



## **UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

### **SPEECH BY PROFESSOR ISAAC M. MBECHE, DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR, STUDENT AFFAIRS, DURING THE SOCIAL FORUM AND TEAM BUILDING EVENT ON FRIDAY MAY 20, 2016 AT CCU**

The professional associations present

Special Student Advisor

Dean of Students

Chief Medical Officer

Director, SWA

Director, Sports and Games

Director, Safety and Security Services

Parents

Students

Ladies and gentlemen

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome all of you to this forum. I appreciate that fact that you have set aside your other commitments and honoured us by attending this event. This University is the premier and largest University in East Africa. The University of Nairobi has 9 Campuses that are spread all over the Nairobi County. We also have campuses in Kisumu and Mombasa. In addition, we also have regional residential campuses that are in charge of students under the Module III programme. This gives the picture that the University of Nairobi is spread all over the country.

The Students Affairs Division in this University carries out the following functions:

- i. Plan, organize and manage the provision of academic and social counseling, career, programmes and sports, (both within and outside the University), accommodation, catering, community service, linkages with industry, recreation, health, security, oversight of students elections, orientation and any other student welfare services.
- ii. Develop and implement programmes (e.g. leadership training) that support students educational experience and wholesome life.
- iii. Advise student organizations and mentor students in their development of leadership, moral reasoning, social intelligence and other skills required in their lives.
- iv. Develop mechanisms to anticipate and promptly, efficiently and effectively respond to student needs.

Allow me to express my appreciation to the following:

- The parents who are here today, we welcome you and thank you for entrusting us with your children.
- To the National Police; you have been there for us when we have called upon you for support especially securing our lives and the University property.
- To the students; you are the reason why we are here and we appreciate the fact that you chose to study at the University of Nairobi.
- To our suppliers; we recognize your services and hope you will continue to support us in serving this great University community.
- To Lavington Security Company we appreciate you expect you to do much as you watch over our premises day and night.
- To our employers, you are a great treasure and we feel appreciate the fact that you are ready to offer opportunities to our graduates to gain knowledge skills and competence in the job market.

Today, the Student Affairs Division has organized this social forum where we believe that participants will help us as an institution to:

- Strengthen this organization by expressing their opinions, giving their suggestions and views that will help this University achieve her Vision and Mission.
- Counter the negative consequences that have created wrong image of what the University of Nairobi really is.
- Bring people together to share their experiences as they interact with each other.
- Create a unifying and renewing effect.
- Open the space for the development of collective conscience.
- Address issues pertaining to work and work environment.
- Address the challenges that we experience as customers and service providers.
- Have serious reflection on the success and direction of this University.
- Point us in the right direction in our endeavour to remain ISO Certified.

From the foregoing, this is an open meeting that is decentralized with representation from all categories of people in our society and all units of Student Affairs Division. It is a space for cross cultural exchange of experience, ideas, opinions and knowledge. It is my prayer that at the close of this forum each of you will go home having made a friend with whom you will share freely on concerns/successes of the University of Nairobi.

Let me take this opportunity to assure all participants in this forum that what will be discussed in this forum will be taken seriously and will go a long way to improve the image and services we offer institution as we endeavour to become a World class University. Please note that the information will also be treated as confidential so feel free to share.

Ladies and gentlemen, once again I wish to express my gratitude to you for attending this event and please come again. Feel free and welcome to this event.

THANK YOU.