



OFFICIAL CLOSING OF THE 19TH RUFORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Date and Time: 2nd November 2023 (14:00-16:00 GMT+1)

Venue: Inaugural Hall, Palais Des Congrès, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/3E0TnXL>

Concept Note

Contact: Professor Patrick Okori, RUFORUM Executive Secretary

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Background

The Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), a consortium of 163 universities in 40 African countries hosts its 19th Annual General Meeting in Yaounde, Cameroon from 28th October to 2nd November 2023. This is the first time the AGM is being held in Central Africa and provides an opportunity for stakeholders in agriculture and higher education to share experiences and chart a way forward for transforming higher agricultural and tertiary education to contribute to sustainable development in Africa. The overall theme of the 19th RUFORUM AGM is to deliberate on **“Transforming Higher Education to Sustainably Feed and Create Prosperity for Africa”**.

The meeting will bring together over 600 delegates from across Africa and beyond, under the patronage of His Excellency Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon, Ministers, African Union Commission, Development Partners, University leaders, students, private sector leaders; farmers and farmer representatives; emerging & early career researchers and other key stakeholders.

After five days of intense activity, a closing ceremony is planned for the afternoon of November 2nd 2023 from 14:00 to 16:00 hours. During the closing ceremony, participants will reflect on the five-day congress, receive a synthesis of the meeting outcomes, takeaway messages and action points that will guide strategy and operations during the coming year. In line with the conference theme, the following activities will be conducted:

- a) Evaluation of the relevance and competencies attained from the trainings and other pre-conference events to inform future capacity development interventions of the RUFORUM Network and the African continent.

Organizers:

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- b) Strategic investment areas and partnership opportunities for human capital development, resourcing, research for development required to sustainably feed and create prosperity for Africa
- c) Communication of key decisions on transforming and financing novel higher education models that produce human resources, technologies and innovations,
- d) Communication of key decisions of the RUFORUM Governance for enhancing the performance and functionality of the RUFORUM Network, and
- e) Action points for RUFORUM and partners present in implementing the resolutions made from each of the sessions to catalyse and support the transformation of African higher education.

Programme

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| Official Closing Ceremony for 19th RUFORUM Annual General Meeting | |
| Session Chair: Prof Wilfred GABSA NYONGBET, Secretary General, Ministry of Higher Education, Cameroon | |
| Session Rapporteurs: Mr. Okalany Emmanuel, Mr. Yamungu Alongo and Mr. Waswa Moses | |
| | Session 1: Opening |
| 14:00-16:00 | Welcome remarks by Session Chair |
| | Welcome Remarks by Prof Avlessi Felicien, RUFORUM Deputy Board Chair and Rector, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin |
| | Summary of the AGM 2023 and Communique: Prof. Owunari Abraham Georgewill, Vice Chancellor, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria |
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| 1640-1800 | Session II: Recognition of Outstanding Achievers |
| | Three Outstanding Farmers |
| | Three Outstanding Upcoming Young Scientists |
| | Two exceptional senior research teams in agriculture and related fields from each Cameroon member universities |
| | Session IV: Closing |
| 1830-1840 | Final Remarks and Vote of Thanks by Prof. Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, RUFORUM Board Chair & Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda, Cameroon |
| 1840-1900 | Closing Address by Prof Jacques FAME NDONGO, Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education, Government of Cameroon |
| 1900-1910 | Health Break |
| 1930-2230 | Gala Dinner |

Organizers:





Additional contacts

RUFORUM Secretariat

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Local Organising Committee

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Organizers:

