UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI DURING THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ANNUAL SPORTS DAY HELD IN THE CHANCELLOR’S COURT, ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018 AT 2.00P.M.
• Principal Secretary for Sports
• CEO’s of Companies
• Sponsors
• Staff Teams
• Student Teams
• Invited Guests
• Spectators
• Ladies and gentlemen,
I take this opportunity to welcome you all to the inaugural edition of University of Nairobi Annual Sports Day. The University of Nairobi is already an academic giant in this region with impressive global ranking. But we are also a power house in sports. We teach sports and we compete in sports as a serious discipline.
We have strong Rugby, Basketball, Hockey and Volleyball teams that play in top leagues in the country.

The Department of Physical Education has continued to contribute to the development of sports through training of teachers/instructors and through research in the sports field.
This is an area where the Government and policymakers need to give much attention as the country puts more focus on building sports academies to nurture talents. The trainers produced here will form part of the critical mass required for the success of those academies.
Currently, the University of Nairobi is mentoring Koitalel Samoei University in Nandi County. The commission has challenged the University of Nairobi to come up with sports related courses as a special niche for Koitalel Samoei University. Nandi County is the home of most renowned Athletes.
The sports industry in Kenya has not attracted investment and support that is commensurate with its contribution. The government should encourage the corporate and well-endowed individuals to invest in the industry by providing incentives.

I have noted with appreciation the growing interest of our students in taking sports as a career. This should be encouraged. We shall go out to look for
partnerships for sports scholarships and sponsorships for our teams so as to motivate the budding sportsmen and women.

We are glad to see the results of our past efforts and pledge to keep investing more and more in this sector.
In that regard, with the support of the government, we will channel more resources (Human, Infrastructure and Finances) to enhance sports at the University.

I wish to express our gratitude to various companies and partners who responded to our call for sponsorship to make this day a success.
Allow me with humility to thank the PS, Sports Amb. Kaberia for gracing the occasion. We are pleased to have you here and pass our regards to the Cabinet Secretary. My appreciation also goes to Techno mobile, University of Nairobi Alumni, Kwese Pay TV, Kericho Gold, Cynton Investments, and prime wood company for their generosity and support through donation of trophies and other games items.
I am grateful to all participants and especially teams from Kisumu and Mombasa campuses. I believe this gathering has accorded you new networks and friendships.

Thank you.

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