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THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

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Ministry of ICT & National Guidance
P O Box 7817.
KAMPALA,
UGANDA

6/5/2021

Press Statement on the 6th May 2021

Ministry of ICT & NG embarks on Paperless Campaign.

Good morning members of the Press.

Today, my Ministry is handing over 700 laptops to different government Ministries and Agencies.

It is the start of a major effort by my Ministry to encourage a paperless approach to work by scaling up the use of e-services.

There's no doubt that internet led services have been critical in the growth of our economy over the years.

They have also been critical in the delivery of Government services during the COVID-19 situation when physical contact was and is still considered a health risk.

Cutting off physical contact in government services comes with so many benefits.

It amplifies service delivery by making it easier and faster to make decisions.

Correspondences between different government officials located in different regions can be made in real time and decisions taken.

The internet cuts by more than half the cost of doing government business.

For example, the cost of travel across long distances to attend meetings is eliminated through the different options that internet-based applications present.

In other sectors such as education, computers are enabling students in remote areas to catch up with urban first class schools regarding the learning content.

World over, several countries have adopted the paperless way of doing work because of the environmental benefits it has to offer.

E-services make it possible for service providers such as government entities to rely less on paper products.

Because, you do not have to print papers anymore, it means you do not have to buy papers.

By cutting down on the number of papers bought, offices are indirectly saving more trees that are critical to our environment.

We all know that most of our paper products are made out raw materials from trees yet trees are important for our environment.

It is because of these and many more reasons that the Ministry of ICT is seriously encouraging all government entities to adopt the paperless culture.

This morning, I am happy to announce that the Ministry of ICT & National Guidance through NITA-U under the Regional Communications Infrastructure Program will hand over 700 laptops that will enable adoption of e-Services across Government in our Key sectors.

This is in line with the Digital Uganda Vision which aims to electronically deliver a variety of government and private services in various fields.

Update on the National Backbone Infrastructure

In order to facilitate the paperless culture, The Ministry of ICT and NG through NITA-U is the Last Mile Connectivity Project aimed at expanding internet connectivity.

The Last Mile project is laying approximately 732km of fiber optic cable and connecting an additional 700 sites to the NBI.

In **March 2021**, I Informed you that a cumulative total of 337 sites had been completed under the Last Mile Project

As of today, cumulative total of **519** out of **700** sites including but not limited to Local Governments, hospitals, schools, universities, among others have been connected under the Last Mile Project.

I call upon all you to join Government in this campaign of entrenching the paperless way of doing work.

The Ministry of ICT and NG through its different agencies such as NITA is available to offer support to all Government agencies regarding their IT needs.

Thank you.

For God and My Country



Hon Judith Nabakooba (MP)
Min for ICT and National Guidance