

BIOGRAPHY

REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

Reinaldo de Sousa Viriato

Son of Malanje · Servant of the State

A life in the service of the State,
of Angola and of its peoples.



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I · ORIGINS AND FORMATION

A land, a lineage

Reinaldo de Sousa Viriato was born on 28 April 1984 in Kalandula, in the province of Malanje, in the heart of Angola's interior. His father, Simão João Viriato, is from Malanje; **a militant of the MPLA since 1967**, he belongs to the generation that carried the history of the Party and of the country from early on, and the family kept its mark. His mother, Beatriz Sónia Nsona, was born in Nzeto. He grew up between these two origins, both deeply Angolan. He is the father of two children.

From this land he kept a love of the languages spoken there. Before even the Portuguese of school, there were Kimbundu, Kikongo, Fiote and Lingala: the languages of daily life, of the markets, the evening gatherings and the families. They taught him something simple: one understands people first, and institutions only afterwards.

He completed his primary and secondary studies in Luanda, then pursued two university degrees: one in history and geography, and one in economics and management. He went on to higher studies in international relations. These disciplines, thought to be far apart, proceed in truth from a single way of seeing: history illuminates the present, geography governs the economy, and no decision can be understood outside the long run.

II · IN THE SERVICE OF THE STATE

The sense of the State

His path was first that of service to the State. Having entered the civil service by competitive examination, he held responsibilities of management and command, in roles where there is no cheating with reality and where every decision commits more than oneself.

Part of this path was spent in customs control and the collection of public revenue. These are demanding and formative duties: one touches the real circulation of goods and money, one measures what the State loses when it sees its economy poorly, and one learns that rigour is not a constraint but a form of loyalty to the general interest.

Early on, he believed in modernising the administration: he helped equip a public institution with its first computing system, at a time when that was far from obvious. It was there that the thread began, in his career, which links service to the State and the tools of today.

III · ENTERPRISE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION

To build, and to connect

He carried this work further into business. Co-founder and director of Intellico, a company present in several countries of the African continent, he discovered there another side of the same reality: no longer the State that regulates, but the initiative that builds, takes risks and creates value where it settles.

From those years he drew a concrete understanding of the private sector, of investment and of partnership: how cooperation is forged between States, how the trust of foreign institutions is won, how the appeal of a territory is built, patiently. He led cooperation with the telecommunications regulatory authorities of several African States, work made of law, of technique and, above all, of respect for each one's institutions.

He has never separated the enterprise from the country: an economic activity is worth, in his eyes, only what it opens around it, opportunities for those who work, skills that remain, a nation a little stronger than it was found.



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IV · DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND SOVEREIGNTY

Digital sovereignty

If there is one field where his contribution is distinctive, it is the digital one, approached not as a matter of technique but as a matter of **sovereignty**.

He has worked in telecommunications and in the protection of digital systems. The strength of a country is no longer measured only by its borders or its markets: it is now also played out in its networks, its data and its information space. Where these infrastructures are poorly protected, it is a part of independence that quietly erodes.

He contributed to drafting legal instruments to combat cybercrime, notably at a forum held in Angola, and took part in the reflections that are shaping, across the continent, a safer and more autonomous African digital space.

His conviction is simple: a country masters its future when it masters its infrastructure, its data and its information space. To protect that space, to modernise it, to make it an asset rather than a vulnerability: this is another way of serving.

V · INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

An opening to the world

Over the course of his professional career, Reinaldo de Sousa Viriato has developed international experience through missions, partnerships and exchanges conducted with institutions, companies and organisations from different countries.

This experience has led him to work in several regional and international environments, notably in Africa, while developing a network of professional relationships in the fields of economic cooperation, technological innovation, telecommunications and institutional development.

Accustomed to multicultural settings, he has taken part in spaces of dialogue bringing together public officials, economic actors and international partners around questions of development, regional integration and digital transformation.

His command of Portuguese, French and English allows him to move with ease in international environments and to contribute to bringing different linguistic and cultural spaces closer together.

This openness to the world rests on a simple conviction: international experience takes on its full meaning when it contributes to national development and to the promotion of Angola's interests.

VI • VALUES AND COMMITMENT

What guides him

The career of Reinaldo de Sousa Viriato rests on values of service, responsibility and commitment to the collective interest.

Convinced that great achievements are always the fruit of a shared effort, he gives particular importance to teamwork, to listening and to cooperation among the women and men committed to the service of the country.

Discipline, rigour and a sense of responsibility are likewise principles that have guided his professional action throughout his career.

Attached to dialogue and openness, he considers that the diversity of experiences, ideas and cultures represents an essential richness for the progress of societies.

His commitment remains deeply oriented towards the development of Angola, the strengthening of its human and institutional capacities, and the enhancement of its role within Africa and the world.

HIS MOTTO

“Working as a team
is an honour.”

VII · CONCLUSION

A single line

Originally from the province of Malanje, Reinaldo de Sousa Viriato has built a career combining national commitment, institutional experience, technological expertise and international openness.

Over the years, he has developed skills in the fields of cooperation, digital transformation, telecommunications and economic development, while preserving a deep attachment to the values of service, responsibility and collective work.

His career thus combines national roots, experience of the State, international openness, economic diplomacy and a command of contemporary digital challenges.

This trajectory reflects the constant determination to place the experience acquired, the skills developed and the networks built at the service of Angola's development and the promotion of its interests at the regional, African and international levels.

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