



# THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE®

December 10, 2013

Dr. Ruth K. Oniang'o

AJFAND

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KENYA

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Dear Ruth:

I am writing to convey our great appreciation for all that you did to make our 2013 World Food Prize events such an exceptional success, as we inaugurated the Norman Borlaug Centennial Year and began "The Next Borlaug Century."

We wish to especially thank you participating in our Borlaug Field Award ceremony on October 16 by presenting a warm tribute to Chris Dowsell, including information on the scholarship that has been established in his memory.

We are so very grateful for your participation in our World Food Prize Lecture Series outreach to Iowa's educational community by giving two presentations: the keynote address to the annual Heartland Global Health Conference on October 16; and a presentation to the students enrolled in Iowa State's Global Resource Systems curriculum on October 17. In addition, thank you so much for providing remarks at our 'Celebrate a Daughter of Africa' event. The members of Des Moines' African community, representing 16 African nations, were extremely inspired by your words and message.

Furthermore, we greatly appreciated your enthusiasm to interact with our high school students, serving as a Global Youth Institute (GYI) Faculty Expert on Saturday, October 19, at DuPont Pioneer, as well as your willingness to share your expertise with our GYI teachers during their Professional Development session. Your participation ensured that our largest institute to date was also the most successful on record. Thank you for helping us inspire tomorrow's scientific and humanitarian leaders in so many vitally important ways.

We were deeply honored this year to have His Excellency Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, the President of Iceland, deliver the symposium keynote address and also join us in presenting the 2013 World Food Prize to the three pioneers of agricultural biotechnology: Marc Van Montagu, Mary-Dell Chilton and Robert Fraley.

In addition, I was privileged to join with former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Howard G. Buffett and Howard W. Buffett in announcing the creation of the 40 Chances Fellows program, a partnership of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Tony Blair's Africa Governance Initiative, and The World Food Prize.

We were also honored to welcome His Eminence Cardinal Peter K.A. Turkson, President of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, as well as over 1,500 people from around the globe to our Borlaug Dialogue and Global Youth Institute. Other exciting elements during the week included the presentation of the new Norman E. Borlaug Award for Field Research and Application, Endowed by the Rockefeller Foundation, to Dr. Charity Mutegi of Kenya; and a record-breaking turnout for our Iowa Hunger Summit.

The forthcoming year will be filled with events that highlight the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dr. Borlaug's birth next March 25. On that day, we will unveil his statue at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. I very much hope you will mark next October 14-18 on your calendar and plan to join us for our 2014 World Food Prize events, including the conclusion of our year-long Norman Borlaug Centennial Observance and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Global Youth Institute.

With special thanks for your interest and encouragement,

*Ken*

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn (ret.)  
President

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*You and SAA do so  
much to help us. We are  
so very grateful for your  
participation. How can I  
come to Africa  
and participate  
in one of your events?*