



Henry CHASIA

**Executive Deputy Chairperson,
NEPAD e-Africa Commission**

Former Director, INMARSAT Ventures plc

**Former Deputy Secretary-General,
International Telecommunication Union**

Dr Chasia is Executive Deputy Chairperson, e-Africa Commission. This Commission, whose secretariat is based at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria, South Africa, is the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Team of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The e-Africa Commission is the principal advisory body of the Heads of State and Government (HSIC) on ICT matters and is responsible for the development and implementation of the NEPAD ICT programme.

In this position, Dr. Chasia is the executive head of the Commission with responsibility for the establishment and development of the Commission, building the NEPAD ICT partnership, initiating and managing a wide range of NEPAD ICT programmes and projects across the African continent. These projects include the construction of a submarine cable along the Africa coastline and the NEPAD e-Schools Initiative, which are flagship projects of the African Union.

Dr. Chasia holds several regional and international responsibilities, a summary of which follows:

Member of Presidential International Advisory Council on Information Society and Development (PIAC on ISAD) announced by President Mbeki in his State of the Nation Address of February 2001. This body, made up of eminent international personalities and CEO's of major global ICT companies advise the President on the use of information and communication technology to accelerate the

South Africa's development agenda as well as that of the African continent in the context of NEPAD.

Director, between April 1999 and 2003, of INMARSAT Ventures plc. Following the sale of the company in December 2003, Dr Chasia has continued to serve on a Board Committee, responsible for overseeing the public service commitments of the new company, Inmarsat Holdings Ltd. This London-based company provides mobile voice and data communications via satellite to ships, aircraft and land-based terminals.

Member until 2001 of the African Advisory Group on ICTs (AAG-ICT) established by Dr. Ivy Matsepe-Casaburri, Minister of Communications of South Africa and Chairperson of the Ministerial Oversight Committee (MOC) of the African Telecommunications Union (ATU). MOC has made several important proposals for the telecommunications sector in Africa which the Minister, acted on, including the establishment of the e-Africa Commission.

Member of the Board of Advisors of MANSAT, an Isle of Man (U.K) space corporation.

Dr Chasia is a former Deputy Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations specialised agency for telecommunications based in Geneva Switzerland. He was elected to this position, in 1994 and served during the period 1995-1999.

Employed at the International Satellite Organisation (INTELSAT), between (1974-1994) Dr Chasia served in a variety of senior managerial capacities. INTELSAT, in the first and largest provider of global communication services by satellite.

He served in the East African Posts and Telecommunication Corporation (EAP&T), between 1964-1974. EAP&T operated a common telecommunication network in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda as part of the East African Community

Dr Chasia is a member of the Institution of Electronic and Electrical Engineers (USA) and an Academician of the International Telecommunication Academy (Russia).

Dr. Chasia was educated at the Alliance High School, Kikuyu, Kenya (1955-58), Makerere University College, Kampala, Uganda (1959-64) and the Imperial College of Science and Technology of the University of London (1969-74). He was awarded the B.Sc. degree in mathematics and physics in 1964 and the Ph.D. in electrical engineering in 1974, both degrees of the University of London. He was also awarded the Diploma of the Imperial College (D.I.C) in telecommunications in 1974.

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