



MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE



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PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



HON. FRANK TUMWEBAZE
MINISTER OF ICT AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE



HON. NANTABA IDA ERIOS
MINISTER OF STATE FOR ICT AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE



DR. JIMMY PAT SAAMANYA
PERMANENT SECRETARY

Happy 54th Independence Anniversary!

The Minister of Information, Communications Technology and National Guidance, Minister of State for ICT, Permanent Secretary and all Staff of the Ministry Congratulate The President of the Republic of Uganda, General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament and all the people of Uganda for commemorating the 54th Independence Anniversary.
"LONG LIVE UGANDA"

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 ICT AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE SECTOR INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The mandate of the Ministry of Information, Communications Technology & National Guidance is to provide strategic leadership and ideological orientation for effective communication of government policies and programmes. It is also to digitally empower our citizens by extensive use of ICT to improve their living conditions and electronically deliver transformative services.

The Ministry of Information, Communications Technology and National Guidance is a result of a merger of the then Ministry of Information and Communications Technology and that of National Guidance by H.E. The President during the Budget Speech for FY 2016/17. The Ministry of Information and National Guidance was previously under the Office of the Prime Minister.

The main reason for restructuring the two institutions is the need to facilitate effective communication of Government programmes in all communication platforms (TVs, Radios, Newspapers, Social media, etc.), rule out duplication of roles among Government agencies of communication and ensure easy coordination of all Government communication players.

1.2 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE NEW MINISTRY

The Ministry is headed by a Minister who is assisted by one Minister of State. The head of the technical team is the Permanent Secretary who is also the Accounting Officer. There are three Technical Directorates which deliver the core mandate of the Ministry with departments as follows:

Directorate	Departments
1. Communications & Broadcasting Infrastructure (D/C&BI)	1. Telecommunications and Posts 2. Broadcasting Infrastructure
2. Information Technology & Information Management Services (D/IT&IMS)	1. Information Technology 2. Information Management Services
3. Information and National Guidance	1. Information Dissemination and Public Relations 2. National Guidance

3. Information Management Systems

The technical Directorates are supported by the Department of Finance and Administration and five other Units. These are the Policy and Planning Unit, Procurement and Disposal Unit, Internal Audit, Human Resources Unit and Communication and Resource Centre.

The Ministry delivers part of its mandate through affiliated bodies namely:

- Uganda Communications Commission (UCC);
- Uganda Post Limited (UPLI);
- National Information Technology Authority-Uganda (NITA-U);
- Uganda Institute of Information and Communications Technology (UICT);
- Uganda Broadcasting Corporation;
- Uganda Media Centre;
- The Vision Group; and
- Media Council

1.2.1 Key Functions of the Directorates

1.2.1.1 Directorate of Communications and Broadcasting Infrastructure

- Formulating laws, policies and regulations for the Telecommunications and Broadcasting Sub-sectors and monitoring their implementation;
- Putting in place a framework for building National and regional communications infrastructure;
- Monitoring Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting service providers;
- Coordinating, monitoring and reporting on implementation of regional and international organisations' programmes and initiatives; and
- Advising Government on all matters of Telecommunications and Broadcasting infrastructure development.

1.2.1.2 Directorate of Information Technology and Information Management Services (IT & IMS)

- Formulating policies, laws and regulations for the IT and Information Management Services (IMS) Sub-sector and monitoring their implementation;
- Promoting widespread IT development, utilisation and deployment;
- Developing cyber laws to create an enabling legal and regulatory environment to facilitate proliferation of e-Commerce, among others;
- Coordinating and monitoring IT and IMS initiatives in Government;
- Providing technical support to Ministries, Departments and Agencies and Local Governments in the implementation of the ICT policies;
- Promoting accessibility of ICT hardware and software at affordable rates;
- Promoting Business Process Outsourcing and other IT-enabled services in the country for job creation

- Establishing public Information and Communications Centers; and
- Overseeing the operations of the National Information Technology Authority-Uganda.

