AMINA MOHAMED
CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR GENERAL
OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION
The Government of Kenya is pleased to present the candidacy of Ambassador Amina Mohamed for the position of Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Ambassador Mohamed has served her own country and the international community with distinction for more than 30 years. She has held senior positions both at home and in international institutions.

Ambassador Mohamed has made exceptional contributions to international trade governance. She chaired the first WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Africa and steered the meeting to a successful conclusion.

Minister Mohamed has held the most senior chairperson positions at the WTO, including that of Chairperson of the General Council. Currently, she is the President of the 14th session of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and former Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director of the UN Environment Program (UNEP).

As we navigate the gravest public health, socio-economic and political crisis to afflict us in decades, the world needs a well-functioning, credible and effective multilateral trading system. Even before the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the WTO faced serious challenges and calls for reform. The task facing the WTO now is enormous. The need for effective leadership is more important than ever as the institution reshapes itself to meet the current challenges that face us.

The length and breadth of her experience at the WTO and the Multilateral Trading System combined with her extensive track record in international relations and her political experience, I believe is unparalleled. My experience working with her over the years and watching her work with others has convinced me that she is a master consensus builder. She listens to advice and works hard to find common ground. In the years to come, Africa is going to play a growing role in the world economy and its interests in an effective, equitable and inclusive system of trade governance is bound to grow as well. Ambassador Mohamed has the vision and capacity to unite all WTO Members in pursuit of their common interest. She is uniquely qualified to lead the WTO at this critical time. Moreover, Ambassador Mohamed would be the first African and the first woman Director-General.

I unreservedly endorse Ambassador Mohamed’s candidacy for the WTO’s next Director-General and urge you to do the same.

H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta C.G.H.

President of the Republic of Kenya
The multilateral trading system is at a crossroads. It is being buffeted by strong head winds from many directions. It needs to be rescued and restored to its former illustrious position. I have the required political, technical, diplomatic and managerial skills to revive the WTO and strengthen the multilateral trading system for the benefit of all WTO members.

Seven decades ago, far-sighted post-war leaders shaped a new economic order. In so doing, they steered the world away from the aftermath of the Great Depression and the catastrophe of armed conflict onto a path of progress. The vision underpinning this architecture of international governance emphasized multilateral cooperation. The period from the 1950s to the early years of the twenty-first century was one of unprecedented growth and development. Trade was a big part of that story.

The GATT and now the WTO have evolved over the years, encompassing an ever-growing number of Members and a broadening range of trade-related issues. Few would question the proposition that the GATT/WTO system is the indispensable backbone of international trade cooperation. Yet today, the multilateral trading system faces difficulties that are more challenging than anything since the founding of the GATT in the late 1940s.

"The WTO should give effect to its development objectives in a practical and enabling way."
I have seen women multiply their opportunities in international trade in ways that once seemed impossible. I believe that the inclusion of women in trade will enable countries to develop faster and in a more equitable and inclusive way.
The view is widely shared that the WTO is in need of urgent reform. The Organization was already in difficulties before COVID-19 struck. Its negotiating function had faltered, yielding limited successes in the last twenty years. Trade tensions were building over this period, leading a number of major trading economies to take contested measures against one another in what was increasingly characterized as trade war. The dispute settlement system is compromised as the Appellate Body ceased to operate. On top of an already fraught situation, COVID-19 is likely to trigger the most severe economic contraction since the Great Depression. No country is in a position to manage the COVID-19 crisis alone, yet protectionist trade actions threaten collective action to beat the virus. History tells us how the stifling of trade through protectionist reactions made the Great Depression last longer and cut deeper.

The GATT and subsequently the WTO were established precisely to prevent such mutually destructive behaviour. It is our duty to make sure that today the multilateral trading system is allowed to do the work for which it was established. We need to reignite the visionary inspiration of the original architects of the system.

