

**STATEMENT TOPIC:**

**Global Research Cooperation and Funding- sharing knowledge through new partnerships**

**A Statement Delivered by Godbless Otubure, Global President, ReadyToLeadAfrica at the United Nations Science, Technology and Innovation Summit 2023 at the United Nations HQ, New York.**

For us at ReadyToLeadAfrica and our coalition made up of **PROMAD Foundation, Raising New Voices, Connected Development, Delta State Leaders Alliance, ReadyToLeadAfrica Movement** and the **Nigeria Youth Future Funds NYFF**, we believe Global research cooperation and funding are crucial for advancing scientific, social, democratic, economic knowledge needed to address global challenges.

**Collaboration** allows researchers and funders to pool resources, share expertise, and access a wider range of data and research subjects. This can lead to breakthroughs in areas such as medicine, energy, agriculture, social engineering, democracy and climate change. **Additionally, collaboration can help bridge gaps in knowledge and infrastructure, especially between developed and developing countries.**

**Research** and collaboration in our new multi-polar world clearly can no longer be about science, technology and innovation alone. The social sciences and the work of activists working on promoting democracy, inclusive economic growth models, and new sources of livelihoods for millions of people remains critical.

**Funding** is also an essential component of global research cooperation. Funding agencies can support collaborative research projects that involve multiple institutions and countries irrespective of our differences in religion, ethnicity or race. Such funding can help ensure that resources are available for researchers to conduct their work, travel to meetings and conferences, and communicate their findings to the broader scientific, social community and the public. **The funding strategy adopted by the Nigeria Youth Future Funds (NYFF) serves as a veritable strategy that we believe should be replicated globally as we work to improve our world**

**Finally**, by sharing knowledge and cooperating on a global scale, we believe such endeavors are crucial for advancing scientific and social knowledge desperately needed to address global challenges. By working together and sharing resources, researchers and practitioners can accelerate the pace of discovery, improve the quality of research, and find solutions to complex modern problems.

**May God bless you all**, My name is Godbless Otubure, Global President, ReadyToLeadAfrica on behalf of our coalition. **Ours is TO PLOUGH, NOT to PLUNDER.**