

Press Release



For immediate release | 2 May, 2016

Her Excellency, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma receives a RUFORUM Award for Her exemplary leadership and contribution to Pan-Africanism, Development and Advancement of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation

2nd May, 2016
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Above: RUFORUM Board Members, Vice Chancellors and Secretariat Staff with HE Dr. Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma during the Award recognition ceremony in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

On the 27th April 2016, RUFORUM recognised H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) for “*Her exemplary leadership and contribution to Pan-Africanism, Development and Advancement of Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation.*” This recognition Award Ceremony took place at the African Union Commission Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Award also recognises the role of Her Excellency the Chairperson of the African Union Commission in coordinating Africa’s response to the Ebola crises in West Africa, and for advocacy for higher education in Africa.

While receiving the Award, H.E. Dr. Nkosazana commended RUFORUM for contributions toward the finalisation and implementation of the Agenda 2063. The delegation at the Award

ceremony comprised of AUC officials, RUFORUM Board Members, Vice Chancellors from Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, and South Sudan and RUFORUM Secretariat staff.

RUFORUM in 2014 signed MoU with the African Union Secretariat for the implementation of Priority 1 of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024) and works closely with both the Department for Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) and Department of Human Resources, Science and Technology. RUFORUM thanks H.E Dr. Nkosazana Clarice Dlamini Zuma for accepting this recognition Award.



Notes to Editors:

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a network of 55 African Universities with mission to ‘strengthen the capacities of Universities to foster innovations responsive to demands of small-holder farmers through the training of high quality researchers, the output of impact oriented research and the maintenance of collaborative working relations among researchers, farmers, national agricultural research institutions’. RUFORUM was established in 2004, with Secretariat hosted by Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. RUFORUM signed MoU with the African Union and has mandate to support capacity building for science, research and technology development in Africa. RUFORUM has supported the training of over 1500 postgraduate students, the generation of over 300 agricultural technologies and mobilized over US\$70 million for strengthening postgraduate education in Africa. Please visit www.ruforum.org for more information.

AU Agenda 2063: is a strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. It builds on, and seeks to accelerate the implementation of past and existing continental initiatives for growth and sustainable development. The seven African Aspirations were derived through a consultative process with the African Citizenry. These are: a Prosperous Africa, based on inclusive growth and sustainable development; an integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa’s Renaissance; an Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law; a Peaceful and Secure Africa; Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics; an Africa whose development is people driven, relying on the potential offered by people, especially its women and youth and caring for children; an Africa as strong, united and influential global player and partner. - See more at: <http://www.au.int/en/agenda2063/about#sthash.oovRwYNU.dpuf>

For additional information, photos and interviews with key delegates, contact Miss. Joan Apio, below.



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