

Chef de Cabinet

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Mr Morgan Karinge Githinji is a Senior Trade Diplomat having served his country as a Commercial Attaché in Harare (1983 – 1988) and Brussels (1992 -1994) and subsequently as Commercial Counsellor in Geneva (1994 – 1999). In Geneva, Mr Githinji was the Alternate Kenya's Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization and UNIDO up to October 1999. After his stint in Geneva and holding the position of an Assistant Director of Trade in Kenya's Ministry of Commerce and Industry, he was released to serve the Secretariat of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States in Brussels initially through a consultancy assignment from the Commonwealth Secretariat. In that capacity, he was immersed in the negotiations of the economic and trade cooperation chapter of the ACP-European Union Cotonou Partnership Agreement, providing technical inputs in the entire process until completion and signing on 23 June 2000. Prior to his appointment as chief of Cabinet, he was a key pillar for the Group as the Expert on Multilateral Trade Issues..

Mr Githinji has many years of experience in trade and investment policy formulation, promotion and development as well as regional integration. He has served the ACP Group diligently in an advisory capacity to ACP delegates including Ministers, Ambassadors and Members of Parliament in articulating ACP positions and defending ACP's interests on relations with the European Union. He is an ardent proponent of enhancing intra-ACP trade and economic cooperation. Mr Githinji has been the lead convenor and organizer of meetings of ACP Ministers of Trade and Joint ACP-EU Ministerial Trade Committee as well as past meetings of the ACP Inter-Regional Organizations Coordinating Committee (IROCC).

Mr Githinji coordinated all aspects of the work of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) under the leadership of former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, leading to the publication of the report "ACP – A new vision for our future: A 21st Century African, Caribbean and Pacific Group –delivering for its peoples" March 2016. The report was presented to and accepted by the ACP Heads of State and Government at their 8th Summit in Fiji on 1 June 2016.

In the area of trade related capacity building, Mr Githinji has designed and provided oversight and leadership in the management and implementation of five major programmes, namely Trade.Com I (EUR 66 million); Support to EPAs (EUR 24 m); ACP's Participation in the WTO (EUR 12 m); Integration into the multilateral trading system MTS (EUR 19.2m); Trade.Com II (EUR 39.8m) and Hub and Spokes I, II and Consolidation phases (EUR 44.7m) all totaling EUR 186.5 million

He has been a key resource person in the Secretariat for the academia - for Masters and PhD candidates and Post-Doc researchers as well as to non-state actors on ACP-EU relations particularly in the areas of trade, regional integration and economic development.

Education:

Masters Business Administration (Geneva), Bachelor of Commerce (BCom Hons) (Nairobi). Other areas of training – Post Graduate Studies in International Politics (Brussels); Programme management (Financial and contractual procedures, programme estimates for decentralised operations of European Development Fund (EDF) (EC Brussels); Course on WTO Dispute Settlement Procedures and Practices (WTO Geneva); Training on "How to Chair meetings" – (UNITAR Geneva); Course on Export Promotion and Marketing (CBI Rotterdam)