



Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa (FAWoVC)

Symposium

Concept Note

Date: Monday 2nd to Friday 6th December, 2019

Venue: Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang Auditorium

Focus: Enhancing Women Participation and Leadership role in Africa's Universities Agenda for Higher Agricultural Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (AHESTI): Key Ingredients for Success

Master of Ceremonies: Dr. (Mrs) Genevieve Adukpo, University of Cape Coast

Session Rapporteurs: Dr. Robert Kawuki, Dr. Saphina Biira and Ms. Harriet Nabirye.

Contact: Ms. Maureen Agena (m.agena@ruforum.org); Dr. Francis Otto (f.otto@ruforum.org)

Background

This symposium is organised by the Forum for Women Vice Chancellors in Africa (FAWoVC) as part of the project implemented by Busitema University, Uganda on Strengthening *Capacity of the Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors to Promote Gender Inclusive Participation in Science, Technology and Innovation*, which is funded by Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) and the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). The Symposium will bring together more than 50 Women leaders mainly from Africa and a few others from the rest of the world. A number of emerging scientists will be also take part especially during the interactive session of the symposium. The symposium seeks to boost participation of women in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) support greater engagement of women especially in research for development. This is also in line with the reason for the establishment of FAWoVC.

FAWoVC was established in 2016 to encourage more women to take the leadership role and provide a platform for them to significantly influence the development of higher education in the Continent especially in regard to human resource training and employability. As managers of higher education institutions, they have a greater opportunity to interact with youth and leaders from both governments and private sectors. They thus have a greater chance to influence decisions made in regard to human resource training and employability. Higher Education and its leadership plays an important role in enabling universities overcome development challenges and support the attainment of continental goals, as given within the African Union Agenda 2063. FAWoVC was formed as a realization of low number of female heads of higher education institutions in comparison to male heads. By 2018, there were only 41 female heads of universities in Africa, which means girls at higher education institutions in Africa have few role models to emulate.

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Female leaders are important in tackling the issue of gender inequality and development. Mainstreaming gender within higher education is of paramount importance for enhancing the performance of higher education institutions, and enabling them to play their rightful role within the development process. The FAWoVC therefore provides an opportunity for female higher education leaders in Africa to focus on drumming support for gender equality and women's empowerment for development. Previous focus on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), target three, was around gender parity in primary and secondary education. This was found to be inadequate, rather, gender equality and women's empowerment is a requirement for the fulfilment of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is therefore imperative that leaders in all sectors of education address adequately the issue of gender equality and implement actions that will bridge the current gender gap. Female leaders of higher education thus are in better position to address this and related issues.

The aim and objectives of the FAWoVC symposium

The FAWoVC symposium in Cape Coast aimed to provide a platform for female leaders of higher education in Africa to deliberate on gender equality in higher education and women's empowerment. As such it will contribute to enhancing women participation and leadership role in Africa's Universities Agenda for Agricultural Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (AHESTI). Specifically, the meeting will allow for:

1. Discussion on the state of women participation in science, technology and innovation with particular focus on Africa
2. Sharing lessons and experiences with women leaders of similar institutions from other parts of the World in regards to strengthening institutional capacities to nurture women leaders in science, technology and innovation
3. Presentation and discussion of report on 6 country case studies on science, technology and innovation and Implication for Gender inclusiveness in science, technology and innovation.
4. Holding of business meeting of the FAWoVC in order to: receive and review reports on activities of the FAWoVC in the year 2018/2019; review Forum objectives and key activities, as well as governance and management arrangements; discuss and approve plans for activities of the year 2019/2020.
5. Interactive session for selected leaders with emerging Scientists as part of the mentoring programme under the IsDB funded project.

Meeting approach

The Symposium will adopt several approaches including keynote presentations under the theme *Enhancing Women Participation and Leadership role in Africa's Universities Agenda for Higher Agricultural Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (AHESTI): Key Ingredients for Success* to be delivered on 2nd and 3rd December, 2019. This will be followed by panel discussions and other

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activities as outline in the programme in **Table 1** below. From 4th to 6th December, participants will join in other RUFORUM AGM activities. There will be an interactive session on the 6th December, 2019. This will provide an opportunity for face to face interaction between emerging scientists and senior leaders in the agriculture, higher education, science, technology and innovation field. This is part of a mentoring programme to enable upcoming scientists inspired and nurtured.