1.2.1.3 Directorate of Information and National Guidance

- To regulate, coordinate and disseminate government policies, programmes and projects to the public for social and economic accountability
- To coordinate implementation of Information and National Guidance activities
- To regulate the media and coordinate the dissemination of information on government programmes and activities
- To develop and nurture a national value system based on a shared National Vision, mindset change, beliefs and perceptions as well as popularizing government policies and programmes to create a nation-wide awareness for socio-economic transformation

Achievements on National Guidance:

- Conducted a 3-days training of Trainers (TOT) awareness on National Values, National interest and National Common Good for tutors in Primary teachers training colleges PTC in west Nile sub regions.
- Facilitated 900 community consultative meetings on the role of Civic education development workshop and multiparty democracy for Nation Building, in Apac, Kole, Oyam, Lira, Kitgum, Lamwo, Pader and Dokolo districts. And 200 Patriotism club training programmes in various districts.
- Conducted an assessment of the Manifestations of the principles of National Values, National interest and National Common good in campaign issues in the Ankole sub region – Mbarara, Sheema, Bushenyi and Ibanda.
- Held meetings with the district leaders on communicating and popularizing government programmes and policies in Abim, Nakapiripirit and Moroto districts.
- Conducted research in Gulu, Kitgum and Lira to understand community's appreciation of the National Values, National objectives National Interest and Common Good for the transformation agenda.
- Training of district leaders communication skills on National vision transformation agenda and national guidance issues in Mpigi, Wakiso, and Mukono districts.
- Held a two-days retreat towards the development of the National Guidance Policy.
- Held 3 National Guidance Task force meetings with officers from various MDAs in preparation towards the development of the National Guidance Policy.
- Facilitated a one-day consultative conference on National ID for primary schools Head teachers and key district leaders in Buwende district.
- Conducted sensitization meetings on National Vision transformation agenda and Common Good in the regions of Busoga, Teso, and Elgon sub regions in the districts of Bugiri, Namutumba, Kaliro, Iganga, Jinja, Mayuge, Buwende, Namayingo, Luuka, Kamuli, Mbale, Sironko, Bulambuli, Manafwa, Bududa, Kween, Bukwo,

- Conducted regional stakeholder's consultative workshop in Busoga and Bukeki/Elgon sub regions on the development of National Guidance Policy.
- Conducted a scoping study on comprehension of National symbols in primary teachers training schools in Bugisu sub region.

1.2.1.4 Department of Finance and Administration

The Finance and Administration Department is composed of Divisions of Administration and Accounts. Functionally, it also oversees the Human Resource Management and the Procurement and Disposal Unit. The following are its functions:

- To prepare the Ministry's Development and Recurrent Budget estimates;
- To maintain financial accounting records for the Ministry;
- To ensure proper utilization and maintenance of the facilities;
- To ensure the recruitment, development and maintenance of an efficient and motivated workforce;
- To interpret and disseminate provisions of regulations concerning Finance, Administration and Human Resources;
- To provide office accommodation and equipment to the staff; and
- To ensure orderly classification, maintenance and retrieval of records.

Policy and Planning Unit:

- To carry out research to support other functions of the Ministry;
- To monitor and evaluate ICT programmes to ascertain their relevance;
- To provide technical support to the Ministry in preparation of detailed proposals for projects/programmes for consideration by the Government and donor agencies;
- To provide technical support to Departments in the preparation of Budget Estimates and Expenditure Frameworks;
- To promote research in the ICT Sector;
- To provide policy guidance through coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the sector policies;
- To identify key policy issues;
- To document formulated policies;
- To propose review of policies where necessary and advise the Ministry accordingly;
- To integrate Results Oriented Management (ROM) principles and practices in the Ministry's plans, programmes, projects and other activities; and
- To conduct impact assessment of the ICT policies, programmes and strategies.

3.0 KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AT OUTCOME LEVEL

Over the last five years, the ICT Sector has registered tremendous growth in terms of sector contribution to Gross Domestic Product, employment, mobile phone and internet penetration, use of ICT in service delivery, to mention but



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE

a few. This section provides a summary of the key Sector Achievements for the past five years at outcome level:

Outcome 1: Improved service delivery through ICTs

- Telephone subscriptions stand at 23 million active subscribers (Tele-density of 64.3%) as of Sept. 2015 compared to 15 million (Tele-density of 45.6) in June 2011;
- A One Network Area (ONA) for telephone services (voice) was established for partner states under the Northern Corridor Integration Project; under this arrangement, all calls to and from partner states (Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and South Sudan) are charged not more than US \$10 Cents per minute. Arrangements are underway to extend the ONA to Short Messaging Services (SMS), data and financial services;
- The number of internet users increased to 13.023 million as of September 2015 compared to slightly above 6 million in December 2013.

