



**Welcome Remarks  
By**

**Vice Chancellor**

**Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology**

**Prof. Mabel Imbuga PhD, EBS**

**During the 2013 Career Fair**

**Held at**

**JKUAT**

**Wednesday, June 12, 2013**

Dr. Gituro Wainaina; Director Vision 2030 Secretariat,

Dr. Kamau Gachigi; FABLAB,

Mr. Svetlana Obruchkova; Country Manager East African Cluster Nestle,

Ms. Aekta Bhatt; Sales Manager Techno Brain,

DVCS, Deans, Directors and students

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am deeply elated to join you this morning to preside over the official opening ceremony of this year's *Career Fair*, themed, *Developing Careers in line with Vision 2030*.

I take this earliest opportunity to extend very warm welcome to all our distinguished visitors who will be sharing with us their real work experiences in the course of the week.

This event which is now in its second year is intended to increase the awareness of our students on the available opportunities in the job market and linking the students with potential employers.

Further, the occasion provides a viable platform for our students to network and exhibit their skills. It is in this kind of forum where experts from the employment sector provide useful information to our students such as job hunting tips like how to write endearing and winning CVs as well as how to handle the interview processes among other expertise.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

JKUAT releases over four-thousand graduates to the job market annually. Over the years, we have facilitated an arrangement that allows requests from several companies to carry out graduate recruitment drives. This is achieved through a scheme that makes it possible for our students to visit various companies with the objective of satisfying their academic and career needs.

JKUAT is a *University of Global Excellence in Training, Research and Innovation for Development*, and we expanded our rich training menu to include the fields of science, medicine, engineering, architecture, and human resources just to mention a few.

This annual event is therefore meant to encourage our students to take their academic work, training and career choices seriously while at the same time, providing feedback to the teaching fraternity on the kind of training that is required in the ever competitive labour market. This can enable us steer clear of scenarios where our graduates could become irrelevant to the needs of the corporate world. It is with this in mind that the University, through the Dean of Students Office and Student Welfare holds this event in very high esteem.

It is indeed not in vain that as a University, we have opened our doors to the corporate world in order to have quality engagement and interaction with various stakeholders to participate in this event. We value your active participation and input in driving our vision forward.

It is my sincere hope that during this occasion, as industry players and employers, you will find it worthwhile to share information on the positions you need to fill and the skills, education, and experience you are looking for. Similarly, the forum will enable job seekers to identify and determine where they can fit in a company as well as creating their personal profiles to describe their relevant abilities, skills and knowledge.

To our students, we appreciate your response to this event and hope that you will utilize your time to the maximum as you keep our visitors on their toes explaining to you what they do and what their expectations in the job market are.

I therefore urge all the students to take full advantage of the forum to acquire relevant information, skills and attitudes, and to apply the knowledge so gained to attune yourselves to the world of work for your benefit and that of the society at large.

Remember, the only route to career success is to equip yourselves with the tools to make informed decisions. And there is no better way to help others make good decisions about their professional futures than by undertaking a career fair like this one.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

At this juncture allow me to once again thank the over *twenty* companies and individual participants for accepting to be part of this important event. We are grateful that you found time to come and make the first *JKUAT Career Week* a success. I also extend my appreciation to the Dean of Students Office for working closely with our students to ensure the success of this event.

With these remarks, it is now my humble pleasure to declare the *2013 Career Fair* officially opened.

Thank you.