

The 25th Annual Seminar of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Uganda was held from 25-27 November 2020, under the theme, *Value Creation and Sustainability During and Beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

The seminar was a hybrid event, held physically, at the Imperial Resort Beach Hotel, Entebbe, and virtually via the Zoom platform. Here are highlights from the event



ICPAU Annual Seminar Marks 25 Years: Accountants Urged to Embrace Agility, swiftness, Unique Skills

COVID-19 has affected all professions and accountants are no exception. The closure of businesses meant that accounting firms lost some of their clients and hence a significant reduction in incomes. At the 25th Annual Seminar, accountants discussed strategies for individual professional relevance and business sustainability. [Read more ...](#)



ICPAU 8th President, CPA Frederick Kibbedi Underscores the Relevance of Accountants to Businesses

Whereas COVID-19 has been disastrous, it has reawakened in us the spirit of inventiveness and resilience. And as we explore new ways of doing business and serving our clients, it remains upon us to leverage on our professional knowledge to continuously advise management and the board towards prudent strategies for business growth and sustainability, while not sacrificing the ethics. [Read full speech ...](#)



The Future-Ready Accountant Should Posses Unique Skills - CPA Byarugaba

CPA Richard Byarugaba, the Managing Director of the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) has noted that the future workplace is characterised by remote working, robotics, deep learning and Artificial Intelligence. As a result, companies are increasingly investing in software and other technologies, to improve efficiency, while reducing the cost of doing business. [Read More ...](#)



Planning for Retirement - Why you should start today

The perception around retirement is that of fear and uncertainty, backed by unclear perceptions in the change of lifestyle, and negative examples of other retirees. A survey conducted by NSSF revealed that 98% of the beneficiaries had no cash from the benefits by the year end, and majority of them continued to be engaged in gainful employment. [Read more ...](#)



Business Owners Urged to Embrace 100% Involvement

Many corporates dream of owning successful businesses. However, more than half of those who set out to start become a statistic of the many Ugandan business owners whose enterprises do not live to see their first birthday. Isaac Nsereko, the Proprietor of RI Distributors Limited has advised business owners to embrace full involvement in their businesses, to ensure business success. [Read more ...](#)



Dr. Love Tips on Rebuilding Families

Dr. Love has underscored the relevance of family as the source of emotional support (love, care, comfort), practical support (food, clothing, medicine), sexual activity and reproduction, social identity, socializing children, educational (empowerment), economic functions and societal acceptance, and hence the need to maintain strong family relations. [Read more ...](#)



The current times require agility and swiftness - CPA Fabian Kasi

CPA Fabian Kasi, the Managing Director of Centenary bank has urged management to embrace agility and swiftness in order to steer their teams through the current harsh economic environment. [Read more ...](#)



Good Governance in the New Normal

Speaking to accountants during the 25th Annual Seminar, CPA Amos Bagumire, the Managing Director of ABS Consulting Group called on institutional leaders to embrace the current times by devising new ways to lead their organisations through the pandemic. [Read more ...](#)





Health Services Provided

ICPAU, in partnership with Entebbe Regional Referral Hospital provided health services during the seminar. Services included: laboratory and clinical investigations, treatment and emergency. There were tests for: Hepatitis B, Malaria, blood sugar, COVID-19 and HIV. Over 90 participants benefited from the services.

Mr. Wanamama Allan, a Registered Nurse at the hospital said that health camps are timely at a time when there is a pandemic. "Given that we are in a pandemic, everyone should be prepared health wise, so that underlying conditions are detected and managed early enough, to build immunity against COVID-19," Mr. Wanamama said.

25th Annual Seminar in Pictures



CPA Opiokello presenting on preparing for retirement



CPA Frederick Kibbedi, 8th ICPAU President making his closing remarks



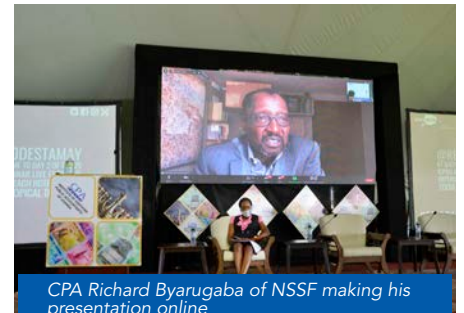
CPA Protazio Begumisa, 7th ICPAU President with CPA Michael Otonga of the Petroleum Authority



Participants partaking of the drinks during one of the dinners at the seminar



Participants registration at Imperial Resort Beach Hotel, Entebbe



CPA Richard Byarugaba of NSSF making his presentation online



A medical worker from Entebbe Hospital attends to a participant at the medical camp



A presenter receives a seminar kit as appreciation for their presentation



A cross-section of participants at the seminar

Participants' Testimonies



Resident

*We are anxious for the Annual Seminar from the beginning of the year, especially because it presents good networking opportunities. My favourite presenters were Dr. Love and CPA Amos Bagumire. Form the 2019 Annual Seminar, Dr. Kasenene stood out from me. The masks are good quality because they enable us to breathe. Observance of SOPs has been on point - **Cissy Nakibudde, Insurance Training Institute***

*Time management was good. There was less congestion. It is good that some new presenters were selected, from outside the accountants' fraternity, e.g Ms. Naome Kabanda who presented on Land, provided useful insights. The provision of masks and hand sanitisers was thoughtful. CPA Richard Byarugaba was my best presenter - **CPA Noah Matovu, Capital Markets Authority***

*It is good that the Annual Seminar was a hybrid, because it provided options for participants. Whereas the online option is convenient, physical participation is also good because it allows for networking which is very important - **CPA Charles Obet're - Kampala Capital City Authority***

Online

*There were some hiccups at the beginning relating to sound. However, on the whole, it was a good seminar. It was my first time to attend the Annual Seminar, thanks to the online option. I had previously not been able to attend the Annual Seminar because of time and movement limitations. Online participation is convenient although there is a temptation to engage in other office duties, hence you are likely to miss out. Also, one misses out on networking opportunities, which are very important - **CPA Obed Mpwerirwe, Obed Associates***

*The Seminar was good, aside from the initial sound glitches. It was well organized. Online participation is good because of the flexibility, however, one misses out on networking - **CPA Michael Tugyetwena, Springs & Tugye Associates***

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