



KAIMOSI FRIENDS UNIVERSITY

**SPEECH BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL,
DR. BERNADETTE MUNGAI ON THE OCCASION OF THE PUBLIC
LECTURE: "KENYAN GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL
SHOCKS" HELD AT THE KAFU ASSEMBLY HALL ON MONDAY, 6TH
FEBRUARY 2023**

**Our Chief Guest Hon. Ndindi Nyoro, CBS, Member of Parliament Kiharu
Constituency and Chairman of the Budget and Appropriations Committee
in the National Assembly of Kenya,**

The Governor of Vihiga County, H.E. Dr. Wilber Ottichilo,

The Area MP, Hon. Charles Gimose,

KAFU Ag. Vice Chancellor, Prof. Ogodo, M. J. Nandi,

Deputy Vice Chancellors,

Members of the University Management Board and Senate,

Other Invited Guests,

Faculty, Staff and Students,

Our Guest Speaker, Honourable Ndindi Nyoro, on behalf of the Council, management, staff, students and alumni of Kaimosi Friends University, let me first welcome you to our institution and thank you for honoring our invitation, and more importantly, for agreeing to give a public lecture on a

topic that is very relevant to all of us on the government's response to external shocks.

Sir, the subject of external economic shocks and their impact on the functioning of our university is of utmost importance, and I am proud to say that KAFU has taken preemptive measures to prepare for much of the repercussions of the unpredictable environment we are operating in today.

Chief Guest, our financial management practices and policies, budgeting and forecasting processes, and pursuit of additional revenue streams, as well as occasional austerity measures are part of our efforts to proactively anticipate and react to the resulting effects of the fluctuating economic situation. These measures help us to effectively manage our resources and ensure the continuation of our mission to provide the highest quality education to our students.

Our Chief Guest, as the Chairperson of the University Council, I have had the privilege of overseeing the initiation and completion of the Universities capital development projects, guided by our 50-year master plan. This is in line with our 5-year strategic plan whose pillars are: Academic Excellence and Student Engagement; Technological Enhancement and Infrastructure; Research, Innovation, Outreach and Linkages; and Sustainability.

Sir, these initiatives, along with our growing enrollment and market-driven academic programs, demonstrate the strong foundation that KAFU was established as a center of excellence. I would also like to report to you that

we have not only done the best to implement these project prudently to get the best in terms of value for public money, but also, more importantly, we have no stalled project at the moment.

Sir, as one of the youngest Universities and to fully realize our vision and mission, we need the support of the Government in terms of budgetary allocation. This will enable us provide the resources that our students and faculty need to succeed, but will also ensure that we do not enter into the records of stalled projects.

Furthermore, adequate financial resources will also enable us to build a stronger foundation in research, invest in the requisite infrastructure to attract more students, strengthen and diversify our revenue streams, and create a thriving environment for our community. This will in turn boost our internal income, easing the pressure on the Exchequer and consequently vulnerabilities to internal and foreign obligations such as loan repayments. On my end, I will also work with the University management to mobilize additional resources to boost what the government has continually provided us.

Reflecting back to today's public lecture "*KENYAN GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL SHOCKS*", it is my hope that this public lecture will shed light on the government's strategy to ensure academic institutions such as ours are supported to continue delivering on our mandate and provide valuable insights into the decision-making process and the role of different government agencies in responding to such events.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Hon. Ndindi Nyoro for joining us today and for his dedication to promoting open dialogue on this critical subject. I trust that this is the beginning of a long term engagement with you so that you can continue sharing your real life experience on economic matters with our students and staff from time to time. With your permission we could consider this the first of a series of annual public lectures to come in KAFU by you Mheshimiwa.

In conclusion, I am proud to be a part of the KAFU community and confident in our ability to continue to grow and excel as a world-class Spring of Knowledge. Thank you.

**Dr. Bernadette Mungai,
KAFU Chairperson of Council.**