

The 18th RUFORUM Annual General Meeting,
10-16 December 2022, Harare-Zimbabwe

Vice Chancellors Programme Guide

Background

The Annual General Meeting oversees RUFORUM's program and management and performs such functions and tasks that it deems necessary to carry out its mandate, and accomplish its mission. RUFORUM's Vision and Mission recognize the largely unfulfilled role that Universities play in contributing to the well-being of small-scale farmers and economic development of countries in Africa. This contribution is made through building leadership and management capacity of university academic and administrative staff, quality training of graduates entering the rural development and research for development workforce and the production and dissemination of demand-driven, development-oriented research that is defined and applied through participatory processes linking researchers, farmers, policy-makers, and business. One of the key avenues for reaching policymakers is through generating and disseminating policy documents but this should be supplemented with face-to-face meetings especially since policy-makers may not find time to read and internalize the messages being conveyed in the published policy briefs. In this regard, efforts must be made by universities to better understand the needs of policy makers and policy making processes for engagement. The rapid expansion in the number of universities and student enrolments coupled with several developments that are rapidly manifesting at regional and national levels provides further justification for the need to engage with policy makers at the highest level. Clearly, a Network such as

RUFORUM and its AGM is well placed to provide a forum to deliberate on pathways for addressing existing and emerging challenges. This 18th AGM has a particular focus on engaging governments and development partners to support Higher Education in Africa. The theme for this 18th AGM is "***Strengthening Africa's Agri-food Systems in the Post COVID-19 Era – Opportunities and Challenges***".

This document is prepared to guide participation at the 18th RUFORUM Annual General Meeting 2022. For more information, including the specific program for each event, please contact m.waswa@ruforum.org with copy to j.nakoybe@ruforum.org.

MONDAY, 12th December 2022

- 08:30-10:30 **Official Opening of the Scientific Conference**
Venue: Diamond Lecture Theatre, University of Zimbabwe
- 11:00-13:00 **Tour of Posters and Exhibitions**
Venue: Great Hall, University of Zimbabwe
- 14:00-17:00 **Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors: Official Opening** (*Female Vice Chancellors*)
Venue: Holiday Inn

TUESDAY, 13th December 2022

- 08:30-13:00 **Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors: Symposium** (*Female Vice Chancellors*)
Venue: Holiday Inn

CO-ORGANISERS:



14:00-17:00 **Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors: Mentoring of young women scientists**
(Female Vice Chancellors)
Venue: Holiday Inn

19:00-21:00 Vice Chancellors Dinner
Venue: Royal Gate Gardens

WEDNESDAY, 14th December 2022

08:30-11:00 **Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors: General Assembly** (Female Vice Chancellors)
Venue: Holiday Inn

14:00-17:00 **Vice Chancellors Forum**
Venue: Diamond Lecture Theatre, University of Zimbabwe

THURSDAY, 15th December 2022

08:30-13:00 **RUFORUM Board Meeting**
Venue: Innovation Hub Auditorium, University of Zimbabwe

14:00-17:00 **Official Opening of the 2022 Annual General Meeting and Launch of the RUFORUM Journey Book Address by Senior Zimbabwe Government Official**
Venue: Harare International Conference

18:00-21:30 **Gala Dinner Hosted by Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development & Zimbabwean Universities**
Venue: TBC

FRIDAY, 16th December 2022

08.30-13.00 **RUFORUM Business Meeting**
Venue: Harare International Conference Center, Harare, Zimbabwe

14:00-17.00 **Closing Ceremony of the AGM 2022**
Venue: Harare International Conference Center, Harare, Zimbabwe

17:00-21.30 **Dinner hosted by Zimbabwean Universities**
Venue: Students Union Building, University of Zimbabwe

SATURDAY, 17th December 2022

DEPARTURES

CO-ORGANISERS:

