

UoN and KPC Partner with Indian Oil

The University of Nairobi has been in Partnership with Kenya Pipeline Company on matters of Oil and Gas since the Inaugural Oil and Gas Public Lecture held in Taifa Hall on 1st July 2016 which was officiated by Hon. Charles Keter, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum.

Since then the University has entered into further collaboration and partnership with Kenya Pipeline Company through a contract to develop a Pipeline Maintenance Management Policy that supports long term business growth strategy of KPC through the commercial and consultancy arm of the University, UNES Ltd. Kenya Pipeline Company is a premier Oil and Gas wholly owned by the Government of Kenya.

With the discovery of Oil and the demand to transport crude oil and white products in the East Africa region i.e. Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, South Sudan, DR Congo and Ethiopia, KPC has developed capacity to carry out this task efficiently and effectively. It was as a result of this need that KPC entered into contract with UNES to develop Pipeline Maintenance Management Policy.

One of the requirements of the contract is to undertake benchmarking studies with similar but more elaborate Pipeline Companies in Asia, Africa, Europe and Middle East. The team chose Asia and one of the companies visited on 27th -28th June 2017 was Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL). Indian Oil Corporation Ltd is India's largest commercial enterprise, owns and operates 13 of India's 21 refineries. It has reliable and eco-friendly transportation of crude oil to refineries and petroleum products to various demand centers. Indian Oil owns and operates a pipeline network of nearly 13,000 km and another 3,600 km of pipelines are at various stages of completion. Some of the lessons learnt during the benchmarking study were issues of Instrumentation and control (I&C), Mass flow meters, pipeline security surveillance, asset management and automation of ERP, research and development on oil and gas. The Indian Oil expressed an interest to enter into collaboration with University of Nairobi and Kenya Pipeline Company through staff and students executive skills development programmes through their learning and development Programme, technology transfer through staff and faculty exchange and through joint business growth strategy.

The team from UON and KPC that visited Indian Oil included; Mr. John Kenduiwo, Managing Director UNES and Team Leader, Prof. Elijah Mwangi, Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Nairobi, Mr. Johnson Kinyua, Director of University Advancement, Ms. Christabel Mwikali, Asset Manager at KPC, Eng. Derrick Okova, Operations Department of KPC and George Ogari of UNES Ltd.

