

THANKS & GOODBYE!!



My dear friends and colleagues,

I have come to the end of my scene, and I am bowing out of the WHO stage after almost 17 years in the service of our great Organization. I attained the statutory retirement age of 62 on 12th April, and I will proceed on retirement early morning tomorrow Monday 29th April, given that there is no flight to my homeland (Cameroon) on the 30th.

It was a great honour and privilege for me to serve in SIX positions in FIVE countries on the continent. I started out here in Brazzaville in 1996, then served as WR for 13 straight years (Seychelles, Mali, Zambia and South Africa). I have just ended a thoroughly fruitful 15 months once more in AFRO, making my journey a full cycle indeed! I have been thoroughly blessed, and I hope I too have been a blessing to those with whom I have crossed paths over these years. Do forgive all my transgressions against anyone I may have inadvertently offended, and you can be sure that I hold no malice against anyone I am leaving behind in the Organization.

Many thanks to my Director, colleagues, friends and compatriots who have celebrated my “coming of age” and my retirement very graciously indeed. I am grateful for the beautiful gifts offered me, and for the outpouring of your love and affection. I am deeply grateful to you all.

Let me share with you all the treasured moments that I had with our DG Dr Chan two weeks ago in Geneva, when I had the opportunity to de-brief her on my 17-year sojourn in WHO. It felt very good to be thus honoured, and the certificate was the icing on the cake! I hope each one of you will be appreciated for all the effort that you are putting in your work for our dear continent. We owe Africa all that we’ve got!

My personal email address is stellaanyangwe@yahoo.com and I look forward to staying in touch with you all. I will live and shuttle leisurely between Buea (Cameroon) and Pretoria (South Africa). My phone numbers are the following:

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Please feel free to call or write, and better still to visit. I have cherished our friendship and I wish you and yours God's richest blessings.

Thanks again and au revoir.

Stella