
PLENARY MEETING

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1 October 2018
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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 pleasure in transmitting to the Conference, in annex, the candidacy of:

Mr William IJEH (Nigeria (Federal Republic of))

for the post of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union.

Houlin ZHAO
Secretary-General

Annex: 1



Note No.: 236/2018

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and has the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to Mr Houlin Zhao, Secretary General of the ITU. The letter conveys the decision of the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria informing nominating Mr William Ijeh for election to the post of Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union at the elections scheduled for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai, UAE from 29th October to 16th November 2018.

Kindly note that copies of Mr William Ijeh's campaign brochures are attached to the said letter. Also attached is a USB, key containing the soft-copy of his profile.

The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) the assurances of its highest consideration.



Geneva, 28th September 2018

**International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Place des Nations
1211 Geneva 20
Switzerland**



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28th September, 2018

Mr. Houlin ZHAO,
Secretary-General,
International Telecommunication Union,
Place des Nations,
1211 GENEVA 20,
Switzerland.

CANDIDATURE OF MR. WILLIAM IJEH (NIGERIA) FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR, BDT OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION (ITU)

On behalf of the Federal Government of Nigeria, I write to inform you that, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria has approved the nomination of Mr. William Ijeh for presentation as Nigeria's candidate for the position of Director, BDT of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) of which the election is scheduled during the ITU 2018 Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirate from 29th October to 16th November 2018.

2. With his vast managerial, fiscal, administrative and technical experience in the ICT sector, his wide exposure in the public and private sectors, his understanding of the internal dynamics of the ITU and his international profile, the Government of Nigeria is confident that, the Member States of the Union will be well served by his election to the post of Director, BDT. Attached is the resume of Mr. William Ijeh in six (6) United Nations (UN) official languages.

3. Please accept the assurances of our best regards.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Y. N. Daudu'.

Engr. F. Y. N. Daudu
Director, Spectrum Management
Focal Point/Councilor to ITU
for: Honourable Minister

William IJEH

Nigeria's candidate for the post of Director,
Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)
of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

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VISION:

**Universal
broadband
connectivity
for sustainable
development**

“ The challenges ahead call for visionary leadership. Mr William Ijeh is qualified to provide that leadership for the BDT, securing enhanced operational capability based on rigorous fiscal responsibility, in partnership with ITU members. ”

As the global community enters a new era of sustainable development, Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) must be harnessed to connect all the world's people, wherever they live.

When the UN General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, the nations of the world entrusted the ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) with a crucial responsibility: to maximise the added value that ICTs can bring to sustainable development.

Today, ICTs provide the essential connectivity for every aspect of sustainable development: universal education, improved health outcomes, ending hunger, business growth, access to finance and markets, and promoting social inclusion and environmental sustainability.

Mr William Ijeh is committed to global ICT innovation and investment that is fully integrated with strategic planning for the Sustainable Development Goals. To achieve them, the BDT must be at the service of all the ITU's members and partners, with a governance framework of consultation, transparency and accountability, so that all can move forward together, and no country is left behind.

Central to this ambition will be fostering public-private partnerships to make affordable broadband services available to all people.

If you choose to elect him as Director, Mr Ijeh's record of fiscal responsibility, effective resource mobilization and co-operation with partners will reinforce the BDT's ability to meet these global challenges.

In his current position, Mr Ijeh has delivered innovation and enhanced operational capability within tight financial constraints, managing a budget reduction of more than 30% at the same time as increasing the ITU's core languages from three to six. His experience in banking and development finance gives Mr Ijeh a valuable understanding of how private sector partners assess infrastructure investment opportunities.

Under Mr Ijeh's leadership, the BDT will be:

- Re-positioned to serve efficiently as the global reliable leader and resource for telecommunications development, including on important issues such as broadband, universal service and access, big data and clean ICTs;
- Restructured to work in close collaboration with public and private sectors, creating inclusive development programmes that address the needs of all the world's people, especially under-served populations and the least-developed economies, island states and land-locked countries;
- Renewed in its role as provider of expert guidance for regulatory frameworks, ensuring that the transition to knowledge-based economies is supported by an enabling regulatory environment; and,
- Reformed to enhance consultation, transparency and accountability for members, supporting the ITU's established values of consensus-building among all stakeholders.

Mr Ijeh is personally committed to organising the BDT in a manner that makes it responsive to the demands of its membership, reinforcing the capabilities of Regional and Area offices with adequate human and financial resources.

Mission

Mr William Ijeh will implement a management and financial strategy that commits the BDT to making affordable, universal connectivity integral to sustainable development, focusing on the following priorities:

Integrating ICT innovation and investment into strategic planning for the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

- **Promoting broadband access for development:** a cross cutting tool for health, environmental sustainability, big data, green ICTs;
- **Promoting universal service and access:** advisory services to encourage the establishment and operation of Universal Service Funds by Member States;
- **Responsive regional presence:** reinforcing the ITU regional presence through the provision of adequate human and financial resources;

- **Efficient and effective resources management:** Sustained promotion of fiscal responsibility throughout the BDT's staff and operations;

- **Promoting the global cybersecurity agenda;**

- **Promoting gender equality in the field of ICTs:** Using ICTs for the empowerment of women, young people and other under-served populations;

- **Transparency and accountability:** Promotion of a transparent partnership between the BDT and ITU Members including Sector Members.

Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Promote consultation and partnerships for sustainable development at the highest level as follows:

- Strengthen co-operation with international and regional organizations, multilateral financial institutions and specialized ICT investment institutions, donors and other funding partners; Reinforce Public-Private Partnerships;
- Develop initiatives in collaboration with the membership to address their needs;
- Promote inclusive development activities, projects and programmes.



Professional Experience

ITU experience (1997 – present)

ITU-RADIOCOMMUNICATION BUREAU (2011 – PRESENT)

Head of Administration, Radiocommunication Bureau

- Leadership on operational affairs of the Bureau, including budget preparation and financial management, administration and strategy;
- Served as Secretary to the Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG) and as Secretary to the Finance Committees at World Radiocommunication Conferences and the Radiocommunication Assemblies;
- Advisor to the Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau on strategic, administrative and financial matters.

ITU-TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (2008-2011)

Head, Planning, Budget and Administrative Division of the Bureau

- Prepared and managed the budget for the BDT, including Regional and Area Offices;
- Managed the ITU Fellowships programme for developing country participants;
- Responsible for BDT projects financial management;
- Ensured efficient and effective financial management;
- Developed a strategic project evaluation mechanism for the Bureau;
- Coordinated activities between the BDT and other UN Agencies.

Profile

Mr Ijeh's combination of experience in both the development and finance sectors qualifies him to lead the BDT and work with countries putting in place investment strategies for sustainable development.

- Over 24 years' global experience in ICTs, budget management, human resource leadership, international co-operation and development finance;
- Strong record on fiscal responsibility within the ITU, managing a budget reduction of more than 30% while protecting innovation and improving operational capability;
- Restructured financial reporting to give donors transparency over the application of their funding;
- Widened consultation and partnership by increasing the number of participants in ITU meetings;
- Proven ability in the effective application of human and financial resources, and results-based management;
- In-depth knowledge of the ITU and its membership, built over 20 years in senior management roles;
- Direct experience in negotiations and collaboration with United Nations agencies, inter-governmental agencies, and development agencies, and practical working experience with Heads of State, Ministers and senior government officials;
- Coordinating delivery of international development projects for developing countries, including solar streetlights and South-South research collaboration;
- Organisation of the 2015 World Radio Conference, securing agreement on the Global Flight Tracking spectrum for the aviation industry following the tragic loss of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 with 239 people on board;
- Extensive experience in international banking where ICTs have a critical role in the transition to electronic platforms (e-finance, e-banking);
- Increased the number of ITU Fellowships from non-privileged countries.



ITU-GENERAL SECRETARIAT (1997-2008)

Administrator, Planning and Control

- Participated in the implementation of management changes and development of the systems currently used for operational efficiency;
- Designed the implementation plan for the use of the six official languages at the ITU;
- Secretary to the ITU 1st Strategic Planning Committee established to develop a strategic plan, including a results-oriented Operational Plan;
- Managed the team that developed a remote interpretation system for ITU with the objective of efficient use of resources and economies for the Union.

Other international experience

SUMMIT LEVEL GROUP OF 15 COUNTRIES (G-15), (GENEVA, 1995-1997)

Project Administrator

- Worked in reorganizing the project implementation strategies of the group based on South-South co-operation, transfer of technology, knowledge-sharing and experience;
- Managed project planning and implementation, such as solar streetlighting in Senegal and Egypt, and the ICT centre of the group in Kuala Lumpur;
- Developed fundraising strategies for earmarked projects in member countries;
- Organized the G15 Heads of States Summit in Harare, Zimbabwe in 1996;
- Organized Foreign Affairs ministerial meetings in New York, Kuala Lumpur and Harare;
- Coordinated regular meetings of membership Personal Representatives (Ambassadors).

INTERNATIONAL SAVINGS BANKS INSTITUTE (GENEVA, 1992-1994)

Marketing and Business Development Director

- Developed marketing strategies with the objective of repositioning the International Savings Banks Institute in developing countries;
- Coordinated two professional study groups for membership and stakeholders;
- Played a key role in the organization of the Savings Banks World Conference, Paris 1993;
- Managed a team on the development of a credit card system in collaboration with Telekurs and Euro-clear, adapted to national income levels in developing countries.

CHASE MANHATTAN BANK (GENEVA, 1986-1990)

Investment Officer

- Investment banking activities and multi-currency risk associated transactions;
- Managed funding activities for global projects, including a well-established network for project funding.

Main Educational Qualifications

- Masters in International Management (M.I.M), Université de Lausanne, Switzerland (1992)
- Bachelor of Arts (BA), Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri, USA (1986)
- Diploma, IATA-FIATA, International Airline Transport Association (1986)
- Diploma in Spectrum Auction (2013)
- Diploma in Broadcasting Engineering (1979)

Academic Recognition

1991 Entrepreneurship Award from Cranfield School of Management, UK

Voluntary Work

Adviser on ICT and strategy to ANDI-African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation which promotes research and production of affordable pharmaceuticals and diagnostic tools in Africa. The initiative is now providing affordable access to pharmaceutical products to over 300 million people in Africa Community development and a project to empower women in SMEs in Nigeria.

Personal Data

Date of birth: 16 June 1956
Citizenship: Nigerian
Marital Status: Married with 3 children
Languages: English, French, Ibo, Basic Spanish
Interests: Music, Football and Tennis.

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