

### **APR Panel of Eminent Persons: as of 2013**

- Ambassador Ashraf Rashed, Egypt
- Ambassador Fatuma Ndingiza Nyirakobwa, Rwanda
- Ambassador Prof. Okon E. Uya, Nigeria
- Barrister Akere Tabeng Muna, Cameroon
- Barrister Julienne Ondziel Gnelenga, Republic of Congo
- Dr. Mustapha Mekideche, Algeria
- Ms. Baleka Mbete, South Africa
- Prof. Amos Sawyer, Liberia

#### **Biography of Ambassador Ashraf Rashed member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Egypt**

Ambassador Ashraf Rashed was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 16th Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in January 2012. In the course of his long and distinguished career, Ambassador Rashed served as the Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister for African Affairs, Assistant Foreign Minister for European Affairs and Arab Coordinator for Euro-Mediterranean Cooperation, Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister for Strategic and Security Organisations in Europe and Ambassador to Italy (2006-2011) and Ireland (1999-2003). He served as an International Consultant, World Food Programme Facilitator and Chairman for Consultations on Humanitarian Assistance and Risks in Somalia involving UN Agencies (2011).

#### **Biography of Ambassador Fatuma Ndingiza Nyirakobwa member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Rwanda**

Ambassador Fatuma Ndingiza Nyirakobwa has been appointed Deputy Chairperson of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 19<sup>th</sup> Summit of APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in May 2013. She was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons in January 2012. She is also Deputy CEO of the Rwanda Governance Board, whose mission is to promote good governance and decentralisation in Rwanda. Prior to her assumption of these positions, Ambassador Ndingiza served as Rwandan Ambassador and High Commissioner to Tanzania and was also accredited to Malawi, Zambia, Seychelles and Madagascar. In this capacity, she oversaw regional integration matters concerning the East Africa Commission and COMESA. From 2002 to 2009, Ambassador Ndingiza was the Executive Secretary of the National Unity and Reconciliation Commission that spearheaded healing and reconciliation among Rwandans. She also pioneered the Women's Civil Society Movement and the advancement of women empowerment and gender equality in Rwanda.

#### **Biography of Ambassador Prof. Okon E. Uya member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Nigeria**

Ambassador Prof. Okon E. Uya was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 16th Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in January 2012. Prior to his assumption of this position, he had a long and distinguished career in diplomacy and in academia. He has served as Head of the History Department, Dean of Arts, Deputy and Acting Vice-Chancellor, and Director, Institute for Public Policy and Administration (IPPA), University of Calabar, Nigeria. He has also served as Ambassador to Argentina with accreditation to Chile, Peru and Uruguay (1987-1992), Chairman and Chief Executive of the National Electoral Commission of Nigeria (June 20-November 1993), Professor of History at University of Uyo (2006 to date), University of Calabar (1976 - 2006),

and Howard University (1972 – 1974). Professor Uya obtained a PhD in History from University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA in 1969.

#### **Biography of Barrister Akere Tabeng Muna member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Cameroon**

Barrister Akere Tabeng Muna has been appointed Chairperson of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 19<sup>th</sup> Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in May 2013. He has been serving as a member of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons since January 2010. He is the founder and former President of Transparency International - Cameroon. He is also Vice-Chair of the Transparency International Board. Barrister Muna is a lawyer by training and President of the Pan-African Lawyers Union (PALU). He was the former President of the Cameroon Bar Association. In September 2008, Barrister Muna was unanimously elected President of the First Permanent General Assembly of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the African Union. He is also a member of the Governing Council of the African Governance Institute and the Sanctions Commissioner of the African Development Bank Group. In 2007-8, Barrister Muna was a member of the independent High-Level Audit Panel of the Audit of the African Union.

#### **Biography of Barrister Julienne Ondziel Gnelenga member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Republic of Congo**

Barrister Julienne Ondziel Gnelenga is a lawyer. A national of the Republic of Congo, Barrister Gnelenga She was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 12th Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in January 2010 and is a national of the Republic of Congo. She Barrister Gnelenga serves as the Central Africa representative at the ECOSOCC General Assembly. She is also a Member of the Board of the Association for the Prevention of Torture. She was a Commissioner at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights from 1995 to 2001. From 1998 to 2001, she also served as Special Rapporteur on Women's Rights in Africa (SRRWA). In 2007-8, Barrister Gnelenga was a member of the independent High- Level Audit Panel of the Audit of the African Union.

#### **Biography of Dr. Mustapha Mekideche member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Algeria**

Dr. Mustapha Mekideche was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 16th Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in January 2012. Dr. Mekideche is the Vice-President of the National Economic and Social Council (CNES) of Algeria. He has also served as Adviser to the Energy Minister of Algeria. He is the Founder and CEO of ENEP, the engineering subsidiary of Sonatrach. Dr. Mekideche began his career as a Director at Sonatrach for the industrial petrochemical zones of Arzew and Skikda. Since 1997, he has been operating a consultancy firm serving the Oil & Gas Industry. Dr. Mekideche obtained his PhD in Economics from Grenoble University in France and also has a Degree in Mathematics from the University of Algiers.

#### **Biography of Ms. Baleka Mbete member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), South Africa**

Ms. Baleka Mbete was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 16th Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in January 2012. She served as the Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa from 25 September 2008 to 9 May 2009. She was one of the negotiators of the new

South African National Constitution, and President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. She was Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of South Africa from April 2004 to 25 September 2008.

**Biography of Prof. Amos Sawyer member of the APRM Panel (APR Panel), Liberia**

Professor Amos Sawyer was appointed to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons at the 12th Summit of the APR Forum held in Addis Ababa in January 2010. He is currently Chairman of the Governance Commission of Liberia; Prof. Sawyer was the President of the Interim Government of National Unity in Liberia from November 1990 to March 1994. He has also served as Co-Director and Research Scholar at the Workshop on Political Theory and Policy Analysis in the Department of Political Science at Indiana University in the United States of America. In 1982, Professor Sawyer was the Chairperson of the Liberia Constitution Commission which drafted Liberia's current Constitution. He has written widely on issues of governance and development in Africa. In 2005, he wrote the book entitled "Beyond Plunder: Toward Democratic Governance in Liberia."