

Graduate nurses ask govt to employ them

BY LILIAN NAMAGEMBE
editorial@ug.nationmedia.com

KAMPALA. Nursing and midwifery graduates have asked government to absorb them in the public service structure.

Mr Alex Tumusiime, the president of the Association of Graduate Nurses and Midwives of Uganda, said government should expedite the implementation of the scheme of service, which has been developed so that they can be recruited.

"In the last 20 or so years, we have seen graduate nurses serve in different capacities but being recognised as diploma nurses," Mr Tumusiime said last Friday during the launch of the association in Kampala.

"We also think by the virtue of their training, they have a lot to offer.

We expect them to have attained a lot of skills and knowledge which they can share with their fellow nurses, and use them to uplift the standard of care in the country," he added.

The graduate nurses and midwifery course started in 1993. There are currently 1,345 registered graduate nurses according to statistics provided by the Nurses and Midwives Council.

Regarding healthcare advancements, Dr Byarugaba Baterana, the executive director of Mulago hospital, proposed to have nurses and midwives at the graduate level who can offer a holistic package of service compared to their counterparts who are diploma and certificate holders.

"In super specialised treatment, we are looking at the graduate nurses as an integral part of service deliv-



Seeking jobs. The minister of Education, Ms Janet Museveni (centre), interacts with nurses and midwives in 2017. PHOTO BY RACHEL MABALA

ery," Dr Byarugaba said.

Mr Charles Olaro, the director of clinical services at the Ministry of

Health, told the nurses that the ministry was restructuring, adding that they will be considered.