UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI DURING THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE SEVENTH ANNUAL UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI OPEN DAY HELD AT THE GREAT COURT ON THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017 AT 9.00 A.M. 2.00 P.M.
• Dr. Vijoo Ratansi, Chancellor, University of Nairobi
• Deputy Vice-Chancellors
• Principals of Colleges
• Deans and Directors
• Members of Staff
• Students
• Parents
• Prospective Students
• Partners from various Organizations
• Distinguished guests
• Ladies and gentlemen
It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the University of Nairobi, particularly to our seventh Open Day whose theme is “Quality and Innovative Education to Sustain Industrial Growth”.

Ladies and gentlemen, the University of Nairobi management has retained a special slot in its academic activities by organizing this academic
Open Day. The event provides an opportunity for the University to interact with its prospective students, parents, partners and other stakeholders.

In the last eight years, during Open Days, faculty and staff have had the opportunity to interact with prospective students and the public at large, sharing the content of the
University’s academic programmes, research outputs and services.

A number of our partners from industry are also participating in this Open day. I wish to thank you for being part of the University of Nairobi’s efforts to offer holistic information to our stakeholders. Allow me to quote Nation Media Group who are our key partners in this year’s Open Day, and whose media
support for this event is to say the least very fantastic.

The importance of holding the Open Day has been buttressed by the Commission for University Education, who in their report following the Quality Audit exercise conducted in January in February, 2017, recommended that all universities undertake
to have open days as one avenue of interacting and engaging the public.

Since its inception as a fully fledged University in 1970, the University of Nairobi has immensely contributed to the social, economic and political development of Kenya, with several outstanding achievements in academia, research and corporate social responsibility. Indeed, these efforts have seen
the University gain recognition locally and internationally.

In recent global rankings, the University of Nairobi has been confirmed as the best University in the region and among the top ten in Africa. We have consistently maintained that status for the last decade and we are committed to post even better results.
Our readiness to display our products, services and programmes for public scrutiny is a strong statement about our openness and the quality of services we render to the public for which we are ready to be held to account.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the University of Nairobi has embraced change in our endeavor to institute a culture of reforms in the management of the
institution. In recent years, we have registered more students, increased the number of courses on offer and expanded our operations to other regions.

I wish to assure all our stakeholders that we shall keep the momentum and improve access to quality higher education.
Ladies and gentlemen, the Open Day is not the only event that offers an opportunity for interaction between the University of Nairobi and its prospective customers; indeed we have been having other forums that include: the now annual Innovation Week, participation in various exhibitions and trade fairs and our inaugural and public lectures.
I take this opportunity to call upon all guests and participants to ensure they visit our stands to see the various innovations and creative works. As they tour some of the World Class facilities and Centers of excellence, let them inform and encourage their friends and kin to select and apply for University courses on the spot.
Finally, I wish to thank the Government through the Ministry of Education for the support it has continued to provide to the University to enable it discharge its mandate. We assure you the University will not relent from the course of excellence.
With these few remarks, it is my honour and pleasant duty to welcome all our visitors to the auspicious occasion of this year’s University of Nairobi Open Day.

Thank you.

PETER M.F MBITHI, PhD, EBS

VICE-CHANCELLOR

AND

PROFESSOR OF VETERINARY SURGERY