Arkebe Oqubay

Senior Minister and Special Adviser to the Ethiopian Prime Minister

His Excellency Dr Arkebe Oqubay, PhD, is a Senior Minister and Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, and has been at the centre of policymaking for over twenty-five years. He is the former Mayor of Addis Ababa and winner of the Best African Mayor of 2006 award presented by ABN and was a finalist World Mayor Award 2006, for transforming the city. He currently serves as board chair of several leading public organizations and international advisory boards, and he is a recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star, presented by the Emperor of Japan.

Dr Arkebe is a development economist and a research associate at the Centre of African Studies in the University of London, and holds a PhD in development studies from SOAS, University of London. His recent published works include the path-breaking Made in Africa (Oxford University Press, 2015); The Oxford Handbook of the Ethiopian Economy (Oxford University Press, 2019); How Nations Learn: Technological Learning, Industrial Policy, and Catch Up (Oxford University Press, 2019); China-Africa and an Economic Transformation (Oxford University Press, 2019); African Economic Development: Evidence, Theory, and Policy (Oxford University Press, forthcoming), and The Oxford Handbook of Industrial Hubs and Economic Development (Oxford University, forthcoming).

Dr Arkebe was recognized by the New African as one of the 100 Most Influential Africans of 2016 and a “leading thinker on Africa’s strategic development” for his work on industrialization and industrial policies, both theoretical and practical. His research focus includes structural transformation, catch-up, industrial policy and policymaking with a special focus on Africa.