KENYA

Candidate for the ITU Council in Region ‘D’

2027-2030

President of the Republic of Kenya William Ruto (then Deputy President) oficially opens the ITU Capacity Building Symposium held in Nairobi,Kenya 2016

Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communications and the Digital Economy of Kenya Hon. William Kabogo during the ITU Regional Development Forum (RDF) for Africa held in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2025

Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communications and the Digital Economy of Kenya, Hon. William Kabogo (left) engages Dr. Cosmas Zavazava, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) on the sidelines of the 2025 ITU RDF held in Nairobi, Kenya.

African Telecommunications Union Secretary General Mr. John Omo (second right) poses for a group photo with other dignitaries during the opening ceremony of the ITU RDF in Nairobi, Kenya in April 2025

Kenya: Candidate for ITU Council in Region ‘D’ 2027-2030

The Republic of Kenya has been a member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council since 1982.

Throughout the four decades, Kenya has been an active member of the Council and has served on various Council Working Groups and bodies within the three sectors of the Union and other key organs.

Kenya offers herself to continue serving on the ITU Council under Region D and therefore seeks the support of the Member States of the Union for her candidature, at elections to be held during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-26) scheduled from November 9th to 27th, 2026 in Doha, Qatar.

Kenya’s Devotion to ICT Development

Kenya has established a strong regional and global reputation in the field of ICTs, distinguished by a consistent commitment to creating and advancing ing herself as a reliable partner in creating digital transformation, fostering innovation among the youth, and promoting inclusive digital development for its citizens, and across the region. people and in the region.

ICT development in Kenya has evolved rapidly in recent years. Not only is Kenya now regarded as one of the tech-savvy countries in the African region, but it is also renowned for revolutionary innovations that have had a considerable impact on lives.

Kenya is recognized globally for innovation in mobile money services, whic have played a significant role in promoting digital financial inclusion in the country and in the region. Kenya’s focus is to improve ICT infrastructure, avail better connectivity to its population, and remain at the forefront of cutting-edge ICT innovations.

Kenya’s re-election to the Council will add considerable value and expertise to decision-making platforms on ICT matters on the global stage.

Kenya and the ITU

a)Leadership Roles and Involvement in Work of the Union:

Since the first election to the ITU Council in 1982, Kenya has relentlessly supported the ITU in its various programmes, acceding to several instruments in the advancement of ICTs.

Kenya remains an active participant in ITU meetings in all three sectors of the Union. In the 2022-2026 cycle, Kenya has:

a) Successfully co-led the intergovernmental process that defined the modalities for the WSIS+20 review at the United Nations General Assembly in 2025.

b) Advocated for strengthening ITU regional and area offices to enhance inclusivity and responsiveness to Member States.

c) Promoted equitable access to digital infrastructure and services and supports efforts to bridge the digital divide.

d) Contributed to global policy discussions on digital transformation, spectrum management and ICTs for resilience and disaster risk reduction.

Kenya has further provided leadership at the ITU in various capacities, including:

a) Vice Chair of the Council Working Group on the use of the six official languages.of the Union
b) Vice Chair of the Informal Group of Experts on World Telecommunicatoion Policy……Forum 2026(WTPF-26);
c) Chair of the Council Working Group on the use of the six official languages of the Union;
d) Vice-Chair for Africa at the ITU Council Working Group on Strategic and Financial……Plan (2021–2022);
e) Chair of the ITU Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) in 2021;
f) Member of the Radio Regulations Board (2011–2018);
g) Chair of the African Group at the Plenipotentiary Conference (2018)
h) Vice chair of the Radiocommunication Advisory Group(RAG)
i) Vice-chair ITU-R Study Group 1
j) Vice-chair ITU-R Study Group 1 Working Party 1C
k) Vice-chair ITU-R Study Group 6
l) Vice-chair ITU-T Study Group 2
m) Vice-chair ITU-T Study Group 5
n) Vice-chair ITU-T Study Group 11
o) Vice-chair ITU-T Study Group 12 Regional Group for Africa
p) Vice-chair ITU-T Study Group 21

B) Kenya-ITU Collaboration

Kenya has partnered with the ITU in numerous capacity-building initiatives: the ITU Africa Broadband Maps project (2025–2028),the Early arnings for All Initiative (2023–2027), Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) to support inclusive digital ecosystems and public service delivery and collaboration with ITU/UNICEF Giga Initiative to expand school connectivity and ensure access to digital learning opportunities.

