

## 2017 AFRICA FOOD PRIZE AWARD – CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES [& pictorials]

### 1. Staff Congratulatory Messages



***The Africa Food Prize Award***

That Hon. Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o won the Africa Food Prize 2017 is not a surprise to me. I have been under her tutelage since April 2010 and I can attest that her contribution to transforming Kenya's rural areas by working on matters of nutrition and raising productivity of key food crops has been outstanding. She has spent many years creating initiatives and promoting enterprises that benefit rural farmers, most of whom are women and youth. I can only say HONGERA PROF. Proud of you.

***Sylvester Aura, Program Officer, ROP-Africa***

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate my boss 'Laureate' Hon. Prof. Ruth Oniang'o for winning the 2017 Africa Food Prize Award. I am proud to be associated with her and her organizations Rural Outreach Program (ROP) Africa and the African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development (AJFAND). Her works have been recognized the world over and I thank the Almighty God that these works have now been awarded a prize. Professor, keep up the good work.

***Michael Okumu, Administrator, ROP-Africa***

Congratulations Prof for being awarded the 2017 Africa Food Prize! I am happy that someone with a passion for promoting nutrition received this prestigious award. The award appropriately reflects your passion and selfless acts especially among the rural poor. I am honored and proud because I was present when you received the prize. We at AJFAND and ROP are proud of you. I wish you all the best and say *Hongera!*

***Consolata Musita, Intern, ROP-Africa***

Prof, the Africa Food Prize award you have won is as a result of hard work and efforts with fearless spirit. You have worked tirelessly in bringing change through farming in Africa. The award was not just given to you but you earned it and will always remind you of your dedication. You have really touched many people's lives and today I celebrate your achievement. Congratulations for winning the award.

***Emily Kaveza, Editorial Assistant, AJFAND.***

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our ROP Founder Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o for making us proud by winning the African food prize 2017. Your hard work, determination and the passion

you have had and you still have for farmers has been realized. Prof has put a smile and hope to those farmers who didn't have hope at all. May the almighty God bless you as you continue touching lives of many. Be blessed.

***Doris Anjawa, Field Coordinator, ROP-Africa***

Professor Ruth Oniang'o, or Prof as we know her, has been consistent in her message on food and nutrition ever since I met her some 10+ years ago. As more efforts were being put into increasing the quantity of food in the continent, Prof was relentless in asking for that food to be nutritious also. This is my 4<sup>th</sup> year working under the mentorship of Prof in ROP and AJFAND; she indeed practices what she preaches. It is wonderful to see nutrition being given the space it deserves; thanks to efforts of Ruth and many like her who never stopped. I am proud of you Prof for receiving this award.

CONGRATULATIONS! You are most deserving. All the best.

***Mary Njeri Karanu, Program Officer, ROP-Africa***

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## **2. FRIENDS Congratulatory Messages**

**From:** Kennedy Abwao

**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2017 6:12 PM

**To:** Prof Ruth K. Oniang'o

**Subject:** Abidjan

Hello Prof.

I congratulate you for winning the food prize and for granting me the interview last week in Abidjan. Here is the write up.

<https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/experts-call-for-early-warning-systems-against-malnutrition-in-africa-17333/>

Remember I am here and would very much like to drive up country for a closer look at your interventions as we celebrate the prize.

Kennedy

Nairobi

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**From:** Francis Wegulo  
**Sent:** Monday, September 11, 2017 12:06 AM  
**To:** Prof Ruth K. Oniango  
**Subject:** Congratulations

Hello Prof Oniango'

I am writing this brief note to say "Congratulations" on your latest award following a most illustrious performance in research and related undertakings.

I join your colleagues, friends and people you have mentored both directly and indirectly in saying "hongera sana". Your commitment and diligence have a great source of inspiration to many of us.

May the great Lord sustain your efforts and the excellent work, as you forge on.

Francis Wegulo

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**From:** Safi Organics  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2017 1:50 PM  
**To:** Prof Ruth K. Oniango  
**Subject:** Follow up on our conversation in AGRF 2017

Dear Ruth,

Congratulations once again on you being the Laureate of Africa Food Prize, as a young lady entrepreneur I have a role model in you, it is indeed a high bar you have set to us young ladies. I am proud of you. It was amazing to meet you in person and share in your wealth of knowledge.

As Safi Organics we see a potential that we can tap in your network of farmers as we help them increase their yields as we make their soils better. I would like to request for an appointment to come and make a presentation to you and forge a way forward on how we can make the product available to your farmers.

