



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

**REMARKS BY THE DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (A&F) AT
THE UMB TRAINING WORKSHOP ON FRIDAY 2ND
FEBRUARY 2006 AT KILAGUNI SERENA SAFARI LODGE,
TSAVO WEST**

**The Vice-Chancellor, UoN
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (AA)
College Principals
Other members of the UMB
Resource Persons Present
Ladies and Gentlemen**

I take this opportunity to welcome you all to this workshop. My duty at this point will be considerably brief since the Vice-Chancellor will be officially opening this training workshop.

As you are aware, the University in its 2005-2010 Strategic Plan undertook, as one of its objectives, to

realize an innovative, visionary, and creative leadership that is visible, open and transparent and that is cascaded to all levels of responsibility. One of the strategies adopted to realize this objective is to undertake continuous leadership development. Another strategy is of institutionalizing the best management practices.

This UMB training should be seen within the context of the above undertaking and as you are aware, the University last year held several training sessions for its managers, starting from the UMB down to the middle level managers. Indeed, further training for such middle level managers is programmed for next week, this time targeting staff in Finance, Audit and Procurement departments. Since mid January 2007, pedagogical skills development training has also been going on for lecturers in the Faculty of Arts.

The topics that are to be covered in this UMB training workshop largely derive from the targets in the 2006/2007 University of Nairobi Performance Contract. In the Performance Contract, the University has e.g. undertaken to work towards acquisition of ISO Certification. The University has therefore contracted the Kenya Bureau of Standards who are experts in ISO Training and Certification to train its staff as a move

towards certification. For UMB, training in ISO will start today and Ms. Caroline Outa, the resource person from KEBS is here for this purpose. Other senior and middle level managers, starting with Senate will be trained from 6th February 2007 up to 22nd March 2007.

From the circulated programme you will note that there is also training in Leadership and Performance Contracting. As you know, further to the main University of Nairobi Performance Contract, the University has also put each of its colleges under performance contract with effect from 2006/2007. It is therefore crucial that members of the UMB be well exposed, by way of training, in the performance contracting process. Mr. Richard Ndubai, the Head of the Government Performance Contract Steering Committee is here to train us on the performance contracting process.

Ladies and Gentlemen, our University is a big organization spread over several campuses and having linkages with various institutions and Industry. It is therefore important that the Senior Management Team be well grounded in Corporate Governance. Mr. Michael Karanja from the Centre of Corporate Governance will cover this topic tomorrow from 12.00 noon to around 3.30 p.m. Again, it is noteworthy that training of senior

management in good corporate governance is one of the targets for the 2006/2007 contractual year.

The last segment of training tomorrow afternoon will be dealing with Public Procurement. As you are aware, the government has in recent years issued new procurement guidelines contained in various Acts. Procurement remains a contentious issue within many of our departments' undertakings and for a proper interpretation of the relevant Acts, we have sourced an expert / consultant in procurement to cover this field.

Ladies and gentlemen, other matters relating to this training workshop are as detailed in the circulated programme.

With those remarks, its my pleasure to invite our Vice-Chancellor Prof. George Magoha, to officially open this workshop.