

TUNIS 2011





2011 IBRAHIM PRIZE FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN AFRICAN LEADERSHIP SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2011 ~ LE PALAIS DES CONGRÉS, TUNIS



A message from Mo Ibrahim

Welcome to Tunis and thank you for joining us for the presentation of the 2011 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership.

This has been a transformative year in Africa which has underscored emphatically the need for exceptional leadership.

We have seen citizens stand up to tanks, dictators fall and countries take the first steps in creating meaningful democratic societies and institutions. My own country Sudan has given birth to two new nations, Tunisia held its first elections last month and reform continues in Libya and Egypt. There is still more work to be done to ensure that the remarkable events of this year translate into more democratic, fair and prosperous solutions for all.

The changes taking place across the continent have all also demonstrated the remarkable role that young people, in particular, can play in building the future of their countries.

I offer my warm congratulations to President Pires as a worthy recipient of this year's Ibrahim Prize. Cape Verde has become a model of stability and prosperity that we can all be proud of and that we hope can serve as an example.

I hope you will also be joining us for our discussions tomorrow during which we will focus on an issue that has the potential to transform the continent – agriculture.

Once again I welcome you to Tunisia and wish you a wonderful weekend.



A message from Salim Ahmed Salim

I am honoured to have taken on the role of Chair of the Prize Committee during this year of dramatic change and challenges across the world.

2011 has reminded us that exceptional leadership is a precious commodity. The failures of leadership and governance reverberating across the world, from a collapse in the global financial system to accountability failures in political systems, have demonstrated the need for sound leadership and management across all societies.

And while our continent is far from unique is facing these challenges, examples of excellence in leadership in Africa have too often been in short supply. That is why the Ibrahim Prize is so essential, it raises the profile of our inspiring leaders and demonstrates just how large a contribution leaders can make in advancing the interests of their peoples.

Few leaders represent this exceptional standard as highly as this year's winner does. The Prize Committee was proud to award President Pedro Verona Rodrigues Pires with the 2011 Ibrahim Prize. His achievements over his lifetime for the people of Cape Verde are a true record of excellence. His commitment to strong governance and the rule of law stand as testament to everything the prize represents. President Pires joins a group of distinguished leaders in Presidents Mandela, Chissano and Mogae in showing the aspiring leaders of the future the path to great leadership.

I am so pleased to be here in Tunisia, the country which inspired the continent and the world this year, to celebrate the best of Africa.



Previous Laureates

Nelson Mandela (South Africa) Honorary

Nelson Mandela is recognised throughout the world as an exceptional leader. He dedicated himself to the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, at great personal sacrifice, culminating in the country's first full elections on 27 April 1994, when he became South Africa's first democratically elected President. Since leaving office, President Mandela has worked to promote democracy, equality and development across the world. He has established three foundations to pursue these goals: The Nelson Mandela Foundation, The Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and The Mandela-Rhodes Foundation.

Joaquim Chissano (Mozambique) 2007

Joaquim Chissano received the inaugural Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership for his achievements in bringing peace, reconciliation, stable democracy and economic progress to his country following the 16-year civil war which lasted until 1992. It also recognises the major contribution he has made outside his country's borders. This included serving as Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (2003-2005) and as the United Nations Special Envoy to Northern Uganda (2005-). President Chissano is currently chair of the Joaquim Chissano Foundation and the Africa Forum.

Festus Mogae (Botswana) 2008

Festus Mogae was awarded the second Ibrahim Prize for his role in maintaining and consolidating his country's stability and prosperity. His time in office was characterised by careful stewardship of the economy and management of Botswana's mineral resources, a tough stance on corruption, and successful policies in combating HIV/AIDs. Since office, President Mogae has established Champions for an HIV-Free Generation, a group of former African Presidents and other influential personalities, which aims to strengthen efforts to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa. In 2008 he served as one of the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoys on Climate Change.



Prize Committee Citation for President Pedro Verona Pires

This Award, from an African Foundation, is a recognition and celebration of achievement in African leadership.

The Prize Committee has been greatly impressed by President Pedro Pires's vision in transforming Cape Verde into a model of democracy, stability and increased prosperity. Under his ten years as President, the nation became only the second African country to graduate from the United Nation's Least Developed category and has won international recognition for its record on human rights and good governance.

