

RUFORUM 13th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Dates: 25th to 27th October, 2017

Venue: Bingu International Conference Centre, Lilongwe, Malawi

Hosted by: RUFORUM member Universities in Malawi and the Malawi Government

Concept Note

Closing Ceremony of the 13th RUFORUM General Assembly and Handing over of Membership Certificates to new RUFORUM Members

Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) strives to catalyse universities contribution to a decent livelihood of small scale farmers and the economic development of African countries throughout the continent. This is achieved through a number of Secretariat coordinated programs and guided by several engagements including, among others, convening events such as the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and associated side events. This year's AGM will be preceded by meetings of all RUFORUM Governance Organs (the 16th RUFORUM Board Meeting, the 11th Meeting of the RUFORUM Technical Committee, the meeting of the RUFORUM International Advisory Panel, the 14th Meeting of Principals and Deans) as well as 6 side events designed to build capacity of the faculty in transformative leadership and students proposal writing and a Roundtable meeting with development partners. This year's event will provide a platform for RUFORUM members to establish partnerships and/or teams to respond to various opportunities, engage governments to support Higher Education in Africa, and recognize achievers. In addition to its business meeting, the 13th AGM will engage various stakeholders in the reflection sessions about the 2030 Vision of RUFORUM and will witness the MoU signing between RUFORUM and FAO. Finally, this event will ratify new RUFORUM member universities.

Purpose of the Side Event

This networking event aims at the following:

- 1) Recognition and thanking all the people who contributed to the success of the RUFORUM 13th Annual General meeting.
- 2) Handing over certificates to RUFORUM new member Universities

Approach and Methodology

This event will be the climax of the RUFORUM 2017 AGM and associated side-events. The guest of honour will be Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for the government of Malawi (formerly Minister of Education, Science and Technology) who will give key note address on **the Future of Higher Education in Africa**. RUFORUM will host a Gala Dinner in honour of the participants and new member universities will be given their membership certificates. There will be a Master of Ceremony to facilitate implementation of program and also ensure that speakers keep time.

Venue and Participants The side event will be convened on 27th October, 2017 at the Bingu International Conventional Centre, Lilongwe, Malawi.

Side Event Conveners and Contact The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)
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Contact: **Prof. Adipala Ekwamu**
Executive Secretary, RUFORUM
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Program

Time	Activity	Responsible
18.30 – 19.00	Arrival of Guests and networking	Dr Mathews Madola
19.00 – 19.10	Welcome Remarks by RUFORUM ES	Prof. Adipala Ekwamu
19.10 – 19.20	Remarks by New Board Chair	Prof. Mabel Imbuga
19.20 – 19.30	Key note Speech by Malawi Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation	Hon. Emmanuel Fabiano
19.30 – 19.45	Giving out membership certificates	Prof. Adipala Ekwamu
19.45 – 20.50	Dinner is served	Ms Juliet Aweko
20.50 – 21.00	Departure	All