

SPEECH BY THE KMTC BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIPERSON PROF. PHILIP KALOKI, EBS, ON THE 89TH KMTC GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE KMTC GRADUATION SQUARE NAIROBI ON 13TH APRIL, 2021 AT 10:00 AM

Chief Guest, Chief Administrative Secretary Dr. Rashid Aman

KMTC Board of Directors

KMTC Chief Executive Officer Prof. Michael Kiptoo

Vice Chancellor, Lukenya University Prof. Constantine Nyamboga

Representatives of Government entities

Development Partners

Graduating Class of April 2021 and their families

Members of the Fourth Estate

Faculty, Staff and Students

Online audience

Ladies and gentlemen

Guest of Honor Sir

It is with gratitude that I welcome you to the Kenya Medical Training College to officiate the 89th Graduation Ceremony. Thank you for finding time to grace this significant occasion to KMTC and to the lives of Graduands.

KMTC remains the lead Middle Level Health trainer in East Africa and beyond. We address health workforce needs by contributing over 85% of the local middle level Human Resources for the Health sector, by releasing an average of 11,000 graduands every year.

As the College celebrates 94 years of existence having been established in 1927, KMTC remains a major exporter of Health workforce with our graduates working in far off countries in Europe, Australia and USA. This means we directly contribute to national development through diaspora remittances and investments.

On 10th February, 2021, I signed the performance Contract (PC) for this Financial Year, with the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Health on behalf of Government, which is currently guiding the College's strategic focus to specific set targets.

The Board of Directors under my leadership is committed to supporting the Government achieve UHC. For this reason, the College's 2018-2023 Strategic period is aligned with the Government's agenda of UHC for all Kenyans by 2022, and sets KMTC on a path to ensure contribution to better health care through Training of Competent Health professionals.

Guest of Honor Sir

I congratulate the graduating class of April 2021, for staying focused to their goal and satisfying the examiners to qualify for various awards in their fields of study.

This is a significant achievement! As the Chairperson of the Board of Directors, I am very proud of you all! *Hongera sana!*

I sincerely thank our Faculty, Staff, parents, guardians and partners for the immense support and sacrifices made, towards the success of the graduands.

This year's ceremony comes at a time when Kenya and indeed the world at large is faced with the COVID-19 menace which has affected all aspects of life. I'm glad to report that even through this turbulent times, the College has been steadfast and resilient, in the delivery of its mandate.

Guest of Honor Sir

A time like this last year, when learning institutions were physically closed, the College shifted its teaching to online platforms to ensure learning is not disrupted. In a special way, I thank H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta, for the pronouncement he made during the Presidential address on March 26, 2021, where he allowed Medical Training Institutions, KMTC being one of them, to continue with Teaching and Learning.

KMTC has put in place the necessary measures to comply with the Ministry of Health protocols and continues to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19, in over 450 Hospitals across the country where our students undertake their Clinical placement.

Guest of Honor Sir

This is the second time the College is holding a virtual graduation ceremony since adoption of the new normal of teaching and learning through online platforms, in line with Government protocols on management of COVID-19. The 7,509

graduands before us today were supposed to have graduated last year in December, but their studies were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

While in 2013, the College released 6,394 graduands, the number has been on an upward trajectory, with 11,623 graduating this Academic Year 2020/2021. Cumulatively, the College has released 66,499 graduates to the job market since 2014 to bridge the Human Resource for Health gaps in the country and beyond.

Guest of Honor Sir

To complement government efforts in the fight against the Coronavirus, KMTC partnered with the Ministry of Health led by Cabinet Secretary Sen. Mutahi Kagwe EGH, to manage the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. The College availed 44 of its Campuses with a bed capacity of 3,397, which hosted 5,077 clients in quarantine and isolation, effectively slowing down spread of the virus. Further, the College donated hand washing facilities and our Lecturers conducted Health Education and promotion as well as provided Mental Health and Psychosocial support, to mitigate the effects of the coronavirus.

To support the ongoing vaccination efforts, 41 of our Campuses are being used as vaccination and training centres for health workers to administer the vaccine.

The College continues to uphold Presidential directives and the Ministry of Health's protocols in supporting the Government combat the Coronavirus epidemic as well as ensuring compliance with the Head of Public Service circulars on workplace guidelines.

Guest of Honor Sir

Since 2014, the Board has spearhead a transformative agenda resulting to the numerous achievements.