Renewal has to start with facing up squarely to the defects that have weakened the system in recent years: the inability to update rules to reflect changing realities; the sterility of ideological standoffs; the retreat into defensiveness; and the sense of the benefits not being equitably shared.
I am running on my experience and determination to facilitate WTO reforms towards a stable, transparent and an all-inclusive trading system.
Governments need to breathe new life into the WTO so it can play a catalytic role in facilitating recovery from the crisis and rebuilding economic resilience. The critical issue to be addressed is how to reform the WTO to ensure that it makes a positive contribution to the global economy for the benefit of all its Members. We need to break the cycle of despair and enter into a new phase of hope and realism. Reviving trade will be essential to recovery worldwide. It will also be key to national strategies to boost growth and sustainable development, thereby easing the social and economic impact of the crisis.

Once recovery is under way, however, we will still face the need to update the trading system to respond appropriately to pressing global issues like climate change, the digital revolution, deepening poverty and sustainable development. The WTO should be where governments come together to forge trade responses based on concertation among themselves, sharing of best practices, and reaffirmation of key principles. Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements can bring important benefits, especially where localized interests relevant to near neighbours are at stake. But a trading world networked by overlapping preferential arrangements among subsets of economies cannot be a substitute for the rules-based multilateral trading system.
The WTO has to engage again in good faith negotiations, and this means openess to change and to new ideas, within a culture of inclusiveness and transparency.

Renewal should also build upon the WTO’s core values and achievements. Trade has been transformational. It has helped to lift close to 1 billion people out of poverty and facilitated the attainment of higher living standards in countries at all levels of development.

These successes were possible because Members did not see trade as a zero-sum game. They understood that trade-offs needed to be made to produce outcomes. All Members should contribute to trade opening and facilitation efforts, especially those most in a position to do so.

The WTO’s dispute settlement function is key to the credibility and effectiveness of the rules. We need to find a way through its problems to make it once again something that all Members can use with confidence.

The rules are the backbone of the system, but the multilateral trading system is more than just a rulebook. It is also the regular meetings of the delegates and representatives of each Member who come together to resolve trade tensions and disputes. It is the transparency and monitoring of trade developments around the world. It is our national legislators who determine the way in which each Member implements and administers their WTO obligations.

THE RENEWAL

Renewal has to start with facing up squarely to the defects that have weakened the system in recent years: the inability to update rules to reflect changing commercial realities; the sterility of ideological standoffs; the retreat into defensiveness; and the sense of the benefits not being equitably shared.
It is non-governmental organizations which seek to make their priorities known. It is the companies that want to trade under stable and predictable conditions. It is the support provided through technical assistance for developing countries, including the least-developed ones, to boost their participation in international trade.

We need a WTO that is fair and equitable, taking into account the level of economic development of each Member. All WTO Members must therefore be prepared to contribute so that the organization is improved and strengthened to face current challenges, able to facilitate trade for the benefit of all, and capable of contributing to economic recovery from the pandemic. The WTO should give effect to its development objectives in a practical and enabling way, not forgetting its special responsibility towards African and least-developed countries, which have been operating at the periphery of the multilateral trading system. It also needs to play its part in the important task of advancing the economic empowerment of women through trade.

Having been elected by the membership to chair the top WTO bodies, I am acutely aware that it is a Member-driven organization. The role of the DG has been described as that of a facilitator. This includes overseeing the Secretariat efficiently and impartially. It also includes helping the Members deliberate and converge on issues.

If I am selected as WTO DG, I will work collaboratively and inclusively with all Members to help them reach convergence on reform, recovery and renewal of the organization. The role of Director-General can have a considerable positive influence in moving forward the work of the WTO. I would use this influence energetically, but sensitively, to help return the WTO to full effectiveness as a force for growth and stability in the world.
Amina Mohamed has all the qualities and experience the WTO needs in a Director-General for this decade. As a Minister and Ambassador, she has already guided the organization successfully as Chairperson of all its highest decision-making bodies, including the Ministerial Conference (2015), the General Council (2005), the Dispute Settlement Body (2004) and the Trade Policy Review Body (2004). Her skills of strategic leadership, effective communication, institutional reform and consensus building have made a major contribution to the WTO’s key achievements of recent years.

