

Eng. Kezias Kazuba MWALE

Curriculum Vitae



(Born: 24 February 1977)

Zambian, Engineer, Diplomat, Leader, Expert, Innovator, Transformer, Paralegal, Reliable

SADC ICT Ministers endorsed candidate for ATU SG 2026

currently

ATU Director for Spectrum since 2012

MY LIFE LONG MISSION

"to make real difference via innovation, self-drive, optimism, hard-work"

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I believe in the ATU, since 2012

1. PROFILE

Since joining the ATU in 2012 by invitation, he is renowned for his significant contributions in all spheres of the institution, namely; technical, legal, financial, administration, IT systems, as well as, partnerships, towards its remarkable transformation. ATU transformation since 2012 is evidenced, among others, by: (1) 13 countries joining as Member States raising the number from 39 to 52; (2) doubling of ratifications of its Constitution/Convention; (3) Tripling of annual financial budget and establishment of the reserve fund signifying stable financial situation a stark contrast to hand-month in 2012; (4) Several-fold enhancement in engagement with Member States and Stakeholders, and (5) even more importantly, delivering real value worth billions of US dollars to the continent and its Membership.

Due to his personality and his close interactions with key people, he has amassed many high-profile connections in Africa and worldwide. These relationships are key in fostering goodwill, partnerships, linkages enabling effective and timely execution of initiatives.

He has a formidable CV: (1) notably three highly relevant degrees to the digital sector, namely; Bachelor in Telecomms, Master in Broadband/Mobile Comms, and an MBA; (2) many-many firsts at both ZICTA and ATU giving credence to his innovativeness prowess and deep understanding of issues; (3) secretary of the last three conferences of ATU supreme organ as evidence of his high-caliber; (4) conception and management of high-value programmes; (5) demonstrated constitutional and legal reform capability; (6) and many other key skills including consensus building (diplomacy), partnerships conception/management, deep institutional memory, profound knowledge of the rules of procedures, first-hand-experience of ATU affairs since 2012, IT systems development, and more.

He is currently the director for radiocommunications (spectrum) department at ATU since being head-hunted in 2012. Prior to that, he was Manager – Spectrum Management at ZICTA. He joined ZICTA in 2003. As director for radiocommunications, he was at the center of securing the highest amount of spectrum for mobile broadband for African countries, and the successful recovery of lost satellite resources worth billions of US dollars, among other high-impact achievements.

With a combined experience of over two-decades, with 14 years being at director level, Eng. Mwale's unmatched hands-on experience, high-caliber and broad skills in conceptualizing and delivering high-value-high-impact digital programmes is crucial for deepening meaningful universal connectivity in Africa and supporting the digital transformation agenda to shape a more prosperous future for all as per the AU 2063 vision.

2. EDUCATION

2017: Master in Business Administration (University of Nicosia, Cyprus)

2008: Master's Degree in Broadband and Mobile Comms with distinction (University of Kent at Canterbury, UK)

2002: Bachelor's Degree in Engineering in Electronics and Telecoms (University of Zambia)

2003 to present: Numerous professional and career short courses, workshops and seminars (ITU Academy, LINK Centre (Wits University), AFRALTI, TCI International, Rohde & Schwarz)

3. CAREER PROGRESSION

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| October 2012 – present: | Director for Spectrum at ATU |
| October 2010 – Sept 2012: | Manager Spectrum Planning and Licensing at ZICTA |
| August 2005 – Sept 2010: | Senior spectrum engineer at ZICTA |
| April 2003 – July 2005: | Engineer for Spectrum at Zambia ICT Authority ZICTA |

4. SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS WHILE AT THE ATU

- 1) **Securing** the highest amount of spectrum identification for mobile broadband among all ITU regions, which has directly benefited countries around Africa in terms of revenue to treasuries and enhanced broadband;
- 2) **Recovery** of satellite resources worth billions of US dollars to the continent and millions to each of the 31 African beneficiary countries, and also Resolution 170. SADC is beneficiary. AES and EAC too are undertaking initial steps to benefit;
- 3) **Innovativeness** in the key sector of the Spectrum, including the 1st edition of the African Spectrum Allocation Plan (AfriSAP), and guidelines on implementation of emerging techs such as 5G and satellite broadband;
- 4) **Review** of the ATU Constitution and Convention, and also staff rules and regulations at CPL-2014 and CPL-2018, respectively;
- 5) **Lead** role in the development of a grant proposal to ICANN, which secured ATU a grant of almost half-a-million US dollars for Promoting the Deployment of IPv6 in African Countries;
- 6) **Protection** of the Common Heritage (CH) via the conception, drafting and eventual adoption of the African common proposals to its AP40, which were key in blocking ITSO's abolishment;
- 7) **Enhancement** of ATU/Africa's participation at WRCs - making Africa an equal player - which has led to remarkable successes at these conferences including recovery of high-value satellite resources;
- 8) **Optimization** of the FM Sound Broadcasting Plan (the GE84 Plan) which yielded 18,326 new FM Frequency channels across Africa to address channel crunch and support the continued growth of FM Radio;
- 9) **Transformation** of ATU's spectrum sector resulting in doubling of Member States and Associate Member engagement;
- 10) **Secretary** of the supreme organ of the ATU i.e. the Conference of Plenipotentiaries (CPL) of 2014, 2018 and 2022 as its secretary of plenary and lead report drafter;
- 11) **Conception** of the Africa Digital Transformation Summit (ADTS) whose 2026 inaugural edition will launch a number of ground-breaking initiatives such as Elimination of Mobile Broadband Coverage, and quest for African NGSO (LEO) system; and,
- 12) **Contribution** towards other ATU areas such as modernizing ATU communication channels notably personal acquisition and implementation of the dotAfrica domain.

5. SUMMARY OF MY IMPACTFUL CONTRIBUTIONS TO ATU'S TRANSFORMATION

- 1) **MEMBERSHIP & ADMIN:** Recruitment of both Member States and Associate Members, Development of consultancy evaluation criteria, design of ATU publications, and more
- 2) **LEGAL:** Lead for Constitutional review of 2014, and Administrative Regulations review of 2018, as well as, Secretary of Plenary for ATU PPs 2014, 2018 & 2022
- 3) **INNOVATION:** Various firsts including the 1st edition of the African Spectrum Allocation Plan, and the recovery of high-value satellite resources
- 4) **FINANCE:** Change of mode of membership financial contributions from assessments to Unit selection mechanism which has boosted remittances
- 5) **PARTNERSHIPS:** Forging partnerships e. g. with IARU & Eutelsat, as well as, leading the development of a grant proposal which secured ATU USD380,000
- 6) **INFO SYSTEMS:** Development of the Endevaz platform, internal ATU Dashboard, and securing ATU's dotAfrica domain

6. SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENTS WHILE AT ZICTA

- 1) **Developed** the first national spectrum master plan and spectrum bands for all key spectrum bands.
- 2) **Conceptualized** and executed the first national optimization of the FM sound broadcasting plans resulting in the identification of new FM channels that generated significant national benefits, including job creation.
- 3) **Coordinated** the first spectrum re-farm that enabled the introduction of 3G and broadband internet services.
- 4) **Managed** the project for the migration of national power utility company from the 3G spectrum band worth USD1.5million, as well as a key member to the implementation of the first Radio Spectrum Management and Monitoring System (RSMMS) project worth USD6million.
- 5) **Appointed** ITU planning expert for Eastern and Southern Africa during the Geneva 2006 Digital Terrestrial Television planning conference.
- 6) **Appointed** rapporteur for the final African preparatory meeting for World Radio Conference 2012.
- 7) **Updated** the SADC Sub-Regional Spectrum Plan in 2012 incorporating WRC-12 outcomes as part of two-person endeavour.
- 8) **Contributed** significantly towards national and Sub-Regional development via memberships to: (1) National Licensing Technical Committee at the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting and Labour; (2) National Sector Advisory Group (NSAG) of the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting and Labour; and (3) SADC Radio Spectrum Management committee.

7. CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS THE CONTINENTAL DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AGENDA

We have witnessed remarkable digital transformation in recent times in terms of both connectivity growth from below 10% to about 40% over the decade and immerse leverage of the connectivity from pervasive personal communications to e-government services. I have had the honour to contribute to this transformation since I began to serve the ATU since 2012. Some of the notable ways include:

- 1) **Member** of AU Task Force on Digital Transformation Strategy
- 2) **Development** of the ATU framework on 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR)
- 3) **Implementation** of the dotAfrica domain (<https://atuuat.africa>) as part of promotion of the dotAfrica domain
- 4) **Conception** of the Africa Digital Transformation Summit (ADTS) as the ATU/AUC Annual flagship event

8. PROFESSIONAL ATTRIBUTES AND CORE SKILLS

Some of the professional attributes and core competencies:

- 1) **Deep knowledge** of operations and inner workings of the ATU having been part of its management team since 1 October 2012, and taking part in its Admin Councils and by being the Secretary to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries (CPLs)
- 2) **Deep knowledge** of the ITU, the African Union (AU) and African Sub-Regional organizations of ECOWAS, ECCAS, EACO and SADC
- 3) **In-depth understanding** of Africa ICTs and digital landscape
- 4) **Strong** technical and economical expertise of ICT and digital technologies
- 5) **Deep understanding** of the role of ICTs in social-economic development and well-being of societies, crucially in Africa
- 6) **Proven ability of designing** interventional policy and regulatory framework for the development of ICTs, as well as, design/implementation of partnerships (i.e. MoUs)
- 7) **High-level** skill in advocacy and diplomacy
- 8) **Innovativeness** as demonstrated by the many firsts underscored in this paper
- 9) **Focused/self-driven**, sober minded, presentable, humble and sense of humour
- 10) **Extensive network** of senior-level contacts ICT sector, as well as, friends, peers, collaborators in Africa and beyond
- 11) **Excellent** research, analytical and report writing
- 12) **Paralegal** and business administration

9. NOTABLE LEADERSHIPS AND ACHIEVEMENTS BEYOND OFFICIAL WORK

- o **Chair of the Association of Zambians Living in Kenya (AZAKE)** from 2020 to 2022. Major achievements during my tenure were the review of the AZAKE Constitution which introduced the position of Social Secretary, as well as, established of the Insaka (i.e. town hall forum)
- o **Chair of 2018 ZIMAZA Executive Committee** – under my leadership, the event's budget was fully catered for by sponsorships hence making it the first ZIMAZA to be cost-free on the part of the participating associations namely: Association of Zimbabweans Living in Kenya (AZIKE), Association of Malawians Living in Kenya (AMAKE), and Association of Zambians Living in Kenya (AZAKE).

10. COUNTRY REPRESENTATION (WHILE SERVING ZICTA)

- 1) **Head of delegation** to the ITSO AP 35 (i.e. ITSO PP 35) in July 2012
- 2) **Technical lead/advisor** for the Zambian delegation to WRC-12 in Jan/Feb 2012
- 3) **Technical advisor** for the Zambian delegation to 4th African Union Conference of Ministers in Charge of Communications and Information Technologies (CITMC-4) in September 2012
- 4) **Country representative** to various meetings of SADC and CRASA
- 5) **Sole country delegate** to the ATU final preparatory meeting for WRC-12 in 2011

11. HONOURS/AWARDS

- 1) **Most innovative** employee of the year 2004, ZICTA
- 2) **Dedication to duty** – a labour day award for the year 2009, ZICTA
- 3) **Best MSc Project Award** - an award for the best final MSc Project Award for the year 2009, University of Kent at Canterbury UK, Jul 2009
- 4) **Best student** - academic performance in the final high school grade, Chama Secondary School, 1994
- 5) **Second best student** - academic performance in the 4th year of bachelor degree study, University of Zambia, 2001.

12. REFEREES

- 1) **Mr. Abdulkarim SOUMAILA** (ATU SG 2010-2018)
- 2) **Mr. Patrick MASAMBU** (ITSO Director General Emeritus)
- 3) **Hon. Felix C. MUTATI** (Hon. Minister – Ministry of Technology and Science, Zambia)

TOGETHER, LET US PROGRESS AFRICA. I WELCOME YOUR IDEAS



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