**Mrs Estherine Lisinge-Fotabong** is the Director of Programme Innovation and Planning at the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD). She received award of recognition from the Government of Egypt in February 2020, for her support to Africa’s development and women empowerment. In May 2014 and July 2016, Mrs Fotabong received Honorary Awards from the Governments of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Republic of Cameroon respectively, for her passion, dedication and leadership towards advancing equality and empowerment of African women. She also received special recognition in 2015 by *Top Women in Business & Government* (a leading corporate publication in Africa) acknowledging her work as one of the Top women in Agriculture Policy on the continent. In 2018 she received the award of Female Expert of the Year.

Before her appointment as Director at the AUDA-NEPAD, Mrs Fotabong was the UNEP Country Liaison Officer for South Africa and the Senior Environment and Tourism Adviser to the NEPAD Secretariat. Previously she held several positions including: Assistant Lecturer in Law at the University of Soa, Yaoundé, Cameroon; Director of Policy and Strategy; WWF Central African Regional Programme Office. She has acquired over the years significant management and leadership experience.

Mrs Fotabong has served on several panels and international steering committees for various projects. Mrs Fotabong has co-authored several publications relating to Climate Change Adaptation, Environmental Law and Development Policy. She has extensive global travel experience, through serving in various portfolios.