UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY PROF. PETER M. F. MBITHI, VICE CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI DURING THE PUBLIC LECTURE BY DR. SUNG CHUL SHIN, KAIST PRESIDENT, HELD ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019, AT 8.30 A.M. IN TAIFA HALL
- Cabinet Secretary, Interior & Coordination of National Government, Dr. Fred Matiang’i

- Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Dr. Amb. Amina Mohamed

- Chief Administrative Secretary, & Principal Secretary, State Department of University Education and Research, Prof. Collette A. Suda

- Principal Secretary for ICT and Innovation, Mr. Jerome Ochieng’
- CEO Konza technopolis Development Authority
- KAIST President- Dr. Sung- Chul Shin,
- Staff
- Students
- Invited guests
- Ladies and gentlemen
I am delighted to welcome you to this public lecture that will give insights on the role of the proposed Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (Kenya KAIST). This is a government of Kenya project that is being spearheaded by the Korean Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (Korean KAIST) to accelerate the attainment of the vision 2030.
To implement this project, the Korean and Kenyan consortia were selected in November, 2018 through a competitive bidding. The bidding was administered by the Konza Technopolis Development Authority on behalf of the Ministry of Education. We are proud that the University of Nairobi was selected as the local education partner to work with the Korean KAIST.
Based on our local expertise, we will provide local advisory and consulting services via the University planning (Training and Education) for the project. The University will provide services such as; Educational planning, Curriculum Design, Industry-academic collaboration, University Management Planning and other related Training. In providing the mentioned services, we will source expertise from our different schools and administrative departments.
As a University, we will also source expertise from other local universities where necessary.

The Kenya Vision 2030 considers Science and Technology as a critical catalyst for accelerating modernization and transformation of the Kenyan Society into a middle-income country by 2030. The Kenya KAIST is an implementation of this vision.
It will have 3 faculties whose core programme would include: Mechanical, Electrical and ICT Engineering; Chemical, Civil and Agriculture; Engineering/Biotechnology, and Basic Science Education such as Maths and Physics. In developing the Kenya KAIST, our government will benchmark and leverage on the development experience of South Korea's Science and Technology driven industrialization.
The Kenya KAIST will thus: be a specialized graduate-only degree-awarding institution of strategic national importance (i.e. science and research centered university); train highly skilled researchers in Science, engineering and technology; and be expected to provide intellectual guidance to all educational partners in the Konza Technopolis. Some of the expected key outcomes from the implementation of this project are: increased patents, increased quality of Science and Technology
graduate training in Kenya, and increased relevant skilled workforce for industries in and outside Konza Technopolis.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to conclude by sincerely thanking the Kenya Government for negotiating a loan agreement of US$94.6 million, in 2017, to finance this noble Project.
We look forward to working with our strong partners from KOREA and with the support of the Kenya Government to replicate the success of KAIST (KOREA) here in Kenya.
Thank you.

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