

- Deputy Chancellor, Academic affairs, Makerere University and Guest of Honour in this function
- Head of Geography Department
- Co-ordinator of the Tourism Programs
- Co-ordinator of the Scothee Program
- Makerere Academics and Administrators here this afternoon
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I'm happy to be here today to witness what I consider as a historic moment for Kenya Utalii College and Makerere University. Madam Vice Chancellor, we arrived here last evening and we have already tested fully the hospitality of Makerere University, the epitome of our Ugandan brothers and sisters everywhere and anywhere you find them.

Many thanks to Dr. Deus for your kindness and generosity since we arrived, thank you the General Manager Makerere University Guest House for all you have done to us. I feel like I am 1kg heavier than I was when we arrived. Prof.

Busalirwa, head of Geography Department, the discussion we had together this morning made me feel like we had hit a gold mine from which we will eternally scoop golden knowledge for our mutual benefit.

Madam Deputy Vice Chancellor, Makerere University is a giant; it is a success story in university education in Eastern Africa and beyond for all the years it has existed. As a historian, I know, for sure, that Makerere's name evokes memories of excellence, memories of sterling performance and memories of the great pearl of Africa which Uganda is.

On the other hand, KUC is equally a giant, it has trained hospitality and tourism personnel for more than 3¹/₂ decades, some of them well known here in Kampala.

Madam Deputy Vice Chancellor, when 2 giants join hands, you have a super giant. I'm, therefore, confident, overwhelmingly thrilled, that our getting together, two great and giant institutions, will produce great programs; will produce great collaboration and, of course, great results.

Behold friends, with the Memorandum of Understanding, we are about to sign this afternoon, our good and great days lie ahead. This MOU portends good tidings in the future. Let us grab this opportunity and let good things happen for our mutual benefit.

In a sense, Madam Deputy Vice Chancellor the MOU we are set to sign speaks loud and clear, I believe, that East Africa is one. Our politicians having been talking about integration. This is taking long to come despite the

progress made so far. Today Makerere University and KUC have led the way, we are saying it can be done and done now.

With the MOU, we are about to sign, we are really telling East Africans that we can get together; we can have things done together; we can join hands as brothers and sisters; we can leverage on our strengths; we can compliment each other on areas of our weaknesses; we can pool our resources, when and if need arises; yes, we can stand by each other in good times and bad times.

Madam Deputy Vice Chancellor, I'm not a prophet; I don't intend to be one soon but from where I'm standing, from these hallowed grounds of this great institution, I look into days ahead, I look into coming months and coming years and I can see this getting together of giants, coming together of Makerere and Utalii, will lead into a formidable alliance, a very rewarding collaboration, an amalgam of interests for the good of all us.

And I believe beyond reasonable doubt that in the future when the history of the MU-KUC alliance will be written, historians will say that on 15th June, 2010, a young man led a team of top Utalii College Management to the Makerere University in Uganda to sign a MoU. Out of this MoU developed an alliance which completely revolutionized hospitality and tourism training in Eastern Africa and beyond.

And now may God, the Almighty, grant His countenance on our plans and if His will permits let this MoU we are signing

now be a source of great ideas, espoused by great people in our too giant institutions. God bless Utalii, God bless Makerere.

Thank you.
