

2014 BORLAUG DIALOGUE

October 16, 2014 - 12:00 p.m.

Speaker: *Strive Masiyiwa*

Introduction:

Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn

President - World Food Prize Foundation

All right, welcome everyone to our annual soy luncheon, and so glad to have all of you here with us. I think this is the record-breaking crowd. I think the room is set for about 1,050 people, which is a 150 more than the hotel told us they could serve at one time. And since the registrations for the symposium are about 1,003 and there are 350 students and teachers here, that means that there's 200 angry people outside who are going to be waiting for me. And so I'm in a lot of trouble with this.

So I have every effort to have the best of luck, and you see I'm wearing a special African garment, and I wanted to just tell you about it, because of the unusual way I received it. And last night after our program at the Hall of Laureates where we gave the Borlaug Award to Bram Govaerts – Bram, where are you? Here he is down here – another one of those young superstars. This is an event filled with young superstars. But Bram was there, so I went over to see Paul Schickler at the DuPont Pioneer reception. I just thought I better drop by – they're not really expecting me, but they're a wonderful friend, and say hello.

And I walk in, and this very nice African woman comes up to me, and her name is Mavis Awiku Asari. Mavis, are you here someplace? Where? Yeah, she must be here because people are applauding. So she walks up to me, and she says, "Oh, Ambassador Quinn, I wanted to say hello." And then she takes this and gives it to me. So, you know, it's just a nice thing, except that it has my name on it. But if I've only got it upside down at this point, I'm doing good. So it has my name on it. So I'm trying to figure out – either it's got a button you push and it changes the name, or she's like the incredible fastest weaver ever, or she's got one of these for everybody who's registered. But she's from the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission and said that I was nice to her, and she brought this. So I was so touched that I said, this Africa theme here, I'm going to wear this, and hopefully it'll bring me good luck. But, Mavis, thank you so much for being so nice to me.

I want to acknowledge again the chairman, John Ruan III, who is here, and Janis Ruan. Please stand up so we can thank you. Wouldn't be any World Food Prize without the Ruans. Our 2014 World Food Prize Laureate, Dr. Sanjaya Rajaram, doctor, please stand up. And Jeanie Borlaug is here and Julie, representing the Borlaug family; can you guys stand up? So thank you so much for being here. We've had a terrific yesterday afternoon, terrific morning.

To start off, though, we have a special message from someone who's very close to Norm and who's a member of our Council of Advisors, so I'd like you to watch. Well, we have Ruth Oniang'o is here, who's the chair of the Sasakawa Foundation. Ruth, you must be, you've got to be here someplace, so, Ruth, thank you for being here. We also have ministers of agriculture from Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Liberia, who are here. Ministers, thank you for being with us. Please stand up so we can welcome you appropriately.

So if you heard about that first youth institute, there were only 13 students there. On your chair was this brochure. Please take it with you, look at it carefully. It shows what has happened and how this has grown. So remember, just think at the luncheon in 1994, if they had one, there would have been three Nobel Peace Prize laureates at the table – Dr. Borlaug, President Carter and Mohammed Yunus – and there would have been 13 students, probably just would all fit probably at one table for that, along with John Ruan, Sr.

And now today we have the students from the Global Youth Institute's 20th anniversary class. They're here. I want you to watch, because I'm going to have them stand up, and you'll see that it's more than 13. All you Global Youth Institute participants, stand up. Where are you? You've got to be here someplace – there. There's 160 of them, 160, and all their teachers are here. Teachers, stand up. We don't thank the teachers enough. Yeah. And that first Youth Institute, the 13 were all just from Iowa. They're from 24 states. They're from Egypt, from morocco, from Canada, from Mexico. There's a delegation from Hebei, Iowa's sister state, who are here for the second year in a row, so this is really a terrific event. And when I was in Uganda, I said – There ought to be a youth institute in every African country, and each country should in its own way pick a couple of students to come to the World Food Prize every October – that's another way we can inspire young people to have careers in agriculture and food production.

Now, we're endeavoring... Because we don't think just doing something in high school is enough, we're out recruiting leaders of the land grant institutions. So Norman Borlaug was a graduate of the University of Minnesota, and it pains us in Iowa to say that, because Minnesota came down and stole him from us. But we're big hearted, and when we created Dr. Borlaug's statue, I directed the artist, Ben Victor – I think Ben's here someplace, and you should go up and buy some of his statues; they're just incredible, and he's got smaller pieces now – but I told him, put the University of Minnesota ring on Norm's finger in the statue. So, see, we're from Iowa, we're not so bad after all.

