PRESS RELEASE
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Nile Basin Journalists recognised for excellent reporting on Nile cooperation

KIGALI, Rwanda – The Nile Basin Initiative, in partnership with seven organisations, has rewarded 12 journalists from the Nile Basin Initiative Member States for excellence in reporting about the Nile Basin and Nile cooperation issues.

The awards ceremony held on the first day of the 5th Nile Basin Development Forum in Kigali, Rwanda were organised in five categories namely; print, digital, radio, television and photography. However, entries in the latter category did not conform to the rules.

Winners in the different categories included:
Print
1st - Frederic Musisi (Uganda)
2nd – Sylvester Domasa (Tanzania)
3rd – Solomon Goshu (Ethiopia)
3rd – Kevin Ogutu (Kenya)

Digital
1st – Bassem Abo Alabass (Egypt)
2nd – Mabior Philip Nuer (South Sudan)
3rd – Henry Lutaaya (Uganda)

Radio
1st – Michael Wambi (Uganda)
2nd – Claver Hakizimana (Burundi)
3rd – Jean Paul Mbarushimana (Rwanda)

Television
1st – Simon Mugisha (Uganda)
2nd – Fabien Niyonizigiye (Burundi)

Prizes included research grants, training opportunities, media gadgets as well as made-in-Rwanda gift baskets from partners including German government, GIZ, Nile Basin Discourse, Media in Cooperation and Transition, Intergovernmental Authority on Development, Deutsche Welle, Africa Water Journalists and Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa.

The Nile Media Awards is a biennial event organised by the Nile Basin Initiative with support from the German government.

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About Nile Basin Initiative
The Nile Basin Initiative is a regional inter-governmental partnership launched by the Nile Basin countries on February 22, 1999, to manage and develop the shared Nile Basin water and related resources in a cooperative manner, share substantial socio-economic benefits, and promote regional peace and security. There are 10 NBI Member States: Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. Eritrea participates as an observer.

The setup of NBI is informed by the principle of subsidiarity that matters ought to be handled by the smallest, lowest or least centralised competent authority; hence, the three NBI Centres: A Regional Secretariat (Nile-SEC) based in Entebbe, Uganda is the executive arm responsible for the overall corporate direction. Two subsidiary Action Programs – the Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Program (ENSAP) and Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP) – are responsible for preparing trans-boundary investment projects aimed at contributing to energy, food and water security in the Nile Basin.