Congratulations once again and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best Regards

Joyce Kamande  
[Safi organics](#)

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**From:** Trevor Nicholls

**Sent:** Monday, October 9, 2017 1:53 PM

**To:** Akhter Mateen; Andrew Jack; Anne Glover; Lutz-Peter Berg; Mme Yao Xiangjun; Paulus Verschuren; Philip Walters; Prem Warrior; Robert Sloley; Roger Horton; Prof Ruth K. Oniango; Samantha Brannan; Trevor Nicholls

**Subject:** Africa Food Prize

Dear Board Members,

Please join me in congratulating Professor Ruth Oniang'o for her award of the Africa Food Prize 2017 (<https://www.africafoodprize.org/prize-laureates/>). Ruth is a worthy winner of this prestigious award for her lifelong efforts to improve food and nutrition security across Africa. Ruth has sought to achieve this particularly through the engagement of women and youth on the ground but has also been an outstanding advocate at senior government levels, both in Kenya and throughout Africa, to create an enabling environment by stimulating supportive policy changes across the continent.

On a personal level, could I apologise to Ruth that due to a communication mix-up I have only just learned this news and so the congratulations are a bit belated! Nevertheless, we will ensure that all our member countries and stakeholder contacts are now made aware of this recognition for the work of aa CABI Board Member

**Trevor Nicholls**

Chief Executive Officer

CABI Head Office

Nosworthy Way

Wallingford

Oxfordshire

OX10 8DE

United Kingdom



September 11, 2017

9 Planets Apartments, Block S6  
Kabarnet Gardens, Off Kabarnet Road [Off Ngong Road]  
P.O. Box 29086-00625  
Nairobi, KENYA

Dear Professor Ruth Khasaya Oniang'o,

I was thrilled to see that you were awarded the 2017 Africa Food Prize at the African Green Revolution Forum in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

On behalf of Winrock International, I congratulate you for this honor. Your contributions to the field of agriculture and nutrition in Africa are widely recognized and it is a privilege to collaborate with you through the Sasakawa Africa Association and the Sasakawa Fund for Extension Education.

Increasing the capacity of smallholder farmers in areas like improved processing and value addition are key to the food security of the African continent, and the world. We look forward to our continued partnership in these areas, and extend our heartfelt congratulations to you on the occasion of this extraordinary award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rodney Ferguson'.

Rodney Ferguson  
President and CEO  
Winrock International

**From:** Knipscheer, Henk  
**Sent:** Friday, September 15, 2017 6:29 PM  
**To:** Prof Ruth K. Oniango **Subject:** Congratulations!

Dear Ruth

Upon my return to office I learned about the African Food Prize Award bestowed on you. I cannot imagine a person more deserving. You are an exemplary leader who talks the talk and also – much more challenging -walks the walk. You have the special ability to inspire and motivate the persons around you.

You are an example for all aspiring leaders in the world, especially the female ones.

I thank you for all your great efforts.

Henk

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**From:** Silim M Nahdy  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2017 10:43 AM  
**To:** Prof Ruth K. Oniango  
**Cc:** 'Mary Kamau'; 'Max Olupot'  
**Subject:** RE: Congratulations

**Dear Hon. Prof. Oniang'o**

We have learnt with great pleasure and pride the recognition of your great achievement in the African continent which has been acknowledged by the award of the Africa Food Prize 2017 by African Green Revolution. On behalf of the AFAAS Board and Management, we extend our heartiest congratulations for this great achievement. AFAAS is proud to be associated with you and hope that this exemplary performance in agricultural development will greatly help the championing of food and nutritional security in Africa and AFAAS's role in this endeavour as well. Please find attached our note of congratulations.

We share the joy and wish you a distinguished future.

Yours Sincerely,

Best regards,

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Silim M. Nahdy (PhD)  
Executive Director  
African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services -AFAAS  
Plot 22A, Nakasero Road, Box 34624 Kampala  
Website: [www.afaas-africa.org](http://www.afaas-africa.org)



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**Our Ref:** AFAAS/PAT/09/2017

**September 20, 2017**

**Hon. Prof. Ruth K. Oniang'o,**  
**AFAAS Patron;**  
Editor-in-Chief, AJFAND;  
Founder, Rural Outreach Program (ROP) Africa  
Chair of Boards, SAA/SAFE  
Nairobi, Kenya

**Dear Hon. Prof. Oniang'o**

**RE: Congratulations**

On behalf of African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services' Board, we are very delighted to learn that you won Africa Food Prize 2017, awarded by African Green Revolution. Please accept our heartiest congratulations to you on this glorious achievement. Your continued splendid performance in agricultural development and championship in food and nutritional security are evident in Africa and Globally.

We share the joy and wish you a distinguished and bright future.

Yours Sincerely,

**Dr. Silim Mohammed Nahdy**  
Executive Director, AFAAS

**cc. Mrs. Mary Kamau-** AFAAS Board Chairperson;  
Nairobi Kenya.



## PICTORIALS







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