and other matters of mutual interest between Uganda and China.

Wang Yi said as friends and partners of Africa, China is ready and committed to help Africa in general and Uganda in particular on every stage of development.

The meeting was attended by Ugandan ministers, Uganda's ambassador to China, Dr Crispus Kiyonga and the Chinese Ambassador to Uganda, Zhang Zhu Qiang, among others.

Museveni also held meeting with the chairperson of the China National Offshore Oil Company (CNOOC), Hua Yan.

About Uganda's nascent oil and gas industry, the President said to derive maximum benefit from the energy sector, the decisions by both parties must be arrived

### Other areas of co-operation

- Both countries' relationships should be strengthened beyond bilateral ties
- Kenya and Uganda will work closely to actualise the remaining phase of Standard Gauge Railway
- China will support Uganda to develop its tourism and oil roads.
- China will, in a bid to ensure technology and skills transfer, build polytechnics for railway and roads construction.
- Agricultural co-operation and support to Uganda, especially on irrigation technology.
- China to support Uganda's industrialisation drive by constructing industrial parks.
- China to support Uganda's sports development by aiding construction of stadia.
- Technocrats of both countries to meet to discuss Uganda's request that China lowers tariffs on semi-processed and processed exports, to support value-addition.
- Chinese authorities will support Uganda's efforts to market its tourism in China, while Uganda Airlines will be given access to Guangzhou when it starts operations.
- Ugandan government-owned parastatals to partner with Chinese investors to grow their capacity and add value in raw materials, like glass and steel.
- Stronger and more meaningful relationship between the Communist Party China and the NRM party. Hold more exchange visits and build capacity.

at an informed approach that is not only legal, but also legitimate. The CNOOC chairperson, Hua Yan, commended the Government of Uganda for the conducive investment environment that exists in the country.

See Museveni's full speech on pages 14 and 15