

PLENARY MEETING

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# Note by the Secretary-General

# CANDIDACY FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF THE TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (BDT)

Further to the information published in Document 3, I have the pleasure in transmitting to the Conference, in annex, the candidacy of:

## Mr Alexander NTOKO (Republic of Cameroon)

for the post of Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union.

Houlin ZHAO Secretary-General

Annex: 1



To

The Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union

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#### Candidacy of Mr. Alexander NTOKO for the Post of Director of BDT

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

With reference to your Circular Letter relating to the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, scheduled from Monday, 26 September to Friday, 14 October 2022 in Bucharest, Romania, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Cameroon hereby presents and supports the candidacy of Mr. Alexander NTOKO for the post of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau for the 2023–2026 period.

In this regard, I would be grateful if you would transmit this application and inform all Member States of the Union of this candidacy.

Mr. Alexander NTOKO has an extensive experience within the ITU where he held important positions, and actively contributed to the introduction and development of ICTs in the Union. For the past 10 years, he holds the position of Chief of the Operations and Planning Department of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau, which he combines with other managerial functions such as membership in a number of statutory committees.

Mr. Alexander NTOKO has a track record of more than 30 years in the ITU in the promotion of digitization and trailblazing the benefits of telecom and ICTs to countries from all regions of the world. Technology enthusiast: with a passion to promote gender equality and the active participation of youth and vulnerable groups in the use of telecoms/ICTs for development, we are confident that he will be a suitable candidate for the post of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau to further its goals and mandate and that of the organization and its member states in a dynamic global hemisphere.

The Government of Cameroon firmly believes that Mr Alexander NTOKO has the appropriate profile for this position because of his proven ability to address the complex issues related to the application of rapidly changing technologies in addressing the challenges of ICTs for development to contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Please find attached the CV and brochure of Mr. Alexander NTOKO's candidature and for more detailed information, please connect to https://www.n4bdt.org which exists in all 6 languages of the Union.

Yours sincerely./-



# Alexander **NTOKO**



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Highly accomplished and proactive leader contributing all efforts towards achieving United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by using telecoms/ICTs for global good.

With a track record of more than 30 years in promotion of digitization and trailblazing, advocating for availability of access for all in relevant and affordable ICTs whilst building solutions for the digital world. Technology enthusiast: with a passion to address challenges aimed at bringing the benefits of ICTs to all by promoting gender equality and the active participation of youth and vulnerable groups. Several years of service in senior management positions and demonstrated capacity to foster international co-operation on the use of telecoms/ ICTs for development. Actively involved in striving to accelerate digital transformation for harnessing the power of ICTs to bring benefits to all in various domains. Skilled in multiple aspects, including digital transformation, international cooperation, enabling environment, Digital Inclusion, Diversity & Inclusion, and Security and Confidence in the use of ICTs.

## **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

• Capable of developing human and institutional capacity, encouraging digital inclusion, and providing targeted assistance to countries in need.

• Possesses remarkable expertise in multiple arenas, including information technology, policies and strategies in ICTs, human resources, telecommunication, ICT's policies, standards, strategies, and procedures.

• As Chief of e-Strategies, exceled at co-ordinating the work of BDT on cybersecurity, digital innovation and services, digital inclusion, telecommunications, as well as network and digital infrastructure as part of the E-strategies/e-applications Programme.

• Instrumental at performing activities to assist over 150 countries with a wide range of topics, such as e-security, e-health, e-agriculture, e-administration, ICT policies, and strategies.

• Published author of studies on e-commerce technology strategies in key e-business reviews, and active speaker in international panels while being citied in international e-commerce press pieces and scientific and research publications

• In the early years of e-commerce, led the design, development, and implementation of an e-commerce platform which included the automated processing of credit card payments for the purchase and online delivery of digital goods over the Internet. Received award for innovation at the Global Bangemann Challenge in Sweden.

• Extensive experience in working for ITU with keen focus on benefiting mankind through ICTs innovations, aimed at meeting the United Nations' sustainable development goals (SDGs)

• Acknowledged for delivering remarkable services in ICTs by citations in numerous press areas, including Time Magazine, International Herald Tribune, Middle East Communications, International Security Review, Tribune de Genève, AGEFI, and Suddeutsch Zeitung with articles in several languages, such as Chinese, Japanese, Polish, French, Swiss, Spanish, Bulgarian, and Arabic languages.

• In the BDT, pioneered efforts in the introduction of advanced security technologies (such as public key infrastructure and encryption and biometrics authentication) in developing countries to extend the use of ICTs in areas.

# **CAREER EXPERIENCE**

# Chief, Operations and Planning Department, TSB, ITU, Geneva, Switzerland June 2012- Present

Manage and collaborate with highly capable international cross-functional teams of high-impact individuals in variety of areas, including information technology, event planning, logistics, and publications, whilst leading activities to improve the Standardisation Sector's services and operational efficiencies and innovation. Provide great leadership, technical, and logistical coordination for a range of events, including World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly (WTSA) and AI for Good Global Summit, whilst ensuring all hybrid and online-only events run well. Develop the ITU Smart Incubator programme to integrate innovation with standardisation to help entrepreneurs and SMEs bridge the standards gap by directing the development of proof-of-concept apps using cutting-edge technologies like AI, IoT, and Blockchain.

