

NMG praised for championing disability inclusion

BY SYLVIA KATUSHABE

KAMPALA. The Nation Media Group (NMG) Uganda has been commended for advancing disability inclusion by creating training and employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Welcoming the second cohort of Programme Associates (Persons with Disabilities) yesterday at NMG offices in Namuwongo, Mr Silvester Kasozi, the Uganda country director for Light for the World, applauded NMG for actively translating commitments on diversity into action.

“We engage with other private sector players, but talking to people is one thing, and actually getting them on board is another. NMG has done this very well,” Mr Kasozi said.

The four associates will rotate across various NMG departments, including editorial, production, TV, and National Courier, gaining practical professional experience.

NMG opened its doors to employees living with disabilities following a partnership with Light for the World, an international disability and development organisation, signed in September 2024. The collaboration marked a significant step toward a more inclusive workplace and set a benchmark for other organisations.

Ms Stellah Mbekeka, the NMG senior human resource business partner, said the partnership represents a milestone in the company’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) agenda.

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erations,” Ms Mbekeka said. “This initiative reflects NMG-U’s values and commitment to building a workplace where everyone has the opportunity to thrive,” she added.

The first cohort of four associates, admitted in 2024, has since been integrated into various roles across the company.

Speaking to the second cohort, Mr

The second cohort of Programme Associates with NMG staff at the NMG offices in Namuwongo, Kampala, yesterday. PHOTO/ GEOFFREY MUTUMBA

Kasozi encouraged them to make the most of the opportunity. “You have been given wings to fly; it is now up to you to decide how high or low you will go,” he said.

Mr George Kihuria, the NMG general manager for finance and operations, said the media house has a responsibility to promote inclusion.

“As a media house, our mission is to inform, entertain, and educate. We play a key role in championing the rights of people living with disabilities, not only telling their stories but also creating opportunities for empowerment,” he said.

He added that the company’s Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG)

initiatives also support communities and contribute to sustainable change, beyond commercial interests.

Ms Flavia Tumusiime, the head of broadcasting at NMG-U, encouraged the new associates to focus on their skills and not be limited by their disabilities. “What matters now is your output and skill set; everything else is secondary,” she said, highlighting the company’s commitment to provide a supportive environment.

One of the beneficiaries, Mr Elijah Reagan Arinaitwe, expressed gratitude for the opportunity, describing it as a crucial step in his career development.