REMARKS BY PROF. PETER M. F. MBITHI, THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, DURING THE ICTC TEAM BUILDING AT KENYA SCHOOL OF MONETARY STUDIES ON FRIDAY MAY 3, 2019 AT 9.00 AM
Invited guests,
ICTC members of staff,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good morning,

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to this Team Building event. Team buildings are part of our culture in the enhancement of work ethics and core values. They are meant to remind us that "None of us is as smart as all of us." By that, I mean every single one of us is important. No individual team member has the knowledge and expertise that is equal to that of a team as a whole.

Whilst this day presents itself as a ‘nice break’ from work, it does have a serious purpose to us. It is meant to nurture a successful company culture through breaking down barriers, building trust amongst ourselves, creating respect, encouraging communication, strengthening our morale, improving our group dynamics, identifying our strengths and weaknesses, discovering our hidden potentials, promoting teamwork, creativity and encouraging responsibility. This day is meant to amplify our motivation. It is one of the indicators that we are willing to motivate you and invest in you.

With that in mind, I feel that this is the best moment to have our team building. The reason being we recently launched our Strategic Plan for 2018-2019. The Strategic Plan outlined the approaches to realizing the University’s full potential and accomplishing its mission. As employees of the University, we all have a role to play in implementing the activities therein contained.

We now have an opportunity to re-align ourselves to the ICTC overall strategic objective which is “To maximize student and staff productivity, enhance teaching and learning and improve quality of research through ICT”. It is also a means towards strengthening our resolve in attaining the ICTC mission of providing innovative, quality and sustainable ICT solutions and services that meet the aspiration of the University in the learning, teaching, research and management.
I take this opportunity to challenge you to exploit the present growth of Artificial intelligence (AI). AI has now become an essential part of the technology industry. It is strategically important for driving enterprise strategies. We constantly see new solutions being created from innovative technologies and this has had a disruptive effect in the outdated technologies. As a leading institution of research, the latest developments in technology only mean one thing- it would be wise for us to start working on an AI strategy straight away! We need to cut a niche in providing solutions through AI.

Along with that, there is an increased threat of cybercrime, especially through hacking. I encourage you to keep developing and embrace more sophisticated systems that prevent identity theft and other computer-related crimes.

I will conclude with a quote from Andrew Carnegie that says, "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision, the ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results."

I am confident that after successfully completing this team building activity, we shall have further understood our strengths, weaknesses, and interests. It is my hope that this event will create a compact ICTC team with renewed momentum.

Asanteni!

**PETER M.F MBITHI, PhD, EBS**

**VICE-CHANCELLOR**

**AND**

**PROFESSOR OF VETERINARY SURGERY**