

## PRESS RELEASE

**The Moroccan Dr. Najat Zarrouk receives the Gold Medal of the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) in Gaborone, Botswana,**

**Tuesday November 6, 2018**



On the occasion of the 39th Annual Conference of the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) in Botswana, Gaborone, in the presence of the Representatives of the Government of the Republic of Botswana and in front of 541 Participants representing 28 countries, the President of AAPAM, Dr. Roland Msiska, Head of Cabinet and Public Service to the Presidency of Zambia, granted on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, Dr. Najat Zarrouk, Director of the African Local Governments Academy of the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG-Africa) the Gold Medal of AAPAM for 2018.

The Gold Medal of the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) is awarded to a person who has exercised distinctive leadership and outstanding in the promotion of public administration and management in Africa or who, through his writings or other efforts, has made a significant contribution in the field of public administration and management. It is the highest Award of recognition and honour bestowed on the individual by AAPAM.

The AAPAM Awards Programme was launched at the 27th AAPAM Roundtable Conference that was held in Livingstone, Zambia from 5th to 9th December 2005. It is meant to recognize individual and managerial achievements, publicize success stories and generally act as a tool for promoting best practice, excellence and professionalism in Public Administration and Management in Africa. Among the objectives of the Gold Medal Award are:

- (i) To recognize persons who have made outstanding contributions in the field of Public Administration and Management in Africa.
- (ii) To draw attention to outstanding individual achievements which set standards of excellence to which others can aspire.

The past AAPAM Gold Award winners are:

- Ambassador Francis Muthaura, Kenya, 2015
- Prof. Malcolm Wallis, South Africa, 2011
- Prof. Gelase Mutahaba, Tanzania, 2009.
- Prof. Adebayo Adedeji, Nigeria, 2007.

It is for the first time in its history that AAPAM grants this prestigious recognition to a woman, and a woman from the Kingdom of Morocco.

During the AAPAM Conference, Dr. Najat Zarrouk also made two presentations, the first on "Leaving no one behind: Best practices from the Kingdom of Morocco" and the second on "Investing in the Human Capital of Local Collectivities: the vision and role of UCLG-Africa and its African Local Governments Academy (ALGA) ".

Dr Zarrouk served also as a member of the Jury of the Innovative Management Award (IMA) of AAPAM, which is given to institutions.