UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. GEORGE A. MAGOHA ON ‘AFRICAN WOMEN STUDIES CENTRE MANAGEMENT BOARD’, ON 31ST MAY, 2013 AT THE EDUCATION THEATRE II, MAIN CAMPUS, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
Principal, CHSS

Director, Women Studies Centre

All Protocols observed

Ladies and Gentlemen
It is indeed a great pleasure to join you ladies and gentlemen in this historic occasion. It is with great gratification that I wish to inaugurate the first board of the African Women Studies Centre. I welcome you all.

The process towards the establishment of the Centre received the full backing of the University of Nairobi management and we are proud to be the first in this continent to host such a clearly focused institution. African women indeed play a major role in the development of the continent and our focus on them is not only in order but it’s a must. Academic
institutions have traditionally not taken on board the critical role women have played in the historical, social and economic roles in Africa. Buts its clear that the tide is changing and we in diversity of nation recognize this momentous movement. We shall provide all the necessary support to the African women studies centre to ensure that it grows to become the envy of other academic institutions.

Appreciation goes to all those who have made the great idea of bringing the African Women’s experiences and knowledge to the centre of academic discourse and policy dialogue to become a reality.
One of the core values of the University of Nairobi is to promote and advocate for freedom of thought and expression. The focus of the Centre is to bring the African women’s knowledge to visibility, through academic and policy debates in our academic institutions and other fora at the national and regional levels.

In addition, the Centre takes cognisance of the important linkage between women of Africa and those of African descent but living in other parts of the world.
Ladies and gentlemen, the University hopes that the board will give guidance on policy direction for the Centre towards realization of its mission and vision. Promote and strengthen AWSC’s linkages with higher learning, corporations and other institutions in Africa and the rest of the world, Consider and approve the director’s annual reports as well as Support AWSC’s mobilization of both human and financial resources.

The university shall continue supporting the board in its various activities as it seeks to make the Centre
an oasis of academic thought and a blessing to humanity.