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Date 21/08/2017

To : Professor Emeritus Nagib Nassar  
President of Foundation Nagib Nassar for Scientific and Sustainable  
Development ( FUNAGIB)  
Post Graduate Program of Botany  
Universidade de Brasilia  
Brazil

Subject: - Acknowledgement and Gratitude

We express our heartily Gratitude for accepting Patience Mansa Gakpetor, an MSc student from Ghana enrolled for her Graduate studies in the School of Plant and Horticultural Sciences, College of Agriculture, Hawassa University, and giving her the opportunity to do her MSc thesis research on the title “**Interspecific Periclinal Chimera, a New Approach to Enhance Cassava (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz) Root Production**”. Patience was granted scholarship by Intra-ACP STREAM (Strengthening African Higher Education through Academic Mobility) program.

“Interspecific Periclinal Chimera”, on which Patience was trained, is a new approach to plant breeding and the thesis is a very important source of information which is available in our library for researchers and most important, for other Graduate and post-graduate students studying at Hawassa University. Many of our staff and graduate students have attended the open defense of the thesis by Patience and have followed the defense with great interest. Many have expressed sincerely that they have learned a lot from this new approach. Patience has successfully defended her thesis with “Excellent” evaluation results as assessed by the Board of Examiners. The financial support of the Foundation NagibNassar for Scientific and sustainable development to Patience was essential to enable her comply with this endeavor and gave an example to others to follow in future for developing better conditions of food production in this continent.

Dear Professor NagibNassar! We are grateful to your contribution to the success of Patience not only giving her the chance to do the research in your project, but you were also her Co-advisor and guided Patience through the whole process of field and laboratory work and thesis write-up. You indeed have made great contribution to the success of our Graduate program and have produced a capable young scientist that will serve her nation, Ghana, and Africa at large. Thank you very much, Dear Professor NagibNassar, and we hope our collaboration will continue.

Sincerely

**Gashaw Meteke (PhD)**  
**Head, School of plant and**  
**Horticultural Sciences**

Gashaw Meteke

Head of School of Plant and Horticultural Sciences  
College of Agriculture, Hawassa University

