REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SIXTH (6TH) GERMAN – AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2017 IN LECTURE THEATRE 301 AT UoN TOWERS AT 10.00 A.M.
➢ Deputy Vice Chancellor (AA) - Prof. Henry Mutoro

➢ Deputy Vice Chancellor (RPE) - Prof. Lucy Irungu

➢ Deputy Vice Chancellor (Student Affairs) – Prof. Isaac Mbeche

➢ Principal, CHSS – Prof. Enos Njeru

➢ Deputy Principals present

➢ Distinguished speakers

➢ Distinguished participants

➢ Members of Academic Staff and students

➢ Ladies and Gentlemen
On my own behalf and the entire University of Nairobi Management, I take this opportunity to welcome our distinguished guests, keynote speakers and honourable delegates attending this year’s 6th German – African Universities Partnership Conference today.

Let me also take this opportunity to thank the “German – African University Partnership Platform for the Development of Entrepreneurs and small/medium Enterprises”, the Bonn – Rhein – Sieg University of Applied Sciences (BRSU) together with its partner universities, the university of Cape Coast in
Ghana and the University of Nairobi since without their cooperation, hard work and total commitment, this conference could not have succeeded.

This Conference, whose theme is “Universities, Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Development in Africa”, is timely with regard to the various economic challenges facing Africa as a continent currently.
Sharing from the experiences of developed countries as well as middle income countries, entrepreneurship triggers mobilization and redirecting of resources to opportunities with greater economic returns. Hence, university and industry linkages in diverse ways support enterprise development, participation of poor people in the economic process and creation of employment opportunities in Africa.
In addition, the interaction of African universities with foreign universities promotes technology transfer to African enterprises and increases the chances of international market access through cultural awareness.

In conclusion therefore, I have no doubt in my mind that this will be a very memorable experience for those attending a conference of this nature for the first time. For those of us who are seasoned in the area, it is an opportunity to create an enduring legacy in mentorship.
for research and dissemination for the early stage academics and researchers in general.

With those few remarks, I wish you fruitful deliberations during this conference, and now declare the 6th German – African Universities Partnership Conference officially open.

Thank you.

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