But we have representatives from 15 universities, 38 either presidents, chancellors, provosts, deans of agriculture, faculty who are here, who we're working through to build youth institutes in all of their states. And we want them to reach out into the high schools in their states. And we've already established 12 state youth institutes across the country. We're going to build ten more at least in the next three years, and these are on the screen. You'll see the universities that are there, and they're big rivals in football and sports, but in carrying forward Dr. Borlaug's legacy, we're all partners. Would you all stand up, everyone who's here from the land grant institutions, so we can thank you for what you're doing and encourage you. They're all here just for that.

Now, Jeanie and Julie, I have to share with you that, when I first came here to take on this job, there weren't a lot of people who knew who your dad was. I'd have high school classes from Iowa come in and I'd say, "Who's heard of Norman Borlaug?" Maybe one kid. You'd get

gatherings like this there'd be maybe just a few people who would even know who he was. But now, but now there's so many Borlaug "everything's." We have 23 Borlaug-Ruan interns who are these high school kids who we send out on these amazing eight-week adventures at International Agricultural Research Centers. They leave like high school juniors and they come back like graduate students. Some of them I think are here. Any of you Borlaug-Ruan interns, stand up, who are here. Or they're all out working probably. Oh, there's some of them.

And a lot of the Youth Institute students I just introduced, to win their way here, they had to be Borlaug scholars, so they've got Borlaug in their name. We've got now the USDA Borlaug Fellows. We have the Borlaug USAID Borlaug LEAP Fellows, so Minister Mukeshimana from Rwanda, she was three years ago here as a Borlaug LEAP Fellow, and now she's a minister of government, so, wow. We've got the Monsanto Beachell Borlaug scholars, who are here. We've got the Norman Borlaug Rockefeller Award winner. We have the CAST Borlaug Communications Award. We have the Purdue Borlaug Fellows that Dr. Ejeta has started. We have the Fraley Borlaug scholar from the University of Illinois.

There are so many people who have Borlaug influence in their life. I want everybody who's a Borlaug anything, anybody who's got Borlaug in your family name, your title, your résumé, whatever, stand up. Stand up on the Borlaug Centennial, and let's see the impact of Norman Borlaug and his influence. Well, there couldn't be any more wonderful testament to Norm's influence.

So the last thing I'm going to do, because my Mom always taught me to say please and thank you, is I want to say a very big thank you to our luncheon sponsors. And there they are – the United Soybean Board, the Soy Foods Council, the Iowa Soybean Association, and WISH, the World Initiative for Soy and Human Health. And Tom Oswald is here. Thank you so much, to you, to all of the soy organizations who are here. Kirk Leeds is over there. Linda Funk must be here. We get together with Linda to plan the meal each year. And at first, I thought, oh, gosh, we've got to do soybeans – they can't test very good. But it's terrific, you know, and it's good for you. Thank you so much for your wonderful support to us. So let's thank the soybean associations and soy organizations for this.

So, everybody, enjoy your lunch. You should have been eating while I was up here talking. I'll come back up in a little while, and we'll have the main course, which I promise you... You know, it's baseball season in America, and so we have a special baseball introduction for our speaker from Zimbabwe in South Africa, so it'll be cool to see if I can do that. All right, enjoy your lunch.

–LUNCH–

All right, we're about ready to go now with the main course. I hope everyone enjoyed their lunch. Let's have a round of applause for the wonderful meal and for the Marriott staff who has served it. And so if I could ask the Marriott staff now to stop and let us quiet everybody down. And I have a couple of other people to acknowledge and that I wanted to be sure to recognize Ambassador Bokari Stevens, but he's gone. If he knew I was... I'll watch for him coming back.

But also I hope all of you got to hear Dr. Emma this morning. Where are you, Dr. Emma? Are you here? Maybe she couldn't get a place at lunch, maybe over at the Rock River having the

buffet. So I was telling everybody, you're too late. I've already signed her up. I'm her agent, and I'm going to get 10% of all of her fees, because I feel like for Americans of my age who know Colonel Tom Parker was Elvis' manager, so I feel like I'm Colonel Tom Parker.

