

**PRESS RELEASE ON THE SIGNING OF THE MoU BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC RWANDA ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES AND E-GOVERNANCE**

The Government of Republic of Zambia and the Government of the Republic of Rwanda have signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the field of Information and communication technologies and e-government.

This follows the visit to Rwanda by His Excellency, Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu, the President of the Republic of Zambia in February 2018 where Government officials from both countries met during the Joint Permanent Commission and discussed Political, Economic and Social sectors as potential areas of cooperation. In this regard, during the Economic sector discussion, it was noted that there was need to encourage and promote cooperation in the fields of Information and Communication Technologies and e-Government for the purposes of social and economic development as well as efficient delivery of services to citizens of both countries. To advance this cooperation, Zambia was requested to initiate the process of drafting the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU was drafted and submitted through diplomatic channels to both Rwanda and Zambia.

Dr. Martine G. Mtonga, Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet in charge of e-Government of the Republic of Zambia and Mr. Gordon Kalema, Director General in charge of National Digital Transformation, at Ministry of ICT and Innovation of the Republic of Rwanda signed on behalf of their respective governments on the sidelines of the Transform Africa Summit 2019 currently being held in Kigali Rwanda. The signing ceremony was witnessed by Mr. George Mbasela, Director ICT Infrastructure Management, Mr. Leonard Sakala, Director Quality Assurance and Ms. Anatole Gahongayire, Division Manager Public Key Infrastructure of the Rwanda Information Society Authority.

The MOU aims at encouraging and promoting cooperation between the two governments in the field of ICTs and eGovernment in the areas of Broadband network infrastructure, Innovation,

capacity building, smart technologies, digital ID, Research and Development, electronic services, cyber security, standards development, software development, ICT and eGovernment governance models, project management and Data Center Management.

The MoU also aims at encouraging closer working relationships between technical institutions, government, regulatory, business, research, education and other organizations in ICTs and eGovernment administration.

Issued by Ms. Chunga MANZI, Executive Assistant  
SMART Zambia Institute,  
Kigali, Rwanda  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2019