

## BIOGRAPHY FOR MRS. ASENATH MPATWA

I completed my university studies in 1975 as an industrial economist and started my career with a Development Bank in Tanzania and was responsible for extending loans for different types of projects. I later joined the national telecoms operator, Tanzania Telecommunications Company, Ltd (TTCL) and served for more than 20 years in various positions handling funding and implementation of telecommunication projects and later as the CEO just before the company was privatized in 2001. My responsibilities allowed me to play a leading role in the restructuring of the telecommunication sector in Tanzania and later the privatization of the incumbent operator.

I joined the ITU-D the same year in the Africa Unit, as a regional coordinator for Africa until March 2007 when I was transferred to head the Special Initiatives Unit. The unit is responsible for five special initiatives including persons with disabilities, gender, youth & children, indigenous people and people living in underserved/remote areas. Our role is to support member states to provide ICT access and services to these groups. This is achieved through implementation of ICT projects targeting the special groups as well as workshops and seminars to share experiences and build capacity of member states to deal with policy and technical issues related to ICT access and services for the five special initiatives.

I hold a Master of Arts from the University of Dar-es-salaam and a Master of Science in Telecommunications from the University of Colorado, Boulder.