I also want to introduce Dr. Goodarz Najafian, who's here. Dr. Najafian, stand up. He's going to be on tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

When my wife, Le Son—where are you, sweetheart? She's gone, too? Oh, there she is, yes, there. Stand up so people can see. So we were married 40 years ago in Saigon, and we were supposed to have our honeymoon in Greece and the Middle East, and I was being assigned in Washington at the White House, and they said, "Get back here right away." So we had to blow off our honeymoon. And so for 40 years we didn't have our honeymoon. And so, but we planned it after our daughter's wedding. So our daughter got married, and we went on the honeymoon—yeah, no, this is a true story—on August the 24th.

And so then I got an invitation to go to Iran and speak at an event there and a conference there honoring Dr. Borlaug, because who knew that Dr. Borlaug is as big a hero in Iran as he is in Mexico and India and Iowa. And so I then had to say to my wife, "Sweetheart, we're going to Tehran for our honeymoon." Yes, but we had a great time, and then we still got to Greece for that. But we were so well received there, and I extended an invitation to the Iranian Ministry of Agriculture to identify a scientist to come and be part of the program here at the World Food Prize on wheat, because they're big in wheat and wheat issues and Ug99 and Norm and our laureate—just seemed perfect.

But it was one month to go, and it usually takes—what would you say?—six to eight months for someone in Iran to get a visa to come to the United States, if it's approved. So Ambassador Rivkin knows I still have a couple of people I know in the State Department, and, gosh, wouldn't it be great if there could be a scientist from Iran here in Iowa to help celebrate the Borlaug Centennial. And the visa process was telescoped from eight months to three and a half weeks. He got the visa last Friday and showed up here on Monday to be part of the program. So that's the great Iowa tradition of agriculture to build relationships.

We have our 40 Chances winners. Are they here? Where are our 40 Chances recipients? They must be with Dr. Emma at the Rock River. Oh, they're here back there. So the four wonderful young people from Rwanda, Malawi, Liberia, Sierra Leone, so we have a special Dr. Borlaug treat for you. We are going to take you up to see his boyhood home outside Cresco so that you can see that place of inspiration for Norman Borlaug. So if you're back there and can see me and hear me, we'll be in touch with that. All right, they must be there.

So now it's my pleasure to introduce to you our luncheon speaker and a man—not to put any pressure on—but who succeeded Kofi Annan, who was here and gave an address, and he received our Borlaug medallion. But next time you see him, you'll be able to say you drew a bigger crowd than he did. I just met Strive Masiyiwa, who's the new board chair of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. I'd heard about him, and so I was delighted to have a chance to meet him at the USAID Frontiers in Development Conference last month in Washington. He's from Zimbabwe and now is the chairman and chief executive officer of Econet Wireless International, which is based in Johannesburg. He's also a trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation, and he was named to the *Time* Magazine list of most influential people in 2002; March 2014,

selected to be *Fortune's* Magazine list of the world's 50 greatest leaders. Wow, indeed! And is one of Africa's, and I have to say, the world's, most influential figures and a champion for the power of technology to improve the lives of millions of African smallholders.

Remember, I mentioned baseball. The Kansas City Royals are in the World Series. Many, including, yes, Rob Fraley, our laureate, is hoping for the Cardinals to be there so it'll be an all-Missouri I-70 World Series. And I mention this because, when we talked in Washington and mentioned this address, he said, "I'm going to knock it out of the park!" And I said, "Oh, so we've got the right guy coming." So please join me in welcoming Strive Masiyiwa.

LUNCHEON ADDRESS: THE VIEW FROM THE AGRA FORUM

Strive Masiyiwa

Chairman and Founder, Econet Wireless,
Chairman of the Board, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa

I'm actually a cricketer rather than a baseball player. And, as Gordon knows, we'll try for a six. Thank you so much, Ambassador Quinn, for those kind remarks. I don't know, you know, I get to speak. I was told that I'm the main course, so I started wondering what they do in Iowa. Then I was told I get to speak after Pamela Anderson, and I get to speak after Dr. Emma. And, boy, I've got a high bar here. Thank you so much for those kind remarks. It's such a great honor to be here at this time. It is particularly humbling to be given a stage to speak at this celebration of Norman Borlaug's centennial – and I shall come back to that. I have something to say about that.

But first of all I'd like to congratulate Dr. Rajaram on being the recipient of this year's World Food Prize. It's fitting an honor, sir, as you worked on a crop so dear to Norman. As Ambassador Quinn said, I'm on the Board of Trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation, so you're never very far from Norman there. It was impressive to see the awards also that were given to the four young innovators from Africa, courtesy of my dear friend, Howard Buffett. We need to do more of that sort of thing to encourage our young people to be bold and innovative, particularly in agriculture, which is so much untapped potential.

