



# UGANDA NEWS UPDATE

Monday, October 4, 2021

## UGANDA REOPENS PLACES OF WORSHIP BUT ENFORCES STRICT COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has announced the reopening of places of worship that were shut since June 2020 following an upsurge of COVID-19 cases in the country. The President announced that places of worship would need to adhere to a maximum quota of 200 people and enforce prevention measures such as social distancing, face masks and sanitization.



He also said all universities and other post-secondary education institutions should now re-open on Nov. 1 and allowed a range of sport and social activities such as weddings and funerals to resume. Meanwhile, a night curfew would remain in place, with the President directing social venues such as bars, clubs and theatres to remain closed until the priority groups have been vaccinated.

## UGANDA'S DOORS WILL REMAIN OPEN TO REFUGEES

In a recent op-ed published by Al-Jazeera, Uganda Foreign Minister Jeje Odongo doubled down on Uganda's open door refugee policy saying that Ugandans "understand their situation better than anyone else possibly could."

Uganda hosts the largest refugee population in Africa, and the third largest in the world. Their refugee policy has been lauded by the UN as one of the "most progressive, generous and favourable in the world." The Minister also highlighted Uganda's historic role in providing a safe haven to Poles fleeing Nazi-occupied Europe, and its recent part in evacuating refugees from Afghanistan at the request of the US Administration.



## UGANDA SIGNS DEAL TO MAKE CANCER, SICKLE CELL AND TUBERCULOSIS DRUGS

The Ugandan government has signed an agreement with the country's drugmaker, Cipla Quality Chemicals Ltd, to start manufacturing cancer, sickle cell, and tuberculosis drugs. Dr Diana Atwine, the Ministry of Health Permanent Secretary, said local manufacturing will cut spending on procuring the drugs, increase access for patients and create local jobs.

