UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

SPEECH BY VICE-CHANCELLOR, PROF. PETER M.F. MBITHI DURING A PUBLIC LECTURE BY MS. ANNE WAIGURU, CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND PLANNING ON MARCH 31, 2015 IN THE 8-4-4 MULTIPURPOSE HALL AT 10.00 AM
Ladies and gentlemen

It is my pleasure to welcome all of you to the University of Nairobi and in particular welcome Ms. Anne Waiguru, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry Of Devolution and Planning, to interact with us.

Ladies and gentlemen, our speaker today has her academic background and experience in Economics and Public Policy. She holds a Master’s degree in Economic Policy from the University of Nairobi, and has
specialized experience in public finance, financial management systems, public service reform and governance.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Ms. Waiguru holds a ministerial portfolio which includes Devolution, National Development Planning, Gender, Youth, Arid and Semi-Arid Lands Development, Public Service Management and Humanitarian relief, among other special programmes. In her two years in service as Cabinet Secretary, Ms. Waiguru has overseen the design and implementation of various transformative and innovative programmes.

As the Minister responsible for gender and youth, Ms. Waiguru has initiated the mainstreaming framework for gender and youth across all sectors, using the gender management systems framework. She was responsible for the design and roll-out of the Uwezo Fund which as you are all aware has been giving interest-free credit to micro and small enterprises owned by women, youth and persons with disability.
Ms. Waiguru has overseen the implementation of the 30% public procurement preferential reservations for women, youth and persons with disability. Only last year, Ms. Waiguru oversaw the restructuring of the National Youth Service, transforming it into the premier institution for advancing the transformational agenda of youth in the context of national development. As you are all aware, the National Youth Service has been doing tremendous work with the youth in Kibera, empowering them to transform themselves and the environment, through the Kibera Slum Upgrade Initiative.

Ladies and gentlemen, through her stellar leadership, the Ministry has won various awards key among them is the Best rebrand awarded to the National Youth Service; Kenya ICT Innovation, Awards awarded to the various Ministry’s programmes including Huduma Kenya, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Women’s Enterprise Fund and the Ministry.
It is this eminent leader who has won several awards in her own rights among them the ICT Leadership Award. It is this distinguished personality who in view of her public career, was successfully nominated in 2011 as one of the Top 40 under 40 women in the country, making her the only nominee at the time from the Public Service; a career public servant who has served as the Director for Integrated Financial Management and Information System at the National Treasury; Head of Governance and Head of the Economic Stimulus Programme; and Director on the Public Procurement Oversight Authority Advisory Board; Director of the Women Enterprise Fund Board.

It is this sterling performer who is joining us today to deliver a public lecture.

It is now my pleasure to invite Ms. Anne Waiguru to interact with the University of Nairobi Community.

Welcome Ms. Waiguru