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**CANDIDATE INFORMATION FOR  
SEAT FIVE: SOUTHERN AFRICA**

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*The candidate information below has been limited to 1500 characters (brief motivation) and 3000 characters (professional background) respectively, as prescribed by the 2025 [Nomination Form](#). Only the information submitted within the above character limits has been published.*

*The nationality and country of residence of each candidate has also been published.*

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**Carla Sanderson**

Nationality: South African

Country of residence: South Africa



Brief Motivation

Carla Sanderson is a seasoned marketing and strategic communications executive with over 25 years of leadership experience across Africa's digital infrastructure, telecommunications, and technology sectors. She is standing as a candidate for the AFRINIC Board of Directors, bringing extensive experience in ecosystem building, multi-stakeholder engagement, and regional Internet development.

Carla currently serves as Head of Marketing at Teraco – A Digital Realty Company, where she is a member of the executive committee and plays a pivotal role in shaping the brand and strategic vision of Africa's most interconnected and vendor-neutral data centre platform. In this role, she also leads the marketing and community building initiatives for NAPAfrica—a non-profit subsidiary of Teraco and the largest Internet Exchange Point (IXP) on the African continent.

NAPAfrica operates from Teraco facilities in Cape Town, Durban, and Johannesburg, and its mission is to make Internet access more affordable and accessible in Africa. It provides cost-free access to infrastructure, charging no membership, port, or cross connect fees, and offers



a neutral, high-performance platform for traffic exchange between enterprises, carriers, cloud providers, content delivery networks (CDNs), and Internet service providers (ISPs). By localising traffic and improving routing efficiency, NAPAfrica plays a critical role in ensuring that African Internet traffic stays within Africa. Under Carla's leadership, the brand has grown into a symbol of community collaboration and Internet empowerment.

In addition, Carla served as a member of the Open-IX Association, where she contributed to international efforts in establishing neutral Internet exchange.

### Professional Background

Carla Sanderson is a seasoned marketing executive with over 25 years of experience driving strategic marketing, brand development, and communications across the technology and digital infrastructure landscape in Africa. Since 2010, she has served as Head of Marketing at Teraco – A Digital Realty Company and the NAPAfrica Internet eXchange Point, where she leads the full marketing function and serves on the executive team.

Carla has played a central role in Teraco's growth from a regional player to a pan African leader in carrier-neutral data centres, shaping its brand and thought leadership in a rapidly evolving telecommunications ecosystem.

Earlier in her career, Carla held senior marketing roles at TransUnion Africa, EOH, and Wonderware Southern Africa, building a deep foundation in IT services, automation, and enterprise solutions. She is known for her ability to balance strategic vision with hands-on execution, as well as her collaborative leadership style.

Carla holds several Marketing qualifications from the IMM Graduate School, as well as executive education from SDA Bocconi in Milan and Pragmatic Marketing in the US. She is a Certified SEO Professional and a passionate advocate for ethical digital marketing and industry education.

## **Mokgabudi Lucky Masilela**

Nationality: South African

Country of residence: South Africa



### Brief Motivation

I, Mokgabudi Lucky Masilela, am excited to express my candidacy for the Board of Afrinic. My previous service on this board has equipped me with valuable experience that I believe positions me as a strong candidate. Although I did not complete my full term due to challenges faced at one of our AGMs, the insights I gained during my tenure have only deepened my commitment to Afrinic's mission.

As a scientist, I possess a solid foundation in logical thinking and have successfully implemented solutions-driven programs grounded in empirical evidence. My career trajectory has spanned various levels, from technical management to corporate leadership and executive roles. This diverse experience has enriched my understanding of human dynamics and equipped me with the skills necessary to address complex challenges effectively.

My extensive travel and interactions with diverse individuals around the globe have further broadened my perspective. I have built a robust network of decision-makers and influencers across various sectors, which I believe will be invaluable in strengthening Afrinic's position within the community. This network, coupled with my ability to engage with stakeholders at different levels, will enable me to contribute meaningfully to the organization.

Additionally, my familiarity with Mauritian company laws—gained through my role as CEO of a company incorporated in Mauritius—has enhanced my understanding of corporate governance. This knowledge will be beneficial in navigating the regulatory landscape and ensuring compliance within Afrinic.

I also believe that my maturity and life experience will bring a balanced and thoughtful approach to the board's operations.

### Professional Background

With a solid educational foundation in Physics and Electronics Engineering from Hampton University, I have built a diverse career spanning over three decades in the telecommunications and technology sectors. My journey began as an Engineering Technician, where I honed my analytical skills through rigorous testing and troubleshooting of transducers.



