

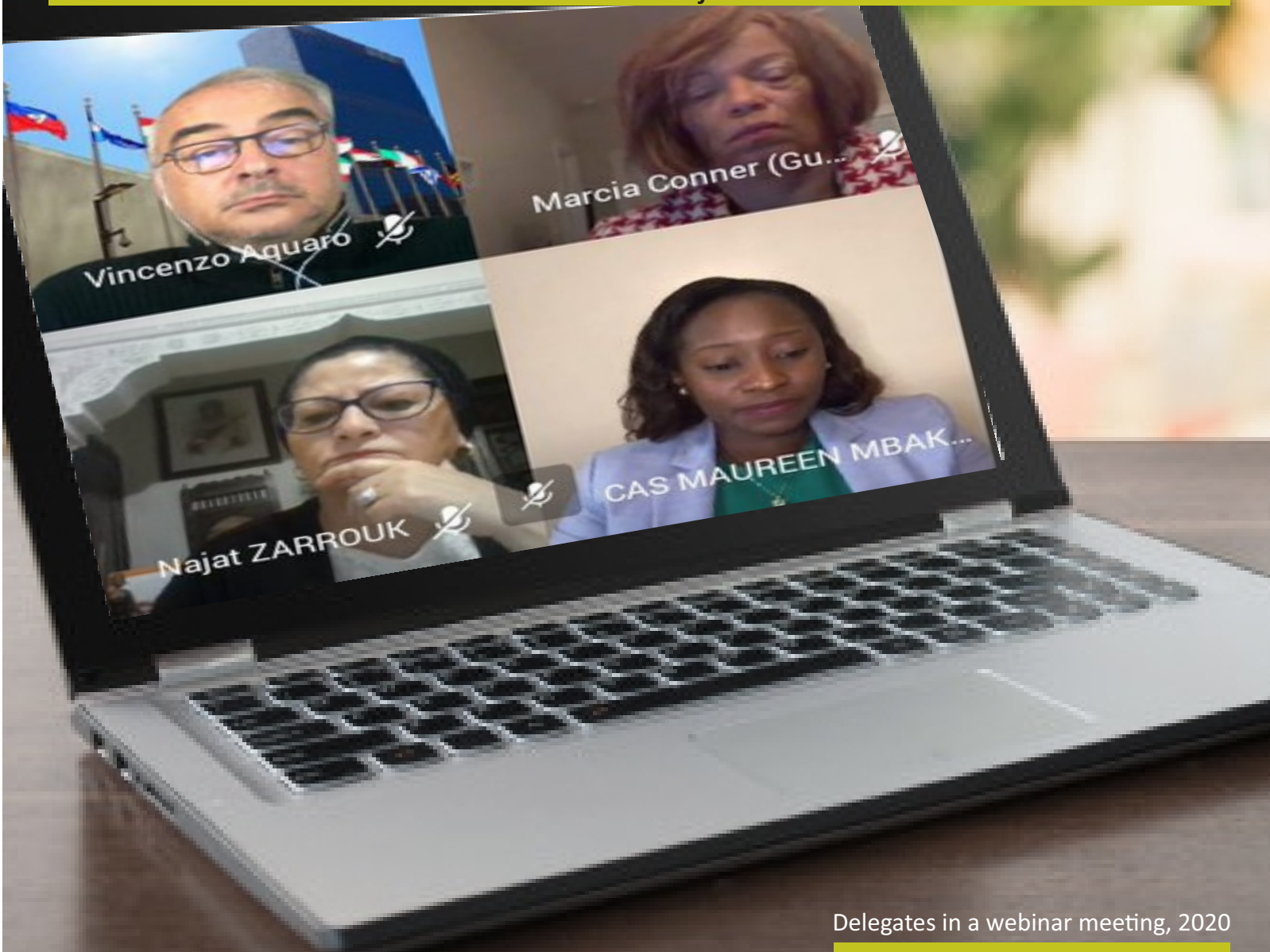
# AAPAM

THE AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

# NEWSLETTER

July 2020 - Dec 2020

87<sup>th</sup> Edition



Delegates in a webinar meeting, 2020

- ▶ *African leaders of Tomorrow (ALT) Scholars*
- ▶ *Promoting Integrity, Accountability and Transparency in the Public Service*
- ▶ *4th Industrial Revolution In Africa*

- ▶ **5<sup>th</sup> Edition Seminar on Strengthening Research Capacities and Capabilities for Attainment of the Global Agenda 2030 and African Union Agenda 2063**



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### **WHAT IS AAPAM?**

The African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) is an International Professional Organization that promotes Best Practice, Excellence and Professionalism in Public Administration and Management in Africa through Research, Publications, Training, Seminars, Conferences and Awards.