These achievements are all the more remarkable given that Cape Verde has few natural resources, a population of around 500,000 scattered over more than 10 islands and is located 570 km off the coast of West Africa.

Pedro Pires has helped guide Cape Verde from before its birth as a separate nation. Prominent in the struggle for independence, he was appointed Cape Verde's first Prime Minister in 1975. He remained in the post for 16 years and helped pave the way for the country's first democratic elections in 1991 when his African Party of Independence of Cape Verde lost office. The Committee was impressed by his ability to manage the difficult transition from single-party autocracy to multi-party democracy.

Elected as President in 2001 – and re-elected five years later – he won widespread respect for the emphasis given to sound macro-economic management, good governance and the responsible use of donor support to improve infrastructure, build up the country's tourism industry and prioritize social development.

The result is that Cape Verde is now seen as an African success story, economically, socially and politically. According to the IMF, real GDP grew annually between 2000 and 2009 by over six per cent, well-above the average for both sub-Saharan African and small island economies. Per capita incomes rose by 181% over the same period. President Pires invested this increased prosperity in improving the social capital of his citizens. Cape Verde has a literacy rate of over 80 per cent and life expectancy of more than 70 years. Although poverty and unemployment remain a challenge, the country is well on track to meet its targets under the Millennium Development Goals.

In 2007, Cape Verde was judged advanced enough to no longer be regarded as a Least Developed Country by the United Nations. It was a remarkable endorsement of sustained economic growth and good management. Only Botswana, a country rich in natural resources and sound development policies, has previously been promoted to middle-income status. President Pires's stewardship won Cape Verde international recognition as one of Africa's most stable democracies. For the last four years, it has ranked second out of the 53 African states in the Ibrahim Index of African Governance, and consistently displays high scores across all four categories of the Index - Safety and the Rule of Law. Participation and Rights, Sustainable Economic Opportunity and Human Development – in a balanced way. It regularly figures at the top of international league tables on press freedom, human rights and democracy. Good relations have been built across the world.

President Pires' democratic credentials were further enhanced when he announced he was stepping down at the end of his second term. Dismissing outright suggestions that the constitution could be altered to allow him to stand again, he said: "This is a simple matter of faithfulness to the documents that guide a state of law." Throughout his long career President Pires has been dedicated to the service of his people, including those in the diaspora, while retaining his humility and personal integrity.

The Prize Commitee believes President Pedro Verona Pires is a worthy winner of the 2011 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership.

This evening's performers

Angelique Kidjo

Grammy winner Angélique Kidjo is not only one of the most electrifying performers in the pop world today, but she's also one of its most forward and creative thinkers, an artist whose mission has been to explore the relationships of diverse musical cultures. While she has steeped her music in the tribal and pop rhythms of her West African heritage, the Benin-born, Brooklyn-based Kidjo has crossed musical boundaries by blending a variety of styles, including funk, salsa, jazz, rumba, souk and makossa. Angelique also travels the world as a UNICEF goodwill Ambassador. While in the field in Tanzania, Benin, Ethiopia, Brazil and many other places, she has been helping to raise awareness on girls' education to help eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education. She is the cofounder of the Batonga Foundation which gives scholarship to girls in five countries in Africa.

Youssou NDour

With a career spanning over 30 years, Youssou NDour is one of Africa's most celebrated musicians. A Senegalese singer, he has made mbalax, his country's blend of Afro-pop, Caribbean and pop rhythms, famous throughout the world during more than twenty years of recording and touring with his band, The Super Etoile.

Youssou has long been a global champion for Africa and a campaigner on social and political issues, from organising a concert in Senegal's largest stadium for the release of Nelson Mandela in 1985 to performing at three of the Live 8 concerts in July 2005. Youssou NDour is a UN Goodwill Ambassador and was named as one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People in 2007.

