

THE OLUSEGUN OBASANJO PRIZE

FOR

**SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY AND/OR
TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION**

AN AWARD SPONSORED BY:

AFRICAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
(AAS)

Background

The Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for scientific discovery and/or technological Innovation is intended to reward and honor African scientists who have made outstanding contributions in scientific discovery or technological innovation. The Prize has been named in honor of President Olusegun Obasanjo in recognition of his exemplary statesmanship and leadership at the national, regional and international levels and his contributions to political well-being, socio-economic development and the positive role he has played in nurturing the spirit of scientific discovery and technological innovation in the African continent. Among Chief Obasanjo's pivotal and towering achievements are:

- President of Nigeria from May 1999 to May 2007;
- Chairman of the African Leadership Forum;
- Patronage of the AAS through an endowment fund of US\$5 Million.

Chief Obasanjo is also a member of the Africa Progress Panel (APP), an independent authority on Africa launched in April 2007 to focus world leaders' attention on delivering their commitments to the continent, and also serves as the special envoy of the United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon to Democratic Republic of the Congo

President Olusegun Obasanjo was a personal friend of the founding president of the African Academy of Science, the late Professor Thomas R. Odhiambo, and a pioneer patron whose government made considerable contribution to the Endowment Fund of the African Academy of Sciences. In recognition of the foregoing, and in order to nurture the spirit of scientific discovery and technological innovation that would serve socio-economic development, the General Assembly of AAS upon recommendation by its Governing Council has instituted this pan-African Olusegun Obasanjo prize for scientific discovery and/or technological innovation. The aim of this prize is to reward and honor African technological scientists and innovators who have made outstanding contributions either from Africa or from the Diaspora

The Prize

AAS seeks to promote and foster growth of a vibrant African scientific community, and to stimulate and nurture the spirit of scientific discovery and technological innovation that would serve socio-economic development in Africa. The Chief Obasanjo Prize will be awarded to each of the following fields:

1. Biotechnology
2. Energy
3. Information and communication technologies, and
4. Material sciences.

Conditions Governing the Prize

The Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for scientific discovery and/or technological innovation is awarded once every two years to individual scientists or a group of scientists that the Prize Selection Committee deems to have made outstanding scientific discovery or technological innovation that generate social and economic benefits for the development of the continent. Such breakthroughs may be based on advanced research in higher educational or research institutions or based on empirical observations derived from indigenous and local knowledge systems.

The responsibility for selecting the laureate of the Olusegun Obasanjo Prize lies with the International Prize Committee which applies a comprehensive selection procedure to ensure that those who are awarded the Olusegun Obasanjo Prize meet the highest standards of scientific or technological breakthroughs. Such breakthroughs should have either direct or indirect, but significant positive impact on sustainable development, including management of natural resources, and protection of the environment with national or regional significance

A major criterion of the International Prize Committee is that the nominee(s) is(are) evaluated on his/her(their) merit and achievement. The other criteria are follows:

- The nominee(s) should be actively involved in the scientific or technological area in which s/he has made noticeable contribution;
- The nominee's works should be either already be patented or has the potential to lead to a patent
- The nominee's work should have multiplier effect.

Value of the Prize

The Prize, which shall be awarded every two years, has three components:

1. Cash award of US\$5,000 but this may periodically be reviewed and adjusted by the GC of AAS;
2. Gold Medal inscribed; and a
3. Citation – in a form of certificate.

The Prize may be awarded to an individual or jointly to two or more persons who will share the cash award in equal amounts.

Eligibility

The Prize is open to all African scientists and technologists and does not recognize gender, ethnic, or geographical differences. National scientists in the employment of AAS are not eligible for nomination. Similarly, the award may not be made to any person who is a current member of the Governing Organ of the AAS.

Selection

The GC of AAS shall appoint every two years, a Prize Selection Committee of up to five experts (in the field of technological/engineering sciences, intellectual property, etc), with the AAS President as its inaugural Chairman of the Committee.

The Selection Committee reserves the right to seek further nominations or to refuse the nomination of any person. All material considered by Committee and their deliberations remain strictly confidential.