### **WHO ARE MEMBERS OF AAPAM**

- High level public policy makers, both appointed and elected
- Top administrators in the public service of African Governments
- Top managers in both public and private sectors
- Management Consultants
- Public policy management institutions/ organizations
- Management Development Institutes (MDIs)
- Business School/ Institutions and University
- Representatives of International organizations and the donor community having interest in development issues in Africa
- Academics and Researchers

### **CATEGORIES OF AAPAM MEMBERSHIP**

- AAPAM Membership consists of four categories:
- African Governments
- Corporate Members; institutions, organizations, associations or groups who share similar interests as AAPAM
- Individual Member interested in AAPAM activities
- Students

### **WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS?**

- All paid up members receive the following services and products:
- Free copies of AAPAM publications i.e. a Journal (AJPM) published bi-annually and a Newsletter
- Copies of report from Annual Roundtable Conferences
- Facilitation of exchange programmes to enable individuals or groups of top public officials and managers to visit other countries in Africa and share learning experiences
- Involvement in accordance with required expertise in the Association's consultancy activities
- Participation in AAPAM activities and programmes like trainings, workshops

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2. Mrs. Gertrude Mpaka
3. Dr. Teferi Haile Michael
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2. Kenya School of Government
3. Lesotho Institute of Public Administration and Management
4. Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration
5. University of Pretoria
6. National Institute of Public Administration- Djibouti
7. Tunis National School of Administration - Tunisia

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT.



*AAPAM President Dr. Roland Msiska*

### Esteemed Members


I convey warm greetings from the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) Executive Committee and Secretariat. It is my hope that you are all in good health and are keeping safe. Since early March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has ravaged African countries compromising already fragile economics and undermining essential service delivery to citizens who have never needed these services more! It is our hope that you have remained steady in your commitment to enhance service delivery in the continent and have adopted to the agile and innovation approaches to service delivery that have proven necessary for this period. As an organization we continue to reaffirm our commitment towards building professional resilient public servants who are capable of steering African countries through the darkest of times with tenacity.

On this edition, we continue to focus on transforming public administration in Africa in line with African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the COVID-19 era. To this end, we have embarked on more partnerships that have culminated into training programmes, policy documents and research agenda. So far, we have entered into agreement with the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI), iCUBEFARM, Centre for Environmental

Management and Participatory Development (CEMPD), Stellenbosch University and United Nations Public Administration Network (UNPAN). We look forward to our continued collaborations with the Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC), African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA), UNDESA, UCLGA, National Integrity Academy – Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission of Kenya (EACC), Uganda Institute of Management (UMI), National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA), Observatory of Public Service Innovation (OPSI/OCED) among others.

We begin this edition with conversations with the African Leaders of Tomorrow (ALT) Scholarship programme alumni, you will recall that the ALT programme was a partnership between AAPAM, the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) and the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPA), supported by the Mastercard Foundation. Our featured alumni from Nigeria and Gambia share their experiences in Canada as well as their aspirations for the Continent in terms of public administration. AAPAM has sent out letters to all heads of public service informing them of the presence of the alumni, I encourage all senior level administrators to take an interest in these alumni and where possible give them opportunities to apply their skills and knowledge to build your respective countries. I am also pleased to announce a series of leadership capacity building webinars that will be conducted between February and October 2021 as a follow up to the ALT programme. All young Professionals are welcome to join the series.

This edition also highlights digital transformation, the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution wave that has swept through the Continent. The 17<sup>th</sup> November webinar focused on the theme Embracing the Digital Age: Digital Transformation for Citizen Engagement and Service Delivery. The webinar received key inputs from the Ministry of ICT and Youth-Kenya, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology -



Egypt. In their evaluations, Governments have made tangible strides to embrace the digital agenda to modernize public administration in their respective countries. Notably, both countries acknowledge the vast opportunities presented by this revolution in terms of employment creation among the youth, innovation and improving the standards of efficiency in service delivery. The success of this webinar was evident that there was a need to empower public administrators in order to utilize digital tools. We plan to mainstream digital transformation through all our programme to address this gap.

