



Airtel Zambia
("Airtel Zambia", or the "Company")

AIRTEL ZAMBIA LAUNCHES 5G NETWORK

Lusaka, July 26th, 2023: Airtel Networks Zambia Plc, the leading telecommunications and mobile money services provider, is thrilled to announce the launch of its highly anticipated Airtel 5G network.

Speaking at the launch held at Intercontinental Hotel last evening, **Airtel Africa, Regional Director, Mr. Apoorva Mehrotra** emphasized the company's dedication to enabling seamless connectivity by unveiling the cutting-edge 5G network.

"Today marks a significant milestone as we proudly introduce our 5G network, a state-of-the-art infrastructure that provides data speeds up to 10 times faster than 4G, incredibly low latency, and the ability to seamlessly connect billions of devices. Airtel 5G will revolutionize various sectors, such as smart cities, education, healthcare, Agri-tech, transport systems, entertainment, and more, shaping the future of Zambia's landscape. We are deeply privileged to also have the opportunity to contribute to the realization of Government's vision for the private sector to invest, innovate and thereafter provide incentives to the customers." Mehrotra said.

Minister of Technology and Science, **Hon. Felix Mutati** who was Guest of Honour said he was happy to be witnessing the 5g technology launch as it was important for the country and the economy.

"The roll out of this technology is in line with our desire to move on the path of an efficient digital economy as a country. This development brought to us by Airtel has indeed brought better digital experience to Zambia as I know that they will continue to invest and improve customer experience," Hon Mutati said.

Adding: "I am happy to see Airtel continuously developing technologies by riding on my 3 'I' ambition; namely; innovation, investment and incentives for the industry. Not so long ago, I launched the Airtel Money-Umoyo funeral cover policy and the Airtel HD (high definition) calls service last month. I want to commend you for the bold and brave investment you have made to enable Zambians to be as equipped as they can be for a future full of fortunes."

At the launch, the Honourable Minister was able to 'interview' himself through the use of the hologram technology which is a three-dimensional projection which can be seen without using any special equipment such as cameras or glasses.

The 5G network rollout is part of Airtel Zambia's comprehensive infrastructure growth plan, which aims to enhance seamless connectivity for all its products to support Zambia's 8th National Development Plan regarding digital innovation and inclusivity.



Zambia Information Communication Technology Authority (ZICTA) Director General, **Mr. Choolwe Nalubamba**, said he was happy to see that Airtel had continued to move with the technological evolution urging the Company not to relent in the journey of innovation.

“As regulator of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the country, issues of technology innovation and ICT development are at the heart of ZICTA’S core mandate, as we seek to ensure that the ICT sector continues to spur a digital revolution for the economic development of Zambia,” Mr. Nalubamba said.

Minister of Information and Media, **Hon. Chushi Kasanda** who also was in attendance said: “Over the years, Airtel has not only grown in scale but has also built capacity in countless individuals, empowering them with skills to perform at their best. Further, the work environment fostered by Airtel and its core values have played a pivotal role as a turning ground in shaping the careers and lives of many people across our great nation.”

And commenting about the launch, **Airtel Managing Director Mr. Manu Sood** said: “Our 5G launch positions Airtel at the forefront of a technological revolution that exemplifies our dedication to progress, innovation, and empowering our people. The benefits that will transform businesses and industries will create opportunities to further unlock Zambia’s potential. Together, we are building a future where connectivity knows no bounds, innovation knows no limits, and Zambia stands tall as a digital powerhouse.”

With Airtel’s 5G network, customers can now enjoy ultra-fast real-time connectivity for activities like multiplayer online gaming, live streaming, content uploads and downloads, as well as ultra-reliable wireless home internet. Moreover, businesses that rely heavily on data for web-based applications and virtual meetings will experience greater connectivity.

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About Airtel Africa

Airtel Africa is a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile money services, with a presence in 14 countries in Africa, primarily in East Africa and Central and West Africa.

Airtel Africa offers an integrated suite of telecommunications solutions to its subscribers, including mobile voice and data services as well as mobile money services both nationally and internationally. The Group aims to continue providing a simple and intuitive customer experience through streamlined customer journeys.

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