



## **Uganda to host the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the DStv Eutelsat Star Awards!**

- **Overall essay and poster winners to be announced on 12 April in Kampala, Uganda**
- **ESA astronaut Paolo Nespoli to return as Jury Chairman**

**Kampala, Paris, 5 April 2018** – Government dignitaries, the academic community, the scientific world and students will convene when MultiChoice Africa together with their partner, Eutelsat hosts the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the DStv Eutelsat Star Awards in Kampala on 12 April 2018 to announce continental winners. Popularly known as the pearl of Africa, Uganda has produced the most winners since the competition's inception and is hoping to achieve a similar feat by dominating the competition on home soil.

MultiChoice and Eutelsat have once again chosen to collaborate with European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Paolo Nespoli to lead the continental awards judging which will take place in Kampala, Uganda on April 11. Nespoli has an illustrious career spanning stints at the European Astronaut Centre (ESA/EAC) and NASA's Johnson Space Centre in Houston before being selected as an astronaut by the Italian Space Agency to fly as an ESA astronaut. In 2017, for his third mission in space named Vita, Nespoli spent 139 days on the ISS during which he completed more than 60 experiments. Before that, he crewed on the 2007 Discovery shuttle mission and spent over five months in space in 2011 aboard the International Space Station (ISS) where he was responsible for a range of science and technology experiments and educational activities.

Nespoli will be assisted by a panel of industry experts namely; Prof. Funso Falade, Faculty of Engineering Dean, University of Lagos; Mr. Michael Niyitegeka, Country Manager, ICDL Africa; Mr. Patrice Paquot, Deputy Regional Vice-President for Sub-Saharan Africa, Eutelsat as well as Ms. Patricia Kichoncho, Operations Manager, MultiChoice Uganda.

The overall winning entries will receive the following prizes:

- Overall Essay Award - A trip for the winning student and their parent/legal guardian to Eutelsat in France and attendance of a live rocket launch in French Guiana.
- Overall Poster Award - A trip for the winning student and their parent/legal guardian to the MultiChoice offices and the South African Space Agency at Hartbeesthoek.

The schools attended by the overall award winners will be rewarded with a DStv installation, including dish, television, state-of-the-art PVR decoder and free access to the DStv Education Package.

All details on the judging criteria, national prizes and finalists' selection are available on the DStv Eutelsat Star Awards website: <http://www.dstvstarawards.com/about.html>

Join the conversation on Facebook  [fb.me/DStvEutelsatStarAwards](https://fb.me/DStvEutelsatStarAwards) and on Twitter using the hashtag #DStvEutelsatStarAwards

#### **About Eutelsat**

Founded in 1977, Eutelsat is one of the world's leading satellite operators. With a global fleet of satellites and associated ground infrastructure, Eutelsat enables clients across Video, Data, Government, Fixed and Mobile Broadband markets to communicate effectively to their customers, irrespective of their location. Over 6,800 television channels operated by leading media groups are broadcast by Eutelsat to one billion viewers equipped for DTH reception or connected to terrestrial networks. Headquartered in Paris, with offices and teleports around the globe, Eutelsat assembles 1,000 men and women from 44 countries who are dedicated to delivering the highest quality of service.

For more about Eutelsat go to [www.eutelsat.com](http://www.eutelsat.com)

#### **Press contact**

Violaine du Boucher Tel: + 33 1 53 98 37 91 [vduboucher@eutelsat.com](mailto:vduboucher@eutelsat.com)

## **About MultiChoice Africa**

Entertainment is a powerful way to tell stories that open our minds, bring people together around shared passions, and connect us to new realities. It makes us laugh and cry. It informs, it educates and it inspires. MultiChoice is a video entertainment company, and our purpose is to use the power of entertainment to enrich lives. We make the best in entertainment accessible to millions of households in 49 countries across Sub-Saharan Africa. We do this through cutting-edge technology on our DStv and GOtv platforms – delivering the content our customers love and contributing to the success of local economies. Born and bred in Africa, we are rooted in the countries where our customers live. We are managed and run by local people, and strive to provide all our employees with new opportunities. We're proud of the contribution we make to our communities, and our business has grown hand-in-hand with local economies by forging long-term partnerships with governments, national broadcasters and entrepreneurs. We want to use our influence and resources to play a positive role in Africa, helping to grow Africa's people and creative industries into vibrant, economic powerhouses. It's by creating value for our customers, our employees and society that we'll build a successful business for the future.

## **Press contact**

Lebogang Ramothata    Tel: +27 11 289 4366    [lebogang.ramothata1@multichoice.co.za](mailto:lebogang.ramothata1@multichoice.co.za)