Expected outputs

The expected outputs from the symposium are;

- A symposium report outlining key issues to be addressed in the STI ecosystem in regards to gender inclusive development in STI
- Recommendations on the role of different actors in the STI ecosystem in promoting gender inclusive development of STI in Africa
- Agreed mentoring plan for young scientists in selected African countries

Invited participants

Participants are mainly members of FAWoVC and emerging scientists. There will also be Chief Directors or Secretary Generals responsible for Agriculture, Education & Training, Finance, Science, Technology and Innovation. Some technical experts and other senior leaders from relevant bodies will also participate.

Table 1: Programme (Venue: Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang Auditorium)

Time	Agenda item	Responsible party
Day One: Monday 02 December 2019		
Session One: Setting the Scene		
Session Chair: Prof. Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast and Former Minister of Education , Ghana		
0830-0840	Welcome remarks	Prof. Dora Francisca Edu-Buandoh, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast, Ghana
0840-0850	Remarks	Prof. Paul Waako, Vice Chancellor, Busitema University, Uganda
0850-0900	Setting the Scene and Objectives of the Dialogue	Prof. Mary Okwakol, Chairperson, FAWoVCs
0900-0920	Official Opening Address	Hon. Shirley Ayorkor Botchway, Minister for Foreign affairs and Regional Integration, Ghana
0920-0940	Key Note Address: State of women participation in science, technology and innovation with particular focus on Africa	Prof. Alice Pell, former Vice Provost, Cornell University, USA
0940-1000	Reactions to the Keynote address	ALL
1000-1030	Health Break & Group Photographs	
Session Two: Enhancing participation of women in STI: What will it take?		
Session Chair: Martha Muhwezi – Executive Director, Forum for African Women Educationists		

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1030-1100	Lead Speaker: Dr. Irene Annor Frempong, Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Accra, Ghana	
1100-1215	Panel: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speaker (West Africa): Prof. (Mrs.) Ibiyinka Fuwape, Vice Chancellor, Michael and Cecilia Ibru University, Nigeria 2. Prof. Fatima Batul Mukhtar, Vice Chancellor, Federal University Dutse, Nigeria 3. Speaker (Central Africa): Prof. Theresia Nkuo Akenji, Vice Chancellor University of Bamenda, Cameroon 4. Speaker (Eastern Africa): Prof. Fadwa Abdurahman Ali Taha, University of Khartoum, Sudan 5. Speaker (Southern Africa): Prof. Thoko Mayekiso, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mpumalanga, South Africa 	Moderator: Ms. Martha Muhwezi, Executive Director Forum for African Women Educationists
1215-1245	Reactions and Comments from the Audience	ALL
1245-1300	Summary by the Moderator	Ms. Martha Muhwezi, Executive Director Forum for African Women Educationists
1300-1400	Lunch Break	
Session Three: Strengthening institutional capacities to nurture women leaders in science, technology and innovation: key lessons		
Session Chair: Prof. Christine Dranzoa, Vice Chancellor, Muni University, Uganda		
1400-1430	Lead Speaker: Prof. (Mrs.) Esi Awuah, Foundation Vice Chancellor, University of Energy and Natural Resources, Ghana	
1430-1530	Panel: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speaker: Theresa Akenga, Vice Chancellor, University of Eldoret, Kenya 2. Speaker: Prof Domwini Dabire Kuupole, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast, Ghana 3. Speaker: Dr. Codou Diaw, Programme Lead, Eastern Africa Partner Network, Mastercard Foundation 	Session Moderator: Prof. Christine Dranzoa, Vice Chancellor, Muni University, Uganda

