



SECOND QUARTER NEWSLETTER EDITION

THEME

Strengthening
industry voice
through
engagement and
reform

MESSAGE FROM THE NAB CHAIRPERSON

Dear stakeholder, welcome to our first Newsletter, where we detail the events and major activities that have occurred in the last quarter and share a bit about what we are currently working on. I thank the secretariat for the efforts that have made this a reality. At the last AGM, we pledged to strengthen the Secretariat. We successfully constituted the Secretariat, recruited administrators (Najjemba Lisa Jjemba and Owen Ndikabona), and appointed the CEO- a seasoned media professional, Joseph Beyanga, popularly known as Joe Walker. This ensures that a strong team is in place to handle issues before us on a day-to-day basis. We welcome them.

On advocacy, we have actively engaged government on key issues affecting the sector. We are pushing for a waiver on the Free-to-Air (FTA) carriage fees (which, through our intervention, were reduced to UGX 8 million per month). We are also supporting UBC's efforts to extend FTA access countrywide—a milestone already underway. This is a major step in seeing Free to Air TV being received for free across the country. We look forward to its finalisation soon.

We have also held engagements with the Ministers of Internal Affairs, Constitutional Affairs, and ICT on matters ranging from broadcast challenges to concerns over violence in the Kawempe North by-election. All pledged to work towards a lasting solution to prevent a repeat of the regrettable events.

Looking ahead, NAB is collaborating with the Editors Guild, Electoral Commission, security agencies, and UCC to develop Standard Operating Procedures for electoral coverage in the upcoming elections. These efforts are central to ensuring media freedom, safety, and professionalism as we serve the public.

We remain committed to strengthening the media sector and ensuring that broadcasters continue to play their role in informing, educating, and uniting Ugandans.

Warm regards,
Dr. Innocent Nahabwe
Chairman, NAB

KEY ACTIVITIES & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS

PURA (Gambia) benchmark visit held on 15th May, 2025



NAB secretariat had the privilege of hosting a delegation from PURA, Gambia. Then team desired to have a bench mark visit as they are in the process of drafting laws in the media sector within their country. This helped create rapport and a long standing relationship between PURA and as NAB we look forward to further engagements.

Broadcast & Digital Media Convention held on 27-28 May 2025 at Four Points by Sheraton in Kampala

NAB is proud to have partnered with UBC and UCC to host the Broadcast Media Convention East Africa 2025 at Four Points by Sheraton. Our very own CEO Joseph Beyanga, Vice Chairman, Ben Mwiine and Treasurer Moses Ateng participated as moderator and panelists, respectively during the two day event.



Ben Mwiine, Vice
Chairperson-NAB,
presenting on one of the
panels during the
convention.



Joseph Beyanga,
CEO-NAB, acting as a
moderator on one of the
panels at the convention



Moses Ateng,
Treasurer-NAB presenting
on one of the panels during
the convention.

NITA-U national workshop held on 18th June, 2025

NAB actively participated in the National Information Technology Authority national workshop. The event brought together key stakeholders from both the public and private sectors to discuss the evolving landscape of ICT regulation, cybersecurity and digital transformation in Uganda. NAB contributed to the dialogue by highlighting the broadcasting sector's role in advancing digital inclusion, fostering collaboration and supporting responsible media practices in a technology driven era.



Legal Officer and Administrator, **Najjemba Lisa Jjemba** speaking during the NITA-U workshop



Legal Officer and Administrator, **Owen Ndikabona** speaking during the NITA-U workshop



Swedish Embassy high level diplomatic engagement with NAB

As a member of the Uganda Media Sector Working Group, NAB participated in a high level diplomatic engagement hosted by the Swedish Embassy focusing on the promotion and protection of media freedom in Uganda. The dialogue brought together media stakeholders, diplomatic representatives and civil society actors to exchange perspectives on the state of press freedom, the safety of journalists and the enabling environment for free expression. NAB reaffirmed its commitment to advocating for an independent and responsible media landscape and welcomed continued collaboration with international partners in strengthening media rights and democratic values.

