

## Ugandans to the rescue



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Posted by Musa



**STAYING PUT: Dictator Gen. Yoweri Museveni** *says after hunting the animal, he will not willingly give up the kill. File photo*

### I am going nowhere - Museveni

PRESIDENT Yoweri Museveni has vowed to increase the ruling NRM's majority in Parliament, adding he is not going anywhere himself.

Gen. Museveni, who has been in power for 22 years, said he struggled to get into office and is not about to let go easily. Speaking in Runyankole at Mungonya, Kyeizooba in Igara East on Tuesday, the President said, "Niinye nahiigire enyamaishwa yangye nkagiita, mbwenu ngu ngyende, nzehi?" (It's me who hunted and after killing the animal, they want me to go, where should I go?), he asked the locals in apparent reference to his bush war struggle that took him to State House in January 1986. Talking about the opposition, he said they are the ones who should go since they are doing nothing.

"Those who are saying I should go, what are they doing here? They should go instead," he said, adding that "they are like bean weevils who were destabilizing the Movement before they left".

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In unison with the President's expressed wish to stay on, the Local Government Minister, who is also the Ruhinda county MP , Maj. Gen. Kahinda Otafiire, said, "What has Museveni wronged us? Those who are gearing up to fight him should go slow, let us remain behind our President."

President Museveni asked the people to vote out any MPs who are against the NRM party's wishes in the next (2011) elections. He said there is unity in the present Parliament compared to the previous one where some Movement proposals were thrown out.

The President's remarks over retaining power were conveyed during his tour of Bushenyi district to launch the Universal Secondary Education and Prosperity for All programs.

In the four-day visit that started on Monday and ends today, the President was scheduled to visit all the five counties and meet with opinion leaders.

So far, he has downplayed the thorny issue of dividing the district into four and instead advised that a conference be called within two months, which he will personally chair, to consider the views of those for and against the dividing of Bushenyi district. Most Ministers from Bushenyi are against dividing the district.

Bushenyi District voted massively for President Museveni in the last election, which makes the district special to him. He last visited the district on December 28 last year and has said he will be back in the district within two months.

About four years ago, he set up a model village in Ruharo in Bumbaire Sub-county where he has given out over 100 heifers to villagers. Local critics see this courtship as a bid to outdo former president Milton Obote's (UPC) record in the district.

Obote had set up a ' Uganda Village ' in Ishaka where pilgrims would flock every May 27 between 1981 to 1985 to remember his return from exile in Tanzania .

Given all this, Bushenyi could be the launch pad in the West for President Museveni to launch his fourth term bid as did Obote in 1980. The President will wind up his rallies in Bushenyi at Nyakasharu in Bunyaruguru today.