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	<p>4. Speaker (Private Sector): Mrs. Jeanine Cooper, Founder and Senior Managing Partner of FABRAR Liberia Inc.</p> <p>5. Judith Francis, Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), Netherlands</p>	
1530-1550	Reactions and Comments from the Audience	ALL
1550-1600	Summary by the Moderator	Prof. Christine Dranzoa, Vice Chancellor, Muni University, Uganda
1600-1630	Tea Break	
Session Four: Mainstreaming inclusivity into STI policy frameworks		
Session Chair: Prof Pinkie Zwane, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of eSwatini, eSwatini		
1630-1700	Lead Speaker: Tracking gender inclusiveness in Africa: Lessons and experience from the Sudan	Her Excellency Entisar Sigheroon, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Government of Sudan
1700-1730	Discussions	ALL
1730-1900	Free Space	
1900-2200	Dinner for Women Vice Chancellors and invited Guests (Venue: Ridge Royal Hotel)	<p>Master of Ceremonies: Mrs. Mary Ama Bawa, University of Cape Coast</p> <p>Remarks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Dora Francisca Edu-Buandoh, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast, Ghana 2. Prof. Adipala Ekwamu, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM <p>Guest Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mrs. Nancy Thompson, Chairperson, Council of University of Cape Coast 2. UNESCO Representative (TBC)
End of day One		
Day Two: Tuesday 03 December 2019		
Session Five: Country Case Studies on STI and Implication for Gender inclusiveness in STI		
Session Chair/Moderator: Dr. Mick Mwala, Former Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Zambia, Zambia		
Health Break	Summary of the key issues raised in day one	Dr. Ivone Muocha, Deputy Director of the Center for Research and Technology Transference for Community Development, Mozambique
0845-0950	Lead paper: Synthesis of the STI country case studies, Dr. Florence Nakayiwa, Deputy Executive Secretary, RUFORUM	<p>Panel:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Luisa Santos (Mozambique) 2. Prof Muna Elhag (Sudan) 3. Dr. CT Tizikara (Uganda) 4. Prof. Moses Zinnah (Liberia) 5. Dr. Sokona Dagnoko (Mali)

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		6. Dr. Adlyn Omojowo Johnson nee Holland (Sierra Leone)
0950-1000	Highlights of emerging issues	Dr. Mick Mwala, Former Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Zambia, Zambia
1000-1030	Health Break	
	Designing action agenda for strengthening women leadership and role in STI	
1030-1130	Group Work to distil key actions and strategies to increase women participation and leadership in STI	Moderator: Dr. Elsie Effah Kaufmann, University of Ghana, Legon
1130-1200	Plenary Presentations and discussion	
1200-1215	Summary of key issues and action points from Day 2	Dr. Ivone Muocha, Deputy Director of the Center for Research and Technology Transference for Community Development, Mozambique
1215-1330	FAWoVC Business meeting	
1330-1430	Lunch Break	UCC to guide
1430-1545	Free Space	
1600-1830	Public Dialogue, Address by Prof. Patrick Loch Otieno Lumumba	New Examination Centre
End of day Two		
Day Three: Wednesday 4th December 2019		
0830-1300	Vice Chancellors Forum: Delivering on Africa's Universities Agenda for Agricultural Higher Education, Science, Technology and Innovation	School of Medical Sciences Auditorium
1300-1400	Lunch Break	
1430-1730	Vice Chancellors & Ministers Dialogue	Elizabeth Adabor Conference Hall
1730-1900	Free Space	
1900-2200	Ministers-Vice Chancellors Dinner	UCC to advise
End of day Three		
Day Four: Thursday 5th Dec 2019		
0700-0930	Breakfast meeting for Vice Chancellors	CA Ackah Lecture Theatre First Floor
0930-1000	Free Space	
1000-1300	Annual Meeting of Vice Chancellors	New Examination Centre
1300-1400	Lunch Break	
1400-1500	Free space	
1500-1830	Official Opening of the RUFORUM Annual General Meeting	New Examination Centre
1830-1900	Free space	
1900-2200	Cocktail Reception	UCC to advise
End of day Four		
Day Five Friday 6 December 2019		
0830-1830	RUFORUM Annual General Meeting	

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1430-1700	Interactive Session for Selected Leaders with emerging Scientists Session Moderator: Prof. Mary Okwakol, FAWoVC	School of Graduate Studies Conference Room Key Resource Persons: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Stella Williams, NiWARD, Nigeria 2. Prof. Mabel Imbuga, Former Vice Chancellor, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), Kenya 3. Prof. Patrick Rubaihayo, Former Minister of Agriculture, Uganda 4. Prof. Peter Mbatia, Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor, Botho University, Botswana 5. Prof. Alice Pell, Former Vice Provost, Cornell University, USA 6. Prof. Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang, Former Vice Chancellor, University of Cape Coast and Former Minister of Education, Ghana 7. Dr. Goretti Nabanoga, Deputy Principal College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Makerere University, Uganda 8. Dr. Kebatenne Hulela, Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN), Botswana 9. Prof. Luisa Santos, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique 10. Prof. Mick Sikaenyi Mwala, University of Zambia, Zambia 11. Mr. Andre Okunzuwa, Program Partner, Mastercard Foundation, Canada
1700-1930	Free space	
1930-2230	Farewell Gala Dinner (TBC)	UCC to Advise
Saturday 7 December 2019: Departures		

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