I'd like to begin my presentation with a photograph. This photograph, believe it or not, was taken only a few weeks ago. It was during the AGRA forum in Ethiopia. And in a friend of mine, an American, drove out to Addis – I don't know if you know Witney Schneidman – and he took this photograph of this young lady. What you see in this picture, you see a young girl. You see the weight of what she is carrying. You see the steep road in front of her, and yet she's smiling. But this child is not in school, a reminder that we need many more advocates like Malala. This girl is only 12 years old. Her name is Meseret Habtam. She's from the village of Neakutola, a few miles north of Lalibela, one of Ethiopia's and humanity's oldest settlements.

A number of you present here were probably at the African Green Revolution Forum. We discussed... The theme was vision and strategies were inclusive, sustainable transformation. It was an extraordinary meeting, at least I thought so. But really it all boils down to Meseret. She is what it is all about. As my dear friend, Pamela Anderson, from the Bill and Melinda Gates

Foundation reminded us this morning, we have to put women and girls, like Meseret at the center of our development efforts. Though Meseret toils hard every day, gathering firewood to help her family meet ends, she's optimistic about the future. She's optimistic about the results of our work. She trusts us.

She represents one of the largest cohorts of young people in African history. Given present demographic trends, she and millions of Africans like her will literally constitute the largest group of young people in the world. At present, two and a half out of every ten children born in the world are African. In 2050, four of every ten children will be born in Africa. Africa holds the key to humanity's future, and agriculture holds the key to Africa's future.

As Ambassador Quinn mentioned, I'm here in my capacity as the chair of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa. Somebody said to me, "What does it feel like to walk in Kofi Annan's shoes?" I said, "That's not difficult. I live in them – they're that big." I took a trip with Kofi a couple years ago to Mali, and we were driving around on dusty roads in Mali. And some of the people had come to see him, and they'd been waiting for several days. And I finally said to him, "You know, so this is what a rock star is."

So the Green Revolution that Norman Borlaug inspired, transformed economies in Asia and Latin America by improving crop yields in an accelerated fashion never before witnessed in recorded history – but it never really made it to Africa, or not in a way that worked for Africa. That was due to a number of reasons, many of which we can debate, and I cannot be exhaustive here.

But we could say the differing nature of African cropping systems, which are characterized by multiple crops – not the three dominant cereals, rice, wheat and maize – multiple climates and soil zones, agroecologies, lack of government support to agriculture, both in terms of direct investment and supportive policies. African governments taxed agriculture in the post-independence period. Lack of research in crops dominant in Africa, like cassava, or native to Africa, like sorghum and millets, was lagging compared to rice and wheat and maize. Lower population densities – something which is beginning to change, as I mentioned earlier.

I showed you a slide, a picture earlier. Now I want to show you a slide. I want to share with you this table that tells in many ways the same story that was in the picture. I highlight the number of bushels of corn and the difference between average American and African yields here as a case in point. And the fact that, despite having more than 60% of the world's uncultivated arable land, Africa spends \$55 billion in scarce foreign exchange to import food.

However, the importance of agriculture is undeniable for Africa. It employs about two thirds of the population in many countries, and many people spend a vast majority of their disposable income on food. This situation is almost forgotten in America today. But let us not forget that at one stage America was in such a situation too, with not 1% but a vast majority working in agriculture around President Lincoln's time. I know I do not need to remind you about that in Iowa. What do they say, "Hello, Iowa"?

So, but where are the, I see scenario of subsistence and crisis in Africa. I see tremendous opportunity in African agriculture. After a long time, we see supportive policies and government commitments to agriculture, which has unleashed the entrepreneurial potential of

farmers and elicited private sector interest in the sector. I see a momentum beginning to build for a Green Revolution in Africa, a Green Revolution and a new and unique revolution that handles not only challenge of food supply but doing so in an inclusive way that promotes prosperity and food and nutrition security, led by smallholder farmers and is undertaken in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Today I would like to just give you a bit of my own perspective as an entrepreneur who believes that the time for African agricultural transformation, a Green Revolution 2.0, might we say, has arrived, and to explain how AGRA is participating in this transformative process. In the Agra Green Revolution Forum, we looked back on how we can scale our successes to accelerate that process even faster. And, as Norman Borlaug would term it, we talked about a “stronger kickoff.”

