UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI DURING THE PUBLIC LECTURE IN HONOUR OF THE LATE PROF. FRANCIS MWEGA HELD IN CHANDARIA AUDITORUM, UoN TOWERS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2018 AT 3.00P.M.
• Our keynote speaker, Dr. Benno Ndulu, Former Governor, Bank of Tanzania

• Dr. Patrick Njoroge, the Governor, Central Bank of Kenya

• The family of the late Prof. Francis Mwaura Mwega

• Dr. Louis Kesekende, Deputy Governor, Bank of Uganda
• Ms. Sheila M’Mbijjewe, Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Kenya

• Invited guests

• Members of the University of Nairobi management

• Staff

• Students

• Ladies and gentlemen,
It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the University of Nairobi and to this public lecture in honour of the late Prof. Francis Mwaura Mwega, a man who made great contributions to economics academia. May the Almighty Lord continue to rest his soul in eternal peace.
Ladies and gentlemen, Prof. Mwega was a full professor of Economics in the School of Economics. He taught and supervised undergraduate and postgraduate students in the fields of macroeconomics and public finance.

At the international scene, he stood as the able ambassador of the School of Economics and the University. What is remarkable is that he did so,
saying very little, and writing only what he believed had economic substance and policy value. Those who did not know him well enough might be tempted to think that he expressed or applied his talents sparingly. That is false.

In the classroom, he used his talents to help students master the complexities of the economic system. At the time of his death, he was supervising more PhD
students than any other Lecturer in the School of Economics. In the policy arena, he was no less relentless. He worked tirelessly to ensure that sound monetary policies were formulated and implemented for his country.

But his exceptional skills were not limited to teaching, research and policy. He served a full term as Director of the School of Economics. As a
Director, he was beloved; as a leader, he was quiet and effective. He treated everyone in the School with equal respect and decency, irrespective of rank or background. In the seminar room, he employed his research expertise to ensure that the highest academic standards prevailed. As an individual researcher, he helped link the economics unit of the University of Nairobi to the vast network of the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and,
to its research and training resources. The School is still a major beneficiary of the AERC. He is greatly missed.

With a delicate balance of work and family, Prof. Mwega was able to achieve much. We join his family in celebrating the life that he lived. He was more than just a researcher. He was great man. Indeed!

We celebrate and honour him.
Thank you.

PETER M.F MBITHI, PhD, EBS
VICE-CHANCELLOR
AND
PROFESSOR OF VETERINARY SURGERY