The Institution of

Agricultural Engineers

Founded 1938 – Incorporated 1960

## Award for Contribution to the International Land-based Sector

## Dr Linus Opara

CEng FIAgrE

**Umezuruike Linus Opara** is a long serving IAgrE member (joined Sept 1997) and works as a distinguished Professor and SARChI Chair in Postharvest Technology at Stellenbosch University. He frequently publishes papers in Biosystems Engineering and is a great advocate for the Agricultural Engineering discipline in Africa and across the world.

More recently, the IAgrE has built its association with Linus through the Pan African Society of Agricultural Engineering (AfroAgEng) where he was one of the founding fathers and immediate past president. This has enabled IAgrE to become involved with the Royal Academy of Engineering activities to promote engineering in Africa and as such has raised the profile of IAgrE as a professional

body not just in the UK but in Africa. Through this, the importance of our discipline has been lifted up the agenda and is considered with more priority than it has been for many years.

With this background, Linus remains a huge advocate for promoting Agricultural Engineering across the content of Africa and is very well regarded for his work in this area. He is very well respected for his passion for developing the next generation and frequently speaks at conferences and influences government thinking on the role of the Agricultural Engineering discipline as a means of building food security across the continent.

The IAgrE is delighted to make this award to Dr Opara and fully supports the discipline of Agricultural Engineering in the African Continent and the value of the role of Agricultural Engineers in taking forward initiatives that will help to meet the United Nations sustainability goals of which “Freedom from Hunger” is a vital component.