OUR VISION IS TO BRING DIGITAL WORLD TO EVERY UGANDAN, HUAWEI BOSS

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Secondly, we keep sharing our core competence with Ugandans, including innovative technologies, knowledge, global experience and case studies.

The pace of global technological development in the new knowledge economy has raised demand for ICT skilled employees. ICT skill is essential rather than optional. That is why Huawei attaches great importance to skill transfer by training ICT practitioners, sending 10 Ugandans to Seeds for the Future programme every year for two-week training, working with UCC and universities in organizing ICT competitions and cooperating with universities in recruitment and offering internship to top students.

As we enter the information era, connectivity brought by ICT infrastructure, ICT skills and literacy is the “hardware” and “software” needed to bridge the digital gap and to fully reap the benefits of the digital economy.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?

According to Huawei’s Global Industry Vision 2025, a report which provides predictions about the future of industry and society by 2025, human kind will have a digital economy worth $23 trillion. To fully reap the benefit of the digital age, every country needs to be well-prepared.

Digital and intelligent technologies are opening up existing new possibilities and opportunities, yet in Uganda, with more than 80% of the population living in rural areas, many people still do not have access to the digital world.

Rooted in Uganda for ten years plus, Huawei would like to be a helping hand to the transition process that is happening in Uganda. Guided by our globalisation strategy, we fit our global mission of making technology more accessible to the public to support the digital development reality by fully complying with applicable laws, rules and regulations and creating job opportunities for local talents who hold different responsibilities in finance, law and public relations, sales and marketing.

In 2016, we entered the top 100 taxpayers in Uganda. In 2016, we obtained the Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) issued by Uganda Revenue Authority. We believe Internet access brought by the network of communication towers and fibre is like the “soil” which provides the fertile ground for “crops”, which in this case are services like Safe City, E-government, E-education, E-health and E-agriculture, which enhance public social services delivery and better allocation of resources.

So our future investment plan will align with this view of bringing connectivity by increasing ICT infrastructure and boosting application of ICT.

We will continue investing strategically to bridge the digital divide in terms of the gap between the rich and poor, urban and rural areas, and the educated and non-educated. We believe that ICT enable the modernization of the operations of public services and the private sector.

WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACTIVITIES?

We consider corporate social responsibility good in promoting business development, looking at the enormous needs in developing countries and priorities that have the greatest impact to Uganda. This explains why we have sponsored heavily in the MTN Marathon since 2013.

We have also leveraged what we do best by helping communities with programmes that go beyond business and offer skills and opportunities through Seeds for the Future programme since 2016, the Huawei ICT competition and the curricula, which will be launched soon.