Norman Borlaug termed this approach of getting seeds and fertilizers to farmers and working with governments to enable timely access to farmer credit and fair prices as a “kickoff.” The enabling environment for catalyzing African agriculture is very different from the narrative nearly ten years ago when the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa was created.

You know, some of you may sometimes wonder how I, a techie from telecommunications end up talking about agriculture as I do. In fact, I must share with you just a funny anecdote. When I got a phone call from Gordon Conway – I was living in South Africa at the time – to ask me to join the Board of Trustees of the Rockefeller Foundation, I had just been on a trip with my daughters to see a farm, because my wife and I were quite concerned that one day she drove past, and one of the children pointed out and said, “Mommy, there’s a big dog in the field,” and it was a cow. So how does a techie like myself suddenly... well, you can blame an eccentric Englishman called Gordon Conway, who was then president of the Rockefeller Foundation.

He said to me, “We want you to help us to do in agriculture what you and your colleagues are doing to the telecommunications sector in Africa, taking technologies to scale in areas like seeds, like you’ve done with mobile phones.” One of the greatest revolutions of our time is the African telecommunications revolution. In 20 years we’ve gone from 1.4% of the people having access to telecommunication to 70% of the people owning a mobile phone. There are 700 million cell phones in Africa – that is more than in Europe and North America put together. And yet only 20 years ago 70% of the African people had never heard a telephone ringing.

And yet, we can get a SIM card, the most complex piece of technology. We can get a cell phone to a Maasai warrior, with more capability in it than was available for the Apollo mission. And yet we can’t get a bag of seeds to an African farmer. That was what Gordon reminded me about.

It was Gordon who introduced me to the work of Norman Borlaug. At the Rockefeller Foundation I found a bewildering number of extraordinary people involved in the hundred-year history of this foundation which started just a year before Norman was born. And yet, when you walk down those halls, Norman Borlaug is a giant – a place where we’ve had presidents, secretaries of state, scientists, Nobel laureates – 17 Nobel laureates associated with the Rockefeller Foundation.

In fact, I’ll tell you an anecdotal story. When we were looking at the archives in the run-up to the centennial of the Rockefeller Foundation, we came across a letter written by John D. himself

to Mr. Gates, the first president – you know, Mr. Gates. And he said to him, “There’s a young man came to see me. He’s talking about something to do with physics or something. You know, I really didn’t get it, but I think he’s on to something. He asked for \$500. I suggest you give him a thousand.” That was one, Albert Einstein. And yet, Norman Borlaug is a giant in the corridors.

After Gordon retired, I thought – oh, well, there we go, because we’ve got Dr. Judith Rodin, and I heard that she was an academic, and she was more about health. So I was quite surprised one morning when I came for a board meeting. She tugged on my arm, and she said, “Strive, I need to see you.” So we went off to her office, and she stared at me and she said, “We can do it now – the Green Revolution now. I think this is the thing we should do. We need to do something really big.” I said, “The Green Revolution in Africa?” She said, “Yes, that’s the one I want to do. We can capitalize a Green Revolution in Africa. Why not now?”

We had an incredible discussion. We talked on, our roles should be catalytic, but we cannot do it alone. We need partners. It has to be global. It must get everybody interested in agriculture again. It cannot succeed unless the Africans themselves own it. We have to create an African-led organization, boots on the ground. We talked about Kofi Annan’s call, which had just been issued, and said there must be a Green Revolution in Africa.

And so we went on, and we talked about the potential partners, and she said, “Let me tell you, I’ve just been to see the Gates people. They want to play the part that Ford played with us when we did this the first time. But it’s going to be different this time, because you Africans must own it.” And we do own AGRA – it’s African led, it’s African managed, and it’s in Africa on the ground – the largest gathering of young people from around the world, scientists and other specialists that we’ve ever pulled together on the African continent to try to think through and work on some of these issues.

We opened our doors under the leadership of Kofi Annan in 2006. I won’t bore you by going into what I think we have achieved, but I will pick up just a few of the things that were so important to us. We realized very, very early on that, in the tradition of Norman Borlaug, science had to be at the center of what we do.

We began to work on seed programs. Our seed program started in 2006, today produces more seed, a third of all the seed available to farmers across the African continent. And I looked once and I said to the chair of DuPont, “You’re a great company. Could you have done it?” and she said, “No, Strive, neither can Monsanto.” I said, “Okay, that’s fine.”

