

Citation for Prof. Leif Abrahamsson's Award of Doctor of Science, *Honoris Causa* of Makerere University

a) Highlights

- Prof. Leif Abrahamsson was born on 26th May 1954 in Uppsala Sweden. He obtained a BSc in Mathematics in 1977 and a PhD in Mathematics in 1982, at Uppsala University-Sweden.
- At the time of his retirement in 2023, Prof. Leif was the Programme Director at International Science Programme (ISP), Uppsala-Sweden.
- Leif devoted most of his working life developing, supporting and promoting Mathematics in developing countries.
- Leif coordinated bilateral programme of Sida at Makerere University, and together with his EAUMP initiative, have fully supported the training of over 30 PhDs in mathematics in Uganda.

b) Contribution to development of Mathematics in Uganda, Eastern Africa and beyond

- i. It all started in 2001 when Leif convened a meeting of key African Mathematicians that included among others (**Kuku-Nigeria, Luboobi-Uganda, Odiambo-Kenya, Masanja-Tanzania, Fanja-Madagascar, Allotey-Ghana, Ogana-Kenya**) in Arusha-Tanzania to discuss the poor state of mathematics in the region then.
- ii. Leif's initiative under **EAUMP** later built a solid background for **Sida** support to Mathematics in the region, in total, this has seen training of over **30 PhD Students**, over **20 Master Students** and over **15 Post Docs** in Mathematics and its Applications in Uganda since 2002. Over **100 publications** in Mathematics at Makerere University are direct outcomes of Leif's EAUMP and Sida initiatives.
- iii. Leif has extended similar contributions to Mathematics in **Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Mali, Senegal, Niger, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon** and some countries in South East Asia (i.e. **Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar**)

c) Conclusions

- Prof. Leif Abrahamsson has immensely contributed to the development of teaching mathematics, and research capacities in Ugandan universities and globally through quality and mass PhD training and postdocs and research publications;
- Prof. Leif Abrahamsson took the initiative to develop mathematics in the region, particularly in Uganda and Eastern Africa.
- Makerere University and Uganda as a whole is a big beneficiary of Prof. Leif's work and his work rhymes with the country's Development Plan of Developing Sciences;

For his professional achievements and significant contribution, Makerere University is proud and honored to confer upon Prof Leif Abrahamsson the Honorary Doctor of Science, *Honoris Causa* of Makerere University and all the rights, duties and privileges pertaining thereto.

Orator: Assoc. Prof. John Mango Magero, Department of Mathematics, College of Natural Sciences