



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

REMARKS BY THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (A&F) AT THE TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR SENIOR FINANCE, AUDIT AND PROCUREMENT STAFF HELD AT KISUMU HOTEL FROM 6TH TO 9TH FEBRUARY 2007

The Vice-Chancellor

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (AA)

College Principals

Managing Director, UNES

Resource Persons present

Ladies and Gentlemen

I take this opportunity to welcome you all to this training workshop. Mine will only be introductory remarks since the Vice-Chancellor will be officially opening the training workshop.

In 2005, the University embarked on a Management Skills Development training programme for its senior and middle level staff. By the end of the year, such training had been

conducted for members of the University Management Board, Deans and Directors of Faculties / Institutes / Schools and Senior Administrative staff.

The next cohort of trainers was supported from Finance, Audit and Procurement which is the one programmed for this week.

As you may be aware, in its 2005 – 2010 Strategic Plan, the University undertook, as one of its objective, the realization of an innovative, visionary and creative leadership that is visible, open and transparent, and that is cascaded to all levels of responsibility. Towards this end, the University adopted the strategy of undertaking continuous leadership development, and also institutionalizing the best management practices.

Apart from undertaking to train and retain staff in management skills, training will also address various areas of specialization for staff in various departments. For the groups being trained here from tomorrow topics have been selected giving due cognizance to the training specializations of this group i.e. the training specializations of this group i.e. the training will also cover topics in Finance, Audit and Procurement.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the group that is here is mandated with the management control, and expenditure University Finances. As you are aware, the University has over time operated a budget deficit largely due to shrinking exchequer funding coupled with a need to keep entry fees at affordable levels. The University therefore undertook between 2005 – 2010. To amount efficient, integrated and aggressive process of utilization of its available resources, with a view to expanding levels and diversity of revenue sources and managing its debt portfolio one strategy adopted to realize this objective is to institute stringent cost control and cost cutting measures. These strategies constitute the core of the performance targets negotiated with the government and contained in the 2006/2007 University of Nairobi Performance Contract. Compliance with set Budgetary levels (100%) and cost reduction (up to Kshs.5.4M). Constitute the key financial indicator targets in the current Performance Contract.

Ladies and Gentlemen, as you will note from the circulated programme, tomorrow morning we shall start with presentations on Financial Regulations, Cost Reduction, Debt Collection and Improved Revenue Generation. Papers on these topics will be presented by the Finance Officer, Internal Auditor and other internal resource persons.

After the tea break we shall have a presentation on the challenges of procurement and supply chain in the University followed by a paper detailing the procurement procedures State Corporations, by a person from the Public Procurement Oversight Authority. In the afternoon, we shall look at the inter-relationship between the Procurement Department, Finance Department and the Public Procurement Authority.

On Thursday the morning session is devoted to Team Building and in the afternoon, we shall have a presentation on Performance Contracting by an officer from the Performance Contracts steering Committee, Office of the President. We intend to have a session on “Way Forward on Friday Morning,” before we close the training workshop.

May I now take this opportunity to invite our Vice-Chancellor, Prof George A. Magoha to officially open this training workshop.