

# **DECLARATION ISSUED IN STELLENBOSCH AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF CODATA**

## **Building and strengthening a new generation of African young scientists and scholars**

We, the African Young Scientists and Scholars, appreciate the opportunity and support that were given to us by CODATA International and the South African National Research Foundation to meet at the 22<sup>nd</sup> CODATA International Conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa on October 24-27, 2010, and discuss issues that are important to our science, career, and impact on the scientific, social and economic sustainable development in Africa, as well as globally.

We recognize that making sustainable progress in all fields of science and eventually strengthening our knowledge societies and improving people's lives, requires cross-discipline, cross-sector, and cross-boarder collaboration and partnership. We also recognize that for these goals to be achieved, scientific and technical data and information should be openly available and freely accessible at national, continental, and international levels.

We commit to work with our peers, organizations and governments to strengthen awareness amongst African young scientists and scholars, actively promote the progress of science through increased availability of and open access to scientific data, make our voice heard in the global scientific community, and contribute to the welfare of our people.

We call upon scientific communities, local and international scientific organizations, and governments of the world to actively participate in creating an enabling environment that would facilitate and promote our vision.