UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI DURING THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MIGRATION STUDIES ON 6TH MAY 2019 CEREMONY HELD ON MONDAY MAY 6, 2019 IN THE VICE-CHANCELLOR’S PARLOUR AT 9.00 AM
• Principal Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of Government Services (State Department of Immigration)

• Ambassadors of the European Union (Represented)

• Ambassador of the Republic of Somalia

• Ambassador of the Republic of Sudan

• Ambassador of the Republic of Uganda
• Facilitators of workshop
• Ladies and gentlemen

Good morning.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this ceremony as we officially open the Postgraduate Diploma in Migration course. Karibuni!
I wish to recognize the support accorded to the University by our partners the European Union, Better Migration Management programme represented by GIZ and International Organization for Migration and the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, State Department for Immigration and Citizenship Services. I also recognize the participation of Maastricht Graduate School from the Netherlands.
Our role as the University of Nairobi in this partnership is to form part of constructive working relationships that is essential in this paradigm shift in Migration governance. We not only experience effects of migration but also conduct studies on migration. Notably, it is at the University of Nairobi, where ground breaking research on migration to urban areas was first unveiled.
The University of Nairobi is currently among the five universities in Africa – under the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) that negotiated an inter-universities joint research and PhD training program on migration to cities.

This inter-universities initiative together with the training program being officially opened today is part of the University’s effort to address human capital
challenges to improve on technical skills for migration management and governance not only in Kenya but to wider African continent.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this course has been developed by practitioners for practitioners. It will be taught by high class faculty from UoN, Maastricht Graduate School and visiting lecturers from diverse migration fields. It offers academic excellence
through the University of Nairobi staff and learning facilities.

Participants will be exposed to hands on exercises in the state of the art Forged Document and Fraud Detection Lab. There will also be study tours for first hand learning insights.
Ladies and gentlemen, in the words of Clemens and Kate (2018), ‘The world needs better ways to manage international migration for this century. Those better ways finally have a roadmap: the Global Compact for Migration. Now begins the journey. National governments must lead in order to implement that Compact, and they need tools.’
To the first cohort of Postgraduate Diploma in Migration course present here, I wish you well as you embark on your studies.

Thank you.

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