



March 3rd, 2024

The Independent Electoral Committee (IEC)
African Evaluation Association (AfrEA)
36 Kofi Annan Avenue, North Legon,
Accra, Ghana

Dear **Sirs**,

Recommendation for Dr. Awuor Ponge: AfrEA 2024 Elections

I write on behalf of the Africa Gender & Development Evaluators Network (AGDEN).

Dr. Awuor Cannon Ponge, has informed the AGDEN Executive Committee that he is interested in contesting the 2024 AfrEA elections for the position of **Vice President**.

Dr A.C. Ponge is a bona fide member of AGDEN, and this letter of recommendation is written in his support. This is a primary benefit of network members, and we are delighted to provide it. The African Gender and Development Evaluators Network (AGDEN), established in 2002, is a bilingual special interest group of the African Evaluation Association (AfrEA). Created by UNIFEM (now UN Women) and the African Evaluation Association, it has the aim of infusing the practice of evaluation with gender and human rights expertise in Africa. It is the first of its kind in bringing three distinct subject specialities (human rights, gender and development and evaluation) together to make a difference in and through development programming outcomes.

I have known and interacted with Dr. Ponge for about a decade. He has been an active member of AGDEN and involved in various AGDEN activities in Kenya and in international fora. In 2023, he played a key role on behalf of AGDEN during the Eval4Action campaign and Youth in Evaluation. He was a project team member in the implementation of the **'Expanding Democratic Spaces for more Inclusive and Equitable Governance: Integrating Gender-Responsiveness and Equity-Focus into Legislation through Evaluation'**, project. The project was funded by the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) and EvalPartners under the Innovation Challenge Programme in 2019 to strengthen capacities among Parliamentarians and Parliamentary Staff in Kenya. The project was implemented by AGDEN.

He served IDEAS as a Board member representing Sub-Saharan Africa. In this position, he was active in establishing cooperation between IDEAS and other international organisations,

including the IOCE, UN Women, EvalPartners, the Gender and Evaluation Online Community, EvalGender+ and EvalYouth+. Dr. Ponge has also been instrumental in elevating and popularising mentorship programmes globally for young individuals new and or interested in the evaluation as a profession. He has been an avid mobiliser of Young and Emerging Evaluators joining both AGDEN and AfrEA often to the extent of paying membership fees on their behalf.

He is a member of the global EvalIndigenous network and is currently the Africa regional representative. As a member of this network, he researched and developed the Indigenous African Ethical Protocol for Evaluation, which inspired and provided the basis for the development of the Asia model.

Dr Ponge has broad monitoring and evaluation experience having undertaken assignments in government, NGOs, and the private sector in a variety of development fields in a good number of countries including Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Ethiopia, Zambia, Nigeria and South Africa. He has a passion for organisational and individual capacity strengthening in M&E.

Dr. Ponge is energetic, dynamic and has dexterity with virtual environments and ICT tools and applications.

Dr. Awuor Ponge has successfully served as AfrEA Vice-President for the period 2021 – 2023 and he will undoubtedly bring his experience, skills and competencies again to the association if given the opportunity.

In view of all the above, AGDEN has no hesitation to make this recommendation, and, on behalf of the Executive Committee, I strongly recommend Dr A. C. Ponge for a 2nd term in the position of Vice President of AfrEA.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Florence Etta
Interim Chair,
Africa Gender and Development Evaluators Network (AGDEN)