

**SPEECH BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, MASINDE MULIRO  
UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DURING THEKENYA  
COAST NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC FIRST GRADUATION CEREMONY  
ON THURSDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2017**

Guest of Honour,

KCNP Council Chairman

The Chief Principal, Ms. Mary Muthoka

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology officials represented today,

The political class,

Kenya Coast National Polytechnic Staff and students,

Parents and Guardians,

The KCNP Class of 2017,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

It gives me great pleasure to be here in KCNP today and be part of this defining moment of this institution, this being the first graduation following your elevation to national status.

Allow me to take the earliest opportunity on my own behalf and on the behalf of The University Management, Staff and Students of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), to extend our warm congratulations to the Kenya Coast National Polytechnic on this auspicious occasion of your 1<sup>st</sup> graduation and elevation to national polytechnic status.

As you graduate today, remember that persistent people begin their success where most others have quit. Let this be the beginning of many more graduation ceremonies that you will partake.

Today as you confer Diplomas and certificates to our graduands, it is critical to note that our graduates are not only charting forward their individual careers, but also use the knowledge that they have gained to change the lives of our people and also improve the economy of our country.

As your partner, we at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) take pride in the remarkable strides you have made and your new status.

MMUST is proud to be associated with you as you celebrate this milestone, and wish you the very best in the journey of setting quality standards in provision of higher education.

We pledge to walk with you in your journey of self discovery whose ultimate goal should be anchored on the development aspirations of our beloved nation and livelihood transformation of the Kenyan people.

Hongera!!!

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology is determined to fulfill our objectives of partnering with you in improving the lives of our people. We will continue to work closely with the KCNP and contribute in providing the required manpower to serve our communities.

Our partnership which can be traced back to the year 2015 has already borne fruit, with the first cohort of students of MMUST diploma and certificate programmes being conferred during the MMUST 11<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony last year on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

We have strengthened curriculum based subject training to ensure quality which is our core value at MMUST. I am happy to inform you that MMUST has e-learning programmes and digitized academic programmes which you should make use of.

The importance of higher education can therefore not be taken for granted. We all agree that education is the key to development. Remember that the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams and all our dreams can be true if we have the courage to embrace and pursue them.

Chairman of the Council Sir, allow me to once again congratulate our graduates. I wish you all the very best in your future endeavors and remind you to make use of our partnership. To our esteemed partner, KCNP, I thank you for your unwavering support and hope that we shall continue working hand in hand to transform the lives of these young people through provision of quality education.

Thank you.

Prof. Eng. FAO Otieno, FAAS

**VICE CHANCELLOR, MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY**