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**Office of the Minister for Science,
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IN ANY CORRESPONDENCE ON
THIS SUBJECT PLEASE QUOTE REF NO:

PEARLAFRICASAT-1 SATELLITE LAUNCH

In April 2020, Uganda took a significant step towards creating an indigenous space program by sending three engineers: Edgar Mujuni, Derick Tebusweke, and Bonny Omara, to obtain training in satellite design, build, test, launch, and operation as part of the BIRDS-5 project, led by Kyushu Institute of Technology, Japan.

On May 10, 2022, the satellite built by our engineers, named PearlAfricaSat-1, was handed over to the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) for final testing. The satellite successfully completed all tests and was subsequently handed over to the United States of America's National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for launch and deployment. The launch to the International Space Station will take place on Sunday, 6th November, 2022 at 12pm EAT. The satellite will subsequently be deployed into low earth orbit in December 2022. Uganda is also setting up an Earth Station at Mpoma, Mukono for command, control, and management of our satellite here in Uganda, by Ugandans.

PearlAfricaSat-1 has a multispectral camera payload which will provide research and observation high-resolution image data to support weather forecasting; land, water, and mineral mapping; agriculture monitoring; infrastructure planning; border security, and disaster prevention. With our own data, analysis and prediction of weather, water quality, soil fertility, landslides, and drought will be more efficient. The satellite will also play a vital role in planning, resource management, and environmental impact assessment in our oil and gas industry.

LIVE BROADCAST: 06th/11/2022 at 12:00 pm (EAT)

UBC TV

NASA Tv (<https://www.nasa.gov/nasalive>)

NASA TV youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=21X5lG1DOfg>

Hon. Monica Musenero Masanza

**MINISTER FOR SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY, & INNOVATION
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**