



**Speech by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Francis Aduol, during the  
Second Graduation of the Technical University of Kenya held  
on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2014 at the Graduation Square of the  
Technical University of Kenya**

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**The Chancellor, Dr Manu Chandaria;**

**The Cabinet Secretary for Education Science and Technology,  
Prof Jacob Kaimenyi;**

**The Chairman of Council, Prof George Eshiwani;**

**Members of the University Council;**

**Staff;**

**Students;**

**Graduands;**

**Parents;**

**Distinguished Guests;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen!**

**Today marks yet another milestone for the Technical University of Kenya as we hold the second Graduation Ceremony since becoming a fully-fledged university.**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir!**

**Today we are graduating some 3100 students. This number is comprised as follows: Certificates - 622, Diplomas – 1712, and Bachelors – 766. I would like to assure you that these candidates have been trained and examined to the highest standards possible and are ready to go out to serve in different areas of specialization.**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir!**

**The Technical University of Kenya stands with pride among its peers in this region; we already have the largest School of Engineering in this region and boast of some of the best facilities for training in engineering and technology. Our alumni serve in different sectors of the economy and have always been quite popular with employers, while a significant proportion of them have been able to engage effectively in self employment.**

**The university continues to improve on the quality of her learning facilities including laboratories, workshops, and the library. We have also continued to expand our collaboration with other peer institutions, especially in the area of research. In this respect I am happy to report that, the University has received a four-year grant totaling KSh111.465 million (Euros 995,200) through a project of the Netherlands Initiative for Capacity Development in Higher Education for research and training in integrated water management.**

**To cement its place in the training and research sector, the University has continued to attract some of the best talent in the market as it recruits various cadres of staff. On behalf of the Senate, Mr Chancellor, Sir, allow me to thank the Council for allocating resources and making it possible to attract such quality faculty and staff to work at this institution.**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir!**

**This university was established with the express mandate to promote practical education and training at university level. I would like to assure you that the university has continued with total commitment on this route. We continue to place considerable emphasis on programme quality and relevance in the design of our curricula and in the delivery of the same. Some of our most popular programmes remain those that are designed to open further learning opportunities for those who already have qualified with Diplomas.**

**In the offering of practically oriented programmes, it is important that students have experience during their course of study at the university. In this respect Mr Chancellor, Sir, it is significant to point out that in each and every one of our programmes, students must take a time in industry under the 'Industry-Based-Learning' programme. Further we have sought to work closely with industry in the training of our students. In this respect we already have MoU's for collaborative training with a number of organizations including are Toyota Kenya and Samsung.**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir!**

**The Technical University of Kenya has continued to expand on her international profile. In this connection I am happy to announce that the University is now a full member of the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) as well as the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA). We also continue to be active members of the Commonwealth Association of Polytechnics in Africa (CAPA) and the Kenya Association of Technical Training Institutions (KATTI).**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir,**

**In line with its mission of strong community engagement, The Technical University of Kenya has continued to get involved in improving education standards across the country. The university has established a programme for the active promotion of the teaching of science and mathematics in high schools. Through this programme we support schools with science equipment as well as in the training of science teachers. Within the framework of this programme we have, in the last two years been involved with no less than ten high schools across the breadth and with of our country.**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir,**

**Our community engagement is not restricted to academic work only, rather, our staff have been involved in working with *Jua Kali* artisans to add value to their products and generally help in developing the cottage industry in Kenya. It is our strong conviction that while the Jua-Kali industry has been relatively successful in Kenya, the biggest challenge in the sector remains that of quality. With its very high quality skilled manpower and workshops, TUK is working with this sector to add value to the quality of their work.**

**Mr Chancellor, Sir!**

**In the year past, we have enjoyed a peaceful period in our university. This has made it possible for us to continue with learning without any interruption. This has largely been to the deliberate effort on the part of staff and students to embrace dialogue on most issues. I would like in this respect to commend the student Union of the 2013/14 academic year led by Mr Ngugi Thiongo as its Chairman and Mr Meshack Acholla as Secretary General. We have just concluded a successful and peaceful student elections for the 2013/14 academic year at which Mr Rapahel Ragot was elected Chairman and David Opaah as Secretary General. We are looking forward to a period of positive engagement with the new office of the Student Union.**

**To our Graduands today:**

**As you step out after today's ceremony, I encourage you to register as proud alumni of The Technical University of Kenya. Your membership will give you a forum from which you will be able to contribute ideas on how best to make TUK, your alma mater, a better institution that you can always be proud of. As you all know, education is a journey that has no end. When you decide to advance your education to be more competitive, you will be most welcome to return here for further study. Otherwise I wish you the very best in life.**

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL!**

**Prof. Francis W. O. Aduol,  
Vice-Chancellor**