

SPEECH BY FANRPAN CHAIRMAN, MR. SINDISO NGWENYA ON THE OCASSION OF THE FANRPAN FOOD SECURITY POLICY LEADERSHIP AWARDS CEREMONY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2009.

- **YOUR EXCELLENCY, MADAME LUISA DIOGO, PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**
- **YOUR WORKSHIP, THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MAPUTO**
- **THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, HON. SOARES NHACA**
- **HONOURABLE MINISTERS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE HERE PRESENT**
- **THE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE EDUARDO MONDHLANE UNIVERSITY, PROF. FILIPE JOSE COUTO,**
- **MS. CELINA COSSA, FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL UNION OF COOPERATIVES (UCG)**
- **THE MOZAMBIQUE FANRPAN NODE AND THE NODE COORDINATOR, DR. BRUNO ARAUJO**
- **FANRPAN BOARD MEMBERS**
- **FANRPAN, CEO, DR. LINDIWE MAJELE SIBANDA & SECRETARIAT STAFF**
- **FANRPAN STAKEHOLDERS: GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, FARMER ORGANISATIONS, PRIVATE SECTOR AND RESEARCHERS**
- **FANRPAN COUNTRY NODE HOSTING INSTITUTIONS**
- **OUR VALUABLE FANRPAN COOPERATING PARTNERS**
- **THE SPONSORS OF THE FANRPAN AWARDS: MICROSOFT CORPORATION AND CROPLIFE INTERNATIONAL**
- **MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES**
- **DISTINGUISHED GUESTS**
- **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

ALLOW ME, TO THANK HER EXCELLENCY MADAME LUISA DIOGO, THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE FOR GRACING THIS MOMENTOUS OCCASION ON BEHALF OF HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT ARMANDO EMILIO GUEZUBA, WHOM I HAD THE PRIVILEGE AND HONOUR OF MEETING YESTERDAY. UNFORTUNATELY DUE TO PRIOR COMMITMENTS HIS EXCELLENCY COULD NOT PERSONALLY RECEIVE THE FANRPAN FOOD

SECURITY POLICY LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR PIONEERING THE GREEN REVOLUTION FOR THIS GREAT COUNTRY AND HIS RESILIENT PEOPLE. WE ARE MOST GREATEFUL AND INDEBTED TO YOU, YOUR EXCELLENCY, RIGHT HONOURABLE PRIME MINISTER, MADAME LUISA DIOGO, AS I SAID EARLIER FOR GRACING THIS OCCASION.

I WOULD BE REMISE IF I DID NOT TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PAY SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE FANRPAN MOZAMBIQUE NODE AND THE NODE COORDINATOR, FOR THE EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS THEY HAVE MADE FOR THIS SPECTACULAR 2009 FANRPAN REGIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE. WE SAY TO YOU, THANK YOU, OBRIGADO, MERCI BEAUCOUP, SIYA BONGA, ASANTE SANA.

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT AND INDEED A HISTORIC OCCASION FOR FANRPAN, BECAUSE IT IS A DOUBLE CELEBRATION. WE PAY TRIBUTE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE FOR ITS EFFORTS TO ACCELERATE ITS OWN GREEN REVOLUTION. I AM PLEASED TO STAND BEFORE THIS DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCE TO READ CITATIONS OF TWO AWARDS GIVEN BY FANRPAN FOR FOOD SECURITY POLICY LEADERSHIP.

WHY THE AWARDS

LET ME START WITH THE FANRPAN FOOD SECURITY POLICY LEADERSHIP AWARD. THE AWARD WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2008 WHEN IT WAS FIRST PRESENTED. THE INAUGURAL WINNER WAS HIS EXCELLENCY, DR. BINGU WA MUTHARIKA, PRESIDENT OF MALAWI.

THE FANRPAN FOOD SECURITY POLICY LEADERSHIP AWARD IS GIVEN TO INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE MADE EFFECTIVE AND EVIDENT CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS FOOD SECURITY AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN THE REGION. FANRPAN IS CONVINCED THAT SOUTHERN AFRICA IS NEITHER POOR NOR INCAPABLE OF FEEDING ITSELF, BUT THAT LACKS FRESH INITIATIVES WHICH EMPOWER, ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT EFFORTS TO PROMOTE FOOD SECURITY, POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION. FOOD SECURITY IS MULTI-FACETED AND CANNOT BE FULFILLED BY ADDRESSING POLICIES

ALONE WITHOUT, TACKLING THE ISSUES OF POVERTY, INPUTS, ACCESS TO INFORMATION, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT.

WHILE FINANCIAL REWARDS ARE AN INCENTIVE FOR INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANISATIONAL INITIATIVES, WE AT FANRPAN STRONGLY BELIEVE MORE COULD BE ACHIEVED IF VISIONARY PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS IN AFRICA CAN GET TANGIBLE SUPPORT TO REALISE THEIR DREAMS OF A FOOD SECURE SOUTHERN AFRICA. THIS IS THE BASIS OF THE FANRPAN AWARD.

NEW AWARD

IN 2009, FANRPAN, FOLLOWING A RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS, INTRODUCED THE FANRPAN CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY MOVERS AND SHAKERS AWARD TO RECOGNISE THE CONTRIBUTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY TO POLICY MAKING ON FOOD SECURITY ISSUES. THE AWARD IS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY WHO INCLUDE FARMERS, FARMER ORGANISATIONS, PRIVATE SECTOR, RESEARCHERS, INNOVATORS AND INSTITUTIONS.

THE FANRPAN CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY MOVERS AND SHAKERS AWARD IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE CIVIL SOCIETY IN POLICY ADVOCACY AND EFFORTS TO CREATE A FOOD SECURE SOUTHERN AFRICA.

JUSTIFICATION OF THE AWARDS

AWARD RECIPIENTS ARE SELECTED FROM THE CIVIL SOCIETY IN FANRPAN MEMBER STATES. NOMINATIONS ARE ACCEPTED FOR INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS WHICH WILL HAVE ADVOCATED FOR POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION, APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND INNOVATION TO FOOD SECURITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION.

THESE AWARDS HONOUR ORGANISATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THAT WILL HAVE MADE LASTING CONTRIBUTIONS THROUGH POLICY FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION, APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION TO FOOD SECURITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA REGION. THE AWARDS ALSO RECOGNISE INDIVIDUAL AND ORGANISATION EFFORTS THAT HAVE PUSHED THE LIMITS IN IMPROVING ACCESS TO FOOD IN THE REGION AND HELPED ALLEVIATE POVERTY.