All decisions taken and recommendations made by the Prize Selection Committee are binding and final, and no correspondence will be entered into in regard to such matters. No contractual or other legal relationship shall arise between the Committee, its members or/and any person nominated for the *Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for scientific discovery and/or technological innovation*.

Nominations

Nominations must be submitted on the official nomination form. Self-nominations are considered. The nomination package of the candidate should normally consist of the following:

1. Full name of the nominee and complete address, including current professional affiliation;
2. Nominee's biodata and C.V., including his academic or professional, current position, refereed communications and publications in learned journal, etc.;
3. A critical appraisal of 1,000-2,000 words summarizing the candidate's achievements in relation to the purpose of the Prize, and supported by published or other relevant evidence, and 3 sets of the most important and relevant reprints or documents, to be available to the Selection Committee;
4. An indication as to whether the work (part or whole) has been recognized by any other prize or award;
5. The names of at least 3 referees with their full addresses including telephone, telex, fax, etc., from whom further information could be sought;
6. Written consent to candidacy by the nominee plus 2 recent passport size photographs; and
7. Name and professional affiliation of the Nominator, with full contact details.

The nomination form is attached at the last page of this booklet or can be directly requested from the Sponsors.

Award Ceremony

The award of the Prize will be made at the Annual General Meeting of the African Academy of Sciences or a General Conference organized by the Academy, normally held in November. In accepting the Prize, the recipient agrees to deliver a public lecture during the Award Ceremony, about the work for which the Prize has been awarded. The full transcript of the lecture shall be retained by AAS including its copyright.

AAS will provide airfares to, within and from the selected venue, and all reasonable expenses arising from the Award programme.

Deadline

The last date of receipt of the complete nomination package requirements shall be 25 July 2011

Instructions

1. Click on the shaded area to fill out the details; 2. Click on File-> Save to save it in the format SURNAME_Initial.doc (e.g. OBASANJO_O.doc if your name is Olusegun Obasanjo 3. E-mail back the document as an attachment including other requirements to obasanjoprize@aasciences.org.

2011 OLUSEGUN OBASANJO PRIZE Nomination Form

The following nomination is for the 2011 *Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for scientific discovery and/or technological innovation*:

1. Name and particular of the Nominee

Name of the candidate:

Position or Title:

Nationality:

Present:

Previous:

Address (institution):

Fax:

Phone:

E-mail:

2. Nominee Biodata

Attach short summary of the nominee Biodata and his/her full CV

3. Suggested Short Citation

Suggested Citation to appear on Certificate if prize is awarded (up to 50 words):

4. A Critical Appraisal of the Nominees Achievements

Supporting statement of about 200 words describing the candidate's work and its impact on Socio-Economic Development in Africa: (Please attach extra statement if necessary)

5. Most Relevant Reprints (within the last 5 years)

Attach 3 sets of the most important and relevant reprints or documents, to be made available to the Selection Committee

6. An Indication as to whether the work (part or whole) has been recognized by any other prize or Award

7. Name of at least 3 referees

Names addresses and E-mail contacts of at least 3 referees with a wide geographical distribution whom we can contact regarding the candidates work:

8. Written consent of candidacy by the nominee

Attach separate written consent of candidacy by the nominee

9. Name and Professional affiliation of the Nominator

Nominator:

Position or Title:

Address:

Fax:

Phone:

E-mail:

Signature:

Date:

CHECKLIST

Please check this checklist before sending the application package. Tick appropriately below in the following matrix:

	ITEMS OF THE NOMINATION PACKAGE	TICK BY YES or NO	
		YES	NO
1	Did you fill in full Name and all particulars of the Nominee		

2	Did you attached the Nominee Biodata and his/her CV		
3	Did you attach a suggested short citation		
4	Did you attach a critical appraisal of the Nominee's achievements in technological innovation		
5	5 Most Relevant Reprints/Documents		
6	Could ascertain to whether the work (part or whole) has been recognized by any other prize or Award? If yes specify it		
7	Name of at least 3 referees		
8	Did you attach the written consent to candidacy by the nominee?		
9	Did you fill in your Name and Professional Affiliation?		
10	Did you send via registered mail? Attach air way bill number		