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African female leaders awarded the Yara Prize

The Yara Prize 2012, which aims to contribute to the transformation of African agriculture and food availability within a sustainable context, thereby helping to reduce hunger and poverty, are being awarded to Dr. Agnes Kalibata, minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources in Rwanda, and to Dr. Eleni Gabre-Madhin, outgoing CEO of the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX) in Ethiopia.

The Yara Prize Committee selected the two prominent African female leaders for their work on areas for the African Green Revolution: effective public policies in support of agricultural growth and profound innovation in agricultural markets and will be celebrated at the gala night on 27 September 2012 during the African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) in Arusha, Tanzania.



Dr. Agnes Kalibata, minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources in Rwanda

The two leaders demonstrated how transformative change can be achieved in a complex and challenging environment. They applied innovative approaches, collaborating with partners in new ways. Their achievements are fit to inspire other countries to transform the productivity and sustainability of their agricultural sectors.

"Yara creates impact by addressing global
Continued on page 2

NEPAD Nigeria commences second country review

The Special Adviser to the President on NEPAD, Amb. Tunji Olagunju has said preparations for the second country review of Nigeria scheduled for 2013 has commenced.

Speaking yesterday in Abuja at a meeting of the National Council on African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), Olagunju said

that the review will seek to evaluate what has been accomplished in the journey towards good governance as well focus on the implementation of the National Programme of Action (NPoA).

He explained that while the country's self assessment review took place in 2007, the country final report was submitted to the

Continued on page 2

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Continued from page 1

African female...



Dr. Eleni Gabre-Madhin, outgoing CEO of the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX) in Ethiopia

challenges. By awarding the Yara Prize, we salute the champions of sustainable agricultural development. I wish to extend my personal congratulations to the laureates," said Jørgen Ole Haslestad, president and CEO of Yara and chairman of the Yara Prize Committee. "The impressive transformational work the laureates are doing provides great inspiration, and this is exactly the kind of development we want to promote in the Grow Africa Initiative, co-chaired by Yara alongside NEPAD and the African Union."

Kalibata is being awarded the prize for her leadership in the transformation of food security and agricultural development in Rwanda in a relatively short period of time. She currently serves as the Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources for the Republic of Rwanda.

Over 1 million Rwandans have moved out of poverty between 2005 and 2011. Kalibata has been able to align national agricultural policies with the NEPAD/CAADP frameworks, i.e. the commitment to increase government budget share for agriculture to 10%, and Rwanda was the first country to adopt a CAADP compact.

Dr. Eleni Gabre-Madhin is the founder and outgoing CEO of the Ethiopia Commod-

ity Exchange (ECX). She is being awarded the prize for showing leadership in managing the transformation process toward an efficiently functioning market, especially for smallholder coffee producers in Ethiopia.

The ECX has had a far-reaching impact in Ethiopia in several areas of agriculture and in the lives of small farmers since its inauguration in 2008. Under her leadership, ECX's growth has seen a strong increase in volumes every year, from trading 138 000 tons in the starting year 2008/2009 to 601 000 tons in 2011/2012.

Gabre-Madhin was among The Africa Report's "50 Women Shaping Africa" 2011, was named Ethiopian Person of the Year 2010 and was nominated for Outstanding Businesswoman of the Year 2010 by African Business. She received the African Banker Icon Award for 2012.

Source: Bizcommunity.com (Africa: Marketing and Media), September 6, 2012 Thursday

Continued from page 1

NEPAD Nigeria...

public in January 2008, adding that as part of the peer review process, members states are required to periodically undertake every four years an assessment of the four thematic areas of governance that form the plank of the country's self assessment.

Source: Africa News, September 18, 2012 Tuesday

Upcoming Event

- AU/NEPAD Science & Technology Policy Workshop, 1- 5 Oct 2012, Nairobi, Kenya
- NEPAD Briefing at the UN General Assembly 16 Oct 2012, New York, United States
- African Development Forum (ADF VIII), 23-25 October 2012 "Governing and Harnessing Natural Resources for Africa's Development", Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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