Through enhanced relationships with County Governments and Members of Parliament, the Board established 43 new KMTC Campuses, increasing the number from 28 to 71, spread across 45 counties, hence an increase in students' population from 19,546 to 51,305, enabling Kenyans access Health Training opportunities. We have aligned our training Curriculum with the Government's UHC delivery Agenda.

Even as we grow, the College remains committed to excellence, ISO standards as well as regulatory frameworks.

Guest of Honor Sir

The College grew its Internally Generated Revenue from Kshs.1.2 billion to Kshs.3.7 billion, within the same period; while Government recurrent grants increased from Kshs.1.8 billion to Kshs.3.6 billion, and development grants from Kshs.163million to a combined Kshs.1.4 billion (for the year 2020);

The Board launched the KMTC Strategic Plan 2018-2023, which provides a solid foundation for the training of Certificates, Diplomas and Higher Diplomas in different programmes. It is a framework directing efforts on meeting the three objectives that will sustain the College's leadership position in the Training of Competent Health Professionals.

The objectives are: retaining the quality of training; making KMTC the institution of choice for training of health professionals by 2023; and increasing KMTC's internally generated revenue by at least 50% by 2023.

Moreover, I am glad to report that the College was re-categorized from PC level 2 to PC level 4A, consequently improving terms of service for staff and expanding our mandate to include Research.

Further, the Board has put in place various policies and frameworks to strengthen internal processes and procedures, to ensure compliance with existing Laws and regulations.

We have embedded and strengthened the culture of good Governance to ensure compliance with existing Laws and regulations, thus awarded the first runners up in the Champions of Governance awards in 2019, in the Public Sector category, an event graced by the Head of Public Service Dr. Joseph Kinyua.

Guest of Honor Sir

The Board has provided Policy direction resulting to implementation and use of Enterprise Resource Planning, which has automated our systems, strengthened internal processes, improved efficiency and prudent utilization of resources across our Campuses.

The Board has recruited more staff to support the growing number of students, supported staff development and competence training, increased uptake of Research activities, staff rewards as well as strengthening of Campus resource centres.

Towards ensuring students have the best environment for learning, the Board has spearheaded infrastructural development and further strengthened transport systems to ease mobility of faculty and students to clinical placement sites.

Guest of Honor Sir

Through strengthened collaboration with various development partners, County Governments and Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF), the Board has spearheaded Resource Mobilization efforts attracting over Kshs.13 billion in infrastructure, land, equipment, secondment of staff and financial assistance to students, in support of the College's expansion plan and sustainability plans.

Our partners include: Beyond Zero, World Bank, St. John's Ambulance, National Youth Service, USAID, DFID, WHO, DANIDA, Afya JIJINI Project, MSH, UKAID, UNICEF, Fred Hollows Foundation, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Kenya Association of People with Epilepsy, Karolinska Institute, Book Aid International, AMREF, Jackson's Foundation, African Development Bank and Rattansi Foundation. Others are: Centre for Public Health and Development, General Electric, National Bank, Higher Education Loans Board, Toyota Kenya Foundation, Afya Elimu, IntraHealth, National and County Governments.

To our esteemed partners, we owe you immense debt of gratitude and sincerely thank you for supporting the College in attainment of its mandate.

To our Graduands,

I draw upon the wisdom of Kofi Anan, when he said "*Education is the great engine of personal development. Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress in every society, in every family*". I therefore urge you to build resilience, pursue excellence and apply your skills to positively impact the society and promote well-being for all, at all ages.

Guest of Honor Sir

I thank the College Management Team and staff led by the CEO for their dedication in the day to day running of the College and for organizing this ceremony.

My gratitude goes to the Board of Directors for providing leadership and ensuring proper governance systems and procedures are in place.

I thank the Ministry of Health led by the Cabinet Secretary Sen. Mutahi Kagwe, for the support and guidance, enabling us achieve our Vision of “Being a Model Institution in the Training and Development of Competent Health Professionals”.

Guest of Honor Sir

On behalf of the KMTC Board of Directors, Management, staff, students and stakeholders, I thank H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta, for the support towards growth of the College, enabling us realize our mandate. The President has offered direction to the country and more specifically on Universal Health Coverage, to which the College is committed, through training of Human Resource for Health.

It is now my honor and duty to welcome the Chief Administrative Secretary |Dr. Rashid Aman to address us.

Karibu Bwana Waziri.

Thank you.
