

Universities and Governments: Five Securities and Economic Development to 2030

AAUN Forum and AGM, 27-28 Oct 2022

(Draft V11.1 – as at 15 July 2022)

Venue: Moot Court, Law School, Australian National University (Canberra)

To: AAUN Board, Partners, Forum Speakers. From: John Hearn, Co-Chair AAUN Australia.

INTRODUCTION. Thank you for your feedback for the **AAUN Forum and AGM 2022**. This Forum is confirmed for Thursday 27 October (Forum and AGM) and Friday 28 October (PRDF Research Workshop) Almost all speakers are confirmed and this Forum is primarily for live attendance of speakers. Attendance is for fully vaccinated individuals (certified) and Covid protocols will apply.

There are major geopolitical and security developments in 2020-22 that influence Australian, African, and Indo-Pacific futures. Short and long-term engagement from the US, UK, EU, and other nations has increased. The formation of AUKUS and sharpening of other alliances, including the QUAD and CP-TPP, establishes an enhanced framework. As the only Australia-Africa Universities Education and Research Network, AAUN has adjusted its strategic action plan 2022-25 (attached), with selected South-South and North-South partners. We ask speakers and to adjust their scope accordingly. **The “5 Securities” theme remains the core.**

OBJECTIVE. 2022 is the 10th anniversary of AAUN, identifying key research and education interventions that deliver sustainable human and economic development. The results may be relevant to Australia - Africa, or with broader application to the Indo-Pacific region. We confirm our priorities and programs aligned to the SDGs and other policy frameworks. There are only eight years remain to meet SDG targets for 2030).

CONTEXT. As we emerge from COVID lockdowns, AAUN is strengthening links with governments in creating enduring impact through research, education, and international teamwork. AAUN has 23 University members (10 Australian, 13 African), with 60 research teams and programs addressing regional and global challenges. We will have 15 University members in each continent by 2025, with 2 new groups: **the AAUN Indo-Pacific Group (south-south, 5 members) and the AAUN Global Group (north-south, 5 members).**

This is a time of extraordinary challenge in environment and climate, food and nutrition, public health and pandemics, education and research, evidence-based policy, and financial resources. The challenges require AAUN to build stronger teamwork with governments, business, alumni, and the related diasporas.

The CONCEPT for this AAUN Forum 2022 is **Teamwork Time**, including specific teams around specific programs where Australian, African, and broader development interests in the Indo-Pacific coincide. We continue to build opportunity for early and established researchers, women and men. We must achieve sustained leadership and new international support. We deliver strengthened capacity and sustainability.

The **THEME** of this AAUN Forum is **SECURITY**. But we must think broadly about the **five securities** that we engage, including (i) **Environment and Agriculture**, (ii) **Food and Nutrition**, (iii) **Health and diseases**; (iv) **Education, Employment and Economic Development**. It is **failures in these** that fuel (v) **Hard Security** in migration, terrorism, trafficking, cybercrime, corruption and societal destabilization.

Our scope and reach covers Australia and selected African countries and university partnerships, with Indo-Pacific and global partners. Currently the Australia-Africa bridge is weakened by COVID, reduced priority in policy, and diminished support in funding. **However, AAUN is committed to advance undaunted,** confident that the value and strategic importance of our partnerships are vital in education, economic development, friendship, and enduring diplomacy. AAUN and our knowledge partners are committed to reshape and contribute to national economies and the SDGs. The long-term relationships, results and friendships between Australia, Africa and Indo Pacific universities are a solid platform. The COVID challenge has shown how our partnerships, teamwork and communications can win through.

SUMMARY – Please refer to the AAUN website www.aaun.edu.au for current information.

- (i) Our focus is on practical next steps. Please see the AAUN Annual Reports 2018-2019, and 2020-22 (in preparation), with the AAUN Strategic Action Summary 2022-25 at www.aaun.edu.au
- (ii) We include established and early career researchers, women and men, as core assets and participants in all research and development activities. A focus is on sustainable leadership.
- (iii) **The next AAUN Ltd Board meeting** will be held at 1600h Sydney time on Thursday 21 July. We ask all AAUN Board members to attend and to help prepare the resolutions for the AGM.
- (iv) The Forum will have an audience with those attending in Canberra (100) and those on Zoom, including many from Africa, Indo Pacific, Western Australia and elsewhere (150?).
- (v) At the end of the Forum at **1630-1730h** we will have a **reception** to allow further meeting and discussion. The evening will be free for informal dinners and round tables.
- (vi) We plan an AAUN “New Horizons” Workshop (PRDF 2019-21) between 0900-1200 **on Day 2**. Program leaders may use remaining PRDF funds to cover travel and accommodation in Canberra.
- (vii) **Subject to the availability of funds**, we will call for competitive proposals for one Partnership and Development Fund (PRDF) project in **each of the 5 Security areas listed in the Forum.**

DEADLINES AND CONTACTS – Please note carefully. We ask that deadlines are observed so that we do not waste time in reminders and can all deliver a top-quality Forum.

