



KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION,  
COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Minister Savannah Maziya Represents Eswatini at the World Government Summit 2025**

- *Eswatini leads discussion on shaping future governments*
- *Championing Gender Equality on the Global Stage*
- *Maziya appointed chairperson of SDG Global Council on gender equality*

Dubai, United Arab Emirates – The Kingdom of Eswatini marked a significant milestone as Hon. Minister Savannah Maziya represented the country at the World Government Summit (WGS) 2025, held from 11-13 February under the theme “*Shaping Future Governments.*” The Summit brought together over 30 heads of state and government, more than 80 international and regional organisations, 140 government delegations, and over 6,000 attendees, including Eswatini’s delegation.

Minister Maziya actively participated in key discussions on digital transformation, gender equality, and sustainable development, further positioning Eswatini as a leader in global policymaking.

#### **Minister Maziya Appointed Chairperson of the SDG5 Global Council**

In a landmark achievement, Minister Maziya was officially inaugurated as Chairperson of the Global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Council for SDG5 – Gender Equality. This prestigious appointment underscores Eswatini’s growing influence in international development and reinforces its commitment to advancing women’s empowerment worldwide.

As Chairperson, Minister Maziya will lead efforts over the next two years to accelerate gender parity, champion women’s inclusion in global governance, and drive tangible progress on gender equality initiatives. Her leadership is expected to attract international partnerships and investment, supporting women-led innovation and economic development in Eswatini and beyond.

#### **Government Experience Exchange Forum (11 February 2025)**

Minister Maziya addressed global leaders on “*Global Perspectives on Digital Transformation: Collaborative Governance for Innovation and Progress.*” She highlighted Eswatini’s ‘Government in Your Hand’ initiative as a model for enhancing public service delivery through technology. She emphasised how Eswatini is leveraging AI, cybersecurity, and digital infrastructure to drive sustainable economic growth and citizen empowerment.

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### **Global Councils on SDGs (12 February 2025)**

As one of 17 global ministers appointed as SDG Council Chairpersons, Minister Maziya will oversee SDG5 – Gender Equality for the next two years. Her focus will be on empowering women through technology and STEM education, with Eswatini serving as a model for best practices in digital inclusion. Minister Maziya is expected to champion digitisation as a key enabler of women’s empowerment, positioning Eswatini as a global leader in gender-inclusive innovation.

### **Inauguration Speech as Chairperson of SDG5 Council (12 February 2025)**

In her inaugural address, Minister Maziya called for the full inclusion of women in global development efforts, stating:

*“We hold up half the sky. It is only right that we are part of the solutions and the benefits. The world remains unequal, and women bear the brunt of wars, economic disparities, and systemic discrimination. If we are to lead with integrity and create a better world, we are duty-bound to involve women in every aspect of the SDGs.”*

She urged governments and private sector leaders to commit to equal pay policies, stronger penalties for gender-based violence, and inclusive financial policies that empower women entrepreneurs.

### **XDGs 2045 Ministerial Roundtable (12 February 2025)**

Minister Maziya participated in discussions on the future of sustainability beyond 2030, emphasising the necessity of women’s leadership in emerging industries, including AI, cybersecurity, and digital finance. She advocated for dismantling systemic barriers that hinder women’s progress and called for stronger financial investments in women-led initiatives.

### **Eswatini’s Growing Global Influence**

Minister Maziya’s leadership at WGS 2025 marks a defining moment for Eswatini. Her appointment and active participation in high-level dialogues are expected to:

- Strengthen international partnerships supporting women-led innovation and economic development.
- Attract investments to empower women and youth in Eswatini through digital skills training and entrepreneurship.
- Position Eswatini as a regional hub for gender-inclusive governance and sustainable development.

Minister Maziya’s contributions reaffirm Eswatini’s vision for digitisation, inclusion, and innovation. Her global leadership signals a new era of progress for women in Eswatini and beyond, ensuring that gender equality remains at the forefront of the global development agenda.

### **For more information**

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