Laurent Ntumba Kayemba is a pioneering ICT leader with over 40 years of experience shaping Central Africa's digital ecosystem. Based in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), he currently serves as Managing Director of Microcom DRC, President of the Internet Service Provider Association of DRC (ISPA-DRC), and Vice-President of the Telecom Committee of the Federation of Enterprises of Congo (FEC). His career demonstrates a consistent commitment to building resilient infrastructure, driving policy reform, and strengthening Africa's internet sovereignty.

Since 2000, Laurent has transformed Microcom DRC from a small electronics workshop into one of the country's most respected ISPs, now operating across 11 provinces with over 150 employees. He pioneered nationwide connectivity through VSAT backbones, early broadband deployments, and fiber expansion, providing reliable services to governments, NGOs, embassies, and private enterprises. Under his leadership, Microcom earned the AfricaCom Award for Best Network Improvement and established long-term partnerships with global providers such as Intelsat and Eutelsat, ensuring redundant and sustainable connectivity.

In parallel, Laurent has driven industry collaboration. As President of ISPA-DRC since 2010, he has led ICT policy reforms that reduced telecom taxation, improved affordability, and strengthened local ISP participation in national digital strategies. He is the founding architect of KINIX (Kinshasa IXP) and spearheaded the deployment of LUBIX and GOMIX in partnership with the Internet Society. These IXPs now exchange significant traffic at peak hours and serve the majority of popular content locally, reducing costs, improving speed, and enhancing digital sovereignty. Through partnerships with Google, Facebook, and ISOC, Laurent has positioned the DRC as a continental model for IXP-driven ecosystem development.

Beyond infrastructure, Laurent champions human capacity building. He leads ISPA-DRC training programs for engineers and network operators, fosters professional communities, and encourages collaboration through regional NOGs. His inclusive leadership bridges government, private sector, donors, and civil society, ensuring consensus-driven ICT strategies.

Laurent's influence extends beyond the DRC. He is a regular contributor to the Africa Peering and Interconnection Forum (AfPIF) and has served AFRINIC as a Governance Committee member (2020) and Policy Development Appeal Committee member (2022), gaining deep insights into accountability, transparency, and community-driven decision-making.

His leadership also spans humanitarian service. As President of Operation Smile DRC since 2009, he has coordinated over 2,000 cleft surgeries and 100 fistula operations, improving access to life-changing healthcare for vulnerable populations.

Educated as an engineer in Industrial Electronics at ISTA Kinshasa, Laurent combines technical expertise with strategic leadership. Fluent in French and professionally proficient in English, he is well-positioned to represent Africa's diverse internet community.