

**REMARKS BY THE CHIEF GUEST PROF. G.A.O. MAGOHA,
VICE-CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, DURING THE
OPENING CEREMONY OF THE THIRD (3RD) AFRICAN
BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT (AIBUMA) CONFERENCE AT
9.00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, 13TH JULY 2012 – KICC, NAIROBI**

DISTINGUISHED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AND GUESTS

DISTINGUISHED PARTICIPANTS

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO OFFICIATE THE OPENING OF THE THIRD AIBUMA CONFERENCE HERE TODAY. MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY FIRST AND FOREMOST TO WELCOME ALL PRESENT TO THIS CONFERENCE.

AM HAPPY TO NOTE THAT THE THIRD AIBUMA CONFERENCE BRINGS TOGETHER PARTICIPANTS FROM SIXTEEN (16) LOCAL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING MAINLY UNIVERSITIES, ELEVEN (11) UNIVERSITIES SPREAD ACROSS THE WORLD AND MORE ENCOURAGING OVER SEVENTEEN (17) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS (CEOs) FROM BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES.

ON BEHALF OF MYSELF AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, I WISH TO WELCOME OUR GUESTS FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI AND KENYA. IT IS MY HOPE THAT DURING YOUR BRIEF STAY HERE YOU WILL ENJOY THE HOSPITALITY OF THE

KENYAN PEOPLE AND FIND TIME TO VISIT SOME OF OUR VARIOUS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS.

I AM FURTHER PLEASED TO NOTE THE THIRD AIBUMA CONFERENCE HAS SECURED THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF SOME OF THE MOST ESTEEMED PLAYERS IN INDUSTRY, THE PUBLIC SECTOR AND IN ACADEMIA. THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI IS HUMBLED BY YOUR KIND CONSIDERATION AND INTEREST BY ALL THE PARTICIPANTS IN COLLABORATING WITH US IN THIS CONFERENCE, AND ALSO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANT ROLES PLAYED BY YOUR VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS IN ENABLING THE UoN MEET ITS MANDATE IN TEACHING, RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY.

AS EVIDENCED FROM THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS, THIS FORUM WILL SEEK TO SHOW CASE RESEARCH AS WELL AS PROVIDE A AVENUE FOR COLLABORATION AND FUSION BETWEEN PLAYERS IN ACADEMIA, THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND ALSO THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

IT IS MY HOPE THAT BY THE END OF THE TWO-DAY CONFERENCE, THE INTENSIVE INTERACTION AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS WILL COME UP WITH WELL RESEARCHED SOLUTIONS ON WAYS AND MEANS OF "EMBRACING THE CHANGING FACE AND PACE OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT" OUR THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE.

THROUGH THIS CONFERENCE THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI, THROUGH THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, UPHOLDS ITS VISION AND MISSION, NAMELY COMMITMENT TO SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE TO THE KENYAN AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY THROUGH CREATION, PRESENTATION, INTEGRATION, TRANSMISSION AND UTILIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE FOR ENHANCED DEVELOPMENT AND THEREFORE BETTERMENT OF HUMAN LIFE.

I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AS EVIDENCED BY THE CIRCULATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PREVIOUS TWO AIBUMA CONFERENCES HELD IN THE YEAR 2010 AND 2011, AND THE LAUNCHING, DURING THIS FORUM, OF THE AFRICAN CASEBOOK, TOGETHER WITH THE AFRICAN JOURNAL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT VOLUMES I AND II, THE SCHOOL MEETS OUR EXPECTATION OF DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS FOR REFERENCE AND USE BY CURRENT AND FUTURE RESEARCHERS AND GENERATIONS WITH A VIEW OF MAKING POSITIVE IMPACT TO BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT.

FURTHER, AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT AT THE UNIVERSITY LEVEL, THE CURRENT UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT HAS EMBRACED THE CHANGING FACE AND PACE OF DOING BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS THROUGH UNDERTAKING VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND MEASURES AIMED AT IMPROVING SERVICE DELIVERY AND ALSO IN ENSURING ADOPTION OF

MODERN MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES TO FACE THE EMERGING CHALLENGES OF TODAY'S WORLD.

TO THIS END, THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI LAST YEAR INAUGURATED A NEW COUNCIL AND IMPLEMENTED THE APPOINTMENT OF TWO NEW DEPUTY VICE CHANCELLORS FOR RESEARCH, PRODUCTION & EXTENSION AND STUDENT AFFAIRS AS A WAY OF INJECTING NEW THINKING AND FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNANCE AND RESEARCH STRUCTURES WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY.

FURTHER IN ORDER TO ENHANCE QUALITY DELIVERY OF SERVICE AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT, THE UNIVERSITY RECEIVED THE ISO 9000:2008 RECERTIFICATION WHICH ATTESTS TO THE CURRENT MANAGEMENT POLICY OF DELIVERING QUALITY SERVICE TO OUR CUSTOMERS.

AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE EXCELLENT RANKING IN THE STATE CORPORATIONS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING EXERCISE WHERE THE UoN RANK THE BEST STATE CORPORATION CONFIRMS THAT THE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND STAFF ARE COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT UNIVERSITY REMAINS A WORLD CLASS UNIVERSITY COMMITTED TO SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE. THIS PERFORMANCE IS FURTHER REFLECTED IN OUR IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS WHERE WE REMAIN THE TOP LOCAL AND REGIONAL UNIVERSITY.

THROUGH THIS CONFERENCE, IT IS MY HOPE THAT PARTICIPANTS WILL BENEFIT FROM RELEVANT RESEARCH FINDINGS THAT IF IMPLEMENTED, WILL RESULT TO THE TRANSFORMATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE INSTITUTIONS.

FURTHER, IT IS NECESSARY TO EMPHASIZE THAT DUE TO THE FAST CHANGING WORLD ENVIRONMENT AFFECTING ALL SPHERES OF LIFE, SCHOLARS, TECHNOCRATS FROM VARIOUS BACKGROUNDS AND BUSINESS PEOPLE HAVE TO CONTINUOUSLY ENGAGE IN FORUMS SUCH AS THIS IN ORDER TO ENGAGE AND COME UP WITH TESTED SOLUTIONS ON HOW TO APPROACH THE VARIOUS CHALLENGES THAT FACE MANKIND IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE.

IN CONCLUSION MAY I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL THOSE WHO HAVE PLAYED PART TOWARDS THE REALIZATION OF THIS CONFERENCE. I ALSO THANK THOSE WHO HAVE DEVELOPED PAPERS FOR PRESENTATION TO THIS CONFERENCE AND THE PARTICIPANTS AS WITHOUT YOUR INPUT, THE CONFERENCE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN REALIZED.

WITH THESE REMARKS, IT IS MY PLEASANT DUTY AND HONOUR TO DECLARE THIS CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY OPEN.

PROF. G.A.O. MAGOHA
VICE-CHANCELLOR & PROFESSOR OF SURGERY