



Republic of Botswana



21st Annual
General Meeting
01-05 December 2025
Botswana



RUFORUM 21ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

CONCEPT NOTE

21st RUFORUM BUSINESS MEETING



THEME

Positioning Africa's Universities and the Higher Education Sector to effectively impact development processes on the continent

Hosts:

The Government of Botswana and
RUFORUM member Universities in Botswana led by Botswana University of
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Venue:

Tsodilo Suite, Gaborone

Date: 04th December 2025

Time: 11.00 –13.00

Contact: Professor Patrick Okori (p.okori@ruforum.org)

Background

The Annual General Meeting is the RUFORUM network's annual convening of member universities, policymakers, and partners to prioritise, seek guidance, and share lessons and experiences on developing Africa's human capital, generating science, technology, and innovation, and providing relevant policy information to support Africa's development. This year's Annual General Meeting coincides with the launch of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Kampala Declaration. The Strategic Objectives of the Kampala Declaration highlight the importance of strong institutions and human capital in ensuring its implementation.

RUFORUM facilitates networking, human capital development, continental mobilisation, and advocacy in order to transform Universities for inclusive sustainable development, as well as to rationalise resource usage while improving economies of scale and scope. RUFORUM envisages "vibrant, transformative universities catalysing sustainable, inclusive agricultural development to feed and create prosperity for Africa." It does so by strengthening capacities of African universities to generate innovations that are responsive to demands of the continent's agricultural communities by producing high quality human capital and science development solutions.

Annually, the RUFORUM Network and its partners meet to review and draw lessons from past investments through the Annual General Meeting, hosted on a rotational basis amongst its member countries. The AGM also serves as a catalyst for leveraging resources and mutually beneficial partnerships in and outside the Network. This year, Botswana will host the 21st AGM in Gaborone, hosted by the Government and RUFORUM member universities in this country. This AGM, provides Botswana, Africa and partners, an opportunity to spotlight the continent's contemporary development challenges and opportunities, and to co-create roadmaps for solution delivery.

Although a number of activities are associated with the AGM, the actual AGM is a one-day convening organized as a Business Meeting which this year will be held on 04TH December, 2025 at Tsodilo Suite, Gaborone

Objectives

The RUFORUM Business Meeting will provide feedback and guidance to the RUFORUM Secretariat's operations, ensuring legal compliance and alignment with international standards and practices. More specifically, the business meeting will:

1. Review and approve minutes of the 20th AGM in Windhoek, Namibia
2. Receive and approve reports for the activity year July 2024 – June 2025, work plan and budget proposal for the Activity Year July 2025– June 2026.
3. Receive and consider the 2024/2025 External Audit report.
4. Review Performance of the External Auditor.
5. Provide updates for the 2026 and 2028 AGMs and 2027 and 2030 Triennial Conferences.
6. Consider requests for membership from universities that want to join RUFORUM network.

Approach and Methodology

The Business Meeting will be held both physically and virtually (Link). The meeting will be held under the leadership of the Board Chair, Prof Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda, Cameroon. The Draft AGM Programme is shown below.

Session Chair: Prof Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, RUFORUM Board Chair and Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda

Session Rapporteurs: Mr. Waswa Moses, Mr. Okalany Emmanuel and Mr. Ekepu David

Link: <https://ruforum-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/ITI19WEITsu85gkLVkRIBg#/registration>

Time	Item	Responsible
1100 -1120	Part I: Opening session of the RUFORUM 21st Annual General Business Meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Botswana National Anthem2. Anthem of the African Union3. Welcome Remarks by Prof Ketlhatlogile Mosepele, Vice-Chancellor, Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources4. Remarks by Prof. Patrick Okori, Executive Secretary, RUFORUM.5. Remarks by Hon Prince Maele, Minister of Higher Education, Botswana.	Prof Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, RUFORUM Board Chair and Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda
1120 -1300	Part II Constitution of RUFORUM Annual General Business Meeting (AGM) <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Prayers (in Silence)2. Record of members present and apologies3. Adoption of the Agenda4. Communication from the Chair5. Minutes and Actions from the 20th Annual General Meeting	Prof Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, RUFORUM Board Chair and Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda

	<p>PART III: RUFORUM Annual General Business Meeting (AGM)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of Annual Report 2024/2025 by the RUFORUM Secretariat: Dr. Florence Nakayiwa, Deputy Executive Secretary, RUFORUM Secretariat 2. Presentation of the 2024/2025 Financial Report and 2025/2026 Budget Proposal: Ms. Judith Nakyobe, Finance and Administration Manager, RUFORUM Secretariat 3. Discussion of the Secretariat reports 4. Report by the External Auditor: PKF for FY 2024/2025 5. Discussion of External Audit Report 6. Update on upcoming Annual General Meetings and Triennial Conferences 7. Update on the arrangements for the 2026 Annual General Meeting by Dr. Kelvin Mambwe, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Zambia 8. Vote of Thanks: Prof Otlogetswe Totolo, Vice-Chancellor, Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) 9. Closing Remarks by the RUFORUM Board Chair 	<p>Prof Theresia Nkuo-Akenji, RUFORUM Board Chair and Vice Chancellor, University of Bamenda</p>
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