Candidate's vision for the position sought

Over the past three (03) decades, the telecommunications and ICT sector across our continent has undergone at least two (02) major structural reforms, driven by technological changes and the evolving ways in which populations use communication tools. Despite the progress achieved, levels of network coverage and service usage remain disproportionate to the efforts made and resources mobilised in implementing these reforms, and indeed to the sector's true potential. This unfavourable situation risks worsening with the rise of emerging technologies.

The Africa we want, as articulated in Agenda 2063, incorporates the concerns of our States for 2030 expressed through the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations Global Digital Compact, the ITU's Strategic and Financial Plan 2023-2027, and the WSIS+20 process, among others. Africa's current and future challenges therefore demand an African response, one grounded in a fundamentally innovative model that promotes and accelerates sustainable economic growth, while providing effective solutions to the problems of youth employment and the integration of women.

My motivation for submitting my candidacy for the position of Secretary General of the African Telecommunications Union is driven by a transformative vision of an Africa evolving in an increasingly complex world. Through this vision, I am committed to facilitating and driving the development and implementation of **'A Digital Africa by and for Africans by 2030'**.

The mandate I am seeking as Secretary General for the period 2026-2030 will focus on building a platform for exchange dedicated to the sustainable development of Africa, one that will benefit future generations, particularly women and young people. The aim will be to make telecommunications and ICT a tool for stability, peace, social cohesion, and integration across the continent.

This vision is founded upon three core pillars:

Pillar 1: Massively scaling up skills training in emerging technologies

Through mastery of essential technologies and an enhanced capacity to absorb useful innovations, African skills will become the driving force behind a digital Africa. This will contribute significantly to bridging existing gaps and transforming areas of tension into development hubs, fuelled by the ingenuity of African youth and the talent of African women.

Pillar 2: Industrialisation in the field of telecommunications and ICT

The growing development of the African ICT industry through local skills will make it possible to capitalise on their added value and increase digital sovereignty and security. Investment in skills is a more structuring lever for industrial development.

Pillar 3: Strengthening the role of the AU-ATU as an institutional framework for harmonising digital development and growth policies

Digital Africa will need to consolidate the consensus and concerted initiatives that demonstrate Africa's ability to meet current and future challenges.

I am convinced that our Union is called upon to be the prism that will enable us to identify Africa's potential to meet the needs of its population in all areas and improve its well-being.