

# RVTH

Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital

## **PRESS RELEASE:**

Banjul, 1st March 2005

## **RVTH WINS PRESIDENT'S SANITATION AWARD**

The Royal Victoria Teaching Hospital (RVTH) won President Jammeh's first Environmental Sanitation Award as the second cleanest hospital in the country at a ceremony held at State House on February 21.

The sanitation exercise commonly called "Operation Clean the Nation" was launched in April 2004 and meant to keep the environment clean from all hazards.

The RVTH award includes a D75,000 (Equivalent to \$2500) cash and a certificate from the President and 100 insecticide treated bednets donated by the World Health Organisation.

The panel of judges for this award identified four categories namely communities, schools, health facilities and police/army barracks. In the whole Banjul administrative area, RVTH is the only winner of this award.

Shortly before presenting the prizes, President Jammeh thanked those who responded positively to the success of "this noble gesture", especially the development partners. "I initiated Operation Clean the Nation as the forefront of my government's development agenda," the President said, pointing out that it has nothing to do with politics, but to prevent disease.

The President will host a special dinner for the winners, panel of judges, the task force and all those who contributed towards the success of "Operation Clean the Nation" at a date and time to be communicated in due course.

Expressing delight over the award, Dr Pamela Esangbedo, the Chief Medical Director, said, "We are pleased to have won a prize and assure you that we will work harder this year to win the top prize."

According to Dr Esangbedo, the cash donation would go towards purchasing more cleaning equipment and the bednets have been sent to the wards.

Andrew SK Jatta, the Domestic Supervisor, expressed gratitude for the award. "I am very happy about our position and we will redouble our efforts to top the competition this year.

I will seize this opportunity to thank the President for the initiative as well as our orderlies for their hardwork," he concluded.