He also owns a radio station, newspaper and TV channel in Senegal. His TV station, still in its early stages, has grown to become the country's most popular channel. Mayra Andrade

Mayra Andrade is a Cape Verdean singer who provides a new take on the islands' musical diversity. Her work is a modern reinterpretation, rooted in the rich soil of the archipelago's traditions, but also open to influences discovered on her travels. Mayra was born in Cuba and grew up in Angola, Germany and Senegal. Her musical style, developed from an early age with her first performance on stage at 15, is a fusion of all these different influences and particularly evocative of the transatlantic bonds between Cape Verde, Brazil and Cuba. In 2011, she collaborated with Trio Mocotó on the track Berimbau for the Red Hot Organisation's most recent charitable album Red Hot+Rio 2, proceeds from which will be donated to raise awareness and money to fight HIV/AIDS and related health and social issues.

The Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership

The Ibrahim Prize is awarded to a democratically elected former African Executive Head of State or Government who has served their term in office within the limits set by the country's constitution, has left office in the last three years, and has demonstrated excellence in office.

The Ibrahim Prize consists of US\$5million over 10 years and US\$200,000 annually for life thereafter. It is the largest annually awarded prize in the world. The Foundation makes available a further \$200,000 per year, for 10 years, towards public interest activities and good causes espoused by the winner.

The Ibrahim Prize exists to:

- Recognise and celebrate African leaders who develop their countries, lift people out of poverty, and pave the way for future prosperity and success
- Ensure that Africa doesn't lose the experience and expertise of its best leaders when they leave office, by enabling them to continue in public service
- Highlight exceptional role models for aspiring leaders and introduce balance into perceptions of leadership in Africa

The winner of the Ibrahim Prize is selected by an independent Prize Committee, appointed by the Foundation Board.

The Prize Committee:

Salim Ahmed Salim (Chair and Foundation Board Member), Former Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity and former Prime Minister of Tanzania

Martti Ahtisaari, Former President of Finland and Nobel Laureate Aïcha Bah Diallo, Former Minister of Education in Guinea and President, Network for Education for all in Africa

Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General Emeritus, International Atomic Energy Agency and Nobel Laureate

Graça Machel, Former Minister of Education in Mozambique and President, Foundation for Community Development.

Festus Mogae, former President of Botswana and Chairperson of the Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA)

Mary Robinson (Foundation Board Member), Former President of Ireland and former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

The Mo Ibrahim Foundation

Board of Directors

The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of: **Mo Ibrahim** (Founder and Chair), Founder, Celtel International **Lord Cairns** Former Chairman, Actis Capital LLP; former Chief Executive Officer, SG Warburg

Nathalie Delapalme Director of Research and Policy, Mo Ibrahim Foundation; former Advisor on Africa and Development issues to a number of French Foreign Ministers

Hadeel Ibrahim Director of Strategy and External Relations, Mo Ibrahim Foundation

Sir Ketumile Masire Co-Chairperson of the Global Coalition for Africa; former President of Botswana

Dr Mamphela Ramphele Former Managing Director, World Bank; former Vice- Chancellor, University of Cape Town

Mary Robinson Former President of Ireland; former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Salim Ahmed Salim Former Secretary-General, Organisation of African Unity; former Prime Minister of Tanzania. Established in 2006, by Mo Ibrahim, the Mo Ibrahim Foundation supports good governance and great leadership in Africa. The Foundation works to:

- provide a framework and tools by which citizens and governments can assess and measure progress in governance
- recognise excellence in African leadership and provide a practical way in which leaders can build positive legacies on the continent when they have left national office
- stimulate debate on the quality of governance and major governance issues in Africa
- develop leadership and governance capacity in Africa

These aims are achieved through the Foundation's core programme areas:

The Ibrahim Index of African Governance

Established in 2007, the Ibrahim Index is the most comprehensive collection of quantitative data that provides an annual assessment of governance performance in every African country.

The Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership

Established in 2007, the Ibrahim Prize celebrates excellence in African leadership.

The Ibrahim Discussion Forum

Established in 2009, the Ibrahim Discussion Forum is an annual high level discussion forum on major African issues, facilitated by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation.

Capacity Building Programmes

- The Ibrahim Scholarship Programmes are a range of scholarships to support aspiring African leaders at a number of distinguished academic institutions.
- The Ibrahim Leadership Fellowships Programme is a selective programme designed to identify and prepare the next generation of outstanding African leaders by providing them with opportunities at the African Development Bank, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the World Trade Organization.



www.moibrahimfoundation.org