



**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

**MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION  
TECHNOLOGY**

**STATEMENT BY HON. DR. PEYA MUSHELENGA,  
MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION  
TECHNOLOGY  
AT THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ORDINARY SESSION OF ATU CONFERENCE OF  
PLENIPOTENTIARIES  
25 – 26 JULY 2022**

**ALGIERS, ALGIERA**

**25 JULY 2022**

- **H.E. Mr BIBI TRIKI KARIM, MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA,**
- **MR. JOHN OMO SECRETARY GENERAL OF ATU,**
- **HON. MINISTERS PRESENT AND EXCELLENCY AMBASSADORS PRESENT,**
- **HEADS OF DELEGATIONS,**
- **DISTRINGUISHED DELEGATES,**

Allow me firstly to thank the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, for the warmest hospitality extended to me and my delegation, since our arrival.

As Member States of the African Telecommunications Union(ATU), we are required to work collaboratively towards the growth and economic development of our continent, through the transformation of the ICT sector. We can achieve this by rapidly improving access to and implementation of the latest technologies to ensure the provision of quality, affordable and universal ICT services and products.

The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic (over the past two and half years) has highlighted the importance of the ICT sector as an enabler of socio-economic development. In most countries, the entire pandemic response plans were aided by the utilization of ICTs. This meant that we could continue to provide much needed services, where physical contact was not possible. Equally, the pandemic also laid bare the extent of the digital gap, especially on the African continent and I thus encourage countries to heighten the provision of

universal services to ensure that the unserved and underserved communities are connected.

Distinguished delegates, allow me also to commend ATU for successfully implementing its activities during the last four years, especially in the midst of uncertainty, through international participation, knowledge and capacity building and the implementation of the ATU strategic objectives for the benefit of all its members.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Namibia, I am pleased to reaffirm our commitment towards ATU, as we herewith increase our country contributory units. We do this in recognition of the importance of the work and impact of ATU, for the attainment of our objectives as a continent.

Distinguished delegates, I wish you all fruitful and active deliberations as we unpack issues through a united front and in the best interest of our citizens.

**I THANK YOU!**