Members, you will agree with me that corruption has for long bedeviled public administration in the Continent, the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic further revealed inconsistencies in ministries of Health and National Treasury especially, as governments put in place measures to safeguard safety of citizens as well as cushion fragile economies. With such efforts being undermined conversations on how to address this vice ensued. AAPAM in collaboration with The National Integrity Academy (NIAca) organized its inaugural training webinar on Promoting Integrity, Accountability and Transparency in the Public Service Administration during COVID-19 Period and Beyond in July. This webinar offered a unique approach to combating corruption by focusing on the creation of ethical and value-driven societies which uphold integrity and rule of law. It is our hope that this brief recap on the programme will offer insights into addressing corruption.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Seminar on Strengthening Research Capacities and Capabilities for Attainment of the Global Agenda 2030 and African Union Agenda 2063 is also featured in this edition. AAPAM collaborated with Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) - South Africa, School of Public Management and Administration (SPMA) – University of Pretoria and African Local Governments Academy (ALGA) of the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG-Africa) to deliver the virtual forum which advocates for anchoring research to drive the development of the Continent. In further support of the theme, another

webinar was conducted focusing on Anchoring and Strengthening Research Capacities and Capabilities to Support the African Union (AU) Chairship Goal of Pursuing Universal Accession to the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) by AU Member States. AAPAM remains committed to supporting the AU chairship held by the government of South Africa and their mandate to pursue sustainable development through the voluntary evaluation offered by the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). More details on this programme can be accessed on [www.aapam.org](http://www.aapam.org)

I take this opportunity to give updates on the 41<sup>st</sup> Roundtable Conference, as you can recall, the conference was scheduled for November-December 2020 in South Africa, however the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic has made the actualization of the roundtable improbable. We will continue to consult widely with the relevant authorities and inform members of the new dates as soon as possible; we encourage all countries to keep sending their innovations for the IMA programme. Please refer to our Calendar of programmes 2021 herein, for a detailed programme overview.

I conclude by acknowledging all African Governments and all our development partners who have remained steadfast despite the tough times of 2020. On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Council and Secretariat, we wish you all a pleasant festive season and a prosperous year 2021.

Dr. Roland Msiska  
AAPAM President

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

By Clifford Ogutu - AAPAM Research and Consultancy Assistant

The African Association for Public Administration (AAPAM) traced down a few African leaders of Tomorrow (ALT) Scholars following their successful completion in their Public Administration/Public Policy/ Public Finance Master's degree scholarship in Canada. ALT Scholarship Program commemorates the late Nelson Mandela's commitment to social justice and equity. It supports young African professionals to become leaders in public policy and administration. AAPAM in partnership with Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) and the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration (CAPPA) have been delivering ALT scholarship programme from 2015. We engaged the scholars in cross cutting areas, and this is what they had to say to us.

about myself



Samson Abioye

*I have passion for making the world a better place by helping to improve access to resources for people living in developing countries. After finishing my engineering degree, I was looking for a program that would give me the knowledge needed to move forward with my dreams. The ALT program perfectly fits in!*

**How did you get to hear about the ALT programme and what inspired you to apply for it?**

*I got to know about ALT program through a friend. The opportunity to learn about public policy inspired me to apply for the program.*

**What was your reaction once you**

**received confirmation that you had been selected for the programme?**

*I was excited at the opportunity to study at a Canadian institution on a fully sponsored scholarship.*

**How did the programme impact your life?**

*The program has expanded my horizon. It has provided an opportunity for me to develop a career as a policy advisor.*

**Given a chance, would have you chosen to remain in Canada or go back home?**

*As much as I am back home applying the skills I have learned, I plan to be a global citizen contributing to international policy development. Of course, it is my desire to contribute to the development of sustainable policies to provide a lasting solution to water challenges in Canadian First Nations communities.*

**How is life at home (Your country) now that the programme is over?**

*I have returned to my work at home*

**What are you currently doing?**

*I work with the government as a regulator in the oil and gas industry*

**How are you using the experiences you got in Canada to help the people in your country?**

*I contribute to policy development that guides the petroleum industry in Nigeria.*

**What challenges have you faced since you came back?**

*More than ever before, I became more conscious of the security challenges in my immediate environment. Having experienced life in a more secured society in Canada, I became quite apprehensive at the level of insecurity in my country*

**Have you ever participated in any AAPAM programme? (Online, physical etc.)**

No.

**How has your master's degree been beneficial to you?**

*The master's degree has prepared me for future challenges. It has also given me a competitive advantage towards a PhD degree.*

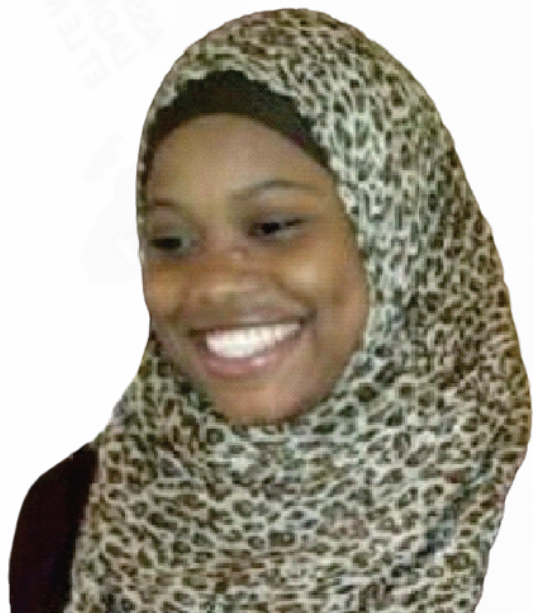
**As a young professional, what advice can you give to young individuals in the continent who want to**

**pursue a career in Public Administration?**

*Focus and preparedness to take opportunities when they come would be my advice for young individuals aspiring to pursue a career in public administration/policy.*

**What is the way forward now for you?**

*I am working towards starting a PhD next year. My aim is to later take on a career as a researcher/consultant.*



**Isatou Njai Cham – Gambia**

**Tell us about yourself.**

*I am a communications specialist with more than 6 years of professional experience in related fields such as monitoring, reporting and policy analysis. I have worked in both the development and public sectors support national Programmes against malnutrition and mostly, human rights.*

**How did you get to hear about the ALT programme and what inspired you to apply for it?**

*I received information about the ALT programme from a friend and a colleague*

*after he applied. I was inspired by the name and focus of the programme given my interest in how policies are formulated and their impact. I was starting to get involved at the national level.*

**What was your reaction once you received confirmation that you had been selected for the programme?**

*Trilled! I was excited to be awarded such a prestigious award to study in Canada.*

**How did the programme impact your life?**

*The programme has elevated my career from a junior to a managerial role where I get to supervise other people and nurture the leadership skills I had acquired. This is preparing me to take on bold steps in my career such as building the foundation to establish my own policy and communications firm.*

**Given a chance, would have you chosen to remain in Canada or go back home?**


*I chose to return home. Home is where I can truly put my skills to practice. With capacity gaps in key national development institutions, I am happy to be home to contribute.*

**How is life at home (Your country) now that the programme is over?**

*It has been going quite well. I landed a job with the first national human rights commission in The Gambia and I am helping in laying the foundation as my country transitions from 22 years of dictatorship to a democracy.*

**What are you currently doing?**

*I am currently working as the Director of Communications and Media at the National Human Rights Commission*



(NHRC).

**How are you using the experiences you got in Canada to help the people in your country?**

*The experience gathered is helping me in my writing and reporting.*

**What challenges have you faced since you came back?**

*Adjusting back to the weather has been my biggest challenge!*

**Have you ever participated in any AAPAM programme? (online, physical etc.)**

*No.*

**How has your master's degree been beneficial to you?**

*It has overall opened up numerous opportunities which I did not previously have. It has also given me a competitive edge to advance in my career.*

**As a young professional, what advice can you give to young individuals in the continent who want to pursue a career in Public Administration?**

*Apply yourself and always seek to learn something new.*

**What is the way forward now for you?**

*I will continue to gather experience and skills in my new line of work (human rights) and work towards a rich career within Gambia and outside eventually.*

## 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTYION IN AFRICA

*By Julie Mutunga, Assistant Programme Officer*

The African Association for Public Administration and Management has been a consistent player in the realization of the African development agenda. Through our vast programmes which include; seminars, workshops, conferences, study tours, scholarship programmes, publications and innovation awards, AAPAM seeks to build the capacity of public administrators and managers so as to exude best practice, excellence and professionalism in Africa.

Since adoption of the Africa Agenda 2063 and the SDGs in 2015, the Association has aligned itself with salient issues to support the transformation and sustainable development of the continent. To further augment these efforts, the association created the 4th Industrial Revolution Committee to be the focal point in addressing the new ICT driven frontier. The committee's core mandate includes collating challenges faced by African institutions in the uptake of ICTs, researching new technologies for knowledge sharing, policy and regulation for digital transformation, sharing opportunities available including PPPs, and promotion of the adoption of best practices and lessons learnt. Within this framework, the organization aims to

respond to the evolving capacity needs of public administrators and managers in Africa.

For majority of Africans, digital transformation quite simply means having access to a smart device and ample internet bundles to browse the World web. Within this reasoning, out of all the 3 industrial revolutions the world has witnessed since the 18th century, the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution seems to have taken the deepest roots in the African continent. It is estimated that there is a 45% penetration rate of mobile Internet users in Africa, according to the Global system for Mobile Communication Association (GSMA) Mobile Economy Report for 2020, 84% of the population (1 billion people) will have access to a sim connection by 2025, with a further projection of 27% of the population being on 4G network. The disproportional rate of connection is also impactful to the overall performance of the continent, Kenya for instance stands at 83% mobile internet penetration, it is common to witness the use of hand-held axes in the farms, the consumption of coal, wood and paraffin for energy and the use of bicycles for local transportation in Kenya, but unequivocally, at least 1 person in every house-

hold has access to a smart device. Countries such as South Sudan lie on the other end of the spectrum with a lower penetration rate.

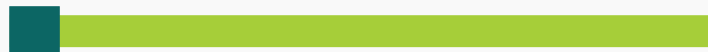
In the theoretical sense, digital technology is more nuanced, at its core, the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution is a digital driven revolution characterized by a fusion of technologies blurring the lines between the physical, biological, and technological dimensions (Schwab, 2016). Digital technology has the potential to drive economic growth through job creation, poverty alleviation and to propel industrialization. On the social sphere, digital arena opens the world into a global village through trade and communication. Through research and development, African countries have developed technology driven innovations to improve the lives of citizens and service delivery in general.

Governments and government agencies are continually embracing digital transformation initiatives for the sole reason of meeting the needs of an increasingly informed citizenry. The question remains, how can the continent progress together into the digital space dispute the disproportion rates of development, how can government utilize the 4<sup>th</sup> industrial revolution to augment service delivery, citizen engagement, accountability and most importantly economic development of its citizens. Therein lies the opportunity to further utilize this technology to improve the livelihood of

Africans.

For a start, the utilization of technology has accelerated innovations in Africa, with the upsurge of innovations, institutions such as the United Nations have dedicated the United Nations Public Service Day celebrations to focus on public service awards to showcase innovation worldwide. In the continent, the AU's 23<sup>rd</sup> June African Public Service Day (APSD) celebrations aim to discover innovations, reward excellence in the public sector and motivate public servants to further promote innovation. Similarly, AAPAM Innovative Management Awards (IMA) programme aims to recognize creativity in enhancing service delivery in the public service; the IMA programme offers a unique platform to recognize home-grown solutions to challenges facing the continent. Since its formation in 2005, public sector innovations have been showcased awarded and promoted for replication. AAPAM innovation supplications have shown the utilization of technology with countries such as Ghana developing a system automaton integration system at the Kotota international airport and Kenya's Huduma (Service) Centers. The utilization of technologies has enabled government to address persistent issues of accountability, duplication, efficiency and citizen participation. For every sector, the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial revolution seems to have a solution.

Sector	Technology based IMA recipient	Award- Year
Transport	Computer Based Theory Test (CBT)- Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA)- Republic of Ghana	Bronze winner - 2016
Defense and peacekeeping	Vurugu Mapper- Republic of Kenya	Glass winner- 2016
Agriculture	Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD)- Republic of South Africa	Bronze winner - 2015
Education	iSchool tablet-based eLearning for Zambia primary school- Republic of Zambia	Silver winner- 2015



Sector	Technology based IMA recipient	Award- Year
Service Delivery	The Development and Automation of Governmental Services as an entry point for Administrative Reform - Arab Republic of Egypt	Glass winner- 2016
	Electronic Filing System (EFS)- Republic of Rwanda	Gold winner – 2016
	Huduma Center- Republic of Kenya	Gold winner – 2015
	The Citizen Support Portal (CSP) Republic of Mauritius	Bronze winner -2018
	Smart Mobile Apps Platform – Republic of Mauritius	Glass winner – 2018
	The National Complaints Management System- Kingdom of Morocco	Bronze winner -2019
Health	Mobile Technology for Communication Health (MOTECH)- Republic of Ghana	Bronze winner- 2012
	MomConnect- National Department of Health Republic of South Africa	Silver winner- 2016

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic further propagated the need for digital transformation in public administration where governments had to adopt to the zeitgeist. The compulsory switch from the manual internal procedures and the formalities of service delivery to the online mode marked a significant milestone in the digital transformation process. Countries that had actualized their digital transformation agenda were not caught unaware by this advent but went along to edify digital processes to make them efficient, other countries rushed to implement digital solutions tested by developed countries. Lessons learned further strengthen the argument for home grown and gradual digital transformation in the African continent.



The Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa 2020-30 document provides a blueprint for the continent's digital aspirations, the document supports the accelerated utilization of technology especially among the rapidly growing youth demographic. The plan also outlines the Smart Africa Initiative to create a Digital Single Market in Africa as its strategic vision. The adoption and implementation of this strategy would mean diversification of trade with more access to continental digital markets for young entrepreneurs in the e-commerce sector in line with the Africa's Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

It is within this framework that AAPAM further lends itself to the advocacy digital transformation by sharing best practices as well as building the capacity of public servants so as to undertake this

task. In July, AAPAM partnered with UNDESA and other partners to host a webinar on Leveraging ICTs And Digital Government for Innovative Solutions to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic Responses in Africa from this webinar it was clear that governments have a responsibility to create an enabling environment with policies and regulations that promote digital transformation. It is also crucial that policy makers and regulators keep up with advances in technology, address the new regulatory frontiers and create the foundation upon which digital transformation can achieve its full potential. For purposes of monitoring and control, public policy, legal and regulatory frameworks need to be up-to-date, flexible, incentive-based and market-driven to support digital transformation across sectors and across the continent regions.


## PROMOTING INTEGRITY, ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE ADMINISTRATION DURING COVID-19 PERIOD AND BEYOND

*By Clifford Ogutu, Research and Consultancy Assistant*

The African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) in collaboration with The National Integrity Academy (NIAca) organized its inaugural training webinar on Promoting Integrity, Accountability and Transparency in the Public Service Administration during COVID-19 Period and Beyond in July 2020. This forum was as a result of a partnership between AAPAM and the National Integrity Academy – Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission of Kenya (EACC) The mission of the Commission is to help with combating and preventing corruption, economic crime and unethical practices in Kenya through law enforcement. AAPAM was represented by its Secretary General Dr. George Scott.

In his opening remarks, Dr Scott noted that the theme of the webinar This resonated with Africa Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 which is on promoting effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels of government. He urged the participants to fully play their part in ensuring integrity, transparency, and accountability in the public sector is upheld by having: an independent judiciary which upholds the law; institutional policies and protocols which promote good governance and finally citizen engagement/participation. He reminded all that the pandemic had provided an opportunity for countries to strengthen anti-corruption and integrity protocols and improve overall governance.

Other speakers who graced the opening session included EACC Chairman Archbishop Eliud Wabukala. He noted that the challenge of corruption remains the greatest threat in Kenya's development agenda negating the government's determination to provide efficient, effective and responsive services to its people. Wabukala lamented that those in leadership positions often try to manipulate systems to protect themselves from accountability whenever they are found liable for corrupt and unethical action.



The Webinar aimed at building the ethical capacity of professionals in various sectors in order to improve service delivery and create an ethical and value-driven society that upholds integrity and rule of law. During the webinar, it was discussed that Public sector institutions are responsible for the provision of emergency services, the formulation of special responses intergovernmental coordination, and the regulation of private sector agents. As such, they need to be fast, creative, effective, transparent, and accountable.

It was also reiterated that a preventive approach to corruption requires a coherent and effective public integrity system, given the complexity and wide variety of integrity breaches and corrupt practices. Managing public integrity is not only the responsibility of specialized anti-corruption bodies, but the responsibility of all organizations within the public sector. The private sector, civil society and citizens also share responsibility for

tackling corruption and ensuring integrity. As much as anti-corruption efforts are a duty of all government institutions, various government actors play a leading role in preventing, investigating and sanctioning corruption while enhancing integrity.

Through the webinar, participants had discussions that were aimed at strengthening accountability and transparency at a personal and institutional level. The webinar also provided the participants with opportunity for collective learning, information sharing, experience sharing, and peer support across functional areas, professions, sectors, and countries. The webinar targeted participants from various Governments, private sector service officers, academia, media, anti-corruption practitioners and all professionals from Africa.

## **5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION SEMINAR ON STRENGTHENING RESEARCH CAPACITIES AND CAPABILITIES FOR ATTAINMENT OF THE GLOBAL AGENDA 2030 AND AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063**

*By Clifford Ogutu, Research and Consultancy Assistant*

The African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) In Collaboration with Department of Public Service and Administration (DPSA) - South Africa, School of Public Management and Administration (SPMA) – University of Pretoria and African Local Governments Academy (ALGA) of the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG-Africa) organized a 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Seminar on Strengthening Research Capacities and Capabilities for Attainment of the Global Agenda 2030 and African Union Agenda 2063 which took place from 26th to 28th August 2020 at University of the Western Cape, Bellville, South Africa. For the first time since it's' beginning, the seminar was a virtual meeting due to the threat of COVID-19.

The webinar was well attended by senior and middle level government officers, Academicians,

students from different African countries. The balance of senior and middle level officers drawn from various African nations fulfilled the initial intention of the programme which was to create an enriched interaction, to promote networking and sharing practical best practices.

Minister of Public Service and Administration Honorable Senzo Mchunu officially opened the 5th Edition Seminar. In his keynote address, the Minister challenged delegates present to think differently in finding solutions to the numerous challenges the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about. He identified digitalization as a frontier that is presenting far greater opportunities for African countries to leverage in the quest to achieve the objectives of Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Earlier, while inviting the Minister to present the keynote address, the Deputy Minister Ms Sindisiwe Chikunga encouraged delegates to develop convincing proposals and approaches to unlock government resources to fund research. She lamented the fact that all of South America and Africa combined are responsible for less than 5% of the total global R&D spent while these countries have more than 20% of the world's population. The Deputy Minister expressed delight in the fact that the 5<sup>th</sup> seminar had identified research capacity as a critical component to the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 SDGs noting that Agenda 2063 is an African vision that has reignited the hope that Africa can and should extricate its people from the devastation of underdevelopment to a prosperous, peaceful and environmentally sound habitat.

AAPAM was represented by Dr. George Scott, the Secretary General and Ms. Naledi Mosalakatane Vice-President, AAPAM - Southern Africa. Speaking on behalf of AAPAM, Dr. Scott noted that African governments have a great role to play. He reiterated that increasing support for research efforts in Africa will help develop a strong knowledge base, which will hugely help inform the development of efficient evidence-based policies and improve growth and development in Africa and attainment of the Global Agenda 2030 and African Union Agenda 2063.

The seminar was founded on the need to interrogate the ensuing realities within the context of the Agenda 2063 and SDGs 2030 with an aim of proposing measures of management and development in Strengthening Research Capacities and Capabilities Africa.

### **Deliberations and Recommendations**

In dismembering and synthesizing the seminar sub-themes, participants made a number of observations. It was agreed that:

- The challenges faced by the continent are complex with multiple interdependencies
- Research capacity and capability should be part of an integrated solution
- To set effective innovation policies, policy-

makers need trustworthy indicators to benchmark and monitor these policies.

- For research to be relevant and thus improve the quality of life of indigenous people, it should be driven by indigenous worldviews, cultural values and a language that is relevant to the indigenous group with whom research is undertaken.

In his closing remarks AAPAM Vice President, West Africa Mr. Dada Joseph Olugbenga thanked the Government of South Africa for hosting the Research Forum through the DPSA. He also thanked delegates and participants from South Africa and the rest of Africa including participants from outside Africa. He mentioned that AAPAM is strengthening its capacities and capabilities in all fronts including publications, partnerships, electronic database, and virtual training programs in order to meet the challenges of building capacity on the continent to enhance service delivery to the citizens.

## COVID-19 MESSAGE

*By Lukwago Rajab, East Africa Representative Young Professionals Network*



Covid 19 came with a lot of changes to the way we live, feed, meet, school, move and so on. In Uganda, the 1st case was reported on 21st March 2020 who was a returning citizen from Dubai. He had a high fever on arrival at Entebbe International Airport prompting the medical screening team to subject him to a COVID test that turned out to be positive.

Since then the country has seen a number of different measures and guidelines given by the president to curb the spread of the deadly virus. They included among others; halt in public transport, closure of schools, places of worship, border & airport closure except for cargo, total lockdown except for essential service providers.

As the measures were put in place, many businesses were affected to the extent that some have closed for good. Many schools have been closed and sold; a prominent example being GEMS Cambridge International School that ended operations in Uganda due to the effects of COVID-19. Many other businesses rescinded employment contracts with their staff while others cut payments to as low as 5% of one's entitlement.

Families have also not been spared in this pandemic period with domestic violence being reported on the rise. Many women and children have been subjected to domestic violence which has resulted into death on certain occasions. People were not used to staying home with each other, so they got fed up of one another, coupled with the growing poverty since there was no working. Lack of information, anxiety and stress also contributed to domestic violence with another fear that there might be more teenage pregnancies from this period as well as an increase in HIV/AIDS infections.

Due to the lockdown, many people were not able to access hospital as transport was limited and hence died of treatable diseases. Pregnant mothers also suffered a lot during the lockdown.

As we learn to live with the virus, our lives have been adjusted to a new normal of holding meeting online, wearing masks in public places, social distancing, washing hands with soap or sanitizers. Schools, places of worships, social gatherings have all been altered to fit to the Standard Operating Procedures and guidelines step up from time to time.

I implore the youths all over the world to take lead in preventing the spread of the virus but adhering to the guidelines and living a responsible lifestyle so as to save the next generation where we will be the seniors of the day. Let us reach out to one another with moral, social, or financial support to all that need it.



## AAPAM PROGRAMMES 2021

Programme	Tentative Date	Venue/ Country	Partnering Institution	Target Group
World Government Summit programme	January /February	Webinar/ Physical programme	World Government Summit	All
Public Sector Financial Management (PFM)	8 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Mombasa, Kenya	Kenya School of Government (KSG)	All
African Leaders of Tomorrow (ALT) Leadership programme	February-July	Webinar	Canadian Bureau of International Education (CBIE) and Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC)	ALT Alumni (EN &FR) and Young Professionals Network (YPN) Members
Health Governance Training Programme	March	Webinar	Stellenbosch University and UCLG Africa	All
Innovation study tour Or Public sector productivity	June	Nairobi Kenya	Kenya School of Government/ KAPAM	All
Public Talk/ Leadership Forum	July	Nairobi University or Mzumbe University Tanzania	TBD	Students
AAPAM/DPSA/SPMA Annual training Programme	July	South Africa	Department of Public Service Administration (DPSA) -South Africa/ SPMA	All
Stakeholders in Public Policy and Administration Meeting <b>Virtual</b>	July	Webinar	Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)/ IASIA, University (Pretoria, Johannesburg or Limpopo)	Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration
Anti-Corruption Conference	September	Nairobi, Kenya	Pan-African Strategic and Policy Research Group (PANAFSTRAG)- Nigeria All African Council of Churches- Nairobi	Selected Participants
Executive Course: Promoting Peaceful and Inclusive Societies: The Role of Public Administration and Management Training	September	Livingston, Zambia or South Sudan	National Institute for Public Administration (NIPA)	Public and private sector leaders, managers and administrators

Programme	Tentative Date	Venue/ Country	Partnering Institution	Target Group
Research Forum	October	Webinar	IIAS/SPMA/SAAPAM/ Ethiopia	Academia, researchers, students
Enhancing Transparency and Accountability in the Public Sector	October	Uganda or Mauritius	Uganda Management Institute (UMI)/ TBD	Public and private sector leaders, managers and administrators
41 <sup>st</sup> Roundtable Conference	November-December	South Africa	Department of Public Service Administration (DPSA) -South Africa/ SPMA	All

Programme	Tentative Date	Institution	Target Group
Section on African Public Administration (SAPA) Webinar	April 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2021	American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)	
African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)	TBA		
Africa Human Resource Forum (AHR)	TBA	iCUBE/FARM	
Online Master of Public Administration (MPA) study on <b>Public Administration in the Post-Crisis Era</b>	January 2021	The Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI) EMUNI (On going)	

## Publications

1. AAPAM Book- Transformed Leadership for Sustainable Development in Africa: Managing resources for Attainment of Agenda 2063
2. African Journal of Public Administration and Management (AJPAM) Vol. XXVIII No. 1 July- December 2020 and Vol. XXVIII No. 2 January- June 2021
3. African Journal of Public Administration and Management (AJPAM) E-Special Edition- Based on SAPA Webinar
4. 87<sup>th</sup>, 88<sup>th</sup> and 89<sup>th</sup> Newsletter
5. 40<sup>th</sup> Roundtable Conference Report – Transforming Institutions in Africa for Sustainable Development


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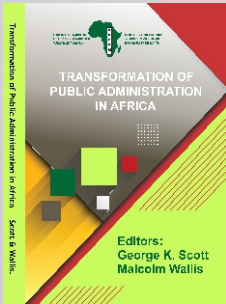
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