



COPA – Steering Committee Election Information: Country Sector Member Group

June 2025, mandate period 2025-2027

COPA STEERING COMMITTEE – ELECTION INFORMATION

In accordance with the [Governance Statues](#) from COPA, the following rules apply for the election:

- ✓ Candidates are elected for a mandate period of two years. The current election is for the Mandate Period: June 2025 to June 2027
- ✓ Each COPA member can cast 1 (one) vote only, please coordinate internally
- ✓ COPA Members can *only* vote on representatives in their *own Member Category*:
 - This file contains information about the 4 Candidates from the Country member group
- ✓ [Tasks and responsibilities of the Steering Committee \(SC\)](#) are described in a pdf-file. (click link)
- ✓ The elected Steering Committee will be announced at the COPA Plenary Session on July 2nd, 2025.
- ✓ If you need further information about the election, kindly contact the COPA Secretariat via mail: contact@copalliance.org or consult the [COPA Website](#).

IGOBE GOBSIE MBULAWA

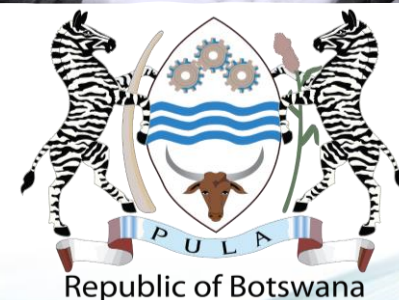
Steering Committee Candidate – Country: BOTSWANA

I am a project coordinator, climate governance and environmental protection specialist with over 10 years' experience implementing the Montreal Protocol in Botswana. I currently serve in the Climate Change and Ozone Unit under the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, leading national projects on ozone layer protection and most recently, Kigali Amendment implementation. I also have experience in working with various UN implementing agencies under Montreal protocol and climate projects. My academic background includes Meteorology and Climate, Environmental Law, and Project Management, complemented by a recent Sustainability and Climate Risk (SCR) certification from GARP

BOTSWANA : The Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) of Botswana is responsible for coordinating environmental conservation, sustainable tourism development, and climate change policy implementation. As the national focal point for several environmental agreements, including the Montreal Protocol, MET leads Botswana's efforts toward protecting the ozone layer, mitigating climate change, and promoting sustainable development in line with national and international commitments. .

My top 3 priority for the COPA SC work:

1. Climate- and Ozone- friendly technology access for developing countries
2. Improved gender mainstreaming in Montreal protocol projects
3. Capacity building and institutional strengthening for improved cooperation between Ozone units, climate change units and Energy departments



LESLIE SMITH

Steering Committee Candidate – Country: GRENADA

Leslie Smith is Grenada's National Ozone Officer and Head of the National Ozone Unit (NOU), a position he has held since 2003. With over two decades of experience, he is a leading advocate for green cooling and the promotion of natural refrigerants across the Caribbean region. Smith has played a central role in implementing the Montreal Protocol and advancing sustainable cooling technologies in Grenada.

He was instrumental in establishing the Caribbean's first Refrigerant Recycling and Reclamation Centre and led the relaunch of Grenada's natural refrigerant labeling program, aimed at promoting energy-efficient, climate-friendly cooling appliances. Internationally, he co-chaired the negotiations that led to the Kigali Amendment in 2016 and served as Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund in 2015. Smith continues to champion initiatives that support the transition to low-global-warming-potential technologies and a sustainable refrigerant future.



GRENADA

My top 3 priority for the COPA SC work:

1. Support and establishment of recovery and reclamation centers
2. Capacity development and knowledge transfer
3. Education and awareness raising activities on LRM



MATHATELA NTSATSI

Steering Committee Candidate – Country: LESHOTO

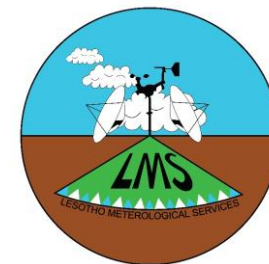
Mathatela Ntsatsi is the National Ozone Officer working under the Ministry of Environment on Ozone Layer Protection and the Clean Development Mechanism. He has a Master of Science in Sustainable Energy, a Master of Financial Management, and a Bachelor of Science in Statistics and Mathematics. He presently serves as vice chair and a member of the Multilateral Fund. He has been the principal negotiator for Lesotho in the Montreal Protocol's Ozone Layer Protection since 2008.

LESHOTO : The National Ozone office is under the Department of Lesotho Meteorological Services (LMS) in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. The climate change departments that oversee all nationwide climate change initiatives are likewise housed under the LMS. Coordination and execution of Ozone Layer Protection and Clean Development Mechanism initiatives to get certified emission reduction (CER) under the Kyoto Protocol are among the accomplished activities.



My top 3 priority for the COPA SC work:

1. Ozone Layer Protection
2. Climate Change
3. Energy efficiency



BASHIRU KARGBO

Steering Committee Candidate – Country: [SIERRA LEONE](#)

Bashiru Kargbo is the current Deputy Director for Research & Innovation at the Sierra Leone Leading institution for protection and management of the Environment which is Known as the Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone (EPA-SL) Due to His dedication and Hard work Mr. Kargbo was also maintained as the National Ozone Officer (NOO) for Sierra Leone. A Position and role He has effectively margined in the last two and half years. Since assuming office as the NOO, He has enhanced the nation's visibility in terms innovative ideas, empowering women, public education, capacity building for RAC technicians, provision of tools and safety gears for practitioners not compromising transparency and accountability in project implementation. Through His effort Sierra Leone has recorded sharp increase in Female RAC technicians from 4 to now little over 50.

Currently working on the digitization of most processes that has to do with Refrigeration and air-conditioning (e.g, introduction of online survey of RAC technicians and Engineers to be launched in May, 2025, The new licensing processes for importer, development of digital assessment tools for auditing workshop , warehouses, shop to be launched in June, 2025. Also has the lead for innovation , He is the responsible person for the One EPA database that provides supervision and monitoring in the development and operationalization of the system. Today projects all projects implemented by the Government of Sierra Leone through the EPA-SL can be tracked despite being a new system. Developed a digitized grievance redress system.

Environment Protection Agency Sierra Leone : The EPA-SL is the statutory institution charged with the responsibility of protection the environment and also serve as the lead focal point for all multilateral environmental agreements to which the government has signed. As an institution, we are required to advise the government through the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change to undertake necessary review and shief with the aim of protecting the environment. We regulate chemicals and its usage and also provide directive .

My top 3 priority for the COPA SC work:

1. Expand the network within the Africa Region and seek for close collaboration
2. Support COPA generate the needed resources for local driven initiatives
3. Support efforts that will enhance coordination and collaboration among its Members and promote best practices within the region.





THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!