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Your Excellencies, distinguished leaders, honored guests, ladies and gentlemen,

The **Global Diaspora Laureates** recognize extraordinary members of the global diaspora who have transformed the opportunities, knowledge, and relationships they have gained around the world into **service, bridge-building, and lasting impact for communities across borders.**

And the story of our **first Laureate** captures beautifully what this recognition is all about.

For ****Dr. Samuel Ndinjiakat—affectionately known as Dr. Sam—****the journey began with a return home.

In 2011, while living and working in the United States, Dr. Sam traveled back to his native Cameroon after his mother suffered a serious fall. When word spread that a medical professional had returned home, **more than 100 people from the community came seeking care.** What began as a family visit became something much larger—a calling to serve.

That calling ultimately grew into **Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International and Grace Gardens Hospital in Ndop, Cameroon**—building a bridge between healthcare professionals, knowledge, and resources in the United States and communities in Cameroon.

And Dr. Sam has not walked this journey alone.

At his side has been his wife, **Emelda Ndinjiakat, RN, BSN**—his partner in life and in service. Emelda has helped lead nursing care at Faith Gardens and has championed women's health, including breast and cervical cancer initiatives. Together, they remind us that transformative change is very often built not by one person, but by **families, partnerships, and communities united around a shared purpose.**

This is the spirit of the Global Diaspora Laureates: not simply remembering where we come from, but using what we have learned, what we have built, and whom we have connected with to create opportunity and hope for others.

Tonight, we recognize a healthcare leader, a bridge-builder, a servant—and a **Global Health Catalyst.**

Your Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, please join us in celebrating and welcoming to the podium our first Inaugural Global Diaspora Laureate—Dr. Samuel Ndinjiakat, Founder of Faith Gardens Medical Foundation International and Grace Gardens Hospital, Cameroon.



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