

CTG Seals Deal with Wananchi Group for Malawi Major Fiber Infrastructure Construction Project

(Press Release: 18 March 2015, Hong Kong) CTG has inked a deal with Wananchi Group's Corporate Business arm, SimbaNET to design and build a 428 km National Optical Communication Infrastructure in Malawi. The project is expected to take approximately 8 months to complete.

Headquartered in Hong Kong, CTG offers world-class integrated communication services to multinational businesses, telecommunication service providers and overseas Chinese consumers across the globe. Over the past 3 years, CTG has dedicated significant resources to expansion in Africa and is now an established service provider in over 10 countries in the area. Through a dedicated MEA team, CTG plans to continue to grow its African footprint and improve the accessibility to high quality services to all customers within the region.

With extensive experience in building and managing optical networks in many countries, CTG is excited to embark on this project and aims to bring forward and implement new technical information standards. The new telecommunication network is expected to significantly enhance the information capability and with it, usher in a new digital era to the area.

Speaking in Nairobi, Wananchi Group's CEO Richard Alden confirmed, "We are delighted to have closed a deal with CTG for the Fiber network construction for the Malawi Virtual Landing Point and we would like to offer our congratulations to everyone who worked on this project, which has set the standard for the industry. We choose to build and own our fiber networks in Africa wherever possible, and we trust CTG to help us cross the massive distances found in this continent". Suhail Sheriff, the Chief Operations Officer further added "the lighting up of this fiber link that connects Malawi to Tanzania and Zambia and onwards to 5 sub-marine cable networks will have far reaching positive impacts on the Malawian ICT sector and economy in general. This network will also complete a regional ring for SimbaNET in East Africa that creates a redundancy ring between Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia, enhancing and creating redundant routes for all three countries".

Wananchi Group is East Africa's leading telecom operator committed to servicing the African mass market through provision of high quality yet affordable corporate and home connectivity services. It is a full vertically-integrated telecommunications and media conglomerate consisting of several business divisions including ZUKU for the retail market and Wananchi Business Services for the corporate market which is made up of Wananchi Telecom Ltd, SimbaNET, and iSAT Africa.

Undertaken by SimbaNET and funded by the World Bank, the Regional Communication Infrastructure Programme Malawi(RCIPMW) aims to construct and operate a fibre optic communication network between the Malawian capital Lilongwe and neighbouring countries. The project aims to improve the quality, availability and affordability of broadband within Malawi for both consumer and enterprise use.





Through this partnership, CTG has strengthened its relationship with Wananchi Group whilst simultaneously laying a solid foundation for future business development in the East Africa region.

About CHINA TELECOM GLOBAL

China Telecom Global Limited (CTG) is a wholly owned subsidiary of China Telecom Corporation Limited for managing international business. With its headquarters in Hong Kong, CTG has set up branches in 26 countries spanning across Asia, Americas and the Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) region to offer world-class integrated communication services.

CTG's comprehensive portfolio of Data, IP, Voice, Internet Data Centre and ICT solutions deliver industry-leading resilience, speed, and diversity to meet the high level requirements from our customers and partners.

Leveraging on the dominant strength in global network of its mother company, CHINA TELECOM, CTG has firmly taken hold of the market opportunities of the booming mobile Internet and the increasing demand for vertical information technology solutions and has positioned itself as "a leader of smart pipes, a provider of the integrated platform and a participant in contents and applications".

To learn more about China Telecom Global, please visit www.chinatelecomglobal.com and follow us on:    China Telecom Global  中国电信国际

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About CHINA TELECOM

CHINA TELECOM (SEHK: 0728; NYSE: CHA) is one of the three leading telecom operators in China and has been on the list of the "Fortune 500 Companies" for many consecutive years. Being an integrated information service provider, China Telecom provides customers with integrated information service solutions, which cover broad-band Internet access, mobile communications, information technology applications and fixed-line telephone services. Meanwhile, the Company has been making every effort to improve its strengths in innovation, service, intensiveness and operation, whilst striving to build its core strength for sustainable development and the parallel growth of the corporate value and the customer value.

About Wananchi Group

Established in 2008, the Wananchi Group Holdings (Wananchi) is East Africa's leading corporate and home connectivity and entertainment operator for the rapidly growing middle

class. The group is revolutionizing the communications space through the delivery of innovative, value for money, ICT and entertainment services in a manner that inspires and delights our business and residential customers.

It takes its name and underlying ethics from the former Wananchi Online, which was committed to servicing the emerging African mass consumer market through provision of high quality yet affordable home internet services. Today, it is a unique vertically integrated media and telecoms company consisting of several business divisions providing a unique set of services in the markets in which we operate.

The Wananchi Group is present in East Africa through a range of business propositions:

- ZUKU DTH pay TV services across East Africa
- ZUKU residential fibre broadband , Pay TV and telephone services, currently in Kenya
- ZUKU programming – we make our own pay TV programming to keep our ZUKU residential customers even more delighted
- SimbaNET- which deals with corporate clients, is a Licensed Public Data Operator with National and International Applications Licenses specialized in providing ICT services via Submarine Optic Fiber, with the last mile being via fiber, WiMAX, mobile and satellite. For more information, visit www.simbanet.net
- iSAT Africa which is the subsidiary dealing with fixed satellite solution services Alldean Networks Ltd which is the broadcasting arm of the business. For more information, visit www.isatafrica.com
- Wananchi Telecom Ltd is a “public data communications carrier” which provides services to ISPs and Telcos For more information, visit www.wananchitelecom.com

For more information on Wananchi Group, please visit: www.wananchi.com