Her background, knowledge and range of high-level experience give her a uniquely broad and inclusive perspective on the challenges facing the multilateral trading system and she has the ability to address them effectively. She also offers the WTO proven expertise in managing large and complex organizations.

As Kenya’s Foreign Affairs and International Trade Minister from 2013 to 2018, she chaired the 2015 WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi. As the first woman and first African to chair the WTO’s highest forum, she played a crucial role in reaching positive outcomes, especially the decision to eliminate export subsidies in agriculture. This was the first fulfilment of a UN Sustainable Development Goal, under SDG2-Zero Hunger.

Ambassador Mohamed was the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs from 2008 to 2011. She was in charge of the constitutional review process that culminated in the promulgation of the 2010 Constitution of Kenya. She managed far reaching legal and institutional reforms ever realized in Kenya. She also chaired the Annual Multi-Stakeholder Ethics and Conference.
From 2000 to 2006, Amina was Kenya’s Permanent Representative and Ambassador to the WTO. She was the first woman to chair the General Council in 2005 and the Dispute Settlement Body.

As General Council Chair, she brokered an agreement of major importance to developing countries, an amendment to the TRIPS Agreement to assist countries with insufficient manufacturing capacities in the production of essential drugs to treat diseases such as HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis. She was also the first woman to chair the African Group at the WTO and advanced African interests successfully at the WTO and in UN bodies.

She was Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of UNEP from 2011 to 2013 and helped advance its agenda to address contemporary challenges facing the organization. Given her trade background, she was particularly interested in the interface between trade and environment, believing in their complementarity and mutual supportiveness.

Amina’s Ministerial portfolios have also included Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (2018-19) and Sports, Culture and Heritage (2019 to present).

From 2008 to 2011, she was Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs. In all these roles, she has promoted development and diversity, particularly the educational, social and economic empowerment of women.

Amina is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. She obtained her Undergraduate and Masters Degree in Law from Taras Shevchenko University in Kiev, Ukraine, attended the Kenya School of Law and obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations as a Chevening Fellow at the Oxford University, United Kingdom. She is a UNITAR Fellow, is fluent in English, Kiswahili, and Russian, and has basic knowledge of French.
"If I am selected as WTO Director-General, I will work collaboratively and inclusively with all Members to help them reach convergence on reform and renewal of the WTO."

Amina Mohamed

For more information visit
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On the 7th of July 2020, the Republic of Kenya submitted the candidature of Amb. Amina C. Mohamed for the position Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The World Trade Organisation promotes trade for the benefit of all countries. It is the only institution that provides a unique forum for trade negotiations and for the settlement of disputes among its Members. It is in fact the only platform for the integration of developing nations into the world economy.

As a firm believer in the strengthening of international multilateral institutions, Kenya is convinced of the urgent need to revitalize the WTO to better serve the needs of all nations, large and small. We also believe
that it is time that Africa took up her responsibility of serving at the helm of WTO.

Kenya offers Amina C. Mohamed, a uniquely qualified person, to lead the WTO at this critical time. If selected, she would be the first African and indeed, the first woman to serve at the helm of the World Trade Organization.

Minister Mohamed understands the WTO, understands its processes, having chaired all its high-level decision-making bodies. For example, the Ministerial Conference, General Council, Dispute Settlement Body as well as the Trade Policy Review Body.

The length and breadth of her experience with the WTO and the multilateral trading system combined with her extensive track record in international relations and her political experience, I believe is unparalleled.

She has devoted a significant part of her professional career in championing the benefits of trade as the way to alleviate poverty and improve living standards not only here in Kenya but across the world.

Amina Mohamed has served this nation greatly across several ministerial portfolios. She served as the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade. She has also served as Minister for Education,
Science and Technology and is currently serving as Kenya's Minister for Sports, Culture and Heritage.

