



**KPC-UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI INAUGURAL OIL AND GAS PUBLIC  
LECTURE SERIES**

**Background**

Recent discoveries of oil and gas reserves in Eastern Africa specifically in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Mozambique have the potential to transform these economies to scale new heights. According to an African Development Bank (AfDB) 2015 report, East Africa will record the fastest growth on the continent in 2016. The report says that East Africa's growth in 2016 will be 6.7 per cent making the region the most attractive on the continent when compared to others. This demonstrates that the East African countries continue to exhibit resilience in the face of global economic adversity despite threats such as lower oil and commodity prices, bad governance and political uncertainties that could thwart growth. If well managed, these resources could be fundamental in meeting the huge infrastructural deficits that characterize the region, and indeed the continent. The resources could form the basis for agricultural transformation and also investments in key aspects of human capital such education and health. The oil and gas resources therefore present a great opportunity to sustain high rates of growth in the region and accelerate job creation.

**Rationale for the KPC-University of Nairobi Public Lecture Series in Oil & Gas.**

With these resources in our backyard, there is need for a sustained and focused public conversation on how they will be utilized in trans-boundary settings so as to tap their ultimate economic benefits. The time for this public conversation is now before the region embarks on economic exploitation of these resources so that the masses are

empowered with the right information. It is hoped that the discourse will help the East African countries avoid the ‘resource curse’ whereby rising resource revenues lead to instability, poverty and corruption.

KPC-UoN public lecture series in oil and gas is one of the avenues through which a useful conversation around prudent utilization of oil and gas resources can be generated. The aim of this lecture series is to ignite high level debate and discussion around oil and gas opportunities in East Africa and how Kenya can position herself to benefit for economic prosperity. Key personalities, luminaries, scholars and other industry players in oil and gas and related sectors will be invited to speak on this subject before an audience. The lecture series will be sponsored by KPC and hosted by University of Nairobi, the country’s premier academic institution.

### **The Lecture Series and The KPC Growth Strategy.**

The Company’s new 10-year strategic plan dubbed KPC Vision 2025 aims to transform KPC into a world class organization. Among the five strategic pillars that will enable KPC deliver this vision is the Image and Reputation pillar. Its objective is to build amazing relationships with all our stakeholders in an effort to sustain the Company’s public profile as a leading oil and gas entity in the region. Public lectures are open to all, including the media whose attendance is critical to the Company's thought leadership agenda in the oil and gas sector. These lectures will form a platform for KPC to spread her message to a broader audience. Public lectures and demonstrations allow prominent experts in the field to impart and share their knowledge with a view to spurring socio-economic development. The Oil and Gas field is relatively new and this series of public lectures will be a crucial avenue for experts to demystify the potential opportunities within and without the industry.

**JOE SANG**

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