Program and speaker confirmations to (j.hearn@unsw.edu.au) **deadline 15 August**. Please send any key, current strategic policy or program papers that could be in the reference bank of the Forum.

Abstracts (200 words) and **bios** (200 words) from speakers and chairs (aaun@unsw.edu.au): **15 September**.

Pre-recorded presentations for the Forum: **deadline 1 October**, to aaun@unsw.edu.au and D.Mickler@curtin.edu.au). We aim for in person attendance but may accept a few speakers on zoom where attendance is impossible. We will require recorded presentations from any ZOOM speakers.

Accommodation – Rooms will be reserved at a discount price at HOTEL Q-T, I London Circuit, 0.7 Km walk – 10-15min. **Please see the website www.aaun.edu.au for suggested hotels within 20min walk of ANU.**

Registration (attendance and zoom - **opens 1 August www.aaun.edu.au** (Grace Liu – aaun@unsw.edu.au)).
Note: AAUN Members and invited guests will have priority for registration.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS PROGRAM

ACIAR – Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research – AAUN Knowledge Partner.

DFAT – Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – AAUN Knowledge Partner.

HOMS – Heads of Mission – High Commissioners, Ambassadors.

NRF (SA) – National Research Foundation (South Africa)

PRDF - AAUN Partnership and Research Development Fund.

AAUN Forum and AGM: Draft Program: October 27-28, 2022

UNIVERSITIES AND GOVERNMENTS: FIVE SECURITIES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2022 - 2030 October 27-28, Moot Court, Law School, Fellows Road, ANU	
Time	NOTES: Further details will be circulated – please follow the website www.aaun.edu.a Please see the selected reference papers for background data and strategic considerations. Note: speakers are physically present (preferred), unless shown as attending by zoom (Z)
0800	Travel to ANU from QT hotel, I London Circuit – walking distance (0.7 km – 10-15 mins)
0830	Registration & arrival coffee/tea
0900	Session 1 – Teamwork Time: Universities and Governments in Development to 2030
0900-0915	Welcome to Country - Ngunnawal-Ngambri Land Objectives (3 min each) – AAUN engagement in Australia, Africa, and Indo-Pacific Prof Sally Wheeler (Host) , DVC International Strategy, Australian National University Prof Tawana Kupe , Vice Chancellor University of Pretoria, Co-Chair AAUN Africa Prof John Hearn, (MC) , University of New South Wales - Sydney, Exec Co-Chair AAUN
0915-1015	Speakers (10 min each): <i>Australia, Africa, Indo-Pacific priorities 2022- 2030</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marc Innes-Brown, Opening Comments: DFAT (TBC) – 3 minutes 2. Alison Chartres, Head DFAT Africa Branch - High Com. Kenya 2016-20 3. HE Ms Dorcas Makgato, High Commissioner, Botswana 4. HE Mrs Marie Claire Jeanne Monty, High Commissioner, Mauritius 5. HE Marthinus van Schalkwyk, High Commissioner, South Africa <p>Discussion: (20 Min) Priority actions for Impact in International Development. Discussants: <i>High Commissioners/Ambassadors: HE John Tipis, Kenya; HE Joe Mhishi, Zimbabwe; HE Luke Daunivalu, Fiji; Daan Du Toit DDG Int Cooperation and Resources, DSI, South Africa (Z); Australian Government and Agency representatives.</i></p>
1015-1045	Coffee break
1045-1145	Session 2: University Challenges: Climate, Pandemics, Democracy, Development 2030 Chair: (3 mins) Dr Joanna Newman , Sec-Gen and CEO, Assoc. Commonwealth Universities Co-Chair: Prof Deborah Sweeney, VP Res. Enterprise, International, Western Sydney Uni.
	Speakers (10 min each): Towards university engagement with global challenges. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Cheryl de la Rey, VC Canterbury Uni, Chair Assoc. Commonwealth Unis 2. Prof Barnabas Nawangwe, VC and President, Makerere University, Uganda 3. Prof Pal Ahluwalia, VC and President, University of the South Pacific 4. Prof Brian Schmidt, VC and President. Australian National University <p>Discussion (15 mins) Evidence based policy impact – Challenges and Opportunities Discussants: Prof Glenda Gray, President MRC South Africa (Z); Dr Heidi Hackman, CEO UP Future Africa Centre; Prof Funmi Olonisakin, VP Int. and Director African Leadership Centre, Kings College London; <i>Public Health, Research leaders, early career researchers and students</i></p>

