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OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Makerere climbs to 10th position in Africa – Webometric Rankings

Makerere University has continued to rise in Webometric rankings in Africa from 13th position in July 2010 to the current 10th position in January 2011. According to the recently released rankings, the University has also improved in world rank from 2,158th to 1,402nd a leap of over 750 positions.

The results also indicate that Makerere is now the best ranked university in Africa outside South Africa, having beaten Egypt's Cairo University.

The University's marked improvement can be attributed to among other strategies; continuous updating of the Institutional Repository of research publications by academicians at Makerere University, which has seen the institution advance by 309 places in the scholarly rank worldwide from 827th in July 2010 to 518th in January 2011.

By implementing innovative strategies like continuing to form strategic alliances with reputable institutions of higher education and major conference organizers, Makerere aspires to improve visibility of the University amongst the international research community, thereby bolstering its chances of scaling the ranks even further.

"Our improvement in ranking can be attributed to our drive to publish more Scholarly items, a major determinant of the performance of higher education institutions. However our visibility, which greatly hinges on a country's internet usage will be a key area to lay emphasis on," remarked Dr. Vincent Ssembatya, Director Quality Assurance, Makerere University.

Commenting on the January 2011 rankings and strategies for the future, Ms. Ritah Namisango the Ag. Public Relations Officer said, "As Makerere transforms into a Collegiate University, we've observed the need to tap into ground breaking research and innovations at the College level. This month, the University will recruit Communication Officers and Web Administrators for each of the 8 (eight) Colleges and 2 (two) schools." "This will help to improve the overall communication function and online presence of the University," she added.

For further breakdown of the rankings, please see attached analysis.

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