

Victoria Falls Tourism and Hospitality Industry minister Walter Mzembi was elected Africa Travel Association (ATA) president at its 37th congress May 2012. He will lead the organization for the next two years.

I am very pleased and honored to continue as ATA President till we hold our 2014 World Congress, which I am happy will be held in Uganda. It is only correct that the hosting, as well as the Presidency, of this valuable organ for the growth of African tourism, rotate among all the regions of Africa.

I am encouraged that, following the hosting of the Congress in West and Southern Africa, we are now moving to East Africa.

The basing of the ATA Headquarters in New York remains very strategic as not only is the United States a leading tourism source market for Africa, New York City itself is a commercial, financial and political hub for the entire globe.

I am very enthused by the strengthening of functional partnership between ATA, New York University-Africa House, the AU Mission and now also with the Africa Development and even the US State Department. This is definitely a winning team for African tourism.

Congratulations to all involved in putting together the Africa Tourism Monitor, a must read for all interested in growing the African tourism sector.

I would like to urge all of us to pay up our membership dues and encourage more African countries to join ATA as Government members.

Thank you.

Hon Engineer Walter Mzembi (MP)
Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry
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