Qhala and AKADEMIYA2063 Forge Strategic Alliance to Accelerate AI-Driven Policymaking for Africa's Agenda 2063

NAIROBI & KIGALI, February 6, 2026 — Qhala and AKADEMIYA2063 have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on the application of artificial intelligence (AI), data analytics, and digital tools to strengthen evidence-based policymaking in support of Africa's Agenda 2063. The partnership framework brings together AKADEMIYA2063's continental research, policy intelligence, and data intelligence and governance capabilities with Qhala's expertise in digital transformation, AI capacity building, and innovation ecosystems. Together, the two organizations will work to enhance the use of data-driven insights in agrifood systems, climate science, and economic development, while strengthening institutional and human capacity across Africa.

"This partnership reflects our shared commitment to strengthening Africa's knowledge systems. By combining AI, data, and policy intelligence, we aim to support decision-makers with practical tools that translate evidence into action, and accelerate progress towards the aspirations of Agenda 2063," according to Qhala CEO, **Dr. Shikoh Gitau**. "We're most excited about the opportunity to promote women-led AI innovations in agriculture. This will include co-designing AI solutions under Qhala's IDIA Fellowship program, which is a stellar opportunity and platform for women from across Africa keen to work with AI."

Under the MoU, the parties will focus on co-developing AI-enabled dashboards and analytical tools, conducting joint research on priority development themes, and delivering training and capacity-building programs for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners. The partnership will also support the integration of AI and remote-sensing data into decision-making processes and promote inclusive innovation, including women-led AI solutions in agriculture.

"We hold high aspirations for this partnership with Qhala, which aligns closely with AKADEMIYA2063's mission to help meet Africa's needs in terms of data, analytics, and mutual learning for the effective implementation of Agenda 2063 and the realization of its outcomes by a critical mass of countries," said **Dr. Debisi Araba,** Managing Director of AKADEMIYA2063. "We will leverage our strengths in applying AI and remote sensing data, developing digital dashboards, and conducting research on agrifood systems and climate science, and work alongside Qhala to support informed decision-making and strengthen institutional capacity to contribute to economic transformation across the continent."

The agreement also provides a framework for joint events, policy dialogues, and resource mobilization efforts, and for collaboration across AKADEMIYA2063's flagship programs, including the Regional Strategic Analysis and Knowledge Support System (ReSAKSS), the African Growth and Development Policy (AGRODEP) Modeling Consortium, the Malabo Montpellier Panel, and Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa). By aligning research excellence with digital innovation, the partnership seeks to contribute to more responsive policies, stronger institutions, and sustainable, inclusive development outcomes across the continent.

About AKADEMIYA2063

AKADEMIYA2063 is a pan-African non-profit research organization with headquarters in Kigali, Rwanda, and a regional office in Dakar, Senegal. Inspired by the ambitions of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and grounded in the recognition of the central importance of strong knowledge and evidence-based systems, the vision of AKADEMIYA2063 is an Africa with the expertise we need for the Africa we want. This expertise must be responsive to the continent's needs for data and analysis to ensure high-quality policy design and execution. AKADEMIYA2063's overall mission is to create, across Africa, state-of-the-art technical capacities to support the efforts by the Member States of the African Union to achieve the key goals of Agenda 2063 of transforming national economies to boost economic growth and prosperity. For more information, visit *www.akademiya2063.org*.
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About Qhala

Qhala is a Nairobi-based digital transformation firm whose mission is to catalyze Africa's digital transformation by empowering communities, institutions, and technology leaders with innovative, context-aware solutions. Qhala is a think-and-do tank, which designs and delivers programs that build digital and AI literacy, strengthen institutions, and enable responsible technology adoption across the public and private sectors. For more information, visit *https://qhala.com/*.

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