

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

To be an innovative scholar often remains just a dream. Anyone with hopes to attain this distinction needs to be nurtured and cultivated like the seedlings in nature's forests. Because I have been the privileged recipient of the wise and good counsel of many with impeccable credentials, let me therefore take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to those who advised and assisted me. Each in his or her own way has contributed to my quest to produce a thesis that would be innovative and would advance the frontiers of knowledge in International Public Administration.

In light of the fact that the African Union (AU), launched in 2002, has assumed constitutional functions, in addition to the rights and obligations of the former OAU, this thesis focused on "The role of the OAU as an international governmental organisation in regional co-operation and stability: 1963-2000". It is hoped that it could serve as a guiding torch for Africans to make use of the AU to realize a dictum of "a better life for all" African people.

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