

22nd November 2011: Kampala

School for Dental Technicians officially Inaugurated

The Director for Planning in the Ministry of Health Dr. Isaac Ezati has said that oral health and dental care are key activities in the Health Sector Strategic and Investment Plan; well-resourced in the Ministry in terms of personnel.

He regretted to note that dental services were well-developed where the government had established very good dental care system in the 60s and early 70s; with high level training, but all this went to waste.

Dr. Ezati was speaking at the inauguration of the School for Dental Technicians Mulago Hospital, with a State-of-the-art Dental technology laboratory established with funding from Italian government and partners.

The laboratory is a learning facility for Bachelor of Dental Technology students and it is property of Mulago Hospital. The Makerere University College of Health Sciences provides academic oversight and supervision to the program.

Dr. Ezati assured the Italian government and partners that there is commitment by the Ugandan government to maintain the dental equipment that was donated.

He emphasised the need to develop regional hospitals where the graduates can be deployed to work and serve the population most in need.

The Italian Ambassador to Uganda Stefano Dejak, said the dental technicians laboratory is the beginning of a seed planted to mark many more milestones that will come out of the partnership between the two governments and their respective institutions.

The Deputy Principal Makerere University College of Health Sciences Professor Celestino Obua said that the College of Health Sciences has taken on the responsibility of ensuring that new academic programs are started to give quality equitable services to Ugandans.

He called upon the Ministry of Health to expand employment capacity at the district to ensure that once the current 12 students graduate, they are absorbed by the local need.

The Deputy Director Mulago Hospital, Dr. Doreen Birabwa pledged that the hospital will maintain and sustain the laboratory equipment and see it expand and grow.



Dr. Isaac Ezati addressing the guests at the launch of the School



Dr. Ezati, Ambassador Dejak and other guests being taken around the state-of-the-art laboratory soon after it was inaugurated



Ambassador Stefano Dejak speaking at the inauguration ceremony. He pledged further support to the Dental sector in Uganda



*Makerere University College of Health Sciences
Deputy Principal, Professor Celestino Obua identified research as one of the areas the graduate
dental technicians will have great impact*



*A cross section of guests at the inauguration of
the School for Dental Laboratory technologists*