NAB contributes to the UCC Act review dialogue held on 26th June 2025 at Eureka hotel

UCC ACT REVIEW DIALOGUE

26 JUNE 2025

EUREKA HOTEL

NAB is proud to have taken part in a stakeholder engagement convened by the Human Rights Network for Journalists- Uganda (HRNJ-U) at Eureka Hotel focused on reviewing the UCC Act. The meeting provided a platform for media stakeholders to share insights and propose reforms aimed at fostering a more enabling legal and regulatory environment for media operations. NAB emphasized the need for balanced regulation that supports both media freedom and accountability.



NAB engages signet on transmission cost reduction

In a continued effort to support the sustainability of the broadcasting industry, NAB successfully engaged signet in negotiations aimed at reducing monthly signal transmission charges for broadcasters. This strategic intervention reflects NAB's commitment to advocating for fair operational costs and ensuring that broadcasters can continue delivering quality content to the public without undue financial strain.

NAB submits strategic policy proposals to strengthen partnerships



As part of its continued advocacy and sector development efforts, NAB has submitted several key proposals and concept notes to relevant authorities. These include a detailed review and recommendations to UCC on the 2025 Copyright Bill, a formal request for a grace period of transmitter compliance deadlines to prevent the shutdown of affected TV stations and a concept note seeking regulatory engagement on the definition of "current affairs" in relation to restrictions on split-screen and squeeze back advertising. NAB also submitted a proposal to the Ministry of ICT as well as Ministry of Internal Affairs advocating for the formation of a multi sectoral committee to promote the safety of media professionals. In addition, NAB has initiated a formal partnership with the Uganda Editor's Guild through a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at enhancing collaboration on media policy, ethics and professional development.

NAB advocates for improved media-security relations ahead of the 2026 elections



In preparation for the upcoming general elections, NAB Uganda has taken proactive steps to foster improved relations between the media and security agencies. A formal request was submitted to the IGP seeking a high level meeting to address ongoing concerns around journalist safety and operational freedom during election coverage. NAB equally engaged the Ministry of Internal Affairs to reinforce the importance of coordinated efforts in ensuring a secure and respectful working environment for media professionals. In line with this, NAB has initiated the “JOURNALISM IS NOT A CRIME” campaign, an awareness and advocacy drive aimed at promoting the rights and safety of journalists which is set to be officially launched in the coming weeks.

Member engagement & secretariat updates



Over the past month, the secretariat has taken several steps to enhance communication and strengthen member engagement. We recently circulated introductory letters to formally welcome our new staff members ensuring transparency and familiarity within the network. To support more efficient communication, a digital member database has been created, streamlining access and connectivity across our community. Membership forms have also been shared with select members to update our records and reminders regarding outstanding subscription fees were issued to help keep everyone current. We appreciate your continued collaboration and look forward to ongoing improvements together.

Internal administration & planning.



In this quarter, the secretariat prioritized key internal developments to enhance organizational effectiveness. Newly recruited legal officers and administrative staff were successfully inducted and trained ensuring they are well-equipped to support NAB’s operations and uphold its standards. In parallel, efforts were made to explore new grant opportunities that could provide valuable support to NAB’s ongoing initiatives and long term goals. These internal strides reflect our continued focus on strengthening both our team and resources available to the association.



REMINDERS

UCC transmitter compliance

All members are reminded to ensure full compliance with UCC transmitter licensing and technical requirements. NAB is available to assist any member seeking clarification.

Annual subscription fees

Members who have not yet cleared their 2025 subscription fees are encouraged to do so to support ongoing NAB operations and advocacy.

Member information sheet

Kindly complete and return the member detail form sent via email to help us maintain accurate records and serve you better

LOOKING AHEAD

- Launch of the “Journalism is Not a Crime” campaign.
- Strengthening relations with UCC, Electoral Commission and Ministry of ICT.