

Mr. Otunnu served as Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uganda from 1985 to 1986, during which time he played a prominent role in the Uganda Peace Talks which culminated in the Nairobi Peace Agreement of December 1985. Subsequently, he returned to academia. From 1987 to 1989, he was affiliated with the Institut français des relations internationales (IFRI) as a Visiting Fellow, and with the American University in Paris as a Visiting Professor.

Mr. Otunnu has participated in many studies and commissions focusing especially on international peace, reform of multilateral institutions and issues of values. He has been a member of the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict (1994 to present); the Commission on Global Governance (1992-1995); the International Panel on Management and Decision-Making in the United Nations (1986-1987); the Group on Rethinking International Governance (1986-1990); the United Nations Group of Experts on New Concepts of International Security (1984-1985); the Commonwealth Group of Experts Study Group in the Security of Small States (1984-1985); and the International Task Force on Security Council Peace Enforcement (ongoing).

Mr. Otunnu has also been active in many civic initiatives and organizations. He currently serves on the boards of several organizations, including the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Aspen Institute, Hampshire College, the International Crisis Group (ICG), the International Selection Commission of the Philadelphia Liberty Medal, Aspen France, the Council of African Advisers of the World Bank, the International Patrons of the Refugee Studies Programme at Oxford University, Aspen Italia, and the Advisory Committee of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

Mr. Otunnu has been President of the International Peace Academy (IPA) since 1990. The Academy is an independent, international institution dedicated to promoting the prevention and settlement of armed conflict between and within States. Under Mr. Otunnu's leadership, it has developed an extensive portfolio of programmes and has become an important forum for ideas and debate among policy-makers and opinion-makers. These programme initiatives include a policy research programme to monitor and assess the effectiveness of multilateral peace operations: a regional programme for Africa designed to help the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and African civil society build indigenous capacities for responding more effectively to the dramatic situation of conflicts in Africa; and a major expansion of the Academy's training programme on peacemaking and peacekeeping to five annual seminars.

Mr. Otunnu was born in September 1950. He is the guardian of six children.