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THE 8TH EDITION OF THE DSTV EUTELSAT STAR AWARDS HAS CROWNED TWO NEW CONTINENTAL OVERALL WINNERS

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Posted by: Anna Gomez

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Accra, 13 February 2019– The winners of the 8th edition of the DStv Eutelsat Star Awards were announced today during a ceremony held in Accra, Ghana. Eighteen-year-old Tanaka Chonyera has put Botswana on the map by scooping top honours in the essay category. Nineteen-year-old Priscilla Marealle was announced as the overall winner in the poster category, making it a back-to-back win from Tanzania.

Tanaka's entry was written in a confident, concise and factual manner and made for an intriguing, engaging and educational read. *"It was quite clear that he has cultivated his passion with research and study, that has resulted in sound knowledge and understanding of the subject matter,"* says Paolo Nespoli, an ESA (European Space Agency) Astronaut who chaired the jury of the Awards.This is what the jury members said about Priscilla's poster:*"The poster was artistically well executed, with imaginative use of mixed media to create visual interest. Consistent with the topic, the poster depicts how satellite can be further embraced in Africa to address key continental challenges, such as protection and monitoring of biodiversity, agriculture and mineral resources."*

During her keynote speech at the Awards ceremony, the Hon. Patricia Appiagyei, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Science Technology and Innovation said *"It is our ministry's pleasure to be part of this exemplary initiative by two technology-oriented companies to inspire the learning and application of Science and Technology in everyday activities. Our ministry is at the fore-front of promoting a paradigm shift in the way we approach our developmental issues as a country and more broadly as a continent. Having reviewed some of the topics from previous competitions of the DStv Eutelsat Star Awards, we are feelelated by the myriad of young African minds across our continent that are tasked to use satellite technology to address basic human challenges on our continent."*

This pan-African competition has invigorated a passion for science and technology amongst younger generations and will culminate with an outreach

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Saturday, 16th February, 2019

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