REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. GEORGE A.O. MAGOHA, ON THE RPE DIVISION TEAM BUILDING WORKSHOP AT MAANZOONI LODGE NOVEMBER 27-29, 2014
• Deputy Vice-Chancellors
• Participants
• Ladies and Gentlemen
Ladies and gentlemen, I am delighted that you have made time to attend this team building workshop.

I am advised that the objective of this team building workshop for the units within the RPE Division is to brush up on the functions and mandate of the individual units, identify strategies for higher effectiveness while building and strengthening team spirit.

As you are aware, the RPE Division came into being in March 2011. Since then a number of changes have
taken place, specifically in the re-organization of the administrative structure and the functions of the various offices. As a result, a number of new policies have been developed to support the operation of the new structure, such as the Research Policy, Intellectual Property Policy, Open Access Policy, Plagiarism Policy, Extension Policy and Communication Policy.

Ladies and gentlemen, I recognize the fact that the University has improved tremendously in terms of visibility, ranking and the growth of the research
portfolio in addition to enjoying strengthened engagement with our stakeholders as a result of the creation of this RPE Division.

However, I am aware that there is still a need to undertake strategic review of the RPE structure in order to optimize the Division’s impact on realizing the University of Nairobi’s vision. This strategic review, to my mind would include implementing the proposed position of Director of Research & Extension and operationalizing the two new policies;
Extension and Outreach policy and the Communication policy.

I am also aware that operationalizing other policies would involve in-depth study and review of our procedures with a view to inculcating relevant processes within the Quality Management System. For instance, to operationalize the Plagiarism Policy would require the RPE and the Academic Divisions to work closely with the Quality Assurance Directorate to ensure academic and research integrity.
I am aware that the University management recently approved the establishment of the UoN Innovation Fund of 25M per annum and the Creativity Award to incentivise and support creativity and innovation. While these have not been implemented due to the current budgetary constraints, it is my sincere hope that these will be realized soon.

Ladies and gentlemen, I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the contribution that this Division has made towards the realization of the vision of the University of Nairobi. I also wish to personally
commend the DVC (RPE) Prof. Irungu for the tremendous effort she has made towards the same.

It is my hope that this workshop will therefore provide the RPE Team with the opportunity to review the performance and the journey in terms of the core functions and projects, chart future projections and strengthen team spirit within the Division.

Thank you for this team building initiative and for taking the time to be part of this team building workshop.
I now declare this RPE Team Building Workshop officially opened.

Thank you.