



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**

**BRIEF ON THE PAN AFRICAN E-NETWORK PROJECT ON THE VISIT  
OF THE HON. MINISTER TO THE PAN AFRICAN E-NETWORK  
PROJECT SITES AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, MULAGO HOSPITAL**

**13<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010**

## **Back ground**

At the Pan-African Parliament held in Johannesburg on 16 September 2004, His Excellency Dr. A.P. J. Abdul Kalam, the then President of India, offered to set up a Pan-African e-Network. This network was to be based on Satellite and Optical Fiber Cable technologies with the aim of providing to the fifty three (53) Member States of the African Union, services in Tele-Medicine, Tele-Education and VVIP Diplomatic Communications. Uganda and other African countries signed the Draft Agreement of Participation, with India, thus fully subscribing to the said Project.

The Implementation of this project in Uganda is being coordinated by the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) together with the Telecommunication Consults of India Ltd (TCIL) a government of India enterprise.

The network aims at connecting 5 Regional universities, 53 learning centers, 10 Super Specialty Hospitals and 53 Remote Hospitals in the 53 African countries. The network also provides network connectivity through Voice-Over IP, video conference and internet connectivity to the Heads of State of all the 53 countries.

## **Current Status of Project sites**

### **1. Makerere University Learning Center and Regional Centers**

The Learning Centre at Makerere University was among the first centers to be operational. To date 29 learning centers in Africa out of 53 have been completed and are operational. Students, who were enrolled in 2009 at Makerere University by Amity University in India, have completed the first semester and are now in the second semester. Classes are interactive and are now in addition to Uganda; attended by; Rwanda, Botswana and Malawi.

A total of 236 students were admitted to various courses offered by Amity University in India.. The courses include:-

- i) Diploma in Information Technology(IT)
- ii) Bachelor of Sciences in IT
- iii) Post Graduate Diploma in IT
- iv) Masters in Financial Management and Control
- v) Masters in Business administration- International Business

### **2. Patient-End at Mulago Hospital**

Installation of all medical equipment was completed and all the telemedicine software required has been installed. Continuing Medical Education (CME) classes are now being held at this site for the Mulago Hospital medical staff. Live consultation with doctors in India is also possible and doctors have been trained in this area.

The following services can now be offered by the equipment which has already been installed:-

- i) Computer Tomography (CT) scanning;
- ii) X- Ray/Radiography services;
- iii) Electrocardiography;
- iv) Ultra sound services;
- v) Urine analysis;
- vi) Blood pressure;
- vii) Hot Air oven Sterilizing services; and
- viii) Tele-pathology

In addition Continuing Medical Education (CME) is being offered by specialists Hospitals in India in which specialists and other medical personnel are being trained in the following:-

- i) Breast pathology
- ii) Imaging of peritoneal vascular pathology
- iii) Care of new born babies
- iv) Hospital acquired pneumonia
- v) Management of congenital heart disease
- vi) Treatment of liver tumours
- vii) Radiology and a host of many other medical courses.

### **3. Makerere University Regional Center**

V-SAT System was commissioned and connectivity for the Route Uganda – Senegal – India was tested .Data, Production Control and UPS Rooms are ready. Equipment installation for Studio and Model Class Rooms is complete. Software installation was done remotely from Delhi and is now complete.

### **4. VVIP Site at State House Entebbe**

The site is ready and test calls were made to India and other completed VVIP sites in Africa. Peer to peer video calls were successful among the other member countries and video conferencing is now successful. The African Union is yet to give further guidelines on the operationalisation of this facility, since it involves communications by Heads of State.