At Siemens Telecommunications, I played a pivotal role as a Technical Officer during the GSM rollout in South Africa, gaining exposure to cutting-edge technologies.

My career progression through various managerial positions has equipped me with extensive experience in people management, corporate governance, and service delivery. Currently, as a Chief Executive Officer, I focus on strategic development, risk management, and stakeholder engagement, leading organizations towards growth and operational excellence.

## Work Experience

### Transducer Technologies

1989 – 1993

#### Engineering Technician

Conducted testing and troubleshooting of transducer modules, ensuring quality support for production lines.

### Siemens Telecommunications

1994 – 2011

#### Technical Officer (1994 – 1996)

Supported the Vodacom GSM network rollout and contributed to the development of community phone concepts (SIGI-Phone).

Project managed preparations for GSM network implementations in Uganda and Tanzania.

#### Divisional Manager; BEE (1997 – 1999)

Led the implementation of the BEE program, focusing on recruitment, training, and development of subcontractors.

#### Divisional Manager; Export Services (1999 – 2001)

Managed the Industrial Participation Programme, facilitating international export of products, services, and personnel.

#### Business Development Manager (2001 – 2003)

Developed business models for under-served area licenses and identified growth opportunities.

#### Director: Training Institute (2003 – 2005)

Focused on ICT training and revitalizing the institute's profitability.

#### Head of Government Relations (2005 – 2007)

Managed stakeholder relations and provided strategic guidance to ensure compliance with government policies.

#### Head of Corporate Affairs for Southern Africa (2008 – 2011)

Supported business units in acquiring new ventures and provided corporate support to enhance operational success.

### Makoro Investments 2011 – Present

#### Director

Lead consulting services and feasibility studies for establishing an electronics hub in KwaZulu-Natal.

### ZA Central Registry (ZACR)

2014 – Present

#### Chief Executive Officer

Provide strategic direction and manage stakeholder relations to drive company growth.



Registry.Africa (RA)

2017 – Present

Chief Executive Officer

Oversee strategic initiatives and stakeholder management, reporting subsidiary performance to shareholders.

ZA Registry Consortium (ZARC)

2022 – Present

Co-Chief Executive Officer

Lead the establishment of a consortium for managing South Africa's second-level domain names.

#### Education

Senior Management Programme - UNISA SBL, 2000

BSc in Applied Physics and Electronics Engineering - Hampton University, 1989

Leaving Certificate in Telecommunications - Dar Tech, 1983

#### Skills

Technical Skills:

GSM Basics and Intermediary

Telecommunications

MS Office

Domain Name Systems

Marketing Techniques

Soft Skills:

Leadership

Communication

Work Ethic and Professionalism

Problem-solving Collaboration and Teamwork

Languages:

English

Zulu

Ndebele

Xhosa

Basic Kiswahili

## **Paul Wollner**

Nationality: South African

Country of residence: South Africa



### Brief Motivation

Paul Wollner is a visionary technology leader with an entrepreneurial spirit, driven by a relentless passion for building innovative, scalable, and resilient digital infrastructure. With over 28 years of experience in the ISP and cloud computing sectors, he thrives on transforming technical challenges into business opportunities, consistently delivering solutions that drive revenue growth and operational excellence. His ability to pioneer groundbreaking products from custom cloud services to automated billing systems reflects his commitment to pushing technological boundaries while maintaining a customer-centric approach. Paul is motivated by the opportunity to leverage his extensive expertise in network engineering, team leadership, and strategic business development to empower SMEs and large enterprises alike. His track record of building profitable ventures from the ground up, combined with his hands-on technical prowess, positions him as a catalyst for digital transformation in Africa's evolving tech landscape.

### Professional Background

Paul Wollner is a seasoned Chief Executive Officer and Chief Technical Officer with a distinguished career spanning nearly three decades in the internet services and cloud computing industries. As the CEO of Africa on Cloud (Pty) Ltd, he spearheaded the company's growth from a startup to a profitable entity within three years, achieving 100% year-on-year revenue growth through organic client acquisition and the development of scalable cloud solutions tailored for SMEs. Under his leadership, the company established a robust network across multiple South African data centers and a global footprint, offering alternatives to AWS and Azure with a focus on affordability and reliability.

Previously, as CTO of SEACOM (formerly MacroLan), Paul engineered transformative innovations that generated 90% of annual gross revenue, including a custom SMS gateway, automated billing systems, and a Tier 1 ISP infrastructure with zero unscheduled downtime. In 2016, his technical ingenuity shined through projects like a bespoke VoIP solution that



reduced client costs by 40% and a dynamic ONS tool that secured long-term customer retention. Paul's early career included roles at MWEB, IOL, and Siemens, where he honed his skills in programming, network design, and systems administration.