The country has worked with the ITU in other areas, such as the development of a National Child Online Protection Strategy, National ICT-Centric Innovation Framework, capacity building of actors in the judicial sectors as well as collaboration in enhancing its capacity in the management of cybersecurity and the mitigation of cybercrime. The National KE-CIRT/CC is the national point of contact in ensuring that the Kenyan cyberspace is safe.

Kenya is also hosting the Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre, one of ITU's 17 Global Innovation Acceleration Centres.

C) Key ITU Meetings and Conferences

Over the years, Kenya has hosted several key ITU meetings over the years, as part of its obligations as an ITU member state and efforts to contribute to global ICT policy. These include:

a) ITU Regional Development Forum for Africa 2025
b) Regional Preparatory Meeting for Africa for the 2025 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25)
c) African Girls Can Code Initiative (AGCCI) Bootcamp 2025
d) ITU Capacity Building Symposium 2016
e) ITU Workshop on Fixed Mobile Convergence in 2016
f) Quality of Service Development Group in 2012
g) Study Group 5 and 12 Regional Groups for Africa in 2010
h) ITU Human Resource Development meetings in 2010
i) ITU Symposium on New Broadcasting Technologies for Africa
j) ITU Telecom Africa in 1983
k) The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 1982

Kenya’s Regional Engagement

Kenya has hosted a number of regional and international ICT organizations, a stamp of confi-dence in the country’s commitment to the development of ICTs.

Since 1999, Kenya has temporarily hosted the African Telecommunication Union (ATU), the African Union specialized agency for telecomunnications/ICTs Secretariat , pursuant to the mandate conferred at the time, and in view of the needed hosting conditions and obligations.

Kenya hosts the African Advanced Level Telecommunications Institute (AFRALTI), a regional intergovernmental institution in ICT capacity development. AFRALTI is one of the ITU Centres of Excellence in Africa.

As an active member of the East African Communications Organization (EACO), Kenya has championed progressive initiatives to deepen connectivity and regional integration in the area of ICTs, particularly the One Network Area (ONA) which seeks to harmonize calling rates in the region and cross-border frequency harmonization efforts.

Kenya is a regional hub and home to various regional and global ICT organizations, including the African Regional Engagement office for the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Microsoft and IBM’s 12th global research lab — the first industrial research facility in Africa.

It is also worthwhile to note that, in 2025, Kenya became among the first countries in the region to develop a National Artificial Intelligence Strategy, which seeks to leverage this new frontier for socio-economic development.

Development of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Services in Kenya

Kenya's ICT sector has experienced remarkable growth since its liberalization 26 years ago, positioning the country as one of Africa's leading digital economies and an attractive investment destination. Guided by the National ICT Policy and the National Digital Master Plan, Kenya is leveraging ICT to drive socio-economic development, digital government services, innovation, and employment creation.

The Government's Digital Superhighway agenda aims to expand digital infrastructure through 100,000 km of fibre optic cable, 1,450 ICT hubs, and 25,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots. Initiatives such as Konza Technopolis, local assembly of affordable smart devices, nationwide 5G deployment, and Low Earth Orbit (LEO) connectivity further strengthen Kenya's digital transformation

Through the Universal Service Fund (USF), broadband connectivity has been extended to underserved communities, enhancing access to education, healthcare, justice, agriculture, and digital broadcasting. Kenya has also strengthened its digital ecosystem through robust data protection laws, the establishment of a National Cyber Security Agency, implementation of a National Public Key Infrastructure (NPKI), and nationwide transition to IPv6.

