

27 May 2019

To whom it may concern:

**Re: Testimonial from Deputy Director General Corporate Services,
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) for Mr. George Piacentini.**

Dear Madam/ Sir,

This letter serves to give my testimonial about Mr. George Piacentini, who worked as the Head Teacher in IITA's International School for a period of three years from August 2016 to July 2019.

George, known as Mr. P. by everyone, is loved by students and parents alike.

George is a very pleasant, inclusive, understanding and tactful person, qualities that proved extremely helpful in his interaction with parents of different nationalities, IITA management, and the Nigerian Authorities. He made the school into a vibrant community by including all teachers, parents and even the children in decision making.

He was recruited when IITA school wanted to start the process of curriculum authorization for the International Baccalaureate® (IB) on the insistence of the parents, who were unhappy of the school not following a particular curriculum. George has been instrumental in this process, which is going very well, with an excellent recent consultation report.

George also introduced the 21st Century Learning Plan by not only introducing interactive whiteboards and tablets in the teaching program, but more importantly, by organizing training, awareness creation and sharing of ideas, on how best to use them towards the 21st century learning philosophy of creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication.

George has used IITA's knowledge base into the curriculum, with school children learning about, and taking part in, agriculture and forestry activities and events. He has equally been a driving force in establishing a curriculum of conservation and biodiversity for children of outside schools visiting our forest center.

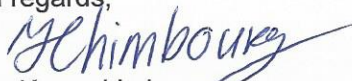
He and his team work very hard to make the learning fun, while achieving results. Results from recent International Schools Assessment (ISA) tests showed our school's great achievements and emphasized our strengths in Reading and Writing, benchmarked against the best international schools globally, and Mathematical Literacy, benchmarked against the best international schools in Africa.

I would like to mention as well that IITA's school has a budget that depends on school fees, and a small amount of funds from IITA. I recommend George for his excellent management of that tight budget over his 3 years here, which is a challenging task he performed without overspending.

We understand that he is moving on for family reasons but are all very sad to see him go.

I highly recommend him.

Kind regards,


Hilde Koper-Limbourg
DDG Corporate Services