Speech

By

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Commissioning of the Uni-City Mall &
The National Oil Petrol Station
Wednesday 16th February, 2016
The Chancellor – Dr. Benson Wairegi;
Chairman of Council – Prof. Ratemo Michieka;
Vice-Chancellor – Prof. Olive Mugenda;
Deputy Vice-Chancellors;
Registrars;
Members of Senate
Deans of Schools
Directors;
Members of Staff;
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good Morning.
I am delighted today to join the entire Kenyatta University fraternity during this auspicious occasion of the commissioning of the UniCity Mall and the opening of the National Oil Petrol Station.

Let me start by thanking the Vice-Chancellor for inviting me to take part in the celebration of yet another milestone by Kenyatta University. The two facilities that we have just opened are truly creative not just in design and construction but also in the originality of the ideas. For a public University in this country to create two landmark projects of this magnitude for income generation is quite impressive and I would like to congratulate Kenyatta University for this great achievement. It is even more exciting to witness a successful project completed through Public
Private Partnership. This is a model that the Government has been encouraging public institutions to embrace in order to enhance development.

Once again, I acknowledge with much gratitude the successes of Kenyatta University over the past ten years which have undeniably set it apart as a transformed institution. As the Vice-Chancellor pointed out in her remarks, the two projects are indeed worthy ventures that will see the institution increase its capital base and also provide a great business platform. The mall will contribute to the increased participation by the University towards the realization of Kenya Vision 2030 which recognizes quality education and training as being fundamental to development. The idea of providing the University students with opportunities for internship in the facilities is quite noble because that is where the students will cultivate a working culture that will be instrumental for their current and future undertakings.

The generation of third stream income by the University through the two projects is also a major addition to the institutions capital base because it will enable the university to meet its ever increasing budgetary requirements in the realization of its core mandates of teaching, research and community service. The mall will also enhance the status of Kenyatta University as a leading entrepreneurial institution of higher learning in the region.
Ladies and Gentlemen, I have personally seen Kenyatta University grow over the years and I attribute this growth to the visionary leadership and hard work of the Vice-Chancellor-Prof. Olive Mugenda, guided by the Chancellor and supported by the Council. It is this leadership that we need in order to spur more and more development. I wish to point out that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology is committed to continue supporting the University so that the institution may continue being a beacon of success in the country. We would other institutions to learn from Kenyatta University lessons for development and the good of education.

I thank the Chancellor, Council, the Vice-Chancellor, Management, Senate, Staff and Students for team work and for supporting the Vice-Chancellor to steer the University through difficult times and also for remaining focused to the University’s vision of being a centre of excellence in the region.

I am aware that recently, the University received various awards including that of Champions of Governance and the French award \textit{Les Palmes Academiques} given to the Vice-Chancellor for the University’s growth and these are quite impressive. Keep up the good work for the benefit of higher education in Kenya.

Kenyatta University, since its inception has been recognized for providing value-based education and for imparting the ideals of
academic excellence, sense of discipline and high moral and ethical values, leading to the development of integrated personalities.

I am happy with the new developments at Kenyatta University including the recently opened Alumni Building and KUTV and the upcoming Teaching, Research and Referral Hospital. Such developments showcase the prudent management and visionary leadership in the institution.

As I conclude, I wish you well in your future endeavours and urge you to continue working as a team for the benefit of the institution and the society at large.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my pleasure to officially commission the Uni-City Mall and National Oil Service Station.

Thank you.