We must approach agriculture as a productive and inclusive activity. We never doubted that we could get a Green Revolution going in Africa. I personally have absolutely no doubt that it is going to happen and in our lifetime. The issues that concern me are no longer – can we get a Green Revolution going? It is – can we get an inclusive revolution going? And that has always been at the center of this matrix – the role of the smallholder farmer, 70% of whom are African women, who today produce 80% of what’s eaten by the African household. And yet she’s getting older. The African farmer is a woman, and she’s getting older. Her daughter will not farm – she’s too smart for that. Unless we can come up with a new value proposed proposition, she’s not going to do it. Her son is not interested, and he’s saying to us, “If you take any more time, I’m off to join Boko Haram and others.” That is the reality on the ground.

So we have turned our attention to looking... yes, the roadmap is clear. We're all sitting in this room—I would be the last to come and lecture you about soils, about the importance of smart agriculture, the importance of sustainability, the importance of the environment—yes Africa is big, but it's an incredibly fragile ecosystem, as Gordon and them will tell you. We cannot overturn issues like land overnight, but we will have to address it, and that is why we've got to have the African leadership at the table.

But there are things we need your help on. You know, the one thing I have learned at the Rockefeller Foundation and working with people like the Gates Foundation is the extraordinary generosity of the American people. You are a unique people in this. You created this thing called philanthropy. And outside the United States, most people are still trying to figure out what you're talking about. But it's an incredible generosity of spirit. And if I achieve nothing else here, I just want to say, thank you.

The African farmer is not looking for a donation. They're extremely proud, those women. Even as we went to the rock star, Kofi Annan, and these women who could barely read and write, in rural Mali, they said, "We want access to land. We want access to better seeds. Can't you see the weather is changing." They said, "We want access to finance. We want our markets to work." Everything they said is about as normal as any farmer would say in Iowa, I think, except for the access to land rights. So we want to help them. We want them to be our partners for the future.

Also, there are a few things up our sleeve that Norm didn't quite get to see, that could help us. Cell phones—there is technology like cell phones which could give us an extraordinary leap forward, a platform that allows us to share information. Farmers are beginning to use cell phones for payments, open bank accounts. They're beginning to share information about the way the market is beginning to work. My goodness, they're beginning to sound a bit like Iowa farmers. But there is a lot that we have in common.

When I spoke to the G-8 leaders in 2012 about African agriculture, I said to President Obama, "We really need to step up now." And in the last few months I've been talking to some of your legislators on both sides about Feed the Future, a program which your government has been supporting, which has been extremely helpful—it's been a partner to us in AGRA. It is my hope that that will get a legislative mandate; and to the extent that you can push it so that it goes beyond this administration, because you are the first to know that agriculture is a generational project—it's not an administration project.

We want to build with you a win-win situation across the Atlantic. We want to become your trading partners. We want to turn the long history we have with the United States into an economic merit such as we've never... We have been partners for a long time. We just want it to be win-win, and agriculture gives us an extraordinary opportunity to take that to a new level.

Let me finish, if I may by just saying something personal. In 2009 the YARA Award was given to Dr. Akin Adesina. Some of you know him as the Minister of Agriculture of Nigeria. But at that time he was vice president of AGRA, and before that he worked for Gordon Conway at the Rockefeller Foundation. It was part of the work that we did together with the Gates Foundation to consolidate our programs across Africa. So he was given the award that year. And he came to me, and he said, "Mr. Vice Chairman." I said, "Yes, Mr. Vice President. What do you want?" He said, "Will you come to Oslo with me?" I said, "Come on, Akin. You want me to fly from South

Africa to Oslo just so that you could have an award?" He said, "I have something to show you." I said, "Try me." He said, "Look at the guest speaker. Maybe we can sneak behind the stage and say hello." And the guest speaker was none other than Norman Borlaug – 2009. I was there, and I shall be able to say to my children, "Yes, I was there." And he stood on that platform, and he called for an African Green Revolution. He said, "This is the unfinished business." He said, "You go and finish it." That's why I'm here. It's a great honor. Thank you very much, and God bless you.

Ambassador Quinn

Wow! You hit it out of the park. Well, Strive, I don't know what is a full six – it's that what in cricket? I don't know what that is, but I recognize when somebody does hit it out of the park, and you just hit it out of the park. And this is the second standing ovation of the day, and I think how appropriate – one for the man who's pioneering all of that technology that's going to be so critical, and the other for the smallholder farmer. And what great symbolism there is about that, the two parts of what has to be done and what you are leading. So thank you. Let's thank Strive Masiyiwa again for a terrific call and for being here.