



African Academy of Sciences

The AAS Affiliates' Program: Objectives, Requirements and Benefits

1. Program Objectives

The AAS Affiliates' program is intended to achieve the Academy's objective to *stimulate and nurture the spirit of scientific discovery and technological innovation in Africa in order to promote sustainable development in the continent through research and development*. It is intended to fill a niche gap with regard to the professional growth of young and early-to-mid career professionals in their effort to develop into research leaders. Several reports indicate that many countries and organizations are already implementing PhD training programs to meet the teaching and research requirements of higher educational and research institutions. Many of these students train in well-established North institutions or relatively well set up African PhD training centers, but when they return to their home institutions they face great difficulties to develop as independent thinkers and leaders. They do not get enough opportunities that allow them to be the generator of new ideas, knowledge and innovative solutions to Africa's problems.

While the responsibility to attract and retain well trained Africans is the responsibility of the various African member states and their national and sub-regional institutions, pan-African Organizations like AAS can play a catalytic and supportive role to inspire and provide tangible support to such cohorts. The support provided by AAS will assist young scholars develop into research leaders in their respective fields. Up to 25 Affiliates will be elected every year.

The AAS Affiliates program is intended to provide inspirational support to such Africans as described below in 3.

2. Requirements and nomination procedures

The AAS Affiliates' program is targeted to support Africans who are aged 40 years or below, who are already employed in higher educational or research institutions and who have obtained their PhD during the last five years and have undertaken post-doctoral research experience. They may be in any field of specialization and must be nominated by **their institutional leaders or a Fellow/Associate Fellow of the Academy**. The nomination of a candidate for Affiliate Membership shall be made through each region (Northern, Eastern Central, Western, and Southern Africa) through the respective regional office of AAS. Contacts of AAS Fellows who are in a given region may also be obtained from the respective office of the Academy (these contacts are given in Appendix 1 below). Nominations are made in the prescribed forms which are available from the Regional Office or directly from the AAS website; www.aasciences.org.

3. AAS support to Affiliate Members of AAS

The designation of 'Affiliate Member of AAS' is a meritorious recognition through competitive evaluation and review by a designated body from each region and finally approved by the

Governing Council of the Academy. The designation of Affiliate Membership shall be for a period of five years¹.

AAS will organize a range of activities to enhance the professional development of the Affiliate members. Of particular interest may be special courses such as proposal writing, manuscript preparation, writing and presentation, ethical conduct of research, intellectual property issues, reviewing papers and proposals, *etc.*; organized in partnership with other leading global organizations, such as publishing houses. Affiliate members will be given opportunities to establish mentor-mentee relationships with gurus in their field of specialization from among AAS Fellows or elsewhere. AAS will also seek to support the participation of affiliate members in major conferences organized by the Academy or other sister academies. Other exciting opportunities are currently being explored with AAS partners and will be communicated in due course.

Appendix 1

AAS Regional Offices and contacts of respective Vice Presidents

Regional office	Contact Person	Email
Northern Africa	Prof. Mahmoud Abdel-Aty, Professor of Mathematics and Information Science, University of Science and Technology at Zewail City, Sheikh Zayed District, 12588, 6th of October City, Giza, Egypt; Tel: +20 121 18 5 5997; Fax: +20 23 851 7181	abdelatyquantum@gmail.com
Central Africa	Prof. Vincent Titanji, Vice Chancellor and CEO, Cameroon Christian University, P. O. Box 5, Bali, Mezam, North West Region, Cameroon	vpk.titanji@yahoo.com
Eastern Africa	Prof. Burton Mwamila, The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science University, and Technology (NM-AIST), P. O. Box 447, Tengeru, Arusha, Tanzania; Tel:+255 272 970001; +255 784777580, +255 784524291;	mwamila@gmail.com ; burton.mwamila@nm-aist.ac.tz
Western Africa	Prof. Robert Tinga Guiguemde, Universite Polytechnique de Bobo-Dioulasso, 01 BP 390, Bobo-Dioulasso, 01, Burkina Faso, Tel: 226 2 097 2824	rguiguemde@yahoo.fr
Southern Africa	Prof. Quarraisha Abdool Karim. CAPRISA, Doris Duke Medical Research Institute, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Private Bag X7, Congella, 4013, South Africa, +27 31 260 4550, Mobile: +27 82 776 9705, Fax: +27 31 260 4566;	Quarraisha.abdoolkarim@caprisa.org

¹ There shall be no direct progression from Affiliate to Fellow.