

**SPEECH BY THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL, DR. DAVID NYAMWAYA,
DURING THE 11TH DRADUATION CEREMONY AT MASINDE
MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KAKAMEGA
OF FRIDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 2016**

Our Chancellor, His Excellency, Hon. Mwai Kibaki, CGH
Cabinet Secretaries and Principal Secretaries,
Governor, Kakamega County and other Governors present,
Senator, Kakamega County and other Senators present,
Members of Parliament,
Members of the County Government
Our Vice Chancellor, Prof. Fredrick Otieno
All the Deputy Vice Chancellors present,
Principals of University colleges present,
Members of our University Management Board and Senate,
Other University Staff,
Parents, Guardians and Sponsors,
MMUST Students and Graduates of the 2016 Class,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good morning!

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

It gives me great pleasure to most graciously welcome you to the 11th Graduation Ceremony of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology. Allow me to extend my gratitude to Parents, Guardians and Sponsors, without whose input we would not be part of this defining moment in the lives of our graduates. To our graduates, the MMUST Class of 2016, may I take the earliest opportunity to congratulate you for this achievement in your lives and wish you all a great experience during this graduation ceremony.

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

It is gratifying to note the milestones that we have achieved this year as a University. Notably is the accreditation of our Engineering programmes by the Engineers' Board of Kenya. This has greatly aided to position our University, attract more students to come and study here and benefit from our market-driven courses. The graduates whom we churning out today into the job market can confidently utilize the skills and knowledge that we have imparted to them.

Moving forward, I thank all our stakeholders who have persistently worked with us and helped us to fulfill our objectives of providing the required manpower to serve our communities. I am grateful to the industrious members of staff whose research prowess stands out among other universities within the region. It is rewarding to walk into any supermarket and find MMUST products on the shelves. This is proof of how a University can transform lives, and at MMUST research is our bedrock.

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

We at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) take pride in the remarkable strides we have made so far. As we all are aware, many people like to be associated with good things. We thank the National government for the honours that were bestowed upon us to play the role of parent University to Turkana Constituent College. This is shows the confidence that the government has in our capability to mentor. Just last

year another of our Constituent Colleges, Kibabii, received her Charter to be a full-fledged University of Technology. I am confident that we will continue to uphold the culture of quality training, research and innovation that has been the cornerstone of our mentorship shall once again and steer Turkana Constituent College through the right path.

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

Council continues to spearhead the process of streamlining resources, structures consolidation, and operation mechanism that is geared towards making our University attain world class status. We continue to work closely with the Management Board to ensure timely implementation of our strategic plan which we launched last year.

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

MMUST is determined to fulfill its objectives of partnering with like-minded individuals and institutions in transforming the lives of our people. Allow me to appreciate the efforts of the University management team that have ensured that the University collaborates with other institutions. MMUST will continue to work closely with our partners and contribute in providing the required manpower to serve our communities.

In line with our Mission as a University, quality is our second name, this is what defines MMUST. I take this opportunity to thank the University staff, who are vigilant in ensuring we continue to provide excellent university education that meets the needs of the dynamic world within which we operate

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

In the quest of ensuring that our students have a conducive environment for studying, Council has initiated new development projects such as the Anatomy Laboratory that if completed in time will see our University admit the first batch of students in the School of Medicine in September next year. We have also allocated funds for a new Tuition block and an

Administration block which will ease the perennial space challenge that we have had over time.

Mr. Chancellor Sir,

As a Council that is responsive to the needs of the employees, we have adopted the harmonized criteria and guidelines for appointment and promotion of academic Staff in Universities in Kenya. We have also signed Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the three Unions of our Staff. Council has also adopted the revised various categories of allowances payable to Public Servants as proposed by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC).

Other than the infrastructural development and Staff welfare, Council is committed to ensuring prudent management in governance matters. To this end, Council signed the 2015/2016 Performance Contract and cascaded it to the Vice Chancellor and all the University departmental heads. This should see our core values as a University observed and employees discharge their duties effectively.

To the Class of 2016, congratulations! I wish our graduates prosperity and remind them that as MMUST Alumni we expect them to be great ambassadors of our University and ask them to always come back to help build this great University.

With these few remarks, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2017.

Thank you.

Dr. David Nyamwaya

**Chairman of Council, Masinde Muliro University of Science and
Technology, Kakamega Kenya**

16th December, 2016