1145-1245	<p>Session 3: Higher Education, Employment, Economic Development Chair: (3 mins) Fulufelo Nelwamondo, CEO National Research Foundation of South Africa Co-Chair: Prof Prem Ramburuth, UNSW-Sydney (tbc)</p>
	<p>Speakers (10 min each): Towards the Knowledge Economy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Sally Wheeler OBE, DVC International and Dean of Law, ANU 2. Kelly Matthews, AUSTRADE Commissioner, Education – Mid East and Africa 3. Prof Ernest Aryeetey, Sec General, African Research Universities Alliance (Z) 4. (Dr Angel Calderon, RMIT Senior Adviser. AAUN, SDGs, Impact and Rankings) <p>Discussion (15 min) Discussants (All). Experts – higher education, economic and employment strategists Prof Thandi Mgwebi, DVC Research/Innovation/Internationalizations, Nelson Mandela University; Prof Jolyon Ford, A/Dean International ANU, Prof Funmi Olonisakin, VP International and Director, African Leadership Centre, Kings College, London.</p>
1245-1400	<p>Working Lunch – AAUN Ltd – Board Meeting (Board Members and Invited Observers).</p> <p>(i) <u>Open session with reports to the Board (1300-1330h):</u> AAUN - New Australia Africa Centres (updates) – Newcastle, UWA, UQ, Curtin.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Closed business session for AAUN Ltd Board Members (1330-1400)</u> Strategic Action Plan, priorities, new partnerships, resources.</p>
1400-1500	<p>Session 4. Environment, Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Chair: (3 min) Prof Frans Swanepoel, Deputy Chair AAUN, University of Pretoria. Co-Chair: Prof Kadambot Siddique, UWA (tbc)</p>
	<p>Speakers (10 min each): Towards the UN Global Food Systems Framework</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Lindiwe Sibanda, Director ARUA CoE in Sustainable Food Systems (Z) 2. Dr Julianne Biddle, Director Multilateral Engagement, ACIAR 3. Dr Colin Chartres, CEO Crawford Fund 4. Dr Aldo Stroebel, Executive Director, National Research Foundation of South Africa <p>Discussion: (15 mins) Aligning with international policies and funding opportunities. Discussants: Dr Susanne Kaaria, Exec D, African Women in Agriculture RandD (AWARD); Dr Simon Hearn, Agricultural Economist; AAUN Board Members, Research Leaders.</p>
1500-1600	<p>Session 5: Hard Security: migration, terrorism, trafficking, corruption. Chair: (3 min) TBC Co-Chair:</p>
	<p>Keynote speakers (10 min each): Towards Knowledge Partnerships and Trust (Knowledge diplomacy in energy security, multidimensional risks, to avoid conflict)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Kathryn Sturman, Sustainable Minerals Centre, University of Queensland 2. (Dr David Mickler, Dean International, Africa, Curtin University) 3. Dr Katja Theodorakis, Head of Counterterrorism Program, ASPI 4. Vice Admiral Paul Maddison, Director, UNSW Defence Research Institute, Canberra <p>Discussion (15 min) Hard Security priorities and projections Discussants (All), Prof C. Isike, UP; Dr Muhammad Dan Suleiman, UWA</p>
1600-1630	<p>Closing Session – Conclusions and Recommendations for Action Launch – AAUN-ELAAD Emerging Leaders in Australia Africa Diplomacy (David Mickler) Chairs: Prof Tawana Kupe and Prof John Hearn, Session 1-5 Chairs</p>
1630-1730	<p>Forum Reception for AAUN and Conference Participants</p>
1740	<p>(Travel to hotels – taxi or walking)</p>
1800-2100	<p>Informal Meetings and Dinners</p>

FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER, MOOT COURT, LAW SCHOOL, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

DAY 2. (0900-1200h). AAUN RESEARCH FRONTIERS (Co-Chairs Profs Prem Ramburuth ad John Hearn.

A workshop on current AAUN Research is in preparation (AAUN Partnership and Research Development Fund catalyst programs). The workshop focuses on the 2019-20 AAUN awards and the AAUN Action Plan 2022-25. *Program leaders are encouraged to attend in person; and may use any residual funds from their awards to cover travel and accommodation.*

MEETINGS with Senators, MPs and officials. AAUN members are welcome to set up such meetings for themselves, or to propose individuals for invitation to the AAUN Program at ANU. However, please avoid setting up separate, competing meetings during the core AAUN program on 27-28 October.

We suggest such meetings on Wednesday 26 October (probably a sitting day, tbc).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Professor Sally Wheeler OBE and ANU DVC, and Dean Law School as host, and for venue and conference support.

ANU Student volunteers for assistance to the Forum (Names tbc).

Others:

MEDIA (TBC)

REFERENCE PAPERS (To be added – see www.aaun.edu.au).

1. **AAUN Annual Report 2018-19 and draft 2020-2021**
2. **AAUN Strategic Action Plan 2022-25**
3. **Australian International Development Policy (AAUN submission)**
4. **Indo Pacific Policy Development 2020-25**
5. **Geopolitical Developments in Australia, Africa, Indo Pacific (overview - links).**

Thank you for your interest and engagement. Please contact us...

Professor John Hearn, Co-Chair AAUN Australia, E: john.hearn@sydney.edu.au

Associate Professor Dr Grace Liu, General Manager AAUN, E: aaun@unsw.edu.au

Professor Tawana Kupe, Vice Chancellor U Pretoria, Co-Chair AAUN Africa

Dr Desirée Tesner-Smith, Secretariat Pretoria AAUN, E: desiree.tesner-smith@up.ac.za

Professor Frans Swanepoel, Vice Chair AAUN Africa, E: frans.swanepoel@up.ac.za
