

# MESSAGE OF HON. PROF. GEORGE MONDO KAGONYERA (CHANCELLOR KAMPALA UNIVERSITY) TO KAMPALA UNIVERSITY GRADUANDS AT THE 20<sup>TH</sup> GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD ON 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2023

AT GGABA MAIN CAMPUS

### **SALUTATIONS**

- 1. The Chief Guest **Hon. Beti Kamya Turwomwe** the Inspector General of Government.;
- 2. Chairman and Members of Board of Trustees:
- 3. Chairman and Members of the University Council;
- 4. The Vice Chancellor, Owek, Amb. Al-Haj, Prof. Badru D. Kateregga;
- 5. Vice Chancellors of Sister Universities;
- 6. Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- 7. Ambassadors, High Commissioners and other Members of Diplomatic Corp.
- 8. Members of Parliament
- 9. Public Service officers and Local Government Leaders.
- 10. Religious Leaders.
- 11. Deans of School, Heads of Department, Directors of Campuses and Principals of Schools.
- 12. Faculty and Staff;
- 13. Alumni and Continuing students of Kampala University;
- 14. Parents, Guardians, Sponsors and Spouses
- 15. The Media;
- 16. Graduands;
- 17. Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

# Good morning!

### **WELCOME STATEMENT**

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the University Council and on my own behalf, I have the pleasure and honor to welcome you all to the 20<sup>th</sup> Graduation Ceremony of Kampala University, here at Ggaba Main campus.

I take this singular honor and privilege, and in a special way, to welcome our Chief Guest, *Hon. Beti Namisango Kamya Turwomwe (Inspector General of Government)*, for having accepted to grace this occasion despite the short notice.

In the same vein, I also wish to welcome all the distinguished guests and friends of Kampala University for sacrificing your valuable time to be with us, on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023, as we bear witness to a defining moment in the University's history.

### **APPRECIATION**

I wish to thank all the academic members of staff for doing a tremendous job of teaching, researching and supervising all these graduands, despite the challenges that you and the University might have faced. Your continued hard work and positive efforts are noted, and duly appreciated.

Let me equally thank the parents, guardians, sponsors and spouses who have morally and financially supported our graduands by helping them meet their required obligations while at the University. We also applaud you for choosing to bring your loved ones to Kampala University, your effort has not gone to waste. We would wish to encourage you to continue bringing others.

# **Government Cooperation**

As government policy is now geared towards enhanced teaching of Science and Technology hence the salary enhancement for the Scientists , I laud Kampala University for encouraging her students to do more science programmes and the Administration for setting up new Science laboratories at Luweero and Mutundwe Campuses for purposes of teaching Natural Sciences and Agriculture. I encourage government to support private universities like KU which are ready to mount science programmes by allocating them grants, equipment, staff and funding to enable them expand and stabilize the existing science programmes.

# **Tax Exemption**

Private institutions like KU which are supporting government efforts in educating the nation aught to be exempted from the tax burden as far as possible since they are not for profit and are yet to recovered from the effects of COVID 19.

## **THE ALMA-MATER**

Dear Graduands, now that you have reached this point, you should continue to show interest in the progress of your university just as the university must follow your progress wherever you are and in whatever you do. The University must therefore as a policy roll out a vibrant Tracer study programme to closely follow the activities of the Alumni for the mutual benefit of the two parties. The formal connection

between you and the university is provided for through the Alma-mater Convocation currently available at the university website. Therefore as you exit do not forget your roots. I urge you to use this relationship to bond stronger with your Alma-mater.

### **TAKE HOME MESSAGE**

We have trained you to be leaders in your own rights. We are aware that leadership is an attitude cultivated over time. Leadership is about having aspirations beyond your wellbeing and working with others to advance the common good. Therefore, you must have the confidence and courage to be leaders in whatever field you choose to pursue.

I challenge you not to rest, continue striving towards achieving greater goals. Excelling in all aspects of life requires discipline and character. These qualities definitely form the core of a fulfilled and rewarding life.

When we talk about someone having character, he or she must have traits of courage, honesty, loyalty, and integrity which incidentally constitute the core values of Kampala University. Therefore, I urge you to surround yourself with people you admire who will inspire you and further strengthen your character.

**As I conclude**, I hope that we have molded you into wholesome men and women rich in character, bravery, and emotional intelligence to withstand whatever comes your way.

Our Chief Guest, kindly accept our appreciation for the useful time you have spent with us and the confidence you always place in Kampala University and its leadership.

Congratulations once again our dear graduands . I wish you well in all your endeavors.

Thank you and God Bless You.