#### Achievements:

• Received award for innovation at the 6th Geneva Engage Awards in February 2021 on showcasing remarkable efforts and performance.

• Evaluated strategic concerns, opportunities, as well as hazards, and implemented appropriate strategies for Sector's utilisation of applicable technologies to ensure timely delivery of high-quality services.

• Led coordination and planning to support activities of International Telecommunication Union's Telecommunication Standardisation Sector (ITU-T), whilst maintaining seamless overall operations.

• As strategic leader, oversee development and deployment of range of new apps, based on AI, IoT, and block chain technologies, to introduce innovation and digital transformation to the standardisation sector's working methods and procedures.

#### **Head, Corporate Strategy Division (ITU/General Secretariat), Geneva, Switzerland** March 2007 – June 2012 Head

Played vital role as Secretary of PP10 Working Group of Plenary (WG-PL) to co-ordinate Secretariat work on the review and adoption of several significant PP Resolutions. Contributed to identifying broad principles relevant to the WCIT-12's review of the ITRs. Led transformation of ITU Secretary General's -vision for cybersecurity into tangible global initiative (GCA) through close collaboration with several partners across 150 countries. Maintained integrity, transparency, effective competition by chairing ITU Contracts Committee and directing revision and implementation of the new ITU procurement policy, replacing the 1993 version in 2011.

• Appointed to head ITU Secretariat Group for re-designing the ITU Strategic Plan as well as developing methodology for monitoring to ensure effectiveness.

• In ITU Council sessions from 2007 to 2010, played key role in presenting, and clarifying several of Secretary Generals' reports on key activities. Headed Secretariat Group for co-ordinating the work on the ITRs' content.

## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### Chief, E-Strategies Division (ITU/BDT)

Participated actively in formulation of WSIS outcomes, specifically in stimulating membership understanding of relevance of ICT applications for social and economic development. Spearheaded e-Strategies/ programme to provide benefits to over 120 countries including 45 Least Developed Countries. Delivered direct support to numerous countries in development of national and regional ICT policies and plans based on ICTs for social and economic development.

• Played very active role in WSIS (Summit) by presenting innovative applications on the use of ICTs in domains like trade, agriculture, health etc. which attracted senior officials including heads of States to visit the stand at Palexpo.

• Encouraged adoption by Membership of a new Programme to expand ITU-D's mandate to include wide range of e-applications, the Internet, and cybersecurity.

•Delivered assistance in implementation of a wide range of ICT projects in nations around the globe (e-government, e-health, e-agriculture, e-education, e-legislation, e-commerce, MCTs, Internet, and Cybersecurity).

# ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE (PAST AND PRESENT)

Project Manager and Head of EC-DC Unit (ITU/BDT) Systems Analyst/Programmer (ITU/General Secretariat) Chaired ITU Contracts Committee (for many years) Served as Member of Appointment and Promotion Board Member of the Crisis Management Team (CMT) Chaired by ITU Secretary-General Member of Appeal Board (for several years) Member New Building Management Board – Chaired by Deputy Secretary-General Co-ordinated several ITU-wide of Inter-Sectoral Activities Managed Secretariat support to a number Council Working Groups Adviser to ITU Secretary-General on Strategy and Policy matters Represents ITU in ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

## **EDUCATION**

Master of Science (M.Sc.) - Computer and Information Sciences | State University of New York (SUNY), Utica, New York

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) - Computer Science | State University of New York (SUNY), Plattsburgh, New York

## LANGUAGES

## Fluent in English and French

# VISION

My vision is to firmly establish ITU-D as the premier platform within the UN system for ICT4D matters, engaging all relevant partners from governments, the private sector, academia, and other stakeholders into action-oriented global initiatives with significant impact towards achieving the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Well-developed and designed initiatives already exist but where emphasis is required on actions to transform them into concrete implementable solutions with tangible outcomes and measurable improvements in the use of ICTs to contribute towards meeting the UN SDGs.

My vision is based on the three pillars below:

#### Pillar 1: Accessibility, inclusion, and diversity

ITU's commitment to connect the world should go hand in hand with protection, up-skill, empowering and fostering innovation, I look forward to continuing and expanding existing efforts in Child online Protection and addressing the needs of vulnerable communities including persons with disabilities, launching a Youth and Women Empowerment fund with the support of membership to ensure that Youth and Women are up-skilled and empowered and fully engage in technology development and innovation to address the most pressing issues.

#### Pillar 2: Connecting the unconnected and bridging the wider digital divide

I intend to bring together my experiences in ICTs (technologies, policies, and strategies), management, forging global partnerships, and my very broad knowledge of ITU's development mandate to enable active collaboration between developed and developing countries in designing innovative and tailored solutions towards achieving the SDGs. With a continuous focus on connecting the unconnected and bridging the wider digital divide, my strategy is to build on-existing initiatives by embedding new and emerging technologies with the active involvement of all relevant players including youth, persons with disability Women, SMEs/start-ups, to ensure that no one is left behind.

#### Pillar 3: Empower entrepreneurial youth globally

Together we can push the boundaries of digitalization by positioning inclusive implementation, and meaningful impact at the heart of all programs and initiatives. The ITU Smart Incubator is a concrete step I took to empower entrepreneurial youth from the most remote areas to build their start-ups and solutions based on global standards by ITU-Tusing frontier technologies to contribute towards meeting the SDGs.