UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI PROF. PETER M.F.MBITHI DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EIGHTH (8TH) AFRICAN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT (AIBUMA) CONFERENCE HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2017 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI TOWERS IN LECTURE THEATRE 301 AT 9.30 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
It is indeed an honour and privilege to welcome all our distinguished keynote speakers for accepting our invitation and gracing this occasion in order to share business and management ideas as outlined in this year's conference theme.

Academic conferences are meant to give a chance to researchers and practitioners to come together and share their research findings as they look for solutions to the myriad problems that are being experienced in the world today. This Conference, whose theme is "Business in the 21st Century; Managing in
Uncertainty” seeks to provide an opportunity to corporate personalities, scholars, students and practitioners an opportunity to interact and share ideas on various topical issues.

Through this conference, the University of Nairobi, through the School of Business, upholds its vision and mission, namely commitment to scholarly excellence to the Kenyan and global community through creation, presentation, integration, transmission and utilization of knowledge for enhanced development and therefore betterment of human life.
Doing research and writing academic papers is one thing, but presenting papers in academic conferences is another thing altogether. I therefore challenge participants to not only write research papers but also to present them in academic conferences like this one, and also find out how the findings can be taken to the next level, that of being applied to solve specific problems in the industry.
The broad aim of the AIBUMA 2017 annual conference is to provide an international platform for academia, business, professional, government officials and the public from all over the world to exchange ideas on how to apply global best practices in business and management in emerging economies.

This is an annual event that began in 2010 and seeks to showcase academic research as well as provide a forum to business leaders and practitioners to share their experiences with a view to bridging the gap between the industry and the academia.
I would like to express my gratitude to the School of Business Management and the Organizing Committee of the 8th AIBUMA Conference for the efforts made in realizing this conference. I also wish to thank all keynote speakers lined up to participate in this Conference.

It is my expectation and conviction that the key note presentations, academic research papers and discussions resulting from the presentations will trigger new thinking, ideas and solutions appropriately.
I also expect that these shall be disseminated through academic and industry journals for posterity.

To conclude my remarks, ladies and gentlemen, I would wish to thank all the participants in the 8th AIBUMA Conference and wish you fruitful discussions.

Thank you.

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