UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI DURING THE 1 MILLION YOUTH CHALLENGE LAUNCH HELD IN THE AUDITORIUM ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2019 AT 9.20 A.M.
• Cabinet Secretary for Education, Prof. George Magoha

• Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, Prof. Margaret Kobia,

• Cabinet Secretary for Sports, Culture and Heritage Amb.
  (Dr.) Amina Mohamed,

• PS’s present

• CEO’s present

• The young people

• Invited guests

• Ladies and Gentlemen
I am pleased and humbled to warmly welcome you to the University of Nairobi to today’s 1 million Youth Challenge Launch.

This program – Sexual Reproductive Health, Education, Access to Employment and Economic Empowerment as well as Leadership and Governance through Sports Safety, - Spiritual foundation and talent nurturing (SEAL) Program is an initiative between various stakeholders in the public and private sector who have
come together to empower the youth with the knowledge, courage and vision to deal with the various challenges that confront them.

The youth are the future of any nation but they face a lot of challenges. The SEALS Program is a holistic approach to engaging the youth in a transformative behavior change by identifying and addressing the challenges affecting them in sexual, reproductive health (SRH), Education, Access to employment and
Economic empowerment as well as leadership and governance through sports safety, spiritual foundation and talent nurturing.

The University of Nairobi is proud to work with the government of Kenya and other non state actors on various initiatives that seek to empower the youth and create opportunities for them.
We thank the government for rolling out other noble initiatives like the Ajira Digital Programme, the access to government procurement opportunities (AGPO) for disadvantaged groups like the youth, the internship policy being championed by the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, the scholarship programs through the Ministry of Education and the Talent academies by the Ministry of Sports, Culture and Heritage.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The SEALS cohort that is being commissioned today has gone through a mentorship program that should inspire them to be leaders and role models to other Young people in society.

Let me conclude by urging the youth to make good choices in life.

“Choices have Consequences!”
Do not yield to peer pressure, stay focused and strive to make a positive mark wherever you go.

I thank you and look forward to a successful march towards the 1 million Youth Challenge in support Of H.E. President Uhuru’s Youth Agenda.
Thank you.

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