

BIOSKETCH

Professor Z. M. Nyiira
Regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa

Professor Zerubabel M. Nyiira is a member of the Interim Steering Committee of NEPAD's Biosciences Initiative for East and Central Africa, Uganda's Millennium Science Initiative Programme Coordinator, and Chairman of the Committee on Technology, Physical Planning, Infrastructure and Industry of the National Planning Authority. He was nominated by the Government of Uganda to serve as NEPAD's national focal point and appointed NEPAD's Regional Coordinator for the Eastern African region. He served in several international positions before assuming his present position of Executive Secretary and Chief Executive Officer of the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST). He was Senior Principal Research Scientist/Research Administrator and Head, International Cooperation and Training Programme at the International Centre of Insect Physiology (ICIPE), Regional Director of the Agrotechnology Resource Centre (ARC) and Senior Research Fellow at the International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR). Prior to these appointments, he served as Chief Agricultural Research Officer and Director of Research in Uganda's Ministry of Agriculture. He taught entomology and crop protection and supervised more than 10 M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees at Makerere University, Kampala and, while at ISNAR, in The Hague, lectured science policy at the International Agricultural Centre, University of Wageningen.

In 2000, he was elected concurrently as Chairman of the UN-ECA Committee on Natural Resources, Science and Technology, and Chairman of the Joint Council of Science and Technology in East Africa, the forum that preceded and culminated into the current East African Science and Technology Council of the East African Community. He served as expert on several panels of the United Nations Science and Technology Commission and carried out consultancies for the World Bank on indigenous knowledge and technologies, agricultural research policy for the United Nations Food and Agriculture, assessment of research resource capacity in R&D institutions in eastern and southern Africa for International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and development of an integrated pest management programme for UNDP and the Government of Uganda.

Professor Nyiira is a Fulbright Scholar and Pearson Fellow. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Science and Technology, Member of the Royal Society of Health and Fellow of the Uganda National Academy of Sciences. He has a Ph.D. in bioecology and biostatistics, a M.Sc. in agricultural entomology and statistics and B.Sc.(Hons)(Special) in biological sciences, and professional diplomas in science laboratory technology, electronics, and medical laboratory technology. His postgraduate training was in research management and administration. He serves on several Boards including the Economic Policy Research Centre and the Centre for Policy and Strategic Studies, and has over 80 scientific publications in national, regional and international reputable journals to his credit.

Contact details:

Professor Z. M. Nyiira
Regional Coordinator for Eastern Africa
P.O.Box 28840
Kampala, Uganda

Phone: 256-41-345299 and 256-41-250499
Fax: 256-41-345299 or 256-41-234579
Email: nfrd@utlonline.co.ug and uncst@starcom.co.ug