Outcome 2: Improved access and Utilization of quality and affordable ICT resources and services in all spheres of life

- The number of operational TV stations was 33 in 2015 compared to 64 in 2011. This reduction is attributed to the implementation of the analogue to digital migration policy. Some broadcasters who had more than one station up country had to close them due to technological advancements in which the mandate to distribute the signals is vested in one signal distributor (SIGNET) rather than individual TV broadcasters;
- The number of licensed FM radio stations has increased from 263 in 2011 to 304 of which 292 are operational;
- The number of registered Mobile money subscribers grew to 19.9 million by Sept. 2015 compared to 2.8 million in 2011;
- The value of mobile money transactions (cumulative) was UGX 18 trillion in 2015 compared to UGX 3.8 trillion in December 2011;
- The volume of expedited mail services was as follows: EMS – 38,178 and ordinary mail- 188,771 in Sept. 2015 compared to 23,412 and 230,998 for EMS and ordinary

- mail respectively in June 2011;
- The number of active internet subscribers rose to 6.6 million by Sept. 2015 compared to 1 million in June 2011;
- 1,500km of public and 3,700km of private Backbone infrastructure (optic fiber) has been rolled out country wide. Currently, 116 MDA sites and seven Universities are connected to the National Backbone Infrastructure

Outcome 3: Improved contribution of ICT to employment, income and growth

- The sector's contribution to the share of GDP was estimated at 2.5% in 2015;
- Employment in the ICT Sector is estimated at over 1.3 million people by December 2015 (both direct and indirect) compared to 1 million people in 2011;
- The Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) incubation center was set up on the 3rd and 4th Floors of Statistics House to create employment opportunities for youths and generate revenue;
- The BPO association of Uganda has been supported – the association has 54 registered membership and employs 4,000 Ugandans;
- Revenue collection (VAT, PAYE and excise duty) from telecom companies amounted to Shs 484.4Bn in 2015, a rise from Shs. 199.63Bn in June 2011.

4.0 SECTOR PLANNING AND BUDGETING FRAMEWORK

The Sector Planning and Budgeting Framework comprise the National Vision 2040, the National Development Plan and the ICT Sector Strategic and Investment Plan 2015/16 – 2019/20.

4.1 UGANDA VISION 2040

In the Uganda Vision 2040, the national objectives on ICT are enshrined in Chapter 4: Harnessing opportunities by strengthening the fundamentals. ICT was envisaged as an opportunity for rapid social transformation through harnessing and utilizing ICT in all spheres of life.

4.2 NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2015/16 – 2019/20

These aspirations are being operationalized through

implementation of the interventions identified in Chapter 11 of the National Development Plan 2015/16 – 2019/20 with the following Six Objectives.

- Increase access to ICT infrastructure to facilitate exploitation of the development priorities;
- Enhance the usage and application of ICT services in business and service delivery.
- Increase job creation through ICT research and development;
- Increase the stock of ICT skilled and industry-ready workforce;
- Improve the information security system to be secure, reliable, resilient and capable of responding to cyber security threats; and
- Improve the legal and regulatory frameworks to respond to the industry needs.

4.3 FIVE-YEAR SECTOR INVESTMENT AND STRATEGIC PLAN 2015/16- 2019/20

In order to ensure effective implementation of the ICT Sector Interventions in the NDP II, the Sector developed a Five-Year Sector Investment and Strategic Plan 2015/16-2019/20 premised on the following objectives:

- To increase access and usage of ICT in the country so as to transform the economy and improve service delivery;
- To improve ICT governance and environment in the country;
- To build a knowledge-based society;
- To improve Uganda's ICT development index;
- To increase ICT exports.

4.3.1 SOME OF THE PROPOSED SECTOR PRIORITIES FOR FY 2017/18

- Operationalization of Government - Citizens' Interaction Centre**
 - Staffing (permanent, temporary and interns)
 - Equipment
 - Training
 - Facilitation
- Open Government Sessions**
 - Initially monthly, later weekly

- Barazas with Local Governments (people in districts and sub-counties)

iii. Content Production

- Gathering and Processing
- Operationalization of Content Production and Management Centre

iv. Promoting ICT Innovations

- Establishment of Innovations Committee in the Ministry
- Developing ICT Innovation Strategy
- Mobilizing funds to support innovators (especially the youth) in collaboration with Ministry of Science and Technology, and Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

v. Promotion of Electronics Industry

- Carry out a study on what is required

vi. Deepening uptake of e-government in MDAs and Local Governments

- Identify flagship projects such as: one-stop centre for investors (Under Uganda Investment Authority); e-procurement (PPDA)
- Establish One Service Centre for delivery of essential government services through the Postal network (similar to Uduma Centre in Kenya)

vii. Implementation of Rural Communications Development Fund (RCDF) Projects

- Computer laboratories for schools, tertiary institutions
- Capacity building for ICT teachers in schools
- Awareness programs for ICT access and usage

viii. Revamping Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC)

ix. Linking Central Government Communication Units and District Local Governments

- Supervising communication units in Central Government ministries where they are established
- Establishing and strengthening linkage between Central Government and District Information Offices