



Netball World Cup 2015: Australia welcomes the Uganda national netball team

Nairobi, 30th July 2015

Australia is delighted to welcome the Uganda She-Cranes to Sydney for the 14th Netball World Cup, which kicks off on 7th August 2015.

Uganda and Australia will join fourteen teams from all around the world – Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania – in Sydney to compete for the most coveted prize of international netball.

Australian High Commissioner to Uganda, John Feakes, said “Our countries’ shared passion for netball is a common bond between Uganda and Australia. Netball allows us to celebrate our cultures, our identities and our shared love for the game. The Australian Government gave \$250,000 to Netball Australia on 25th June 2015 to guarantee that Uganda, as well as a few other countries, could participate in the Netball World Cup in August.”

“Aside from being an amazing spectacle to watch, netball is a great game to play. Netball is the world’s leading participation sport for women and girls – a game that promotes confident, strong and talented leaders on and off court. Netball is a tool of empowerment for women and girls all over the world. Young girls everywhere can look up to athletes like Halima Nakachwa as their hero and role model.”

“I wish the Uganda She-Cranes all the best in Sydney as we look forward to some excellent matches. I look forward to cheering on both Australia and Uganda during the Netball World Cup,” said High Commissioner Feakes.

Background:

- Australia will host the 2015 Netball World Cup from 7th to 16th August 2015. Held every four years since 1963, the 14th Netball World Cup 2015 will take place in Sydney. Australia last hosted the event on two occasions – Perth in 1967 and Sydney in 1991. Sixty-four matches will be held at the Sydney Olympic Park over ten days. The 16 participating teams are:

<i>Pool A</i>	<i>Pool B</i>	<i>Pool C</i>	<i>Pool D</i>
<i>Australia</i>	<i>England</i>	<i>Malawi</i>	<i>Fiji</i>
<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Jamaica</i>	<i>South Africa</i>	<i>Wales</i>
<i>Barbados</i>	<i>Scotland</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Uganda</i>
<i>Trinidad & Tobago</i>	<i>Samoa</i>	<i>Sri Lanka</i>	<i>Zambia</i>

- This is Uganda's second Netball World Cup. Their last appearance was in 1979 in Port of Spain in Trinidad and Tobago. At this year's Netball World Cup, Uganda will be up against Fiji, Wales and Zambia in Pool D.
- The Australian Diamonds will go into this year's event as the reigning champions. Australia beat New Zealand at the last 2011 Netball World Cup finals by the narrowest of margins - a single point. The score was 58 (Aus) – 57 (NZ).
- Every match will be broadcast across Africa on the channels of the Netball World Cup's international broadcast partner SuperSport <http://nwc2015.com.au/News/supersport-to-bring-nwc2015-to-africa>
- For further information on the Netball World Cup 2015 visit <http://nwc2015.com.au/>.

For further information contact:

Rob Bateson, Public Diplomacy Manager, Australian High Commission, Nairobi

Email: rob.bateson@dfat.gov.au

###