Kenya has also set its eyes on new frontiers through aggressive roll out 5G technology, and lecensing of Low Earth Orbits to enhance access to connectivity.In ensuring a responsive policy and regulatory environment, Kenya is currently undertaking a comprehensive review of the ICT sector law and associated regulations.By reviewing its telecommunication market structure,Kenya has set its sights on having a robust ecosystem that cater for other emerging technologies and services.

By continuously modernizing its regulatory framework and actively participating in global ICT discussions, particularly through the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Kenya aims to remain Africa’s Silicon Savannah and a global leader in digital innovation and inclusive connectivity.

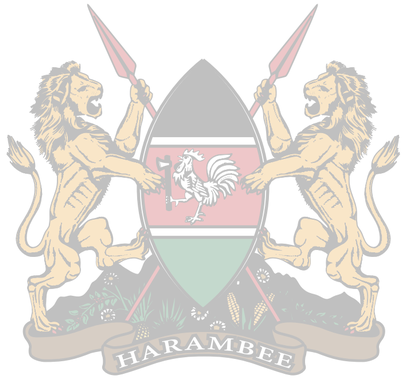
Kenya Ranked Top in ICT Regulation in Africa by the ITU

In the 2025 assessment by the ITU's ICT Regulatory Tracker, Kenya was ranked the leading country in ICT regulation in Africa, and 20th globally.

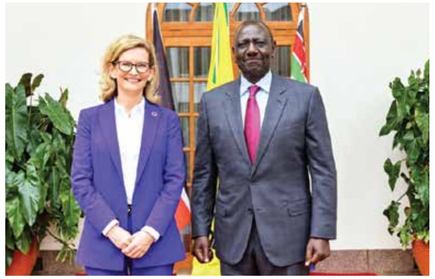
The ITU recognized Kenya's advanced fourth generation (G4) regulatory framework, which is inclusive, competitive and innovation-driven. The ranking reflects the strength of Kenya's policies and its commitment to enabling universal access, fair competition, and a technology-neutral regulatory environment.

This recognition reinforces Kenya's position as a regional leader in digital policy and innovation and underscores the value the country brings to decision-making platforms on ICT matters at the global level, including the ITU Council.

The Republic of Kenya will appreciate the valuable support of all ITU member states to its candidature to the ITU Council at elec-tions to be held during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-26) scheduled from November 9th to 27th, 2026 in Doha, Qatar

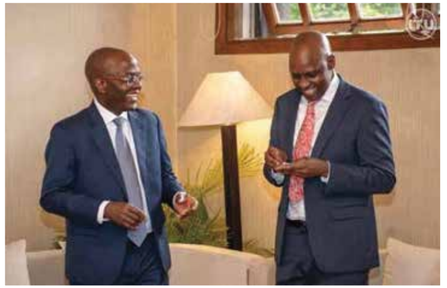


REPUBLIC OF KENYA



President William Samoei Ruto, PhD, CGH, with International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Secretary-General Doreen Bogdan-Martin during her official visit to Kenya.

Cosmas Zavazava, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau at ITU (left) and William Kabogo, Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Information, Communications, and the Digital Economy in Kenya during the ITU Regional Development Forum (RDF) for Africa held in Nairobi,Kenya



ITU Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) Dr. Cosmas Zavazava (left) and Communications Authority of Kenya Director General Mr. David Mugonyi during the 2025 ITU RDF held in Nairobi, Kenya.

From L-R ; Principal Secretary for ICT Eng. John Tanui, Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communications and the Digital Economy of Kenya Hon. William Kabogo, ITU Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) Dr. Cosmas Zavazava and Communications Authority of Kenya Director General Mr. David Mugonyi during the 2025 ITU RDF held in Nairobi, Kenya.

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