These over and above many other Senior Governmental jobs as Ambassador, Permanent Secretary and many other portfolios that she has held in the past.

It should also be noted that Minister Mohamed chaired the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference that was held here in Nairobi and that was highly successful. And that, she is the current President of the 14th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

From a personal perspective, my experience working with her over the years and watching her work with others has convinced me that she is an effective leader and without doubt, a master consensus builder. She listens to advice and works hard always to find common ground.

I have no doubt in my mind that her leadership at the WTO will without doubt be a game changer, that will enable this important institution to meet the requirements of its Member States and to better address the evolving demands of the 21st Century, and this, led by a proven consensus-builder.

Owing to her outstanding credentials, I do again strongly believe that Amb. Mohamed will enjoy broad support from countries across the world, with our pledge as Kenya not only to support her but to continue
working closely with all countries on the African continent and across the
globe to build consensus and a truly meaningful multilateral trade
platform that every single country can benefit from, and I thank you all.

Issued at Harambee House, Nairobi on NINTH day of JULY in the
year TWENTY-TWENTY.
ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION SPEECH BY AMB. (DR.) AMINA C. MOHAMED, EGH, CAV, CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF SPORTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Your Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta
Honourable Ministers and Members of Parliament
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to His Excellency, President Uhuru Kenyatta, for nominating me as Kenya’s candidate for the position of Director-General of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

I am humbled by the confidence His Excellency the President has shown in me and I can assure that I will do my very best to bring honour to Kenya and Africa if selected as the next WTO Director-General. I have spent a significant part of my career advocating for a liberalized trading system that would benefit all countries, particularly African countries.

The rules-based multilateral trading system has been a force for good since its creation in 1948 by contributing to the tremendous expansion of the global economy and increasing living standards in almost all countries. It has helped developing countries, including African countries, to use trade to alleviate poverty and achieve sustainable economic growth and development. Its many achievements risk being overshadowed by its inability to confront recent challenges, including the inability to conclude agreements that would modernize the trading system and enable it to provide opportunities for businesses to expand trade and investment for the benefit of all countries.

The unexpected selection process for the position of WTO Director-General has come at a time when the world is confronting the deadly Covid-19 pandemic, which is expected to trigger the most severe economic contraction since the Great Depression. No country is in a position to manage the COVID-19 crisis alone. That holds particularly true for trade. Indeed, what the world now needs the most is a revitalized WTO that would play an enhanced role in pulling the global economy out of recession.
Honourable Ministers
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

If I am selected as WTO Director General, I will work collaboratively and inclusively with all Members to help them reach convergence on reform and renewal of the organization to meet their needs and aspirations. We need a strengthened WTO that would make a difference in the lives of ordinary people.

The role of the Director General has been described as that of a facilitator by Peter Sutherland, who was the first Director-General of the WTO. This means using every possible opportunity for building bridges among WTO Members to advance the work of the organization.

Having served as Chairperson of all the highest WTO bodies, I have demonstrated that I can bring Members together to deliberate and find appropriate solutions to the critical issues facing the Organization. I believe in the transformative power of trade not only to improve the economic well-being of countries but also as an anchor for peace and security in the world.

The trust bestowed upon me by our President, His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta with this nomination, will energize me to work hard to convince WTO Members that I possess all the qualities and experience His Excellency has described to lead the organization at this critical time.

Asanteni sana!
Ambassador (Dr.) Amina Mohamed is an accomplished international civil servant and diplomat who has served in various high-level international, regional and national portfolios over the past three decades. She is a former Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and has also previously served as Minister for Education, Science and Technology. She is the current Minister for Sports, Culture and Heritage. Kenya is a sports powerhouse and the leading Olympic medal winner in Africa. It is also recognized as the Cradle of Mankind and of civilization owing to the rich and diverse archaeological and paleontological finds in numerous sites found within the Great Rift Valley, illustrating the place of Africa in writing the history of mankind.

