

**Speech By, Dr. Arch. Reuben Mutiso,
CHANCELLOR, THE MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA.**



Dr. Reuben M. Mutiso, PhD (Texas, Austin), M.Arch and B.Arch (UoN), FKIM, FAAK, FICPM

Our Guest of Honor, Chairman Board of Trustee, Dr. Peter Wanyaga Muthoka, Chairman of the University Governing Council, Eng. Michael S.M Kamau, Vice Chancellor, Dr. Nicholas Letting, Fellow Chancellors, Vice Chancellors of other universities present, Members of the Board of Trustee of the Management University of Africa, Members University Governing Council, Council Members of other Universities, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, Other Permanent Secretaries, Commission Secretary to Commission for University Education, Members of Parliament, Representatives of Various Universities and Organizations, Distinguished Guests, Alumni, Parents and Guardians, Graduands, Ladies and Gentlemen, All protocols observed, Good Morning.

Am humbled this morning to preside over the 4th graduation ceremony of The Management University of Africa. I remember last year 2016, we had conducted a successful 3rd graduation ceremony on the same ground. I thought that this year we could have held the graduation at Kisaju, since our target for completion of the construction buildings ongoing was scheduled for September, 2017. Anyhow, God willing we will do so next year.

Now, firstly, I wish to join the Vice-Chancellor and the Chairman of University Governing Council in thanking the Guest of honor for accepting to honor and grace this ceremony. We as the University community, are happy that you have graced this graduation ceremony for 2017. Secondly, to my graduands, I say to you-

Congratulations. We appreciate that this ceremony serves as the culmination of years of study, hard work, and dedication. Importantly, it is an opportunity for the entire University fraternity, family and friends to celebrate your success. We all share in your pride at reaching this milestone. We gather here today to honor your hard work and celebrate your achievement in earning a degree from The Management University of Africa.

Thirdly, I know this journey will not be complete without the support of your parents, guardians, sponsors and above all, your teachers-Professors and lecturers. I applaud them for job well done.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Any country that wishes to improve the quality of life of its citizens needs to invest in the development of human and material capital. As a University, therefore, we are proud of the parents and other key stakeholders for their investment and contribution to the nation's human capital development as attested by this ceremony. Kenya's Vision 2030 and the Universities Act N. 42 of 2012 places this heavy responsibility to Universities in Kenya. Am aware that the Management University of Africa has continued to develop new academic programmes and to review existing ones to meet national, regional and global needs. I wish to encourage the University Management and Staff to embrace innovative approach in the development of programmes that are tailored to meet the expansive industry and market demand.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Our Chief Guest, graduates like the ones graduating today symbolize the future of this country and the world. As a University, we are happy to be graduating innovative leaders who have been equipped with relevant skills. Kenya needs innovative and informed minds as represented by those who are graduating. Our Chief Guest, as witnessed from different degrees and diplomas being conferred today, I am happy to note that the Management University of Africa is fulfilling its mission 'to provide quality education and training through knowledge generation, research, innovation, creativity and community service.' Institutions of higher learning must of necessity keep on realigning themselves with the needs of the society and adjusting their programs as need be from time to time.

It is by virtue of your training, your qualifications and your entrepreneurial skills that you are graduating today fully equipped to cope with the demands of the economic challenges facing Kenya today and to even offer solutions to the world. Gone are the

days when a degree automatically secured you a job in an organization. Beyond graduation, you need to put to practice your leant knowledge and skills to create employment not only for yourself but also for others.

Our Chief Guest, as we celebrate this 4th graduation ceremony, I would like to single out the University's transformation in the last one year under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor Dr. Nicholas Letting. The University's infrastructural development at Kisaju to help the University expand programmes and apply for the University charter is on course. I know the University Management and the Governing Council are working around the clock for achievement of this goal, I am told by end of December 2017. This major achievement must be supported by everybody here. The University is open and receptive to brilliant ideas to make Kisaju a place to be.

In conclusion, I wish to note that today's graduation ceremony is taking place against a backdrop of global economic challenges that has led to diminished job opportunities and investments. For some time now, our country has had challenging times, in particular, during the last presidential election. The process has not been easy. The country witnessed closure of many businesses some of which were supported through austerity measures from the Government through exchequer. With this background, there are signals that formal employment opportunities are becoming more and more scarce. I therefore challenge our graduands to remain steadfast and be innovative in creating employment for yourselves and others. And with those remarks, ladies and gentlemen, it is my honor and pleasure to wish you well wherever you go, be ambassadors of the University.

Finally, I wish you Merry Christmas and a Prosperous 2018.

Thank you