

## **Prof. Ameenah Gurib-Fakim**

### **ICSU-ROA Committee Member- Biography for ICSU Website**



**Ameenah Gurib-Fakim**, Mauritian, is currently the Managing Director of the Centre for Phytotherapy Research (CEPHYR) and also full Professor with a personal chair in Organic Chemistry at the University of Mauritius (2001) and where she has served successively as Dean of the Faculty of Science and Pro Vice Chancellor (2004-2010). She has also worked at the Mauritius Research Council as Manager for Research (1995-1997).

An alumni of the University of Surrey where she studied for her Bsc in Chemistry in (1983) and that of the University of Exeter from where she got her PhD in 1987 and started working at the University of Mauritius. Between 1987-1992; she was the project leader for the first regional research project funded by the European Development Fund under the aegis of the Indian Ocean Commission on the Inventory and study of medicinal and aromatic plants of the Indian Ocean. (2000-2002), she was the national coordinator for the 'Indian Ocean University' funded by the EU. She has participated in several consultation meetings of the World Bank on environmental issues and recently she was coordinating lead author on the global Agricultural assessment spearheaded by the World Bank.

As a Founding member of the Pan African Association of African Medicinal Plants standards and she has co-authored the very first ever African Herbal Pharmacopoeia (2010) funded by the CDE and ProInvest (ACP), Brussels. Member of the: reference group of the International Science Programme (IPICs) of Uppsala University, she is also a scientific advisor to the International Foundation of Science (IFS) in Stockholm, member of the Expert Panel of the Special Programme of the UNICEF / UNDP /World Bank/ WHO on 'Infectious diseases' programme; Member of the Scientific Advisory Council of the NTembi of the 'Nuclear Energy Commission of South Africa (NECSA); and Member of the International Scientific Advisory Committee for the Cyclotron Project of the Indian Ocean 'CYROI' based at the Universite de La Reunion, Reunion (Fr.) and the international representative of the assessment panel of the AUCC-CIDA projects.

She has authored numerous scientific articles and authored and co-edited more than 26 books and several book chapters. She is also member of several editorial boards; technical committees; has chaired and been member of several national committees.

Elected Fellow of the Linnean Society of London (2007); Fellow of the Islamic Academy of Science, Amman Jordan (2009) and Fellow of the African Science Institute (2010); Ameenah Gurib-Fakim has also been the recipient of the L'Oreal-Unesco Prize for Women in Science (2007); laureate for the National Economic and Social Council (2007); the CTA / NEPAD / AGRA / RUFORUM for 'African Women in Science' and the African Union Award for Women in Science (2009). She has also been elevated to the Order of the Commander of the Star and Key by the Government of Mauritius and admitted to the Order of the Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques (2010) by the Government of France.

