

Website:

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[LinkedIn.com/in/cosmaszavazava](https://www.linkedin.com/in/cosmaszavazava)



@itubdtdirector

EDUCATION

QUALIFICATION

Doctorate (Multilateral Trade, Switzerland)

QUALIFICATION

Master of Laws in Telecommunications and Information Technology (United Kingdom, Scotland)

QUALIFICATION

Masters in International Relations – *summa cum laude* (United States of America, Missouri)

QUALIFICATION

Masters in Business Administration (Zimbabwe)

QUALIFICATION

Bachelor's degree

in Business Administration

QUALIFICATION

Dipl. Telecommunications and Systems Engineering

OTHER

An Academic who taught MBA Classes (UK) – Management Information Systems, Operational Research, Business Policy

ACHIEVEMENTS

Successful engagement with private sector and industry, resource mobilization, designing and implementing impactful telecommunications/ICT projects across the globe in infrastructure development, innovation, statistics, cybersecurity, emergency telecommunications, skills development, etc.

AWARDS

Academic Leadership Award (USA)
Global Connectivity Award (Paraguay)
ICT Excellence Award 2025 (Zimbabwe)



Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava

Candidate for Director Telecommunication Development Bureau

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

With nearly 40 years of experience in the telecommunications/information and communication technology sector, Cosmas Zavazava was elected Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau in 2022 and took office on 1 January 2023. Serving in this capacity, I worked to transform policy commitments into tangible projects that connect the unconnected and ensure technology serves as a tool for inclusive and sustainable global progress. Key achievements include driving innovation and entrepreneurship, recruiting and retaining Development Sector members from industry, private sector and academia, successful resource mobilization to augment allocated resources with extra-budgetary funding to finance impactful projects.

FOR EVEN MORE TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT



During the second term, I will build on the achievements gained over the past 4 years and focus on delivering even more impact on the ground by enhancing efficiency, accountability, in order to deliver transformative impact. I will continue to strengthen the BDT through continuous innovation, adaptation, and flexibility to meet Member States expectations towards universal, meaningful and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future for all. In this effort I will pay particular attention to the needs of developing countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states as mandated by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25).

WORK EXPERIENCE

DIRECTOR TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

International Telecommunication Union| Geneva | Jan 2023 - Present

Led the global effort to close the digital divide by implementing international cooperation programs to support digital growth in developing countries and successfully implemented outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference held in 2022.

CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT: PARTNERSHIPS FOR DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT

Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU | Geneva | 2019 – 2022

Responsible for ITU development projects, partnerships and Resource mobilization, and engagement with industry and private sector.

CHIEF OF DEPARTMENTS: PROJECTS AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND PROJECTS, REGIONAL INITIATIVES

Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU | Geneva| 2010 -2018

Responsible for development projects, capacity building, statistics, emergency telecommunications, climate change adaptation and mitigation, e-waste management, accessibility, addressing unique needs of least developed countries, landlocked developing states, and small island developing states, and economies in transition.

HEAD OF DIVISIONS: LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU | Geneva| 2002 -2010

Responsible for addressing the unique needs of LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS. Responsible for designing projects and deployment of satellite solutions in the immediate aftermath of disasters striking across the world, setting up early warning systems across the regions, and designing National Emergency Telecommunication Plans to ensure preparedness.

GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE

- Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe | Geneva| 1997 -2000
- Head, Government Telecommunications Agency, Zimbabwe | Harare| 1994 – 1997 Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Zimbabwe | Geneva| 1997 -2000
- Head, Telecom Projects under Public Sector Investment Projects, Zimbabwe | Harare| 1989– 1997
- Second Secretary, Zimbabwe Embassy to Japan | Tokyo| 1985 -1989
- Technical and Communications Officer, Dept of Civil Aviation | Harare| 1982– 1997 Minister

PROFESSIONAL ACCOLADES AS DIRECTOR OF BDT

Key Speaking Roles - United Nations Conferences

- 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) -March 2023 - Qatar
- 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States – (May, 2024 – Antigua and Barbuda)
- 3rd UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries – (August 2025 -Awaza, Turkmenistan)
- World Telecommunication Development Conference – (17 -28 November 2025 (Baku, Azerbaijan)