Minister Mohamed recorded the following achievements in her present docket:

1. Revitalized Kenya’s global war against doping. She served on the World Anti-Doping Agency’s Foundation Board and led Africa’s contributions in re-writing the WADA Statutes.
2. Set up sports merchandising value-chains to commercialize Kenya’s sporting identity by unlocking small, medium and micro enterprises to manufacture sports apparel and associated goods to protect small businesses from the dire economic effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.
3. Established Kenya’s first Presidential Archives and Libraries to preserve Presidential Papers and core decisions of the Presidency since independence.
4. Expanded the Kenya National Archives and Documentation Services to reinforce the preservation of national records.
5. Led the development of the online exhibition of Kenya’s culture and intangible heritage ‘Utamaduni Wetu: Meet the People of Kenya’ Unititing 28 museums, sites and monuments. This project was the result of a year-long large scale-digitization project which, for the first time in Kenya’s history, enabled audiences to access the collections of the National Museums of Kenya online showing the past and present stories of Kenya’s communities.
6. Invigorated the Institute of Primate Research into a leading Bio-Medical research facility engaged in Kenya’s efforts to contain the coronavirus disease and develop a vaccine.
7. Operationalized public-private and social sector coordination structures to formulate COVID-19 and post-COVID emergency, resilience and transformative policies to sustain and revitalize Culture and Creative Industries.
8. Successfully led Kenya’s efforts to return the World Rally championships (WRC) Safari Rally back to the WRC-FIA circuit after an 18-year break.
9. Negotiated with international Agencies causing the repatriation of indigenous Kenyan artefacts such as the Vigango of the Mijikenda which were repatriated by Denver University to Kenya in 2019.
10. Successfully chaired the World Athletics U-20 Championships Steering Committee.
11. Lobbied World Athletics to hold the inaugural Gold leg of the World Continental Tour in Nairobi for the first time in Africa.
12. Conceptualized and supervised the implementation of a COVID-19 stimulus programme for the creatives sector to cushion 20,000 artists and 80,000 households from the economic and social effects of COVID-19.
14. Conceptualized and supervised the implementation of the Sports Stimulus Programme designed to cushion 2000 athletes and 8000 households from the economic and social effects of COVID-19.
15. Commissioned the development of the Sports, Arts and Social Development Fund Operation Manual to guide application, assessment, disbursement and evaluation of resources from the Fund.
16. Chaired the first online Commonwealth Sports Ministers Meeting
17. Guided the preparation and technical conceptualization of the Seventh International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport (MINEPS-VII).

She previously served as the Minister for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation and the first woman Minister in this docket since independence. While at the Ministry of Education, she was responsible for 17 million students at different levels across the education continuum, 23000 Primary, 8000 Secondary schools, 73 Universities and over 1000 Technical, Vocational Education Training Institutes managing 27% of the Government’s Total Budget. She is credited with trailblazing accomplishments including:

1. Delivering 100% transition from primary to secondary education, placing Kenya on the global map as being the first and only African country to do so.
2. Formulating, launching and operationalizing, for the first time in Kenya; the Sector Policy for Learners and Trainers with Disabilities; Competency Based Curriculum Policy; Disaster Preparedness Policy and Mentorship Policy.
3. Negotiating 18,000 Government Scholarships from the World Bank for secondary school students to support full transition from primary to secondary education.
4. Achieving 30% improvement in numeracy and literacy under the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Programme.
5. Creating a Community of Practice (COP) for African Ministers of Education to exchange best practice to improve education delivery in Africa.

6. Leading the Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) and raised $300 million to support STEM in Africa.

7. Championed the restructuring of Technical and Vocational Training institutes to serve the needs of the Kenyan economy in light of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. She co-designed the GOK/Mastercard Foundation Young Kenya World Programme aimed at training and transitioning 5 million young Kenyans into dignified and fulfilling work by the year 2022.

