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MOKONDA Bonza
(Phonetic: moCONda)

APPROVED FOR **ZAIRE**
RELEASE
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*Director, Presidential Executive
Staff (since July 1988)*

Addressed as: Professor Mokonda

Mokonda Bonza has pursued several careers, sometimes concurrently; he has taught economics, published works on agriculture, served in the government, and run an agrobusiness. He has accompanied President Mobutu Sese Seko on several recent trips.

Mokonda was born on 4 April 1948 in Buta, an administrative center in the northwestern Haute-Zaire Region. After completing his secondary education, he taught for several years before beginning his university studies. He attended the Free University of the Congo at Kisangani and then transferred to the University of Zaire in Kinshasa, graduating with a bachelor's degree in economics in 1974. Joining the economics faculty of his alma mater, he taught and continued to study, eventually receiving a doctorate in 1983.

Concurrent with his academic career, Mokonda served as an economic adviser on the executive staff of the prime minister during 1979-80 and held a similar position with the office of the executive secretary of the ruling party, the Popular Movement of the Revolution, during 1980-81. He was subsequently budget manager with the Advanced Institute of Media Sciences and Techniques. He served as associate manager and then director of the Studies and Management Company. Mokonda became Secretary of State for Agriculture and Rural Development in November 1983. Between 1985 and assuming his current duties in 1988, he held a series of Cabinet portfolios: State-Owned Enterprises, National Economy and Industries, Rural Development, Higher Education and Scientific Research, and National Economy. Mokonda has several publications on agriculture to his credit. Fluent in French, he taught English many years ago.

12 June 1989