Patrick Aoua, and Three Others Named as Sunhak Peace Prize Recipients

Il Sik Hong January 14, 2025



The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee announced the recipients of the sixth annual Sunhak Peace Prize during a press conference at the Sunhak Press Center in Jung-gu, Seoul, South Korea. The honorees include Patrick Aoua, Founder and President of Assisi University; Hugh Evans, Co-Founder and CEO of Global Citizen; and Wanjira Matai, Head of Africa at the World Resources Institute.

José Manuel Barroso, former President of the European Commission and Chairman of the Sunhak Peace Prize Committee, explained that the prize "celebrates visionary leaders who have transformed the ideal of peace into real-world actions," and noted that the recipients are "trailblazers who have courageously addressed global challenges and fostered genuine and sustainable change."

Patrick Aoua is recognized as a pioneer in education reform, having established Assisi University to cultivate a transformative educational environment that empowers young African talent.

Hugh Evans co-founded Global Citizen, which has mobilized \$43.6 billion for poverty reduction and development programs, ensuring that over 1.3 billion people living in poverty worldwide gain access to essential services and support. Notably, he facilitated \$39 billion in development aid commitments at the 2015 G7 Summit and spearheaded the creation of the World Bank's Poverty Eradication Fund



Patrick Aua, Founder of Assisi University, and 3 Others S elected as 6th Sunhak Peace Prize Winners... Ceremony to be Held in April

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The Sunhak Peace Prize Committee held a press conference today (15th) at the Press Center in Jung-gu, Seoul, and announced that it had jointly selected Patrick Aouah, founder and president of the University of Assisi, Hugh Evans, co-founder and CEO of Global Citizen, and Wanjira Maa thai, director of the World Resources Institute for Africa, as the 6th Sunhak Peace Prize laureate

Former European Commission President and Sunhak Peace Prize Committee Chairperson Jose Manuel Barroso explained the reason for the selection, saying, "We focused on innovative leader s who have transformed the ideal of peace into actionable actions. These laureates are pioneers who have boldly challenged global challenges facing humanity and brought about real and sustai nable change."

Patrick Aouah is a pioneer in education reform who founded the University of Assisi and created an innovative educational environment where young African talents can demonstrate their capabi

Hugh Evans founded Global Citizen and has contributed to attracting \$43.6 billion in funds to pov erty eradication and development programs, ensuring that more than 1.3 billion poor people arou nd the world have access to essential services and support.

In particular, she received a promise of \$39 billion in development aid at the 2015 G7 Summit, an d she also led the creation of the World Bank's poverty eradication fund.

Waniira Maathai was recognized for her achievements in preventing deforestation and soil erosio n by planting more than 51 million trees through the Green Belt Movement, revitalizing the local economy, and providing new jobs to women.

Meanwhile, the Sunhak Peace Prize Foundation added that it had selected Prime Minister Xana na Gusmao of Timor-Leste as the recipient of the '2025

Special Achievement Award. 'Xanana Gusmao is a leader who devoted himself to the independ ence and national reconstruction of East Timor, and he served as the first president and prime mi nister, establishing democracy and peace.

The 6th Sunhak Peace Prize Awards Ceremony will be held on April 11 at the Lotte Hotel in Jam sil, Seoul, and each recipient will receive a cash prize of \$200,000, a medal, and a plaque.

[Photo source: Yonhap News / Provided by Sunhak Peace Prize Foundation]

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