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The temptation to amass individual wealth at the expense of our communities has become central in the devastation of our natural resources and the destruction of our political, socio-cultural and economic systems. Sustainable development is an impossible venture without a moral conviction of paying attention to the equitable distributions of resources based on the ability of communities and individuals to contribute positively to the development of the country or region. The commentary that follows this letter calls on African



leaders to lead the way in "responsible stewardship" of Africa's resources.

The pivotal point for the discussion on sustainable development is the "quest for a fair and just" society where corruption is reduced to a minimum and the government plays an important role in the growth and expansion of the private enterprise. The private enterprise must be well guided by informed policies which encourage and enhance fair competition. Many African countries are struggling with how to put into place a fair and just society.

It is our hope, as we provide our readership with the excellent scholarly papers, to remind our scholars and readers that we must be mindful of the realities of the African political and socio-cultural landscapes. Development can only be sustainable in a sound political and economic system in which there is responsible leadership. Scholars such as Wole Soyinka and Chinua Achebe and Presidents like Julius Nyerere and Nelson Mandela have written and spoken about the importance of exemplary and exceptional leadership, in order to have a stable government.

This issue of JSDA is replete with yet another set of excellent papers. But more importantly, many of these papers have theoretical paradigms that can be operationalized and as such, they are useful to practitioners and decision makers in the public and private sectors. It is indeed my pleasure, once again, to present these articles to our readership. Thank you for your support and encouragement.

Sincerely,

Valentine U. James, Ph.D; CES; CAQS

Editor-in-Chief