

**SPEECH BY THE AG. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, KENYA  
MEDICAL TRAINING COLLEGE DR. KELLY OLUOCH, ON THE  
90<sup>TH</sup> KMTC GRADUATION CEREMONY HELD AT THE KMTC  
GRADUATION SQUARE, NAIROBI ON 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER, 2021 AT  
10:00 AM**

**Chief Guest Health Cabinet Secretary Sen. Mutahi Kagwe EGH**

**Members of Parliament**

**County Governors**

**Chairperson KMTC Board of Directors, Amb. Zachary Muburi-Muita**

**KMTC Board of Directors**

**Representatives of Government entities**

**Development Partners**

**Graduating Class of December 2021 and their families**

**Members of the Fourth Estate**

**Faculty, Staff and Students**

**Online audience, Ladies and gentlemen**

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

It gives me pleasure to welcome you to this 90<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony of the Kenya Medical Training College, the best tertiary College in Kenya in the latest edition of the just-released Webometrics ranking.

From the onset, allow me to thank the KMTC Board of Directors for appointing me as acting CEO. I register my appreciation to Ministry of Health under the leadership of CS Sen. Mutahi Kagwe for the confidence he has with the Board and give assurance of my commitment to supporting the Board and Ministry agenda.

To our graduands, receive our heartfelt congratulations, as you are a group which has endured the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic, worked extra hard and under difficult conditions to qualify for your graduation.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

This is yet another unique ceremony, being the third hybrid graduation in the history of KMTC, the first and second having been held in December 2020 and April 2021, respectively.

Our graduation theme this year is, **“Bridging Healthcare Workforce Gaps through Transformative Training”**.

Today, we are pleased to be releasing **5, 150** graduands ready to meet the health workforce gaps in the country and globally. Out of these graduands, **642** will be awarded Higher Diplomas, **3, 111** Diplomas and **1, 397** Certificates.

I confirm that these graduands are well trained, examined, equipped with the relevant skills and competencies to serve in any part of the world.

I commend the dedication of our Faculty, Staff, guardians and partners during these difficult times, enabling graduands to complete their studies as scheduled.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

We call upon the two levels of Governments to provide employment opportunities to these graduands. At the same time, we encourage our graduates to think outside formal employment, seize entrepreneurship opportunities, become self-reliant and create employment for others.

I must say that our trainees received with gladness the news that the Kenyan Government is creating more employment opportunities. This is through the bilateral agreement for more unemployed health workers to work in various countries across the globe.

To equip trainees with requisite skills and knowledge to qualify for the international market, the College is currently offering English language sessions. Further, we are preparing a package for pre-departure training to prepare health workers who wish to migrate other countries.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

I am happy to report that the demand for our training programmes continue to grow. The rising numbers of applicants demonstrate the level of confidence and trust in the quality of our programmes. Even as we grow, the College remains committed to excellence and quality standards.

In order to develop a workforce while prioritizing the implementation of Primary HealthCare objectives, the College introduced new courses and reviewed curricula to reflect emerging health needs.

These include a course Speech therapy and sign language as well as Point of care ultra sound in obstetrics for Nurse Midwives.

The College commits to continually complement efforts of reducing the spread of preventable diseases by attaching students to rural health facilities. This has greatly decreased the burden of treatment emanating from late disease diagnosis.

We recognize that comparability, recognition and information sharing at the global level is critical in the era of digitization. Therefore, the College has initiated the process of registering the database of graduates with the Kenya National Qualifications Authority. This is aimed at protecting data, ensuring authenticity of our certificates and enabling graduates compete globally.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

I am glad to report that the College has made tremendous achievements in governance, administration and academics.

To keep up with evolving technology and emerging trends, the Board has availed funds for staff professional development, equipping our skills laboratories with modern equipment, computers and library resources.

In order to improve efficiency and prudent utilization of resources, the Board has provided Policy direction. This has resulted to implementation and use of Enterprise Resource Planning, which has automated our systems and strengthened internal processes.

The College has embarked on harnessing innovativeness and creativity, leveraging on E-learning, setting up an E-library system and digital repositories, to ensure continuity of teaching and learning. Embracing technology has led to minimizing the cost of operations, increased efficiency and quality.

Just last month, KMTC was named among the top 100 best companies in ICT innovation in Africa at the 13<sup>th</sup> edition of the Africa CIO100 Awards.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

The College recognizes that research and training are a key component of scaling up services. As a result, we have leveraged on our internal capacity to engage global counterparts in a bid to strengthen our research ability.

In the last financial year, the College funded 22 research proposals and 28 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Further, the College takes pride to have hosted the 6<sup>th</sup> biennial Scientific Conference in June this year, to share research findings, take stock of health systems, research, and development.

The College will be holding a symposium next week, to critically evaluate issues influencing e-learning with a view to enhancing teaching and learning in the digital era.

In July this year, the College launched a state-of-the-art simulation laboratory. The Laboratory provides quality simulation inter-professional experience training for critical care health workers and trainees.

Further, the College has forged strategic partnerships to ensure needy students access financial support to complete their education.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

In the management of COVID-19, the College has indeed been a frontline player in providing strategic solutions to support the Government in managing the Coronavirus.

We combined efforts with County Governments and other partners in provision of critical services, and integration of Covid-19 Infection, Prevention and Control protocols in our training.

Despite the pandemic, the College is committed to training health professionals critical in the fight of other communicable and non-communicable diseases, which continue to claim lives.

## **Guest of Honour Madam,**

Before I end my speech, I thank Management for the exemplary job of organising this graduation ceremony.

We remain indebted to our development partners, the National as well as County Governments, for the support accorded to us. The College looks forward to working together in the future.

On behalf of the Management team, I thank the Chairperson of the KMTC Board of Directors, Ambassador Zachary Muburi-Muita. With your support and strategic leadership, we have scaled higher heights in the training of health professionals for this country.

Once again I thank you, **Guest of Honour Madam**, for attending and gracing this occasion.

## **To our Graduands,**

Today is the day you have been waiting for. Your perseverance and resilience have borne fruits.

Congratulations! For you are the reason for this occasion and we are proud of you!

My message to you is: have a blue print in life. Have a plan, have a goal and have purpose. Martin Luther King once said "if you can't be a pine on top of a hill, be a Lilly at the bottom of the valley. If you can't be a Lilly, just be a shrub, but the best little shrub that you can ever be. If you can't fly run, and if you can't run walk, if you can't walk crawl. But by all means keep moving." Be the excellent person the College has trained you to be.

Go out and make a positive impact in the world, as you offer selfless services to both man and God.

I encourage you to join the KMTC Alumni Association, remain proud ambassadors of the College and seek to make significant contribution to your alma mater.

Once again, we salute our Faculty and Staff, your parents, guardians, friends and sponsors for walking with you throughout your College journey.

**Guest of Honour Madam,**

I now call upon the KMTC Board Chairperson Amb. Zachary Muburi-Muita to make his address.

**Thank you!**

---