

MEDIA ADVISORY

Liberia Vice President to deliver Unisa 2022 Founders Lecture

For immediate release

Approved for public release

Date: Tuesday, 29 November 2022

Her Excellency Chief Dr Jewel-Howard-Taylor, Vice-President of the Republic Liberia will deliver the keynote address at the University of South Africa (Unisa) 2022 Founders Lecture under the theme “***The Realisation of the African Renaissance through the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AFCFTA)***”. The agreement was brokered by the African Union (AU) and was signed by 44 of its 55-member states in Kigali, Rwanda on March 21, 2018. The objective is to significantly boost intra-Africa trade, particularly trade in value-added production and trade across all sectors of Africa's economy.

The idea of a Founders Lecture was introduced at Unisa in 2003, the aim being to encourage the University and its stakeholders to focus on critical issues in higher education at both global and national levels. Over the years, a variety of topics, presented by eminent and renowned scholars from across the Continent and the globe, have established the Founders Lecture as a premium forum for intellectual engagement of the highest order.

Previous speakers include Professor George Ellis, distinguished Professor of Complex Systems at the University of Cape Town, Lord Sutherland, former Provost at Gresham College, Dr Mamphela Ramphele, Founder of the Citizens Movement, and former Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Cape Town, Prof Thulisile Nomkhosi Madonsela, the Law Trust Chair in Social Justice and Law Professor at the University of Stellenbosch, Prof Adam Habib, former Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits), and very recently, Prof Mamadou DIOUF, the Leitner Family Professor of African Studies and History, Middle East and South Asian and African Studies (MESAAS) in the History Department at Columbia University, in New York, USA and former Chair of the Scientific Committee of CODESRIA, Dakar, Senegal.

Chief Dr Taylor is a visible and an engaged stateswoman; with a strong voice for gender equality; advocacy for affordable and quality education; a fair and transparent justice system; the improvement of accessible health care systems; improved women's economic and political participation; and an accountable public service system, amongst others. She is one of Liberia's foremost advocates for increased and improved opportunities for women of Liberia and Africa and is now being called the Jewel of Africa. She has received many Awards, including the Pan-African Award on Leadership Excellence & Women Empowerment.



She holds a B.Sc. in Economics, Masters in Banking (Honours Graduate); an MBA in Finance (Honours Graduate); an LLB in Law (Honours Graduate); a Post-Graduate Diploma in International Relations (Honours Graduate); and an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Leadership and Governance.

'Considering the centrality of the Founders Lecture as part of the broader discourse about Africa's growth and development and the chosen theme for this year, it is befitting and a singular honour to have an African intellectual giant in the person of Her Excellency Chief Dr Jewel-Howard-Taylor delivering this year's lecture. It is a development that we at Unisa are proud to be at the forefront of, said the Principal and Vice Chancellor of Unisa, Prof Puleng LenkaBula.

The event will take place as follows:

Date: 02 December 2022

Time: 18H00 for 18H30

Venue: 2nd Floor, ZK Mathews Great Hall: Winnie Madikizela Mandela Building, Unisa Muckleneuk Campus, Preller Street, Muckleneuk, Pretoria

Members of the media are invited to attend the event or to join via the following link: [click here](#)

- Ends-

For RSVPs and interviews requests, please contact Tommy Huma (Unisa: Senior Media Officer) on 072 218 6197 / humartm@unisa.ac.za OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / ratheme@unisa.ac.za

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