

MWENDE NJIRAINI: BIO DATA

Mwende Njiraini is currently working with the Communications Commission of Kenya, the communications regulator in Kenya, as an Assistant Engineer, with key responsibilities of regulation of Internet Service Providers (ISPs), Internet Gateway and Backbone Operators, Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and provision of strategic technical advice on new technologies. In this respect, Mwende has been involved development of Internet service provider and operator licences and the development of guidelines for the provision of VoIP, ADSL and Wi Fi services in Kenya.

Additionally, she has been involved in the establishment of several multi-stakeholder partnerships, notably the Kenya Information Centre (KENIC), the country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) manager in Kenya, and was Administrative Manager in the formative stages of the organization.

Ms. Njiraini has a great interest in Internet Governance issues in particular development of alternative economic models for Internet interconnection charges and was a member of the East African

Internet Exchange Point taskforce that formulated a model for interconnection of IXPs in the East African region. She is currently involved in online research with the Diplo Foundation on topics including *Open Source; a Platform for Local Content Development in Africa* and *The Introduction of IPv6 and Future Governance of Internet Resources in Bridging the Digital Divide*.

Mwende is a Bachelor of Technology, Electrical and Communications Engineering Graduate of Moi University and a holder of a postgraduate certificate in Communications Management from is Coventry University, UK. She is currently pursuing a Master of Communication Management from the same university and continues to explore her interests in new technology research and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) public private partnerships that facilitate socio-economic development in Kenya.