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INVITATION TO REGISTER DETAILS IN AFRICAN SCIENTISTS DIRECTORY

With funding from the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) of South Africa, the International Science Council (ISC) Regional Office for Africa (ROA), in collaboration with the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), the African Academy of Science (AAS), the Network of African Science Academies (NASAC) and the World Academy of Sciences Sub-Saharan Africa Regional Partner (TWAS-SAREP) have developed an African Scientists Directory. This directory is generally envisaged to serve as a dynamic platform that contains information on African experts in the natural and social sciences, humanities, engineering and mathematics, residing within and outside the continent, which would make it easy to identify, engage and co-design as well as carry out research across disciplines, countries and regions of the continent and beyond.

Specifically, the directory will: (i) facilitate the free flow of scientists and scientific knowledge across borders; and promote the participation of African scientists in activities of the ISC family; (ii) ensure efficient information transfer from the ISC and its family members to the scientific community in Africa and the collection, collation and dissemination of valuable scientific information for Africa; and (iii) promote and facilitate the formation of scientific societies and academies within the continent as well as sub-regional partnerships on the continent. The directory will also promote and facilitate capacity building in Africa, including support for post-graduate training programmes for early career scientists.

It is basically an online database, hosted on the ASSAf server and self-operable using the link: <u>http://africanscientists.africa/</u>. Access is open to scientists from all categories with a doctorate or equivalent qualification.

You are cordially invited to help us to create a vibrant and well-connected African science community through registering your details in this directory to among others collaborate, build trust, increase impact and connect. Please help further by sharing this information with your colleagues, partners and networks.

Sincerely yours,

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Dr Daniel Nyanganyura Regional Director, ISC Regional Office for Africa.