



ZIMBABWE'S INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY STATEMENT

**DELIVERED BY HON TATENDA
ANNASTACIA MAVETERA ON THE
OCCASION OF THE WORLD
TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE, HELD IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN
17-18 November 2025**

**Distinguished Chair, Fellow Ministers,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am privileged, to address you on behalf of the
Republic of Zimbabwe.

I thank ITU and Azerbaijan for convening this critical conference, as we charge ahead toward inclusive, resilient and futuristic connectivity. Today, I share with you, Zimbabwe's policy, progress and strategic priorities as part of the global ICT family.

Our vision is to be a digitally empowered, knowledge-based society, through universal access, innovation, and digital transformation. Our National ICT Policy, National Broadband Plan and the Smart Zimbabwe 2030 Masterplan, will result in universal access and connectivity, to ensure that no person and no place, is left behind in the digital transformation of our country.

Accordingly, we commit to providing a regulatory environment, where infrastructure services and skills, converge, to increase

economic growth and quality of life, to make Zimbabwe a middle-income state by 2030.

In this regard, Zimbabwe has achieved a lot, including:

- expanding digital infrastructure and services into rural and remote areas
Reaching a mobile penetration rate of 102%, an internet penetration rate of 81.8% and a broadband penetration rate of 79%
- reviewing our National ICT Policy and related frameworks to take into account emerging technologies and innovation.
- leveraging ICTs in agriculture e-government, education and health among others.

- ensuring sufficient connectivity to underpin service delivery and economic productivity.

Over the past five years, through the Universal Service fund, 1700 schools, 1219 health institutions, 52 institutions for persons with disabilities and 352 police sites were connected to the internet. Computers and smart devices were distributed to these institutions across the country.

Our focus is on closing the digital divide through:

- Extending high-speed broadband into rural and underserved areas.
- Embracing Emerging Technologies, including artificial intelligence,
- Consolidating a modern regulatory framework that addresses dominance,

consumer protection and regulatory certainty.

- Investing in digital skills, to support the economy
- strengthening cybersecurity.

We will continue to contribute to regional and global digital objectives, especially initiatives by ITU's Development Bureau and Africa's digital transformation agenda. In this regard, there is no better contribution, than to offer our Son Dr Cosmas Zavazava to the Union, for a second term, as Director BDT, to continue with the Great work that he has been doing and embark on even more impactful initiatives to further ICT development.

Excellencies, to fast track our collective progress, we emphasise the need for

- financial and technical partnerships to support infrastructure rollout,
- Capacity-building and technology transfer
- Collaborative regulation and
- Innovation

In closing, I reaffirm Zimbabwe's commitment to the principles and objectives of WTDC.

We will work with all Members of ITU and partners to progress our shared digital future.