

National IP Peering Exchange Establishment and Peering Policy

Kampala, 17th October 2025

The National Information Technology Authority -Uganda is proud to announce the establishment of the National IP Peering Exchange (NIPX) and the implementation of the National Peering Policy, marking a significant milestone in the development of a more secure, efficient, and affordable digital ecosystem for Uganda.

This strategic initiative aims to enhance local internet traffic exchange, reduce dependency on international bandwidth, promote digital inclusion, and strengthen national digital sovereignty.

1. Establishment of the National IP Peering Exchange (NIPX)

The National IP Peering Exchange is a neutral, non-discriminatory, and open interconnection platform designed to enable Internet Service Providers (ISPs), content providers, cloud platforms, data centres, and government networks to exchange internet traffic locally.

Key objectives of the NIPX include:

- **Improved Internet Quality:** Reducing latency and improving reliability by keeping domestic traffic within national borders.
- **Lower Connectivity Costs:** Decreasing reliance on costly international transit, resulting in more affordable services for consumers and businesses.
- **Enhanced Cybersecurity:** Strengthening national resilience against global network outages and improving control over critical infrastructure.
- **Support for Local Content:** Encouraging local hosting, digital innovation, and the growth of e-commerce and online services.

The NIPX will operate under clear governance and technical standards to ensure transparency, security, and interoperability.

2. National Peering Policy Framework

To ensure fair and efficient participation, the National Peering Policy sets out principles, obligations, and operational guidelines for network operators connecting to the NIPX.

Key policy principles include:

- **Open Access:** All licensed ISPs and qualified content providers shall have equal and non-discriminatory access to the NIPX.
- **Mandatory Domestic Peering:** ISPs are encouraged and where applicable, required to exchange domestic traffic at the NIPX to improve national network performance.
- **Fair Usage and Compliance:** Participants must comply with technical standards, security requirements, and operational protocols to maintain a stable and secure peering environment.
- **Transparency:** Peering agreements and interconnection arrangements will be guided by clear rules to ensure accountability and fair competition.
- **Collaborative Growth:** The policy promotes joint efforts among the public and private sectors to strengthen the nation's internet backbone.

3. Implementation and Next Steps

Under the governance and supervision by the Ministry of ICT and National Guidance, the National Information Technology Authority-Uganda will be in charge of the implementation and rollout of the NIPX while the National in a bid to ensure full compliance with the peering policy. Industry stakeholders are invited to participate in the upcoming technical onboarding sessions and public consultations to ensure smooth and inclusive implementation.

This initiative aligns with the national broadband and digital transformation strategy, supports local innovation, and enhances the overall internet experience for citizens, businesses, and institutions.

For more information

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