



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

Rt. Hon. Amama Mbabazi , SC
Prime Minister (2011-2014)
P.O. Box 2819
Kampala
UGANDA.

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22nd July 2025

Mr. Jean-Yves Ollivier
Chalet Allegra, Chemin des
Chavalets3, CH-1659
Rougemont
SWITZERLAND

Dear Jean-Yves,

I was pleased to read the passages in your forthcoming book recounting our joint efforts to mediate between the Government of Uganda, which I represented at the time, and the authorities of the Republic of the Sudan. The relations between Sudan and Uganda had been adversely affected by the support the Sudanese Government provided to the Ugandan terrorist armed group calling itself the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), led by Joseph Kony. In addition, the Sudanese Air Force had carried out bombing raids on Ugandan territory, including attacks on Sudanese refugee camps located in northern Uganda. These hostile actions led to the severance of diplomatic relations between our two countries. You, Jean-Yves, took the initiative to begin talks between the two Governments in an effort to normalise relations.

I can attest, as a direct participant, that your initiative was what broke the ice. I still retain vivid memories of the secret meeting you arranged for me to meet with the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sudan, Dr Mustafa Osman Ismail, in a hotel in Brazzaville, the capital of the Republic of Congo. At that meeting, we agreed to reopen our diplomatic representations in our respective capitals and to resume bilateral relations.

Your role in addressing the complex challenges that had strained relations between our two nations was instrumental. Through your efforts and the trust you had earned from all parties, we worked with discretion and determination to re-establish diplomatic dialogue. Thanks to your mediation, we achieved a significant breakthrough: the reopening of the Ugandan Embassy in Khartoum and the full resumption of diplomatic relations between our countries. This was a critical step in reducing regional tensions and creating conditions that would later contribute to wider peace efforts, including the eventual independence of South Sudan.

I also wish to confirm your direct involvement in the discussions aimed at resolving the conflict involving Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army. While those efforts did not ultimately result in a conclusive settlement, I remain a witness to your sincerity, perseverance, and unwavering commitment to the pursuit of peace-even in the face of the most intractable challenges.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge that President Yoweri Museveni proposed your name to the Commonwealth for consideration for the award of the Commonwealth Peace Prize 2025. He did so on the grounds that you have an excellent track record in peace building and conflict resolution. In the more than 35 years he has known you, the President observed that he had followed with interest some of the major successes you have achieved through your mediation efforts in various conflict situations.

With warm regards and enduring respect,

Yours sincerely,



Amama Mbabazi, SC
Special Presidential Envoy on the Great Lakes Region,
South Sudan and Ethiopia Inclusive