

**SPEECH BY PROFESSOR VENANSIUS BARYAMUREEBA, ACTING
VICE CHANCELLOR OF MAKERERE UNIVERSITY, ON THE
OCCASION TO MARK 90 YEARS OF EXISTNCE OFMAKERRE
UNIVERSITY; 04/08/2012**

- ✍ H.E. Dr. Gen Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda
- ✍ H.E. The Vice President
- ✍ Rt. Hon Speaker of Parliament
- ✍ Honourable, Chief justice
- ✍ Rt. Hon. Prime Minister
- ✍ Honorable Ministers
- ✍ The Chancellor, Makerere University
- ✍ Honorable Members of Parliament
- ✍ Your Excellencies the Ambassadors and High Commissioners
- ✍ Your Lordships the Judges of the Judicature
- ✍ Your Worship the Lord Mayor of Kampala City
- ✍ The Chairperson and Members of Makerere University Council
- ✍ The Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors of Sister Universities
- ✍ The Chairman Makerere University Convocation
- ✍ Members of Makerere University Senate
- ✍ Religious Leaders
- ✍ Representatives of our Development Partners
- ✍ Representatives of Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies
- ✍ Representatives of the Private Sector and Business Community
- ✍ Members of Makerere University Management
- ✍ Members of Staff of Makerere University
- ✍ Distinguished Alumni of Makerere University
- ✍ The Media
- ✍ Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Excellency, one single innovation has the capacity to transform the economic status of any country. Look at how instance a computer, AK 47, Microsoft, Face book, Google, and Nokia have transformed world economies. Your Excellency, you are the father of innovations in Uganda and as of today more than 90% of the innovations at Makerere University are supported by the Presidential Initiative fund, your brainchild.

Your Excellency, on 9th October 2012 we shall be celebrating the Golden Jubilee of Uganda's independence and of which over 26 years have been under your able leadership as President. Let us all look back at the state of Higher Education in Uganda at independence on 9th October 1962, when NRM took over the reigns of power on 26th January 1986 and then again today, 4th August 2012 as we celebrate 90 years of existence of Makerere University. We have indeed witnessed "a fundamental change" in the higher education sector over the years.

Your Excellency, the general concept of quality education is made up of three interrelated dimensions, these are; the quality of human and material resources available for teaching, the quality of teaching practices, and the quality of results that is to say; the outputs and the outcomes. In his speech in 2004, Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board of the USA, commented on the impact of the state of knowledge and skill of a population as an important factor in determining the level of economic growth. "Generic capabilities in mathematics, writing, and verbal skills are key to the ability to learn and to apply new skills and thus to earn higher real wages over time, he said. Your Excellency, as a University we have benefited from your immense experience and knowledge in higher education and innovation systems. With your continued support and guidance, Makerere University shall be the leading University for academic excellence and innovations in Africa by 2016. As **John F. Kennedy** said, and I quote "*A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers*". Your Excellency, you are one of those Makerere University has honored and will always remember, as we build for the future. For God and my country, I thank you.