



Martha Lungu Mwitumwa (Mrs.) is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations Office and Other International Organisations in Geneva and Vienna. Ms. Mwitumwa has over 30 years of service in government serving in various capacities. She has a lifelong passion in education, gender development and the empowerment of the vulnerable in society.

Ms. Mwitumwa took up her posting as Ambassador and Permanent Representative in May 2019, and has been actively engaging in the Permanent Mission's work with the United Nations and international organisations in Geneva and Vienna. These include organisations such as the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the Human Rights Council, the World Trade Organisation, the World Health Organisation, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Office, the International Telecommunications Union, the International Organisation for Migration, the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Ms. Mwitumwa served as chair of the Geneva Chapter of the Group of 77 and China in 2020 and played a crucial role coordinating the Group's preparations for UNCTAD XV during the time when the world was facing the Covid-19 pandemic. She coordinated negotiations which culminated in the development of the G77 and China's consolidated position for UNCTAD XV. She also represented the Group's interests in the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD. Before taking up this bigger role, Ms. Mwitumwa briefly served as chair and coordinator of the Africa Group on UNCTAD matters.

Ms. Mwitumwa also currently serves as chair of the Group of Friends of Industry and Innovation in Geneva. This is a group comprising likeminded Ambassadors from both developed and developing countries who are committed to promoting UNIDO's inclusive and sustainable industrial development mandate as a means towards achieving SDG 9 and other related goals.

Prior to taking up her appointment in Geneva, Ms. Mwitumwa served as the Director for State Functions, Protocol and Public Relations at Cabinet Office, a position she held from early 2017 up to the time of her posting into diplomatic service. Before then, she served as Director for Gender in Development at the Ministry of Gender between the period 2012 and 2017. Between 2009 and 2012, Ms. Mwitumwa worked as a District Administrative Officer in a number of districts in Zambia, and rose to the position of District Commissioner. She also has a long career in teaching and worked extensively with children and young adults.

Ms. Mwitumwa has a Masters degree in Gender Studies from the University of Zambia and a Bachelor of Arts Degree, with a double major in English language and Religious Studies, from the same University. Born on 31 December 1966, Ms. Martha Lungu Mwitumwa is married with three children.