



**Remarks**

**By**

**Jomo Kenyatta University of  
Agriculture and Technology  
Deputy Vice Chancellor (AA),**

**Prof. Romanus Odhiambo, PhD,**

**During**

**the Closing Ceremony on the Training on Data Collection, Analysis and Presentation**

**on**

**Friday, September 9, 2011**

**at**

**JKUAT**

**Registrar (AA), Dr. Oketch,**

**Trainers and Trainees,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Good Afternoon.**

It is a great pleasure for me to say a few words at the closing ceremony of the basic statistics training. As a University, we are glad to have hosted you for two weeks on training in data collection, analysis and presentation.

The basic statistics training which was launched two weeks ago has been a very great success. Over these remarkable days, we have together demonstrated the importance and use of statistics in our day to day roles. By so doing, the general perception that mathematics is difficult has been demystified by our trainers by offering as many practical real life examples where statistics plays a big role hence improving the understanding of statistics by relating it to the work environment.

Data collection has been defined from the methods of collecting, editing, sampling and the tools used to collect the data. As you are now aware, once data has been collected, it has to be summarized, analyzed and interpreted to help in providing information thus enable decision making. The methods used in data analysis are dependent on how the data is collected. So if tools for data collection

were chosen badly then the final interpretation would be erroneous. Summarization of the data can be either graphical or numerical. Probabilities were introduced and their probability distributions to assist in data analysis. Finally, statistical reporting was introduced to enable presentation of the data in a manner that is easily understood.

I would also like to mention that the training was not to be without the introduction of computers in handling statistical data. This is an important precursor to effective handling of SPSS for data analysis. This is very crucial because when it comes to handling big data sets, computing accuracy is very important to bring out the desired result and offer reliable information that will be used in decision making. Usage of computers in data processing takes advantage of the many benefits of computing such as security, distribution using electronic mail, compact storage and retrieval, ease of making amendments and saving on resources such as paper which could be used if data collection and analysis was to be done manually.

In view of this, I would like to urge each and every one of you to go and apply the knowledge you have gained in this training in your place of work and also share the knowledge with your colleagues who did not have the privilege of attending the training. We as trainers cannot claim to have covered all that is involved in statistics but it will be very beneficial to you and your respective institutions to have the passion to learn more individually so that you will be able to implement and customize the scenarios in your places of work. If you undergo any difficulty in the implementation, please be free to contact our trainers who will be more than willing to assist and learn from you as well.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you all for your hard work and dedication. I would like to thank the trainers for their hard work and excellent guidance. And in particular, I would like to thank the Chairman, Statistics and Actuarial Science Department, Director, Directorate of Information and Communication Technology and their teams for their commitment to this training.

I hereby declare the first batch of training officially closed.

Thank You.