



Remarks

Michael Atingi-Ego
Deputy Governor

**Best Performing Primary Dealer Market
Maker for the Year Ended Sep. 2023:
*Annual Award***

Wednesday, 8 May 2024

Good morning, chief executives and senior staff of commercial banks, distinguished ladies and gentlemen!

Welcome to this ceremony, which recognizes the performance of our Primary Dealer Market Makers (PDMMs) in Ugandan government securities for the year ending September 2023.

The PDMM system, launched in 2005, aims to enhance the government securities market by improving liquidity, pricing efficiency, and secondary market trading activity. Uganda secured 4th place this year on the ABSA Africa Financial Markets Index due to our ongoing financial market reforms.

The PDMMs play a crucial role through their commitments as market makers and participation in primary auctions. I congratulate the current PDMMs - ABSA, Centenary, Citi, DFCU, Equity, Housing Finance, Stanbic, and Standard Chartered Bank on their appointments for the 2023-2026 term. We welcome Citibank and Equity, the newest PDMMs.

For this cycle, the performance criteria weighted secondary market activity at 70% to further incentivize trading and liquidity. Assessable areas included posting two-way pricing on the E-bond platform, reporting trades on Bloomberg, and transacting on these systems to increase global visibility ahead of index listings.

Indeed, Uganda successfully joined the FTSE-Russell Frontier Markets Bond Index in July 2023 and is pursuing inclusion in others like the AFMI Bloomberg Bond Index.

These milestones reflect reforms enhancing market transparency, infrastructure, and product development over the past decade. The secondary market turnover ratio increased from 54% before reforms to 157% this past year.

While celebrating progress, there are still areas to improve, including disclosure standards, leveraging the regulatory framework, and technological capabilities to elevate operational efficiency and market access. The Bank of Uganda remains committed to championing further development.

At this juncture, I am honoured to announce Standard Chartered Bank Uganda Ltd as the Best Performing PDMM for the ranking year. Standard Chartered exemplified its market-making role through consistent pricing on the E-bond platform, active auction participation, trade reporting on Bloomberg, and contributing to overall market liquidity.

I invite the CEO of Standard Chartered to accept this award, recognizing your institution's valuable contribution to developing Uganda's securities market. Congratulations to the Standard Chartered team on this well-deserved achievement.

Thank you to all stakeholders supporting Uganda's financial market development. Your roles remain crucial as we work towards an even more robust and globally integrated marketplace.

Thank you for listening to me. God bless!