Amb. Mohamed also served as the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Trade and was the first woman to hold this position in Kenya. During this period, she raised Kenya’s international foreign profile leading to the highest increment of Foreign Direct Investment to the country by 400%. She focused on trade and pan-African diplomacy bringing:

(a) The 10th World Trade Organisation Ministerial Conference (WTO MC-10) which was the first WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Africa. She was the first woman to chair a WTO Ministerial Conference. As the first African to chair the WTO’s highest forum, she played a crucial role in galvanizing consensus on key decisions such as the elimination of export subsidies in agriculture. This was the first fulfilment of a UN Sustainable Development Goal, under SDG2 - Zero Hunger.

(b) The Sixth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD VI) to Africa for the first time. She was the first woman to co-chair TICAD bringing 32 Heads of State and Government and 18,000 accredited participants to Nairobi. During this Conference, Japan pledged USD 30 Billion towards infrastructure and people empowerment in Africa and USD 10 Billion-infrastructure development under Public Private Partnerships. Seventy-Three Memoranda of Understanding worth USD 30 Billion were also signed to boost trade between Japan and Africa.

(c) The 14th United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD-14) round of negotiations to Nairobi. During the duration of this conference, USD 30 Million was spent by the attendees in the country. She is the current President of UNCTAD-14.

Before her appointment as Foreign Minister, she held the post of United Nations Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). During her tenure, she played an instrumental role in reforming and positioning UNEP as a global environmental organization.

She also served as the First female President of the United Nations Conference on Transnational Crime in 2011 for a period of two years.
Prior to this, she worked as the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs where she played a key role in writing and leading the process that led to the promulgation of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. She was particularly instrumental in achieving consensus within the religious and civil society fora on areas that were seen majorly as controversial.

In 2002 to 2006, she was the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations and WTO in Geneva, Switzerland.

During this time, she served as the:

(i) First female Chairperson of the Governing Council of the World Trade Organisation. Notable during her term was the accession of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the WTO.
(ii) First woman to Chair the Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO in 2004,
(iii) The first woman to Chair the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in 2002.
(iv) First woman to Chair the African Group at the World Trade Organisation (WTO)
(v) Spokesperson for the African Group at the World Trade Organization (WTO) and United Nations in Geneva
(vi) First woman to Coordinate the African Group at the United Nations Human Rights Commission including the Historic Conference Against Racism
(vii) President of the Conference on Disarmament in 2002

Ambassador Amina Mohamed is the current co-Chair of the Commonwealth High Level Platform for Girls’ Education together with the United Kingdom’s Foreign Secretary. The aim of the Platform is to work with Governments across the Commonwealth to put 130 million out of schoolgirls back in school.

She is also a Member of several Executive Boards and Committees including the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), Red Cross, Commonwealth of Learning, Life and Peace Institute International Advisory Council, Sweden, World Economic Forum’s Global Agenda Council on the Arctic, and Strathmore Law School Advisory Board.

In 2017, she was appointed a member of the Advisory Committee to the President of the United Nations General Assembly.

Minister Mohamed has covered over 100 Global Summit and Conferences as Head or Deputy Head of Delegation. She has also been recognised nationally and internationally and received numerous Awards notably:

(i) Elder of the Order of the Golden Heart (EGH), Highest National Award by the Head of State, Republic of Kenya
(ii) Chief of the Burning Spear (CBS), Republic of Kenya
(iii) Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun conferred by His Imperial Majesty Emperor Akihito of Japan. Highest honour given to a non-Japanese
(iv) Nilen Award which is the highest State Commendation in The Republic of The Sudan  
(v) Cavaliere dell’Ordine della Stella della solidarieta Italiana (CAV), from the President of Italy  
(vi) United Nations Development Programme, Champion  
(vii) The Prestigious Adebisi Babatunde Thomas Entrepreneurship Institute Excellence in Diplomacy Award  
(viii) Women of Excellence Award to recognise, honour and appreciate women of Africa and the Diaspora who have significantly contributed to the struggle for political, social, and economic independence at various levels of Excellence.  
(ix) Avance Media 100 Most Influential African Women, 2019