



REMARKS

BY

**MADAM JANE NYUTU
CO-FOUNDER, MOUNT KENYA UNIVERSITY**

DURING

MKU – MAKERERE UNIVERSITY MOU SIGNING

AT

INDOOR GAMES ARENA

ON

19TH SEPTEMBER, 2017

Salutations:

- The Council Vice - Chair, Dr. Vincent Gaitho,
- The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Stanley waudo,
- The Delegation of our Distinguished Guests from Makerere University, headed by the Vice Chancellor, **Professor Barnabas Nawangwe**
- Members of Management Board and Senate of MKU,
- Students,
- Ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, I wish to convey the very warm regards to you all and mostly to our very distinguished Makerere University guests from my husband and Founder of Mount Kenya University, Prof. Simon Nyutu Gicharu. Prof. Gicharu would have wanted to be with us here today but due to some commitments that required very urgent attention in Rwanda, he thus had to travel

there last week and he is as yet to finish up the business that took him there. I am sure we shall make arrangements for another meeting in the near future when Prof. Gicharu shall meet with our guests and especially with the **Professor Barnabas Nawangwe**.

Therefore, on behalf of Prof. Simon Gicharu, and on behalf of the entire MKU Board of Directors, as well as on my own behalf, I join the rest of my colleagues who have so far commended this partnership between MKU and Makerere University. To our Vice two Chancellors, this is a job-well done.

In the same breadth, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will feel very indebted if I do not congratulate you the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University **Professor Barnabas Nawangwe** for your

recent appointment to this position to serve as a Vice – Chancellor of one of the most formidable universities in Africa.

I have been told that, during a recent visit by a delegation from MKU to Kampala that was headed by Prof. Simon Gicharu at the end of May this year, him and his delegation had a very cordial meeting in Kampala with the team from the College of the Public Health of Makerere University headed by your able Principal, Professor Charles Imbigila. During that meeting, they were told that your university at that time was anxiously awaiting the appointment of a new Vice – Chancellor, and indeed you are the person that was found most fitting out of many contestants, some of whom are known to ourselves.

Kindly receive and accept our word of congratulations as we also wish you, an easy and productive experience at the helm of leadership at Makerere University.

Ladies and Gentlemen, **knowledge** when shared, just like warmth, does not diminish but increases. Therefore, we are here to share a partnership that is driven by abundance of warmth and desire to share knowledge by the two universities that will benefit both universities and the African community at large.

Allow me to disclose that, Uganda tops as MKU's country of the strongest and most friendly partnerships out of all countries in the world. For instance, Gulu University remains one of our strongest partners from where some of our senior personnel have received their PhDs in addition to warm and effective mentoring which we received from Gulu University when MKU was at its very initial stages of development. The same warmth and knowledge sharing goes on today between MKU and MUBS as well as with Kyambogo University whose documented impact of our partnerships with them has risen to very high levels within the last two years.

We are therefore happy to add a forth feather of a warm and knowledge-driven partnership with Makerere University, the renowned Mother to all other Universities in Uganda. To all of us here present, both students and staff let us take full advantage of this partnership.

One of the strengths of this partnership is our joint capacity for research and also for fundraising to ensure that our research kitty does not dry up. I am happy to confirm that the Board of Directors approved the establishment of the joint MKU – Makerere University Research Fund which has so far been boosted with a join donation of 10million Kenyan Shillings as a joint donation through the MKU Foundation.

A team has been put together of renowned researchers to steer this fund and its research activities. This team has been

Identified and the fund is ready for launching today. I am very confident that we are going to witness success from the dual partnership that will be second to none in the region.

I also invite various organizations and individuals in Africa and beyond to join the effort of our two universities by contributing to this fund that will be launched here today for the greater benefit of all Africans through research in human health. We aspire to witness a time when this fund will become a research powerhouse not only for Africa but for the whole world at large. As MKU and Makerere University partners, we shall continue to use our joint steering committee of the said fund to reach out to as many partners as possible to ensure we achieve our joint objectives within the shortest period of time as well as to ensure sustainability.

Finally, I thank our visitors for sharing their time with us and

hope the tempo we have witnessed today will be maintained into the far future and even be more enhanced. I wish success and academic prosperity to our new partnership.

I also wish safe travel to our guests and please pass our love and warm regards to everyone in your beloved country, UGANDA.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO ME.

THE END