



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

**REMARKS BY DR. IDLE OMAR FARAH, CHAIRMAN,
UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI COUNCIL, ON THE
OCCASSION OF THE 50TH GRADUATION CEREMONY
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI AT THE
CHANCELLOR'S COURT ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 6,
2013**

**Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi, Cabinet Secretary for
Education,**

**Dr. Vijoo H.M. Rattansi, Chancellor of the
University of Nairobi,**

**Prof. G. A. O. Magoha, Vice-Chancellor, University
of Nairobi,**

**Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors from other
universities,**

Council Members,

University Staff,

Parents and Guardians,

Graduands,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the University of Nairobi Council, I wish to warmly welcome you to the University and in particular to the 50th Graduation Ceremony. I wish to congratulate the graduating class of 2013 presented to us today, who are drawn mainly from the Colleges of: Health Sciences and Humanities and Social Sciences.

The 50th congregation is indeed a milestone as it coincides with Kenya's 50 years of independence celebrations. At the University of Nairobi, we are honoured to be part of a captivating history and future of one of Africa's most fascinating nations. Our country's story is one of struggles and triumphs.

Ladies and Gentlemen I take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Vijoo H.M. Rattansi on her appointment as the Chancellor of the University of Nairobi and welcome her to serve the University. Her contribution to higher education in the country especially in supporting needy students with bursaries is well known and worth emulating. The University will benefit from her fundraising and networking skills and her competence in corporate governance. We look forward to working with her.

Madam Chancellor, the last fifty years have been full of promise with quality work in research, teaching and corporate social responsibility. The

University has keenly taken up its role of participating in the maintenance of scientific standards, the provision of skilled manpower required by the industry, government and other sectors of the economy and most fundamentally to the accumulation of knowledge and understanding.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the University of Nairobi Council is committed to maintaining good industrial relations with the unions for the mutual benefit of the University and all staff members; embraces dialogue as a means of resolving industrial disputes and places high priority in allocating resources to promote staff welfare thereby boosting morale and creating a conducive

work environment. In this regard, I would like to bring to the attention of all our members of staff that the University of Nairobi Council has approved the new strategic plan that will guide the development of this University for the next five years. I appeal to all of you to familiarize yourselves with the plan and play your respective roles in actualizing it.

Additionally, I would like to assure the student community that the University Council will work closely with management, particularly the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Student Affairs and the Students Welfare Authority in

ensuring safety within the university premises and create a conducive learning environment.

Madam Chancellor, The University has performed quite well in its mandate of teaching, research, consultancy and corporate social responsibility. It has been at the forefront in research and extension by continuing to be involved in research activities that are relevant and responsive to the developmental needs of our country. For instance, the production of different varieties of bean seed, incubation of innovative ideas and technologies at the Science Park and hosting of prominent international personalities in discourse.

As I conclude, I would like to congratulate the University management for successfully undertaking the Rapid Results Initiative to sensitize the University community on the tenets of the Constitution. The process targeting staff, students and alumni has created awareness and appreciation of the Constitution within the University Community.

Once again, congratulations to the class of 2013, may you reap abundantly wherever your journey takes you. It is our hope that you will have a positive and lasting impact on the society you will be serving. Happy 50th Jamhuri Day and

**compliments for the coming festive season and the
New Year.**

Thank you.