

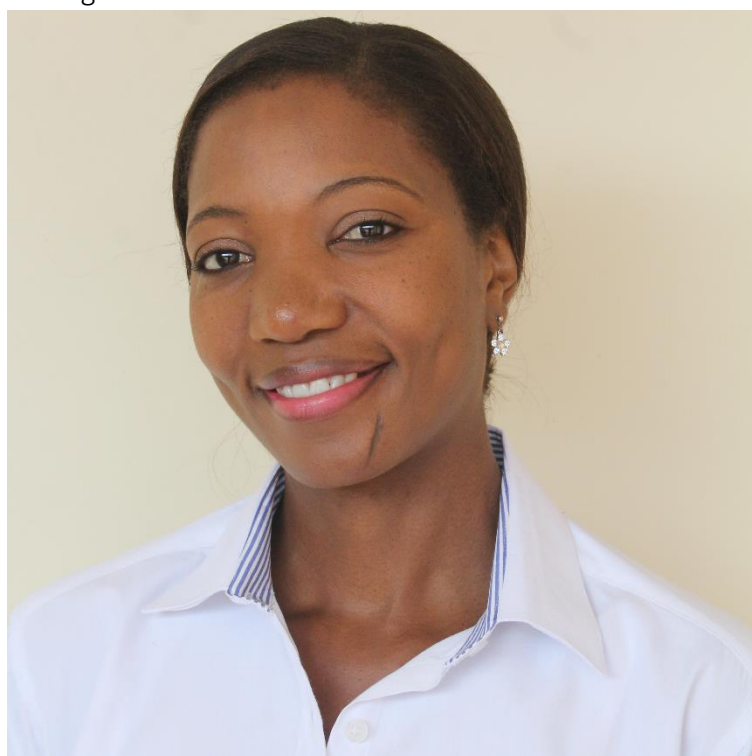
Press Release



For immediate release | 25 April, 2019

Dr. Alice Mweetwa Joins RUFORUM as the Deputy Executive Secretary

Monrovia 26 April 2019 At the RUFORUM 17th Board Executive Meeting held in Monrovia, Liberia from 24th to 25th April 2019, Dr. Alice Mweetwa was appointed and confirmed as the Deputy Executive Secretary responsible for Programme Development and Implementation. She will officially commence work on 01 July 2019 and will be based at the RUFORUM Secretariat in Kampala, Uganda. Dr. Mweetwa now joins Dr. Florence Nakayiwa who is the second Deputy Executive Secretary responsible for Planning, Resources Mobilisation and Management.



Dr. Alice Mutiti Mweetwa joins RUFORUM from the University of Zambia (UNZA) where she has been working as the Deputy Director for Research and Post Graduate Studies, a position she has held since 2017. She was the immediate past Deputy Dean for Post Graduate Programmes of the School of Agricultural Sciences. She has served on several University boards and committees for quality assurance, policy formulation, income generation, Senate, journals publication, among others. Dr Mweetwa is a Senior Lecturer of soil microbiology and general soil fertility in the Department of Soil Science at

UNZA. She has a Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Sciences (Crop Science Major) from UNZA, a master's degree in Agronomy also from UNZA, a master's degree in Environmental Science from Miami in Ohio, USA and a Doctoral degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University also in the USA. Since joining the University of Zambia in 2010, she has mentored a total of 38 post graduate students with whom she has published in several international peer-reviewed journals. She is an awardee of the 2017 Young African Researcher, 2016 National Science and Technology Merit Award and the Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program 2012. Dr Mweetwa is currently involved with several funded projects.

As part of aligning operations for delivery of the [Vision 2030](#), since 2018, RUFORUM Board of Trustees has been recruiting new staff to strengthen the implementation of the RUFORUM Vision 2030 Strategy and broaden regional representation at the RUFORUM Secretariat. She

will be responsible for coordination of three Flagship programmes at RUFORUM Secretariat, namely; Transforming African Agricultural Universities to meaningfully contribute to Africa's growth and development (TAGDEV), Regional Anchor Universities for Higher Agricultural Education(RANCH) and Cultivating Research and Teaching Excellence (CREATE).

We congratulate Dr. Mweetwa on her appointment and welcome her to the RUFORUM Secretariat.

Notes to Editors:

Established by 10 African university Vice Chancellors in 2004, the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) is a consortium of 105 African universities operating in 37 countries on the continent with a vision to create vibrant transformative universities catalysing sustainable inclusive agricultural development to feed and create prosperity for Africa . RUFORUM Secretariat is hosted by the Ministry of Education and Sports in Uganda with Secretariat at Makerere University in Kampala. In 2014, RUFORUM signed an MoU with the African Union Commission to support implementation of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024) Priority One on reducing poverty and ensuring food and nutrition security. As of August 2017, RUFORUM has supported the training of 60 Under graduates, 1,883 MSc and 503 PhD graduates of whom 94% work in their home countries or region, generated over 300 agricultural technologies and mobilized over US\$201 million for strengthening postgraduate education in Africa. Please visit www.ruforum.org for more information.

For additional information, photos and interviews, contact the RUFORUM Corporate Communications & Advocacy Officer below;

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